

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

October 26, 2025

10:15am

**those who are able may stand*

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

All Saints Day

Prelude: "Near to the Heart of God"

McAfee

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles:

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 65)

One: God moves with us throughout this earth and nurtures the soil,

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's works.

One: God's river flows with water, and the fields are blessed by the Spirit,

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's gifts.

One: God's wilderness fields overflow with joy.

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's grace.

Invocation (unison)

God of Love, Divine Friend,

Our hearts are open to you. If a thought crosses our minds, you are present and are ready to hold it for us. There is no emotion radiating from our souls that is too heavy or painful for you. Your Spirit encourages our dreams as we seek to find ways to build your Realm here on earth. May we work side-by-side, co-creating a world of possibilities where all experience your love and joy. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

(see insert)

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: God of the Mountains and Canyons,

Many: The range of emotions that wash through us are often triggers for the ways we hold ourselves. At times, we seek humility, but often find ourselves believing we do not deserve your love.

Other times, as we search for confidence, we believe we are your favorites and find ourselves in moments of comparison, contrast, and judgment. Are we better than our neighbors? How can we relate to siblings in Christ when their lives are not like ours and they stand out when visiting our spaces? We are misguided as we give thanks that our lives are not as chaotic and unkempt as theirs. Yet you ask us to seek humility and know that each of your children are loved equally. Help us to extend mercy to our neighbors, and fill their minds with words of encouragement. May each of us know our value in your Realm and experience your love in its fullness. Amen.

Words of Grace

God fully shares mercy and grace no matter where we sit in our churches or what our power is in this world. May we know your radical love when we rarely experience it. May your light and kindness seep from our souls so that our neighbors will understand your grace even when the harsh winds surround them. No matter how chaotic or serene our lives may be, may we all know your steadfast love. Amen.

*Hymn: "On Eagles' Wings"

(see insert)

Scriptures: 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Page 1039, 1040

The Reflection

Our All Saints Day Remembrance

(see insert)

Invitation to Generosity

We are given holy opportunities to share our gifts no matter who we are or where we are on life's journey. May we embrace joy instead of judgment as we discern where God is calling us to utilize our gifts.

Offertory: "Come, Come Ye Saints"

Blanchard

*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 Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)

God of Goodness and Grace, thank you today for all you have given to us. When we bear more power and privilege, we are called to share more of our talents, time, and treasures. In our efforts to seek humility and balance, may we soberly evaluate our gifts and understand the healthiest ways to apportion them to strengthen your Realm and love your children. Amen.

Choir Anthem

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 in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

*Closing Hymn: "This is a Day of New Beginnings" (see insert)

*Benediction

God of love moves us to seek holy balance in our lives.
The Christ of faith moves us to share our gifts to create God's Realm on earth.
The Spirit of Joy moves us to dream in new ways and co-create with the Divine. Whether we are on mountaintops or in canyons, may we envision meeting your children on the plains with Jesus the Christ at the center and the Spirit emboldening us in our journeys. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "On That Bright, Golden Shore" Moore



Humbled or Exalted: Service Prayers for the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost was written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian, an ordained UCC minister in Belleville, Illinois.

We welcome all of the visitors today who are celebrating the life of a loved one. We walk with you on your journey of grief. You are welcome to worship again with us anytime.

Special Thanks today to Carolyn Rhoads and Nancy Civitts and friends for creating the always unique and ever-changing Harvest Home display for today. We give thanks for this time of year and the beauty of creation as we move through the seasons.

TODAY'S GREETER is Diane Berger.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Cheryl Martucci.

TODAY'S Altar Flowers are sponsored by Miriam Fisher in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. William M.E. Yeakel, and her husband John's birthday on Oct. 26.

TODAY'S Chancel Flowers are sponsored by Carolyn Rhoads in memory of her mother, Emily, on her birthday.

TODAY'S Bulletin is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. James Mittl to the glory of God in memory of Julia & William Yeakel.

