

WELCOME TO
Old Zionsville United Church of Christ
5981 Fountain Road, P.O. Box 215
Old Zionsville, PA 18068

Email: ozuccoffice@ptd.net Web page: www.oldzionsucc.org
Church Office: 610-966-3601
Pastor: 610-393-3522 or 610-966-3436

Rev. Lori Esslinger

Pastor

David Carlson

Organist

September 3, 2023

9:30 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
“Confrontation”

Prelude: “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Lemmel

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to the Holy One!

Many: The God of our ancestors is with us!

One: Give thanks to the Holy One!

Many: We call upon the name of our God, and our God responds.

One: Give thanks to the Holy One!

Many: The steadfast and faithful love of our God lasts forever!

Invocation (unison)

Eternal God, when we search for you, we find you. When we seek you, we find you seeking us. Your presence among us changes our circumstances and our lives. We honor and worship you as an act of devotion and discipleship. Infuse us with your Spirit that our witness and ministry may be a testimony to your everlasting love. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “Seek Ye First”

p.713

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Forgiving God, we acknowledge that repentance opens the door to forgiveness and transformation.

Many: We turn from our desire for comfort over compassion, easy solutions or challenging resolution, and avoidance over confrontation. We need your strength, fortitude, and conviction to overcome our fear of loss to make room for the gains of new life for ourselves and our neighbors through our generous and sacrificial living.

Words of Grace

God is faithful to forgive and to redeem. God will sustain us through the hard work of confronting truth about ourselves, our communities, and our world. Receive the companionship of the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us in all truth. Amen.

*Hymn: "A New Name in Glory"

p.521

Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15

3 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. **3** Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." **4** When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." **5** Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." **6** He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. **7** Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, **8** and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. **9** The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. **10** Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." **11** But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" **12** He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain." **13** But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" **14** God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" **15** God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

Reflection

Special Music: David Carlson

Invitation to Generosity

Jesus posed the question, "For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?" When we consider the gifts we give and receive, we remember that Creator is also Source. Let us give generously of the abundance of our lives so that the world may be made better and God's kingdom may come nearer.

Offertory: "So Send I You" Peterson

* Presentation of our Gifts and The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Generous God, thank you for the seeding and inspiring generosity in us. May these gifts be a blessing to the ministry of this church. Multiply them and make us fruitful and faithful steward of our time, talent, and treasure.

The Pastoral Prayer....The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: "Count Your Blessings" p.786

