



Old Zionsville United Church of Christ

5981 Fountain Road, P.O. Box 215, Old Zionsville, PA 18068

www.oldzionsucc.org

Email: ozuccnewsletter@ptd.net



January 2023

Rev. Lori Esslinger, Pastor

Office: 610-966-3436

Cell: 610-393-3522

MomAndPastorToo@yahoo.com

ChocoLori@hotmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours

Wednesday, Jan. 4-10am-3pm

Wednesday, Jan. 11-10am-3pm

Wednesday, Jan. 18-10am-3pm

Wednesday, Jan. 25-10am-3pm

Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 10am-3pm

(please call before stopping in)

Office Contact Inf.

610-966-3601

ozuccoffice@ptd.net

Secretary

Brenda Seitz

Organist

David Carlson

Choir Director

Carolyn Rhoads

Sexton

Richard Shoemaker

Social Media Coordinators

Beth Massa

Angela Stahler

Consistory Officers

President

Kathy Latshaw

Vice President

Jan Strobel

Secretary

Mark Weaver

Treasurer

Robin Yoder

From Pastor's Desk...

THE U IN JESUS

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God stuck U in the name of His Son.

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.
You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
And this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His Upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

"Go into the world and tell them it's true
That I love them all - Just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know,
But it all starts with U.

Peace,
Lori



We Gather for Fellowship and Worship

Sunday, January 1 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
10:15 a.m. Worship, Communion

Friday, January 6 – 6:00 p.m. Supper Club at A-1 Japanese Steak House

Sunday, January 8 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
10:15 a.m. Worship, Epiphany Sunday, Baptism
11:30 a.m. Confirmands and Mentors

Sunday, January 15 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
9:45 a.m. Third Sunday Treats
10:15 a.m. Worship, loose change goes toward Pastor's Discretionary Fund
12:00 p.m. Sunday Brunchers at Mercantile Club

Sunday, January 22 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
10:15 a.m. Worship, IT Training after Worship

Friday, January 27 – 12:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch at Trivet

Sunday, January 29 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
9:00 a.m. Usher Training
10:15 a.m. Worship

Looking Ahead😊

Friday, February 3 – Trip to State Theatre to see "Menopause the Musical"

Sunday, February 5 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
10:15 a.m. Worship, Communion
11:30 a.m. Confirmands and Mentors

Sunday, February 12 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
10:15 a.m. Worship

Sunday, February 19 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
9:45 a.m. Third Sunday Treats
10:15 a.m. Worship, loose change goes toward Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Sunday, February 26 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Class
10:15 a.m. Worship

Consistory has agreed that individuals can make their own decision as to the wearing of masks during church services. Offering will be collected at the door and hymnals will be used. We will be serving pew communion. If you find yourself testing positive for COVID, **please contact the church office** so we can alert others who may have been in contact with you during time spent at church. Thank you.

News from Christian Ed...



Sunday School is open to all children who would like to participate. Children can start at the age of two or when they are potty trained. Classes are held in the lower level of the church. If you have other questions about Sunday School, please speak with Pastor Lori, Susan Jacobs, Patti Mittl and Deb Schoenberger.

We are always looking for more help in the Sunday School. This is an important ministry of our church. If you are feeling called to help out, please let Pastor Lori know and we will tell you more of the specifics. Thanks for praying with us about this ministry.

Join us every third Sunday after Sunday School and before Worship for "**Third Sunday Treats**". Everyone is invited to share in this time of fellowship! If you would like to bake or make special treats please speak to Pastor Lori. There is also a sign-up sheet in the rear of the Sanctuary.

News from Computer and Media Committee...

If you can't attend worship on Sunday, not to worry! We livestream our service every Sunday at 10:15 am on YouTube and Facebook! Both of these options are available on demand, as well... can't watch on Sunday morning? No problem; watch when you can!

To find us on YouTube, you can visit our channel at <https://tinyurl.com/bdfpux8b>.

"Like" our Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/OldZionsvilleUCC>. You can access all our livestreamed worship services and see all our daily posts.

We keep a list of all our of past worship services on our webpage at http://oldzionsucc.org/?page_id=757

You can also follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/oldzionsvilleucc/>



If you would like to learn more about operating the sound system and understanding our computer set up, please plan to attend the training after worship on Jan. 22, 2023. We are always looking for helpers to work the sound board. Thanks! For more information, speak with Mark Weaver or Pastor Lori.

News from the Evangelism and Membership Committee...

Supper Club - Our program for the first part of 2023 will be entitled "Passport to Dining around the World". We will be "traveling" around the world to try some new cuisines and have some familiar fare, too! You will be issued a "Passport" at the first restaurant you attend and will then be given a sticker at each venue attended. Prizes will be awarded to those who travel all the way around the world with us (6 venues – January to June). The next country or region we will visit will be revealed as we go at each successive event.



