



Old Zionsville United Church of Christ

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

www.oldzionsucc.org

Email: ozuccoffice@ptd.net



July 2026

Rev. Lori Esslinger, Pastor

Office: 610-966-3436

Cell: 610-393-3522

MomAndPastorToo@yahoo.com

Pastor's Office Hours

Wednesdays 10am-3pm

Church Office Hours

Tuesdays 11:30am-1:30pm

Wednesdays & Thursdays

10am-2pm. **Exceptions:**

Thursday, July 2, 12pm-4pm

and Thursday, July 9, 8:30am-

12:30pm (*please call before*

stopping in.)

Office Contact Info.

610-966-3601

ozuccoffice@ptd.net

Financial Administrator

Tammy Walbert

Secretary

Ellie Deere

Organist

David Carlson

Choir Director

Carolyn Rhoads

Sexton

Richard Shoemaker

Social Media Coordinator

Beth Massa

webmanager@oldzionsucc.org

Consistory Officers

Co-Presidents

Cheryl Martucci

Chris Schell

Secretary

Sharon Trexler

Treasurer

Robin Yoder

From Pastor's Desk...

VACATION

I dreamed that God took a vacation
He did not say where he would go;
He just packed his Spirit and left us
Puzzling and wondering so.

He wearied and tired of much praying
And listening to every weak plea.
Two weeks were just what he'd been needing
Away from the world and me.

Just then I was faced with a crisis
My heart was in deep despair,
My pastor, my friend, nor my neighbors
Could help with an answer to prayer.

Oh, how I just longed for his Presence,
the touch of his soothing, calm hand;
To feel he was there close beside me,
And know that he would understand.

I woke up to find out I was dreaming,
And fell on my knees and I cried.
Oh, how I thanked God up in Heaven
That he was still here by my side.

And again, it is time for vacations.
I may go by land, sea or air,
Wherever I am on the Lord's Day,
I know I shall worship him there.

Blessings, Lori

Summer Worship begins on July 5th at 9:30 a.m. Join us early to beat the heat!

News from Choir...

The Choir will be taking a well-deserved break in July and August. Please consider joining the choir this fall. We will start up again with rehearsals on Thursday, September 10th with singing in Church on Sunday, September 13. All are welcome to join in, Thursday rehearsals will begin at 7:30 p.m.

News from Christian Ed...

No Sunday School for July and August. Sunday School classes will resume on September 13. And there is always room for more teachers and more helpers! If you have other questions about Sunday School, please speak with Pastor Lori, Susan Jacobs, or Deb Schoenberger.

Confirmation Class:

You are welcome to go on a field trip with us!

July 25, Saturday. We will travel to Safe Harbor in Easton which is a homeless shelter. We will leave the church around 10:15 a.m. in order to serve them lunch. We will eat with the residents and then play BINGO together. We don't clear our cards until everybody wins at least once! It is fun. We plan to be back at OZUCC around 4 p.m.

July 26, Sunday. We will play BINGO after 9:30 a.m. church at OZUCC. We will clear our cards after at least 3 people win. There will be many varied prizes and we will be serving some breakfast foods. There will be a bake sale too. Please consider donating to our bake sale. It can be homemade granola, trail mix, jello gigglers, rice krispy treats, fruit salad, or anything you like. You don't have to heat your oven unless you want to! The money from the bake sale will be used by the class to buy a gift for the church. BINGO and breakfast food will be FREE. Plan to stay a little while after worship to have some fellowship with our church family.

Confirmation Sunday will be September 20 at the 10:15am service.

News from Computer and Media Committee...

Worship Livestream

A reminder that our Sunday worship services are livestreamed each week on YouTube and Facebook and remain available afterward on YouTube. If you're traveling, under the weather, or unable to attend, you can still stay connected — and feel free to share the link with anyone who might appreciate worshipping with us.

Watch on [our YouTube channel](#) or visit [the "Past Worship Services" page on our website](#). Questions? Contact Beth Massa (webmanager@oldzionsucc.org).

Our Social Media Coordinator has revamped our Web Page! Check it out and see if you can find some interesting facts or things that you didn't know about our church!

www.oldzionsucc.org

News from the Evangelism and Membership Committee...

Sunday Brunchers, Lunch Bunch, and Supper Club will not meet in July and August. Please join us in the Fall!



News from the Food Pantry...

Thanks to all for participating in our **50 days of food collection for the Food Pantry!** We collected a whopping 327 items for our food pantry in just these 50 days between Easter and Pentecost! Well done good and faithful servants!

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, 5901 Kings Highway South.

Their email address is ZAFP5901@yahoo.com and their mailing address is P.O. Box 56, Old Zionsville, PA 18068.

Any questions, call or text Robin Yoder.

Remember, you can bring items to our Church for the Food Pantry at any time. Stuff needed most for the Food Pantry are: personal care items, paper products, and all kinds of non-perishable food. Pick up extra at the grocery store and bring it to Church. Place in the shopping cart in the first-floor social room. Thanks.



News from the ATF Room...

