



Old Zionsville United Church of Christ

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

www.oldzionsucc.org

Email: ozuccnewsletter@ptd.net



April 2024

Rev. Lori Esslinger, Pastor

Office: 610-966-3436

Cell: 610-393-3522

MomAndPastorToo@yahoo.com

ChocoLori@hotmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Lori will be on vacation
from April 1-April 22

Wednesday, April 24-10am-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

Co-Presidents

Kathy Latshaw

Sharon Trexler

Vice President

Jan Strobel

Secretary

Mark Weaver

Treasurer

Robin Yoder

From Pastor's Desk...

Dear Friends,

As we move on through life and celebrate joys like Easter - He is Risen!, we also have times of trouble. Those times come quickly and sometimes so unexpectedly. So let us celebrate boldly when we can and do like this plumber in times of trouble. Life is too short to get bogged down and depressed for things that will appear different in the morning. May your mornings be filled with refreshment and the Joy of the Lord who is our Risen Savior! May your troubles be few and may you find precious bits of life in between when things are calm. We often lose track of those times which are very precious indeed!

Peace to all

Lori

Story, Author unknown

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, and after he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill quit and his ancient one ton truck refused to start. While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands. When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss. Afterward he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier. 'Oh, that's my trouble tree,' he replied 'I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children.. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again.' 'Funny thing is,' he smiled, 'when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before. Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we are here we might as well dance. We all need a Tree!



Sunday, April 7 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Communion Worship with
Rev. David Schnaars

Sunday, April 7 - April Soup and Sandwich Orders are Due

Monday, April 8 – 10:00 a.m. ATF Sort and Store

Sunday, April 14 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship with Rev. Homer Royer
Soft Pretzel Sale after Worship

Monday, April 15 – 10:00 a.m. ATF Sort and Store

Thursday, April 18 – 3:00-5:30 p.m. Pick up Soup and Sandwich Orders

Sunday, April 21 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Third Sunday Treats
10:15 a.m. Worship with Rev. David Schnaars
Loose offering goes to Pastor's Discretionary Fund
Brunch at the Merc after Worship

Monday, April 22 – 10:00 a.m. ATF Sort and Store

Friday, April 26 – 12:00 p.m. Lunch at Ritz Barbecue
6:00-8:00 p.m. Youth Group

Sunday, April 28 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
Soft Pretzel Sale after Worship

Monday, April 29 – 10:00 a.m. ATF Sort and Store



Looking Ahead 😊

Wednesday, May 1 – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Grief Share

Sunday, May 5 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Communion Worship

Monday, May 6 – 10:00 a.m. ATF Sort and Store

Wednesday, May 8 – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Grief Share

Sunday, May 12 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 13 – 4:00-6:00 p.m. ATF Giveaway

Saturday, May 18 – 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ATF Giveaway

Sunday, May 19 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Third Sunday Treats
10:15 a.m. Worship, Loose offering to Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Monday, May 20 – 10:00 a.m. ATF Sort and Store

Sunday, May 26 – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship

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.

News from the Cemetery....

Spring is here! Please remove any Christmas/winter decorations. 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 or Deb Schoenberger.

Would you like to purchase a new **Bible** that has an interactive feature that can work with your cell phone, iPad or other electronic device? We presented our confirmands with these Bibles and purchased extras in case YOU or a person you know may like one too. The holidays are coming and this could make a lovely, affordable gift. The cost is **\$16 each**. By setting it up with your device, the program can actually "read scripture to you." So for someone who drives lots or prefers to listen to the Holy Word, this could be very appealing. The Filament app is very simple to use. You simply scan a page number in the Bible to instantly access study notes, devotionals from famous authors, interactive maps, teaching videos and worship music. If you have a loved one who likes to hear scripture before they go to sleep, this would be perfect for them too.

Please **let Pastor Lori know** if you would like to purchase any number of these Bibles. There are two cover styles: black and floral, they are zipper case protected, and are very small - about the size of your hand. Print is small, but these other features bring the Bible to life in a whole new way. See Pastor Lori for more information.

News from Computer and Media Committee...

If you can't attend worship on Sunday, not to worry! We livestream our service every Sunday at 9:30am 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>. Or just search for Old Zionsville UCC.