The first stop on our journey will be Asia. Friday, January 6, 2023, 6:00 PM (RSVP no later than Monday 1/2) A-1 Japanese Steak House (Hibachi/Teppanyaki), 3300 Lehigh St., Allentown, PA 18103 (at South Mall).

The next country or region we will visit will be revealed that evening, but you can mark your calendars for Friday, February 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

Sunday Brunchers – Sunday, January 15, 2023, Noon (RSVP no later than Monday 1/9) Mercantile Club (Cash Only), 427 Railroad St, Emmaus, PA 18049.

Lunch Bunch – Friday, January 27, 2023, Noon (RSVP no later than Monday 1/23) Trivet, location to be determined at a later date.

These events are open to anyone wishing to join us for good food and conversation!

News from the Food Pantry...

The Zionsville Area Food Pantry is open the 2nd Monday of the month 4:00-6:00 PM and the **Saturday** of that same week 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Zionsville Area Food Pantry is located at Zion's Lutheran Church. Their email address is ZAFP5901@yahoo.com and their mailing address is P.O. Box 56, Old Zionsville, PA 18068.

Remember you can bring items to our Church for the Food Pantry at any time. The Pantry is always in need of personal care items, paper products and all kinds of non-perishable food. Pick up extra at the grocery store and bring it to Church. Place in the shopping cart in the first floor social room. Thanks.

News from the ATF Room...

Sorting will be done every Monday morning. If you would like to help come anytime, we will be at the Church by 10:00 a.m. Our next giveaway will be Monday, January 9, 4-6 p.m. and Saturday, January 14, 10 a.m. – 12 noon. Help is always needed. Call Millie at 610-737-9432 with any questions.

News from the FUN Group...

Faith Uniting Neighbors

Bazaar & Filled Basket Auction

Thanks to everyone who participated in our 25th Annual Bazaar and Filled Basket Auction in any way.

In line with our mission to benefit our neighbors within our communities, profits of \$3,015 from the basket auction, bake sale and sandwich sale were distributed to the following organizations on behalf of the Church:

- Lehigh County Conference of Churches
- Meals on Wheels
- Upper Milford Western District Fire Company
- Phoebe Home Ministries
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Macungie Ambulance Corps
- Sixth Street Shelter
- Hackerman-Patz House
- Lehigh Valley Hospice
- OZUCC Operating Fund
- OZUCC Parking Lot Fund

Thanks again...and see you next year!!

Share the Warmth



This year instead of collecting clothing for Share the Warmth, we will be collecting items to warm someone from the inside. All items will be donated to support local food programs, such as the Zionsville Area Food Pantry and Grace Lutheran Church's Food Cupboard.

Beginning in December and through January we will be collecting the following items:

- Soup
- Hot chocolate
- Tea bags
- Coffee (regular and/or decaf --- NOT coffee beans, which need to be ground)

Angel Tree

Thanks to everyone who purchased items for The Kindness Project. The website is available year round for any donations you wish to make.

News from Music and Worship Committee...

Join us for **Third Sunday Treats** on January 15, 2023. Come to church a little early to enjoy some coffee, juice and breakfast items with your church friends. 9:45 to 10:10 a.m. in the lower social hall every third Sunday ☺

News from the Scouts...

Our Scout Troop is active all year long. If you know any boys or girls who would like to join Scouting check in with Elliott Fegley - 610-972-7869 or for Cub Scouts, Jim Cairns - 610-533-2797.

News from the Windows Committee...



2022 was another successful year for the windows restoration project. The beautifully restored Good Shepherd window was installed in February and in the spring the protective glass was installed and exterior painting was completed. Steady contributions and support from the congregation continued throughout the year. Fund raising was ongoing with the sale of five quilts raising over \$2,000, the change jar raising \$627, and the windows note cards raising another \$97. Concluding the year was the successful Fall Matching Gift Challenge raising \$8,186. A contract has been signed with Cumberland Studios for restoration of the Nativity window which will begin in the spring. Funds in the windows account year-end will cover the cost of \$44,975. There will be a small balance in the account to begin the year, but with the congregation's continued support and additional fund raising, Phase 3 of the project will continue to move forward in 2023.



In order to be reimbursed, or to receive credit as a church donation, **original** receipts for labor and materials purchased on behalf of the church must be **received in the office within 60 days of the date from purchase** or by January 9, 2023 for purchases in November and December, 2022.

Greeters and Liturgist! If you would like to be added to the Greeter's List or be a Liturgist during Worship please call or email the Church office.

