

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

May 11, 2025

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Mother's Day
And Reception of New Members

Prelude: "My Home, Sweet Home"

Vandall

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: Transformative Creator, you envelope us with examples of community

**ALL: We are witness to Jesus' up close and personal attempts to
learn about and be with the people**

One: You want us to know that what happens outside of our church building
matters to God's people.

**ALL: Continue to work in and through us to build towards collective
flourishing**

One: Call us into living—

**ALL: Call us into being curious, approachable, and loving towards all
Your creation**

Invocation

One: Creator of the Collective, let us begin by sitting in silence so that we
can feel the presence of You in one another (be silent for 30 seconds)...
open up all our senses

**All: to be more available to the possibility of the Creator's reflection
in one another and let us be ready to build up a world, one in which
we become agents of change. Open our hearts, O God, and help us
to feel the brokenness of your world so we can begin again. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn: "O Perfect Love"

p.458

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Holy One, We ask ourselves: Who do we say that we are?

All: How do we show up against an oligarchy that allows discrimination, war, genocide, violence, transphobia, and poverty run rampant amongst God's people. When we experience tension, give us the courage to feel into that tension and to invite a feeling of love and kindness and grace the way that Your Son showed us time and time again. Be with us in this and all the hard moments still to come. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, let us go forth today and all the days with the courageous belief that we can truly recognize the Holy One in the other and then act accordingly. By grace, Creator will move us towards the transformation where acts of love, humility, curiosity, faith, abundance, and hope are on display for all to witness. Amen.

*Hymn: "Pass It On"

insert

Scripture: John 10:22-30

p.934

Reflection

Reception of New Members

Invitation to Generosity

We've heard God's call to us – to be abundant with our gifts of grace, love, forgiveness and time. And so let us be abundant in our giving so that the work of the church can be carried out beyond this building.

Offertory: "Where There's Love at Home"

McNaughton

*Presentation of the Offering 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)

Loving Creator we thank you for the gifts of the people – from our ancestors to our elders to those who have still yet to come, we share what we have so that all can flourish and follow you. Amen.

Choir Anthem

*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 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, for ever. Amen

*Closing Hymn: "How Great Thou Art" (vs. 1, 2, & 3 only) p.147

*Benediction

Blessed people, go forth this week knowing that we are in this world together and that collective flourishing is possible. It begins with listening and paying attention to all that is around you and then inviting others to come alongside – so do just that, slow down and marvel at God's creation.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Praise Him! Praise Him!" Allen

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*The Works Testify: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday* of Easter was written by Rev. ellie hutchinson, who serves as the Minister for Congregational and Community Engagement for the United Church of Christ.

**Please stop downstairs for further fellowship to welcome our new members.**

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are sponsored by Jeff and Cheryl Dreas in honor of family.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Paul and Robin Yoder in honor of their 37<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary and celebration of Nate, Jen, Austin & Christie.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Peter Yeakel.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Nancy Weitzel.

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) Giveaway will be tomorrow, Monday, May 12 from 4-6pm and Saturday, May 17 from 10am-12pm. If you are able to help please call or text Millie Kohler.

Order forms can be found at the entrances or in your pews for **May Soup and Sandwiches** made by our Social and Aid Committee. Orders are due **TODAY** and can be dropped in the offering plate or call/email the church office. Pick up is on Thursday, May 22 between 3 and 5:30pm in our downstairs social hall. For the months of June, July, August and September, the Social and Aid Committee will take a break from making soup. They will be selling Ham and Cheese Sandwiches only during the summer months. You may want to stock up on May's Beef Vegetable Soup and put some in your freezer for a nice soup when you are hungry for it until they come back to cook in October.

**Sunday Brunchers** will meet after Worship at the Mercantile Club in Emmaus next Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. **Lunch Bunch** will be on Friday, May 30 at 12 noon at the Macungie Diner. Please let Linda or Mark know if you are planning to attend. All are Welcome!

Youth Group will meet on Friday, May 23 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the lower social hall. All young people are invited to participate. There is something for everyone at Youth Group! If you have any questions please speak with Pastor Lori or Alyson Miller.

**Peanut Butter & Jelly** Collection - We are once again collecting peanut butter and jelly for the Zionsville Area Food Pantry at the end of our Sunday School year. We will be collecting through Sunday, June 8. Please place your items in the box outside of Pastor's Office.

**Attention Soon-to-be Grads!** Please let the church office know if you or a loved one will be graduating from High School, College or a Military program this year. We would like to honor you for all your hard work by putting your name and the name of the school in next month's newsletter. We would love to hear any future plans you would like to share with your church family also. You may call the church office or send us an email. **We will be celebrating all of our graduates in worship on Sunday, June 8.**

**Organ Recital – Next Sunday, May 18 at 4:00 p.m. Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church** is planning to formally celebrate their new organ with a special dedicatory organ recital. The Allen Organ Company delivered their

beautiful new organ in late October 2024. On Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. they are planning to formally celebrate with a special dedicatory organ recital. Allen Artist, Rudy Lucente, will dazzle and entertain us with his dramatic playing and musical talents. Rudy has been a church organist and musician his entire life in the greater Philadelphia area. Zion's Lutheran invites the whole community to attend. It will be a delight to experience his exceptional musical gifts. There will also be a time to meet Rudy during coffee and cake after the concert. Plan to attend this exciting event!!