You may have noticed we've started including only highlights of the announcements on the slides we use during worship. We publish the full bulletin, including details for all announcements, on our website. How to find it? From our home page (<https://oldzionsville.org>), click "Past Worship Services" from the menu at the top of the page.



On that page, you'll see a list of all worship services for the current year, with a link to the video on YouTube and the bulletin in PDF format. Just click the "bulletin" link for the week you need. A new window will appear in your browser with the PDF file showing.



If you have any suggestions to improve our streaming, please send an email to Beth Massa (massaed@hotmail.com).

News from the Evangelism and Membership Committee

Supper Club will be Tuesday, April 2, 5:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Hotel, 448 North 17th Street, Allentown. Please RSVP to Linda or Mark Weaver by Tuesday, March 29.



Sunday Brunch will be on Sunday, April 21 after Worship at Mercantile Club (cash only), 427 Railroad St, Emmaus. Please RSVP to Linda or Mark by Tuesday, April 16.

Lunch Bunch will be held on Friday, April 26, 12 noon at Ritz Barbecue, 302 North 17th Street, Allentown. Please RSVP to Linda or Mark by Tuesday, April 23.

All are Welcome!!!!



GriefShare will be offered at Old Zionsville United Church of Christ starting on Wednesday evening, May 1, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This nationally acclaimed course consists of 13 weeks of meetings for support offered to people who have lost loved ones. Each session includes a video to offer thoughts and ideas to learn about. There is a workbook which is helpful for each participant to have to follow along, take notes of the video, and then do some homework before the next session. There is also time to share and support each other through grief. There is no cost for the sessions, but the fee for the workbook is \$15 or whatever you can afford. We meet in the handicap accessible, air conditioned lower social hall at OZ UCC which is found at the intersection of Fountain Road and Kings Highway in Old Zionsville. To register for these sessions, or ask questions, you can contact The Rev. Lori Esslinger at MomAndPastorToo@yahoo.com or by calling the church office at 610-966-3601. The course concludes July 24, 2024.

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. Phone number is 610-554-8340.

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.

News from the ATF Room...

If you would like/able to help on Monday mornings with sorting and storing all items received for our Giveaways, we welcome your help and are at the Church on Monday mornings by 10:00 a.m. In April we will be there each Monday except April 1st.

Donations for ATF can be dropped off anytime in the stairway by the double red doors on the small parking lot side of the Church. When dropping off donated items please do not block the chairlift path in the stairway. Thank you.

Thanks in advance if you can offer some time to this worthwhile ministry of our church. For more info please contact Millie Kohler.



News from the FUN Group...

Faith Uniting Neighbors

The Lehigh Conference of Churches

Beginning in MARCH, we will be collecting **FULL & TRAVEL SIZE** size toiletries for The Lehigh Conference of Churches Project Toiletry. The full size toiletries help individuals and families throughout Pathways housing services. Travel size toiletries are used by the people that utilize showers at the drop-in center. A collection box will be located on the bench in front of Pastor Lori's office.



When: March 20 thru May 12 (Mother's Day)

What: *Acceptable Toiletry Donation Items include*

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| * Deodorant | * Toothpaste | * Wash Cloths |
| * Lotion | * Shaving Razors | * Conditioner |
| * Feminine Wash/Wipes. | * Tampons | * Soap/Body Wash |
| * Shampoo | * Cotton Swabs | * Body Spray |
| * Toothbrushes | * Mouthwash | * Dish Soap |
| * Floss | * Diapers (All Sizes) | * Detergent |
| * Baby Wipes | * Toilet Paper | * Shaving Cream |

News from Music and Worship Committee...

If you have any pastoral care needs from April 1 – April 22, 2024, contact the church office at 610-966-3601, Kathy Latshaw, or Sharon Trexler so they can connect you with the Pastor on call.

We'll enjoy hearing from guest preachers in April:

April 7, for Holy Communion, The Rev. David Schnaars

April 14, The Rev. Homer Royer

April 21, The Rev. David Schnaars

Bring you family and friends to celebrate Worship with these fine preachers!



Third Sunday Treats will be available at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 21.

Third Sunday Treats is for Everyone! Coffee pot is always on and we would love to fellowship before Worship on these Third Sundays! All come to the lower social hall.

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.