Approved **Consistory Minutes** can be found posted on the bulletin board at the side entrance to the Sanctuary for anyone wishing to take a look!!

Offering Box - A secure box is located in the rear of the sanctuary for you to deposit your offering **or** other important papers if you happen to be in the church when the office isn't open. It has been secured to the floor and is locked. It will be opened on a Sunday morning so the offerings in there can be combined with those in worship that day. Thanks for your continued support of our church.

There are two **Bulletin Magnifier Sheets** available for you to use in worship. They are the size of a full sheet of paper and can be found in the side pocket on the sound system. Pick one up and try it out, then return it to the sound system after worship.



Flu

- Flu Virus is present one day before symptoms and up to 5-7 days after illness begins.
- People are most contagious the first 3-4 days after illness begins.
- Infants and people with weakened immune systems may be contagious for longer than 7 days.
- Flu Virus is mainly spread by droplets in the air, but can also be on surfaces.

Common Cold

- Lasts 7-10 days.
- Spread by droplets in the air and by touching contaminated surfaces, then your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Assume you are contagious while you have symptoms.
- People with weakened immune systems may develop bronchitis or pneumonia, which can become very serious.

Please help us keep our aging church family well:

- Stay home or mask when contagious with colds, flu or COVID.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

If we all do our part we can have a healthier winter season. Thank you!!
(Information taken from the CDC website.)



Offerings and Donations Received in December 2022

General Use.....	\$12,034.00
Benevolence.....	305.00
Sunday School.....	18.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund.....	32.00
Windows to the Future.....	3,295.00
Parsonage Rental.....	1,495.00
Parking Lot Maintenance Fund...	280.00
Cemetery.....	96.00
General Expenses.....	\$12,195.21
includes gas.....	\$822.68
includes electric....	\$259.80



Please remember there is a third box on your offering envelopes should you wish to give offering toward our Parking Lot Maintenance, Cemetery, Window Fund, Building Repairs or any Property Expenses. Just designate in what area the money should be placed. Thank you.

Thank you to our Worship Helpers!

	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>	<u>Bulletins</u>
Jan. 1	Millie Kohler	Deb & Les Schoenberger	Ben Kohler	
Jan. 8	Lee Hoch	Randy & Sharon Trexler	Michael & Jane Bedell	John & Miriam Fisher
Jan. 15	Ruth Stansfield	Chris Schell	Charles & Susan Jacobs	
Jan. 22	Pat Sajkowicz	Nancy Weitzel	BettyLou Hartman	
Jan. 29	Sherri Farrell	John & Nancy Civitts		
Feb. 5	Ruthann Mutchler	Scouts	Scouts	Scouts

Chancel Flower Sponsors – January 15 – Chris Schell

If you wish to sponsor Bulletins or Flowers, please call the church office, 610-966-3601 or email at ozuccoffice@ptd.net. Bulletins are \$10.00, Altar Flowers are \$40.00, our Seasonal silk arrangement is a donation of \$30.00 to our Windows Fund. If you are already signed up to sponsor Altar Flowers and would like us to use our silk arrangement please let the office know **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** so Brenda can cancel our arrangement with Phoebe Floral for that Sunday. Thank you!

Deadline for material to be included in our February Newsletter is January 25. Please place all info in the Secretary's mailbox or email to the office at ozuccoffice@ptd.net

To add names to our Prayer List please call or email the church office.

OZUCC Mission Statement

The mission of our Church is to be a congregation devoted to our community where we experience and share the loving presence of God by teaching the Good News of Jesus Christ, by celebrating God's Word in the Bible, and through loving service to all people.

Join our Celebration of 250 years of Amazing Grace in Worship on Sunday, January 1st!

The Story of "Amazing Grace"

Sung an estimated 10 million times each year, "Amazing Grace" marks its 250th anniversary this New Year's Day. It was born not of American Black spirituals as some believe, but across the Atlantic, in the tiny English market town of Olney, some 60 miles north of London, with lyrics older than the Declaration of Independence.

When asked why the song has proved so enduring, music journalist Steve Turner (author of "Amazing Grace: The Story of America's Most Beloved Song"), said, "*I was lost and now I'm found, I was blind and now I see* – I mean, it's an experience most people can relate to."

Those words are life reflections of John Newton, a slave trader who nearly died in a shipwreck, and who eventually became a minister. He penned the famous words of "Amazing Grace" for a sermon for his 1773 New Year's service at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul. But the tune wouldn't be written for another half-century.

There were several melodies paired to his words. But for decades no one tune was consistently linked to "Amazing Grace," until 1835, when an American Baptist, William Walker, published "The Southern Harmony" hymn book with a song, at the time, titled "New Britain."

"It caught the imagination of America," said Turner. "'Amazing Grace' is, in a sense, the story of starting this new life and going through toils and snares."

