

ZION'S NEWSFLASH

NOVEMBER 2025

Letter from our Pastor

Greetings Zion's Church Family,

I pray that each of you is thriving in the goodness and lovingkindness of our God! I'd like to give you a brief update on our family's housing situation and then share a word of encouragement that the Lord has been impressing on my heart.

By God's grace, we were able to close on our home and move in. This was, remarkably, our third move since arriving in the area! We had a plethora of help—friends from Zion's, neighbors, and even brothers and sisters from The Heart of Christ Church right here in Jonestown. It was a beautiful picture of the body of Christ in action. What could have been exhausting became a testimony of God's care. Our family is new to the area, so we had to depend entirely on the Lord to make this transition possible. And He did. Truly, "The Lord will provide" (Genesis 22:14).



Now that we are somewhat settled—surrounded by a tidal wave of boxes—we've had a few moments to reflect. A few months before this move, the Lord spoke something quietly but clearly to my heart: "Do not despise the provisions of the Lord." Those words have stayed with me, echoing through each step of the journey. His provisions have been abundant, yet sometimes bittersweet. One such bittersweet aspect is that our new home is farther from the church building than we'd hoped. But even here, God's gentle reminder still whispers: "Do not despise the provisions of the Lord."

A few nights ago, when I couldn't sleep, I felt prompted to think about our new home and our street name—Sweetbriar Lane. The irony made me smile. A "sweet-briar" is a beautiful flower that grows among thorns—a perfect symbol of the bitter-sweetness of life in Christ. Our Father surely has a sense of humor! Even when the path is lined with briars, His grace still makes it sweet.

The apostle Paul once wrote, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). That's the posture I believe God is calling us to as a church—gratitude even in the bittersweet, faith even in the uncertain, joy even when the way seems longer than expected. Because when we trust His heart, we find that every provision—no matter how small, strange, or "briar-sweet"—is another expression of His love.

May we, as a church family, never despise what the Lord provides. Instead, may we cherish every gift, every challenge, and every unexpected road as part of His good plan.

With love and gratitude,
Pastor Roy

NYC Bus Trip

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

Are you in search of shining Christmas Lights? Perfectly snowy streets covered in... snow. A rat eating a slice of pizza next to the Live production of the Lion King? Then come to the one and only New York City on Saturday, December 27th! For only \$50 you and your family can be on a two-way bus trip to seeing the New York Christmas you've always dreamed of! The bus will leave at 7:00 AM and leave New York at 5:30 PM. Leaving plenty of time to sight see and spread Christmas cheer. Please talk to Dan Smith to sign up or go on Realm today!

Friendsgiving

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Young Adults, join us for an evening of food and friendship, at 6pm at the Journey Cafe. Invite a friend and celebrate this Thanksgiving season with us! Please bring a dish to share and an empty stomach! Don't worry, we'll provide the turkey! If you're planning to attend, please let Greta Perry know, so we can have an accurate head-count!

Card Shower

Natalie Schappell is turning 21! Her birthday is November 13th. As a church, we have prayed for her. Now let's encourage her with a card shower for this very special milestone! Cards can be sent to:
Natalie Schappell
1211 Windsor Castle Rd.
Hamburg, PA 19526

Consistory Corner

- The leadership of Zion's Church would like to encourage you to bring your ideas and feedback to us, or contact us if you would like to serve in a specific area. Our pictures have been posted in the vestibule outside the sanctuary and on our website at zionschurch.org/about to make it easier to find the person with whom you would like to talk.
- Just a reminder that each group is responsible for cleaning up their area after use. Brooms, vacuums, and mops should be used as necessary and any items used should be returned to the proper location. The goals should be that the next group can use that area, without needing to clean up after the previous group, and to leave an area in as good, or better, condition than how you found it. If you notice any supplies are low or repairs are needed, please contact the office so the appropriate team can be notified.
- Our annual congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 14th at 12:10pm in the sanctuary. We will be approving the annual budget and voting for new leadership candidates. Details will be provided closer to the meeting.

Special Note

The Holidays are coming! Thanksgiving and Christmas will arrive before we know what happened. To make the entrance into our church more inviting, we have relocated items left on the shelf and under the coat rack for pickup by others to the corner at the top of the east stairwell. Any additional items placed in the entryway will also be moved and will be available for pickup at your convenience. Thank you for helping us provide an inviting atmosphere for our holiday visitors.