Celebrate history at the **Dillingersville Schoolhouse** located at 7226 Schoolhouse Lane, Zionsville. Informal worship begins at **10:30 a.m. on June 30, 2024** under a big tent on the grounds, rain or shine. This service is open to all and especially those who enjoy the outdoors and being in nature. Tours of the schoolhouse are available. We are engaging the Heidelberg Brass Band to offer their Polka Service during our Worship Service. Invite your friends and family to join us for a lively morning worship with extra music after the service to lead us into our home-made lunch and bake sale offered for donation. This is a great day to learn about local history, the beginnings of education in this area, and to spend some time in the outdoors. Parking is available on site. Questions? Call 610-966-3601.

News from the Property Committee....

There have been recent questions from members of the congregation regarding fundraising for the gas line project. In an effort to be transparent with all members, the following is what has transpired. In November, 2023, there was a concern from church members regarding the smell of gas in the downstairs area. Members of the church investigated and adjusted the pilot lights on the stove. In the meantime, UGI was in for an inspection and pressure tested the gas line. Although no leaks were present, UGI deemed the underground gas line as unsafe and placed a yellow tag on the system for repair. If a leak were to happen, it would go unnoticed until it was too late. The old line is to be capped off and placed above ground in line with the rest of the system and per UGI, must be done by a qualified HVAC Contractor. The contractor who regularly assists the Church with HVAC issues was contacted and, since he is familiar with the Church HVAC system, he will make the repair once the heating system is not needed. The cost will depend on how long it takes to cut through the stone wall to make the proper connection. If anyone would like to assist with this portion of the property, please contact the Church office.

News from Social and Aid...



The next Ham and Cheese Sandwiches and Soup sale orders are being taken right now! This sale is by the

Social and Aid Committee with proceeds going to General Fund

and Cemetery. Soup of the month is **Ham and String Bean** at \$8 a

quart with **Ham and Cheese Sandwiches** at \$5 each. Order yours at church

on Sunday or by calling/emailing the church office or Annie Souder. Orders

must be received by Sunday, April 7. Pick up will be Thursday, April 18 between 3:00-5:30 p.m.

in our downstairs social hall. Order forms are included with this newsletter.



News from the SonShine Group...

Wooden Crosses – We are selling wooden crosses to place on the Cemetery, for your flower beds at home or to hang on your wall. These are beautifully made and decorated. See samples after Worship or pick one up for Easter or Memorial Day. They are selling for \$30.00 each. See Richard Yeakel or Lisa Talecki on a Sunday morning or call the Church Office.



News from the Youth Group...

Youth Group will meet on Friday, April 26, 2024. All ages welcome. 6-8 p.m. in our lower social hall. Questions? Check with Pastor Lori or Alyson Miller.



Thank you to the person who mulched and planted pansies around the Church sign. Much appreciated!Diane Berger

The Church Office will be closed the week of April 8 and on Monday, April 15 but the answering machine will be checked periodically. If you need assistance please call Kathy Latshaw or Sharon Trexler, and they will direct your question to a proper person.

Greeters and Liturgist! Please consider being a Greeter or a Liturgist during Worship. Call the office or email to get your name added to our List. Thank you!

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.

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.



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.

Church Lost and Found Box – is located on top of the mailboxes next to Pastor's Office. There is always something in it. Check it out and see if you lost anything! Or call the church office.



Offerings and Donations Received from March 1-24, 2024

General Use.....	\$ 8,920.49
Sunday School.....	27.00
Benevolence.....	240.00
OGHS.....	290.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund.....	8.00
Windows to the Future.....	606.00
Utilities.....	25.00
Building Repair.....	70.00
Parsonage Rental.....	1,645.00
Parking Lot Maintenance Fund...	45.00
Cemetery.....	95.00
General Expenses.....	\$12,171.39
includes gas.....	\$1,188.51
includes electric.....	\$ 225.34

Thank you to our Worship Helpers!