The next round of **Grief Care** is scheduled to start on Wednesday, May 28 and run till July 23. There are nine sessions and will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 pm. We are working to create a zoom link for this program in case you can't make it in person. Each week includes a video, discussion and a snack. We meet in the lower social hall which is air conditioned and comfortable for all. Please speak to Pastor Lori with any questions. This group is open to all and is Free.

Fundraiser at Alburtis Area Community Center. The Merissa L Frye Small Cell Cervical Cancer Memorial Foundation is having a **Designer Purse Bingo!** Doors open at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 18 at the Alburtis Community Center, 220 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Alburtis. Games begin at 1:00 p.m. \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door, cash only. For tickets or more information please contact Nicole Steirer at 484-695-1802 or Kerrie Hetherington at 610-657-8136. Flyers posted on Church bulletin boards.

Join us for the **79th Annual Dillingersville Pilgrimage** on **Sunday, June 29, 2025**, for a memorable day of worship, history, and community! Experience an outdoor service under a large tent, surrounded by the beauty of nature at the historic 1841 stone schoolhouse, located at 7226 School House Lane in Zionsville. The combined Lutheran, Mennonite, and U.C.C. congregations will gather for a service at **10:30 a.m.**, followed by a German-style picnic lunch and delicious homemade baked goods. Stay for an exciting **12:30 p.m.** performance by **Palzer Krischer**, a German/PA Dutch folk group, featuring local musician Scott Reagan and his band from Altrip, Germany. This unique concert, blending PA Dutch and Palzisch (Palatine German), will be a highlight you won't want to miss!

**Calling All Bakers!!!** There will be a bake sale as part of the events at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage to the Dillingersville Schoolhouse. If you love to bake, please consider donating one of your delicious desserts to support this beautiful and historical schoolhouse. **Bring your dessert(s) to the**

**schoolhouse with you prior to the 10:30am service on Sunday, June 29th.** Please keep in mind that there is no refrigeration available, so you may want to consider not using icing on your dessert. For more information, please contact Teresa Marks at 610-509-1488 (cell number). Thank you!

**Week of May 11-17, 2025:**

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 to make sure she is in the office)

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

ATF Giveaway – Monday 4-6pm  
Scouts – Monday @ 6pm  
Property – Monday @ 7pm  
Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm  
FUN Group – Tuesday @ 7pm  
Finance – Wednesday @ 7pm  
Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm  
ATF Giveaway – Saturday 10am-12pm

**Next Sunday** – 9:00am Sunday School  
10:15am Worship, Guest Bonnie Bates  
12:00pm Sunday Brunchers  
4:00pm Organ Recital at Zion's Lutheran Church

**Total Offerings from May 4, 2025:**

|                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| General Offerings: \$2,480.00 | Building Repair: \$20.00         |
| Mission: \$120.00             | Parking Lot Maintenance: \$10.00 |
| Electric: \$20.00             | Cemetery: \$20.00                |
| Attendance - 46               |                                  |

## **Reception of New Members**

### **The Invitation**

Leader: We invite to come forward those who wish to affirm their baptism by uniting with us in the household of faith: Barbara (Barb) Huebner, Tyler Miller, and Beth Oswald.

### **The Address**

Leader: Friends in Christ, we all are received into the Church through the sacrament of baptism. These people have found nurture and support in the midst of the family of Christ. Through prayer and study, they have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their baptism, and to claim in our presence their covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the church. They are here for service to Jesus Christ, using the gifts which the Holy Spirit bestows.

Pastor: Hear the words of Jesus: "I am the vine, you are the branches. Anyone who abides in me, and I in that person, is the one who bears much fruit. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

Leader: Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Candidates: I do.

Leader: Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

Candidates: I do.

Leader: Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Candidates: I do.

Leader: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Candidates: I promise with the help of God.

Leader: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith, and to be faithful members of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence, and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

Candidates: I promise with the help of God.

### **Affirmation of Faith**

Leader: Let the congregation stand now, as we unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in God.

Leader: Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

(the congregation may be seated)

Pastor (to all candidates): By our baptism we were made one with the body of Christ, the church. Today we rejoice in our pilgrimage of faith which has brought all of us to this time and place. We give thanks for every community of faith that has been our spiritual home, and we celebrate our presence in this household of faith.

Leader: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of this local church as it serves this community and the world?

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

### **Welcome and Reception**

Leader: Let us, the members of Old Zionsville United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

People: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Leader and Representatives: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Old Zionsville United Church of Christ, we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church.



Pastor: Let us pray. O God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered in this local church and rejoice that you have increased our community of faith. Together may we live in the Spirit, building one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world for the sake of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen

### **Benediction**

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

From our Constitution and By-Laws, 2022

Membership in this church shall be open to any person who has been baptized and who fulfills one of the following: has been confirmed or has made public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, or who has made re-affirmation or reprofession of faith, or by letter of transfer from other Christian Churches.

Members shall pledge themselves to experience worship within the church and the celebration of the Lord's Supper; to live the Christian life; to participate in the life and work of the church; to contribute to its support and benevolences; and to share in the spiritual welfare of the membership and the community.

All members in good and regular standing are entitled to a full share in the fellowship and the spiritual blessings of the Church and to the services of its pastor, officials, and other workers.

Please help to welcome these new members into the fellowship of Old Zionsville UCC!