

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

August 17, 2025

9:30 a.m

**those who are able may stand*

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude: "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

Lemmel

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles:

Call to Worship

One: Our God knows us intimately

Many: God, you knew us before we knew us before we knew ourselves.

One: Our God is holy.

Many: Holy God, you consecrate us.

One: Our God will reassure.

Many: Holy God, you will give us words to speak.

Invocation (unison)

Mothering God, we rejoice that you placed us in the womb and called us forth. You called us forth to build and to plant. Give us the blueprint as we build and bless our hands as we plant. We rejoice in knowing that our steps are guided by you, and you are reliable. We delight ourselves in your presence and give thanks as you deliver us from fear and let your love have its way in us. Embolden us to speak your truth to power and let the power of your truth always be evident in us. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "We Have Come into His House"

pg. 224

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (Unison)

One: Transforming God, too often we have been afraid to speak out against the injustices of this world.

All: We have worshipped in ways that made us feel good rather than honor you in our words and deed. Show us the path to faithful living. Show us how to build beloved and just communities. Teach us how to do your work in this world. Empower us to plant seeds of love, faith, and hope. May we bloom where we have been planted to your glory.

Words of Grace

The Mystery we name God, leads us into all truth. Feel the gentle nudges without and within, helping us to course correct. Life in the Spirit is not static, and neither are we. Let the grace of God help us to build that which last and plant what nourishes.

*Hymn: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" (verses 1,2,3 only) pg. 539

Scriptures: Mark 3:1-19, pg. 869

John 14:18-24 pg. 939

Reflection: The Apostles Thaddeus (Jude) and Simon, the Zealot

Special Music

Invitation of Generosity:

The Divine source is the one from whom all blessings flow. We have an eternal invitation to bring our resources to God's house to use for the building of kingdom and as seed that there might be a continual harvest. These acts reflect the God who knows us and the God who calls us.

Offertory: "Follow, I Will Follow Thee" Brown

*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)

Fount of Every Blessing, receive these gifts in the joy in which we bring them. May they bless your church universally, our community and our world. May none suffer lack and may we always give from generous hearts. May we always take joy in being blessed to give and to share with you and each other. Amen.

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: "Be Still My Soul"

pg. 712

*Benediction

As you depart from this sacred space, do so fearlessly for God's word is in you. Go and build beloved community wherever you roam and plant seeds of love, faith, and hope. Amen

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Onward, Christian Soldiers"

Sullivan

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***To Build and to Plant:** Service Prayers for the Third Sunday after Pentecost were written by Rev. Teña T. Nock-Hope, Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of Tampa, United Church of Christ.*

**TODAY'S Altar Flowers** are sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shoemaker in honor of their wedding anniversary.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Souder in memory of loved ones.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Ethel Hollenbach

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Wendy 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)** Sort and Store will be tomorrow, Monday, August 18 at **9:00am**. If you have any questions please call or text Millie Kohler.

### **Information Concerning Donations**

The mission of **our ALL THINGS FREE** room is to provide suitable clothing and household items to families from our local and surrounding food pantries. We are **VERY** grateful for your donations, however, many times inappropriate items are received resulting in much of our volunteer time being misspent sorting through and disposing of things that are not suitable to offer to our families. **THEREFORE, BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY WE WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTING:**

**CLOTHING and LINENS** that are clean, smoke free, new or gently worn ....

**WITHOUT** stains, tears, missing buttons or broken zippers.

**HOUSEWARES** that are clean, smoke free, in perfect working order, new or like new.... Without chips, scratches or breaks.

**PERSONAL ITEMS** that are new, unopened (tubes or containers) and partially used packages that contain individually wrapped items.

**TOYS, GAMES and MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS** that are clean, smoke free, new or gently used .... With no broken or missing parts.

**DUE TO LIMITED STORAGE SPACE...WE CANNOT ACCEPT ANY FURNITURE UNLESS IT IS NO LARGER THAN THE SIZE OF AN AVERAGE KITCHEN CHAIR.**

**A Message from ATF:** We continually look for new and/or regifting items throughout the year that can be used as gifts at our November giveaway when food pantry clients shop for Christmas gifts for their family (all ages). Please consider helping us accumulate a variety of items. If you prefer not to shop but are willing to support us with a monetary donation, we will gladly do bargain shopping for you. Thanks in advance for helping any way you can!