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.

All Things Free Room (ATF) next Sort and Store will be tomorrow, Monday, October 27 at 10:00am. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. Please do not block the chair path when leaving donations in the stairway. Any questions, call Millie.

Help is needed for the next **ATF Giveaway** on Monday, November 10 between 4-6 p.m. and on Saturday, November 15 between 10 a.m.-12 p.m. This will be our Christmas Giveaway. Thanks in advance if you can offer some time to this worthwhile ministry of our church. For more info, please contact Millie at 610-737-9432.

Beef Vegetable Soup along with Ham and Cheese Sandwiches will be offered to purchase in November by our Social and Aid Committee. Soup will be sold by the quart for \$8.00 each and sandwiches are \$5.00 each. Please make checks payable to Old Zionsville UCC. Order forms may be dropped in the offering plate any Sunday during worship service; call or email the Church office (610-966-3601), ozucoffice@ptd.net; or Annie Souder to place your orders. Proceeds will be split between the Church and Cemetery Association. Orders must be received by Sunday, November 9th, 2025. Pick up will be Thursday, November 20th, 2025 in our downstairs Social Hall between 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Lunch Bunch

When: Friday October 31, 2025, 12 Noon

Where: Perkins

3400 Lehigh St., Allentown

RSVP by Sunday 10/26/2025

Supper Club

When: Wednesday November 5, 2025, 6:00 PM

Where: Jamison Publick House

1860 Geryville Pike, Pennsburg

RSVP by Sunday 11/2/2025

Sunday Brunchers

When: Sunday November 16, 2025, After Church (Cash Only)

Where: The Mercantile Club

427 Railroad St. Emmaus

RSVP by Tuesday 11/11/2025

The Chosen, season 4, began showing on Sept. 10 and will conclude on Oct. 29, one episode each week in the lower social hall on Wednesdays starting at 1 p.m. with snacks. All Welcome!

The annual **Bazaar & Filled Basket Auction** is scheduled for Saturday, November 8th this year.

Please contact Jan Strobel (610-966-2609) if you would be able to help solicit prizes in the Macungie, Emmaus, or Zionsville areas...a copy of the letter to solicit items from local businesses to be used to fill baskets for the auction is included with the newsletter. She will coordinate solicitation so that we avoid approaching the same business multiple times.

We would love to have some homemade goodies for our Bake Sale (we'll remind you in next month's newsletter). Also, we could really use some help setting up tables on Friday night (November 7) and cleaning up on Saturday after the basket auction. If you can help with either set-up or clean-up, please sign up with Patti Mittl.

There will be some light refreshments for sale the day of the Bazaar.

Old Zionsville UCC, 5981 Fountain Road, would like to invite all of our siblings in Christ to participate in a **Combined Choir and Friends Concert to celebrate Thanksgiving on** Sunday, Nov. 23 at 3 p.m. in our sanctuary. The combined choir will rehearse for 3 Thursday evenings before the event in our sanctuary. The dates for rehearsals are as follows: Thursdays, Nov. 6, 13, 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Zionsville UCC Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to join to sing. We are looking for instrument solos, storytellers, and snacks to share at the reception. Any questions, please contact Lori Esslinger 610-393-3522

There will be instrument solos, hymn singing, storytelling, and the highlight, the combined choir voices to give Thanks to our God. A free will offering will be received to benefit our Ministerium which helps local people in various situations throughout the year. A time of fellowship will follow the event in our lower social hall. All welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors to join in this special time to give thanks.

As Thanksgiving is approaching, the Food Pantry is looking for participating churches to contribute appropriate items to the client's meal. Rather than packing a bag to share with all the usual standards, we are again providing the clients with a choice. Like last year, we will have a table full of all sorts of foods. With this approach, no specific requests are being made of each church. When you shop, feel free to select anything that might be included in a Thanksgiving meal. (Some shopping ideas: stuffing mix, gravy, vegetables, pumpkin, cream of mushroom soup, French fried onions, biscuit mix, bread mix,

cookie mix, or anything.) Please shop and bring your contributions to church no later than **NOVEMBER 2**. Any questions, call or text Robin Yoder.