*Benediction

May our lives serve as beacons of hope, compassion, and possibility as we go with God on the journey of truth.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Onward, Christian Soldiers" Sullivan

~~~~~  
**Confrontation: Service Prayers for the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost** were written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are sponsored by BettyLou Hartman in memory of Francis Hartman.

**TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS** are in memory of Colby Hoch's Birthday from Judy and Len Hoch **and** in memory of Paulette Shankweiler from Godson Bobby.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Linda Benner in memory of Anna and Joseph Benner.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are Marvin and Barbara Kerchner.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Robin Yoder.

RESTROOMS ARE AVAILABLE on the main floor of the Church and downstairs.

Bulletin MAGNIFIER SHEETS can be found on the sound system.



Our church is equipped with an Assistive Listening System. You provide your own headphones which can be connected to the transmitter which will allow you to more clearly hear the Worship Service or any program being offered in the Sanctuary. See anyone at the sound booth to inquire.

**ATF Room Set Up help is needed** on Saturday, September 2, 10 a.m.; Giveaway help on Monday, September 11, 4-6 p.m. and Saturday, September 16, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Thanks in advance if you can offer some time to this worthwhile ministry of our church. The ATF Room also **needs** clean bubble wrap and brown wrapping paper (no newspapers) for wrapping fragile items. If you have any to spare, or receive packages in the mail with packing, please bring to church and put on bench marked ATF outside of Pastor Lori's office. They could also use gift tags and tape. They always need **NEW** items for men and boys.

**Do you enjoy eating Sausage Sandwiches?** The Outlook Committee will be making Sausage sandwiches in October!! Deadline to order will be September 24, 2023. Order forms can be found at the entrances to the Church.

**Window Fund** - The sixth and final handmade quilt will be auctioned off at the Basket Bazaar on November 11. Tickets will be available throughout the fall for purchase at \$5 each or 3 for \$10. See Pastor Lori, Ruth Stansfield, Beth Massa or call the church office to purchase your tickets. Proceeds will benefit the windows fund.

GriefShare has begun meeting on Tuesdays, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in our downstairs Social Room. They will continue to meet each Tuesday until the 13th session on November 21, 2023. You are welcome to join in anytime, but please register with Pastor Lori so we can have enough books on hand.



**Supper Club and Lunch Bunch** will be meeting in September. Please mark your calendars for Friday, September 8 when Supper Club will be meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Delizioso Italian Grill on Brookside Road, Macungie. Lunch Bunch will meet at 12 noon at Perkins on Lehigh Street on Friday, September 29, 2023. Sign up in church or let Linda and Mark know if you are planning to come by the Monday before.



Choir practice will start up again on Thursday, Sept. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Consider making choir part of your life this Fall!

Please join us in Worship on **Sunday, September 17, 2023** as our **Confirmands** take vows of their own to affirm the faith that their parents and families have been instilling in them for years. Now it becomes their responsibility to continue to grow as Children of God and members of Old Zionsville UCC.

There will be **Third Sunday Treats** available at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, September 17. We are looking for someone or a group of people to **help** serve Third Sunday Treats when Jack and Wendy can't make it. On the job training available. You would need to arrive at church around 9:30 a.m. to get things ready to go. Thanks for prayerfully considering this ministry. The Sunday School children look forward to this every month. See Pastor Lori for details.

We will be offering a **New Member Class** on Sundays, November 5 and November 12 at 9:00 a.m. If you know of anyone interested in learning more about the church, please invite them to join us during both class times. If they wish to join, we will talk about it during the classes. We will meet in the Upper Social Hall.

**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

**Committee Chairs** please have your Reports in the office no later than Sunday, October 15, 2023 for our Annual Report. Information to include should be from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Reports will be handed out at our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 3, 2023. Thank you!

See Angela Stahler, our Social Media person in charge of Live Streaming, to get your shopping pass for **Boscov Days Friends Helping Friends event on Wednesday, October 18 (in store only). One day only. 8 AM to 11 PM.....The Pass donation is \$5 each** and the proceeds will go to the church where Angela works, Grace United Church of Christ in Allentown. The benefit for YOU is awesome. This one day pass gives you 25% off lowest sale prices at Boscov's. (exclusions apply) Plus you can register to win a \$100 Boscov's gift card.

**Monday, October 2 from 4:00-7:00 p.m.** you can pick up your pre-ordered **Chicken Dinners** at Concordia Lutheran Church, 2623 Brookside Road, Macungie. Get your tickets from Cub Scout Corbin Trexler while at church or by calling the church office. The cost is \$14.00 per meal, checks made payable to Ashley Trexler or Cub Pack 431. **Orders must be in by September 20, 2023.**

### **Week of September 3-9, 2023:**

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday from 10am-3pm.

Other times by appointment.

Church Secretary Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-3pm (please call before coming)

Sexton: Richard Shoemaker (with Thanks to his wife, Brenda)

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

GriefShare – Tuesday @ 1pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Computer & Media – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir Practice – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Supper Club – Friday @ 6pm @ Delizioso Italian Grill

**Next Sunday** – 9:00am Sunday School

9:00am Confirmation Class

**10:15am** Communion Worship

### **Total Offerings from August 27, 2023:**

General Offerings: \$2,114.00

Communion: \$25.00

Maui Fire: \$25.00

Food Pantry: \$20.00

Building Repair: \$20.00

Window Fund: \$171.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$20.00

Cemetery: \$120.00

Attendance: 48