Liturgist

April 7 Wendy Yeakel
 April 14
 April 21 Millie Kohler
 April 28 Lee Hoch
 May 5 Les Schoenberger

Greeters

Mel & Barbie Kerchner
 Peter Yeakel
 Lee & Susan Hoch
 Gisela Thiel
 Cheryl & McGwire

Head Usher

Bobby Schmeltzle
 Diane Berger
 Gisela Thiel
 Kathy Latshaw
 Mark Weaver

Altar Flowers

April 7 James & Patti Mittl
 April 14 Dolly Kichline
 April 21 Henry & MaryAnn Heil
 April 28 Linda Benner
 May 5

Bulletins

Lee & Susan Hoch
 Charles & Carol Brown
 Bob & Annie Souder
 Emily Dreas
 Todd & Jen Goudsward

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 May Newsletter is April 24. Please place all info in the Secretary's mailbox or email to the office at ozuccoffice@ptd.net

Some Church Friends stopped by to help Blanche Steiner celebrate her 87th Birthday



Old Zionsville United Church of Christ

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  Happy April Fool's Day! Scouts 6pm	2 Supper Club 5pm at Fairgrounds Hotel Cub Scouts 7pm	3	4 Choir 7:30pm	5	6
7 9:00am Sunday School 10:15 am Communion Worship with The Rev. David Schnaars Soup & Sandwich Orders Due	8 No Office Hours ATF 10am Scouts 6pm	9 No Office Hours FUN Group 7pm Cub Scouts 7pm	10 No Office Hours Finance 7pm	11 No Office Hours Choir 7:30pm	12	13
14 9:00am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship with The Rev. Homer Royer Pretzel Sale after Worship	15 No Office Hours ATF 10am Scouts 6pm Property 7pm	16 Consistory 7pm	17 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm	18 Pick up Soup & Sandwich Orders 3-5:30pm Choir 7:30pm	19	20
21 9:00am Sunday School 9:45am 3 rd Sunday Treats 10:15 am Worship with The Rev. David Schnaars Loose offering goes Pastor's Discretionary Fund Brunch at the Merc	22 ATF 10am Scouts 6pm Dillingersville Board Meeting	23 Cub Scouts 7pm Music & Worship 7 pm	24 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm	25 Choir 7:30pm	26 Lunch Bunch 12noon at Ritz Barbecue Youth Group 6-8 pm	27
28 9:00am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Pretzel Sale after Worship	29 ATF 10am Scouts 6pm	30 Dillingersville Planning Meeting 7:30pm Cub Scouts 7pm				



January 29, 2024

Faith Uniting Neighbors Group of Old Zionsville United Church of Christ
Patricia S Mittl
P.O. Box 215
Old Zionsville, PA 18068

Dear Friends,

Thank you, on behalf of The Lehigh Conference of Churches, for your recent contribution of \$300.00 on 01/09/2024, to support our neighbors in need.

For over 65 years, we have brought together area faith organizations like yours to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable while building partnerships and fostering unity. With you, we can carry out the work of God well beyond our collective walls, providing housing, hope and healing to those who need it most. This most generous gift allows us to continue our work with more than 14,000 individuals and families in the Lehigh Valley living in poverty.

The Conference is most grateful for your support. I look forward to continuing and deepening our partnership in ministry.

Faithfully,

Pastor Genie Watson

Pastor Genie Watson
Ecumenical Associate

No goods or services were received in exchange for this contribution. Gifts to the Lehigh Conference of Churches are tax deductible as allowed by law. Always consult your tax advisor for further details.



February 16,2024

Faith Uniting Neighbors
Old Zionsville UCC
5981 Fountain Rd.
Old Zionsville, PA 18068

Dear Members of the Faith Uniting Neighbors Group,

The Emmaus High School Angel Network thanks you for your generous donation of \$200. Your gift will help us with our mission of supporting the less fortunate students of our high school family by helping to address food insecurity, provide funding for educational opportunities, and enhance their overall experience by helping students to feel a part of the social fabric of their community.

It is with support from our community and donors such as yourself that we can provide basic assistance to students in need on an immediate short-term basis until other resources can be offered. We support our students' abilities to focus on school and show we care through anonymous giving in the true spirit of community. We believe that All high school students are OUR students and we want them to succeed.

No goods or services were provided by EHS Angel Network, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization in exchange for this gift. Gifts are tax deductible to the extent permitted by the law.

Yours truly,

Margaret Z Mineman

The EHS Angel Network Committee

EHS Angel Network, 500 Macungie Avenue, Emmaus PA 18049

Parents, EHS Staff and the Community Sharing Resources to Help Our Students Succeed