**Sunday Brunchers** will meet at The Merc today after worship.

**Membership and Evangelism** is hosting a Lunch and Swim Event on Saturday, August 30, 12 Noon at Chestnut Ridge in Emmaus.

We will gather for Lunch (CASH ONLY) in the Chestnut Ridge Dining Room at Noon. After we eat, we will then proceed to the pool for an afternoon Swim, which also includes the use of the Hot Tub. If you prefer not to Swim or Hot Tub, there are tables and chairs around the pool and outside and you are welcome to stay and socialize with the group. Chestnut Ridge provides lockers for changing and the towels. We certainly want to thank Millie Kohler for inviting us to her home facility for this fun outing.

**Please RSVP to Mark or Linda Weaver No Later than Sunday 8/24. Please Re-confirm even if you responded to the earlier initial email.**

**Supper Club** will meet on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm @ Capo. & Co. in Emmaus. Please RSVP to Mark or Linda by Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**August Sandwich.** The Pickup date is Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup> from 3:30-5:30 pm.

**The Chosen**, season 4, will begin to be shown again, one episode each week in the lower social hall on Wednesdays starting at 1 p.m. with snacks on Sept. 10 and concluding on Oct. 29. All Welcome! You do not need to have seen previous episodes but if you wish to see them, we can make arrangements.

**Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** Ed Reis will be sharing the message. He will be taking a break from the Apostles list and sharing important information about: Sermons- Sinners- Servants- Saints

**Upcoming Event:** St. Francis Day Animal Blessing and Fire Pit Fellowship

When: Saturday, Oct 4, 2025 6-8pm (rain date: Oct 11)

Where: Parking Lot of Zion's Lutheran, Old Zionsville

What: Join us as we commemorate St. Francis of Assisi's feast day with a gathering celebrating God's creation. We'll say a few prayers and sing a few songs and then roast a few marshmallows together. Pets on leashes/harnesses are welcome to come for a spoken blessing. Bring a lawn chair and a blanket, and your favorite sticks for roasting marshmallows.

Questions, ask Pastor Lori.

***Worship for the summer is at 9:30 a.m. until August 31<sup>st</sup>***

***Worship is at 10:15 a.m. beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>***

### **Prayer List**

Richard, Carrie, Sue, Alexis, Sherri, Keenan, Elinor, Judy, Barbie and Mel, Scott, Samantha, Sabrina, Nathaniel, Bert, Jose, Linda, David, Tyler and Family, Webb Family, Rosemary, Paulette, Linda, Debbie, Marlene, Jake, Jake and Gabby, Pete, MaryAnn, Haring Family, John, Stacey, Brenda, Soldiers at Fort Stewart, Rob, Darrell

**Military:** Drew Stahler Nate Yeakel Chanellor Yenser

### **Week of August 17 through August 23, 2025:**

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

Other times by appointment

From Aug 22 – 29, if you need pastoral assistance, please contact: Alyson, Ellie, or Robin in the office: 610-966-3601 or Cheryl Martucci: 610-967-3044. They will contact the Pastor on call as needed.

Church Secretary Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 11am-2pm

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

Check out your newsletter to learn more about our new secretary.

Ellie is in training with Alyson and will officially start ASAP.

Alyson's last official day in the office will be August 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

ATF Sort and Store- Monday @ 9am

Consistory Meeting- Tuesday @ 7pm

Sandwich Order Pickup- Thursday @ 3:30-5:30pm

**Next Sunday**—9:30 am worship

Sermon by Ed Reis

**Total Offerings from August 10<sup>th</sup> , 2025:**

General Offerings: \$1230.00

Mission: \$140.00

Heat and Electric: \$50.00

Pastor Discretionary Fund: \$60.00

Attendance – 43

**Noble Quests** Curtis Johnson 2025

"While the earth remains, Seed time and harvest, Summer and winter, Cold and heat, Will not cease." Bible, Gen, 8:22

I saw the moon rising on my left.  
I beheld the sun setting on my right.  
I mused within my soul about forever things,  
Things which we often deem antiquated.

I mourned inside over non-forever things,  
Things upon which we are unduly fixated.  
We convince ourselves that outdated things matter less  
and mentally put them to rest  
Rather than make become a quest.

But the wisest of us will learn to touch base  
With things beyond our reach and discover  
What they have to teach. In so doing, we will  
Come to realize the value of such pursuits.