The hymnal's use of "shape notes" – triangles, ovals, rectangles and diamonds – made it easier for the masses to read. It spread to the Deep South, to slaveowners, and to slaves who were made to attend the churches of the landowners. Turner said they took the song to heart, "because they knew what it was like, in a very real way, to be in exile."

By the 20th century, "Amazing Grace" became more closely tied to Black spirituals, and then the civil rights movement.

And then in 1970, as antipathy toward the Vietnam War grew, folk singer Judy Collins' raw rendition marked a rebirth. Turner said, of all recordings made of "Amazing Grace," "90-95% were post-Judy Collins."

Collins told "Sunday Morning" that she believes the song is one of "hope and healing. It has a feeling about surviving terrible things. But it gives you a moment of hope. Sometimes that's all you need, isn't it?"

The song has since emerged time and again in national grief and crisis ...

During the COVID lockdown, a priest picked Collins' rendition to play for doctors toiling at a London hospital. That inspired Collins to release a new interpretation ... a virtual choir of 1,000 international singers.

From a little town in England, "Amazing Grace" is now renowned around the world (and even *above* it). John Newton would never have imagined it. When asked what the 18th century cleric would think about his words having gone global, Turner said, "I think he'd be really pleased. There are not many songs in the world that last 250 years!"



Old Zionsville United Church of Christ

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Confirmation 10:15am Communion Worship	2 ATF Sorting 10am Scouts 6pm	3 Cub Scouts 7pm	4 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm Sound & IT 7pm	5 Choir 7:30pm	6 Supper Club 6pm - A1 Japanese Steak House	
8 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Confirmation 10:15am Worship, Epiphany Sunday, Baptism 11:30am Confirmation & Mentors	9 ATF Sorting 10am ATF Giveaway 4pm-6pm Boy Scouts 6pm	10 Cub Scouts 7pm FUN Group 7pm	11 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm Finance 7pm	12 Choir 7:30pm	13	14 ATF Giveaway 10am-12pm
15 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Confirmation 9:45am Third Sunday Treats 10:15am Worship Pastor's Discretionary Fund Collection Noon-Sunday Brunchers Mercantile Club	16 ATF Sorting 10am Property 7pm	17 Consistory 7pm	18 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm	19 Choir 7:30pm	20	21
22 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Confirmation 10:15am Worship IT Training after Church	23 ATF Sorting 10am Boy Scouts 6pm	24	25 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm	26 Choir 7:30pm	27 Lunch Bunch Noon - Trivet	28
29 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Confirmation 9:00am Usher Training 10:15am Worship, Consistory Installation	30 ATF Sorting 10am Boy Scouts 6pm	31 Cub Scouts 7pm				



December 16, 2022

Rev. Lori Esslinger
Old Zionsville UCC
PO Box 215
Old Zionsville, PA 18068-0215

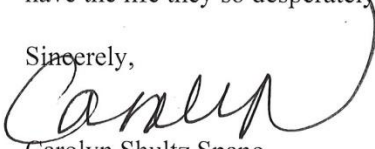
Dear Pastor Esslinger,

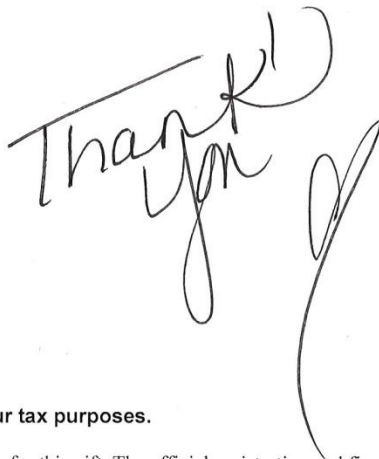
Bethany Children's Home provides a safe haven for youth to heal from their pasts and prepare for their futures! Our youth come to us with some degree of trauma from abuse, abandonment, neglect, or drug/alcohol exposure. They are seeking an opportunity to learn new skills for their journey in coping with the past, setting positive education and life goals for the present, and preparing for their future. Often arriving frustrated, angry, and broken, it takes time, structure and a caring environment to help our youth to realize their potential to succeed.

Thank you for your contribution of General Wish List items. In-kind contributions are a valuable asset to our organization as they enable us to provide additional opportunities and services for the youth in our care.

Together, we are providing each youth the opportunity to become the person they really want to be and have the life they so desperately deserve.

Sincerely,


Carolyn Shultz Spano
Director of Development



Please retain a copy of this letter for your tax purposes.

No goods or services were received in exchange for this gift. The official registration and financial information of Bethany Home Inc. and Bethany Children's Home Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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610-589-4501
<http://bethanyhome.org>