Zion's Cemetery

Zion Cemetery Co. Inc. of Perry Township has set the week of November 3-7, 2025 for fall cleaning. All decorations not planted in the ground will be removed if not claimed before this week by lot owners. The Cemetery Board is not responsible for decorations remaining on graves when fall cleaning begins. New and existing decorations may be placed November 9, 2025. Single or multiple grave lots are available for sale. Please contact David Geschwindt, Cemetery Manager, 610-562-7421.

Zion's Bells

Our 2025-2026 Handbell Ringing Season has begun...
AND, WE ARE BLESSED WITH A DEDICATED,
AMAZING TEAM OF RINGERS!!!

Handbell ringing requires TEAMWORK like nothing
else I can think of!!!

The handbell ringers WORK TOGETHER in harmony
as ONE to complete their goal:

BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TO GLORIFY OUR LORD AND
SAVIOR!!!

Zion's Bells began rehearsing on October 7.

We hope you will be able to join us when we play on
November 2nd and 30th at 8:15.

Thank You, Linda Hartman

The Prime Time

For some 55+ is a bad word, nobody wants to
get...old. But the Prime Time Group is anything
but old! With yearly trips, Bingo, an upcoming
Christmas Party, and more monthly activities,
we find more than a few ways to show that age
is simply a number... and our numbers are here!

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturday, Nov. 1 @ 9am at Perry Restaurant

BINGO

Monday, Nov. 10 @ 11:30 am in Fellowship
Hall

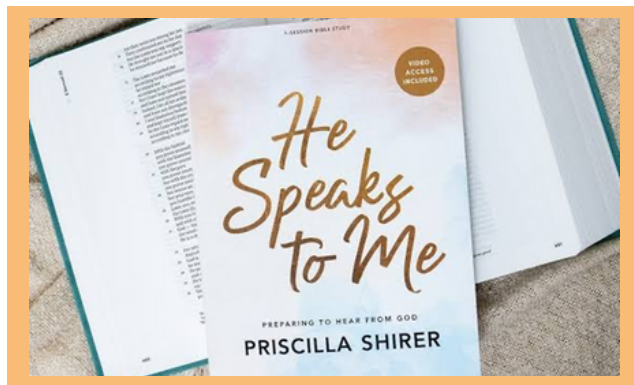
GAME DAY

Friday, Nov. 21 @ 10 am at The Journey Cafe

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Monday, Dec. 8 @ 12 pm in Fellowship Hall

Sign up on bulletin board in front of secretary's office. Cost is \$20 and can be paid to Fonda Reppert in the Welcome Center or place in a yellow EVENT PAYMENT envelope and drop in the offering box.



Women's Sunday School

Ladies - You're invited!!

Join us for our next Women's Bible Study
starting Sunday, November 2nd in Room 111 as
we dive into "He Speaks to Me" by Priscilla
Shirer.

In this 7-week study, we'll explore what it
means to hear God's voice — and how to
position our hearts to listen when He speaks.
Through Priscilla's wisdom, humor, and
heartfelt teaching, you'll be encouraged to
draw closer to God and recognize His presence
in your everyday life.

Come for the study, stay for the laughter,
connection, and encouragement from other
women who are walking this journey together.
Grab a friend (or come make new ones!) — we
can't wait to see you there!

Any questions, feel free to reach out to Katie
Keck - 610-406-7441



CHILDREN & FAMILIES

NOVEMBER 2025



B.L.A.S.T. Kids

Being Light and Salt Together

Sundays at 9:40 am
3 years old - 5th Grade

Christmas gift for Jesus

The kids voted to purchase chickens for impoverished families through Compassion as their Christmas gift to Jesus. We are having a friendly competition to see which class can raise the most money. Collection continues through December 21st.

Christmas Event

Charlie's Christmas Celebration

December 6th 1-4 pm

Presents, trees, decorations--visit some of the Peanut gang's favorite hang outs and discover along with Charlie Brown what Christmas is really all about

rsvp: zionschurch.org/register

Planet Shakers

Where K-5th graders learn to shake up the world for Jesus

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Nov. 19th - Thanksgiving party
come in your PJs to give thanks together

Nov. 26th - no Planet Shakers

Moms of the Vine

Where moms & kids share life & grow in Christ together

Nov. 1st - 10:00-1:00
Momma needs a trim
treat yourself to a haircut

Nov. 13th - 10:00-12:00
Popcorn treats & leaf art
fellowship for mom & crafts for kids

find monthly devotions and more details at
Facebook:
MomsOfTheVine

More Info

Jennifer.Scott@zionschurch.org

610-562-2300, option 6