Looking forward to Advent this year! We will be studying the Hymn/Carol: What Child IS This?

To make it very relevant, we are inviting you to bring your Nativity sets to our church to be photographed. During Advent, we will show the pictures during a slide show at the time of the Lighting of the Advent Candles.

Angela Stahler will be taking pictures of your Nativity set(s) for this slide show. Speak with Angela to arrange an appointment time to set up the nativity at church and then have it photographed. We will enjoy seeing the amazing beauty of each individual set.

We are seeking someone to serve as Chair of the Property Committee.

After nearly ten years of dedicated service, Beth Massa will be stepping down from this role at the end of December. We are deeply grateful for her faithful leadership and the care she has shown for our church building and grounds. This is an important and meaningful role in the life of our church. If you feel called to serve or would like more information, please contact Beth or Pastor Lori.

Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2am on Sunday, November 2. Please remember to turn your clocks back One Hour on Saturday, November 1 before you go to bed.

Week of October 26 through November 1:

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

Other times by appointment

Church Secretary Hours: Tues 11:30am-1:30pm, Wed 10am-2pm and
Thurs 10:30am-2:30pm

(please call before coming to make sure she is in the office)

Monday: 10am ATF Sort & Store
6pm Scouts

Tuesday: 7pm Cubs

Wednesday: 1pm The Chosen (lower social hall)

Thursday: 7:30pm Choir

Friday: 12 noon Lunch Bunch

Saturday: Fall PNEC - last meeting before we become the Keystone
Conference on Saturday night.

Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday:

Remember to turn clocks back one hour!

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

Next Sunday—9:00 am Sunday School

10:15 am Worship, Communion

12pm Confirmation Class

Total Offerings from October 19, 2025:

General Offerings: \$2167.00

Missions: \$125.00

Pastor's Discretionary: \$75.00

Bulletins: \$20.00

Flowers: \$80.00

Building: \$10.00

Utilities: \$20.00

Sunday School: \$4.00

Windows: \$500.00

Attendance: 47

All Saints Day Celebration

Old Zionsville United Church of Christ

October 26, 2025

Remembering Our "Saints"

John Fisher, Sr., died October 12, 2024

*Marjorie Louise Eisenhard, died October 14, 2024

Diane Louise Zeravsky, died October 17, 2024

*Robert E. Reynolds, died October 17, 2024

Joyce E. Nishnic, died November 15, 2024

*Shirley M. Batman, died January 14, 2025

*Paula J. Frederick, died February 8, 2025

*Monica Thiel, died March 6, 2025

Blanche R. Steiner, died March 9, 2025

*Calvin Wolfgang, died May 5, 2025

*Gertrud E. Stroble, died July 2, 2025

*William J. Yothers, died July 6, 2025

Martin P. Bertie, died August 22, 2025

*Zion G. Fritzinger, died August 23, 2025

*Phillip M. Jones, died August 25, 2025

Lenard Hoch, died September 13, 2025

Members David and Marcella Belles were living in Florida. We just learned of their deaths recently. David died November, 20, 2023 and Marcella died February 17, 2024. We light candles for them today too.

* = non-member

Lighting a Candle for others who have died this past year

Unison Prayer:

O God, we thank you for those who have gone before us, pillars of the faith who have helped to build the foundations of our trust in you. They have taught us what it means to believe. They have walked the paths of their pilgrimages so that we need not stumble. Surely their reward will be great in heaven. We thank you for the saints who surround us now, mentors and teachers who continue to open to us new truths of the gospel. Help us to extend hospitality and your gospel to all people for in so doing we will extend that great heavenly banquet table, where the Risen Christ is the host, into our lives here and now and hasten the day when your will is done. Amen.