All Things Free (ATF) Sort & Store will be held on Monday July 6, 20, & 27 at 10am. Stop by to check it out. We can always use extra hands! Thanks in advance for serving the Lord. For further information, please contact Pastor Lori Esslinger at 610-393-3522.

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.

Help is needed for our ATF Giveaway on Monday, July 13 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and on Saturday, July 18 from 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 11 for set up. If you are able to help or have any questions, please contact Pastor Lori Esslinger at 610-393-3522. Thanks in advance if you can offer some time to this worthwhile ministry of our church.

News from the FUN Group...

Faith Uniting Neighbors



We collected 61 jars of jelly for the Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone who contributed. Remember, even though our official jelly drive has ended, you can always add jelly to the Food Pantry grocery cart at any time.

News from Music and Worship Committee...

The time of **Worship service will change** from 10:15am to 9:30am on Sunday, July 5th for the months of July and August.

News from Social and Aid...

For the months of 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.

July Sandwich Sale. Ham and Cheese Sandwiches will be offered to purchase in July by our Social and Aid Committee. Sandwiches are \$5.00 each. Please make checks payable to Old Zionsville UCC. Order forms may be dropped off in the offering plate any Sunday during worship service; call or email the Church office at 610-966-3601, ozuccoffice@ptd.net; or call Annie Souder at 610-966-5242 to place your order. Proceeds will be split between the Church and Cemetery Association. **Orders must be received by Sunday, July 12, 2026. Pick-up will be Thursday, July 23, 2026 in our downstairs Social Hall between 3:00-5:00pm.**



News from the Cemetery Committee...

Cemetery Plots are still available to purchase. For information, please contact Chris Schell at 267-772-4437, giantmann007@gmail.com or John Civitts at 610-966-3386, johncivitts@usa.net.

Old Zionsville UCC Cemetery Plants and Memorials

- No planting of trees, flowers, or shrubbery of any kind.
- Nothing may be placed in the cemetery that would impede the mowing through the rows of graves.
- Winter Arrangements must be removed by Palm Sunday.
- Summer Arrangements must be removed by November 14th.
- Trustees have the right to remove any decorations, wreaths, plants, etc. deemed objectionable or which become unsightly.
- Cemeteries closed: Dusk to Dawn.
- No Pets. Working service animals are allowed in accordance with all Federal and State laws.

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 Office

Our member, Ron Wetherhold, died May 11, 2026. Here is his obituary. **If anyone remembers him, the family would like to know your remembrances.** There are two services planned to remember him and for us to say an official goodbye to him.

Obituary

Ronald O. Wetherhold, 90, of Emmaus, passed away May 11, 2026, in St. Luke's Hospice House. He was the husband of Carole Ann (Baranovich) Wetherhold. Born in Mount Pocono, he was the son of the late Stewart and Eleanor (Eberhart) Wetherhold. He honorably served his country as a sharpshooter in the Marine Corps. Ron was a graduate of Lehigh University and Kutztown University. He worked as a special education teacher for the Southern Lehigh School District at Hopewell Elementary School for 35 years, retiring in 1996. He enjoyed his breakfast group with

teachers, was an avid gardener, and enjoyed traveling and reading western and crime novels. He also was a member of The National Exchange Club, Unity for Service.

A celebration of Ronald's life will be announced. Schantz Funeral Home, P.C., Emmaus is handling arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Marine Corps League #296, c/o Bill Stout, 822 Ridge St., Emmaus, PA 18049.

There will be a short service of remembrance at Old Zionsville UCC on Sunday July 12 starting at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary and a family gathering later the same day at 5 p.m. For more information, please contact Pastor Lori at the church, 610-966-3601.

*****We have 2 almost-new car booster seats for children under 7 years old. See Pastor Lori if you can use them. FREE*****

Statistics learned at the Keystone Annual Conference Meeting on June 5- 6, 2026:

- The Keystone Conference has 507 churches.
- **Our 50 days of food collection brought in 39,328 items. OZUCC contributed 327 of those items!**
- 600 people were registered for the Annual meeting held at Millersville University. Pastor Lori, Kathy Latshaw, and Diane Berger went as our delegates.
- From the PA Secretary of Agriculture, Russell: Redding, PA has more young farmers under the age of 35 than any other state in the USA AND PA has preserved more farmland than any other state in the USA.
- For 1 meal provided by food banks, SNAP provides 9 meals.

The **Dorseyville Church**, which suffered the effects of a fire a few weeks ago, was presented with a check from our Conference for \$10,000 to help with restoration. A single donor shared a check for \$50,000 to help with restoration. **Our Joyful Noise Offering** was taken on Sunday June 7, for the Trinity UCC, Dorseyville. Our Total dollars received was \$494.89. Consistory voted Tuesday evening, June 16, to send a total of \$1,000.00. This will be made up of various donations and we thank all! The donation will be sent to the Trinity UCC in support of their recovery from the fire. Thanks for BEING The Church of Jesus Christ!

The **Keystone Conference** is 5 months old now, with the opening date of Jan. 1, 2026. Statistics that have been collected from our 507 churches go like this:

- 72% of our churches worship with 50 people or less on a Sunday morning.
- Only 5% of our churches worship with 100 or more people on a Sunday morning.
- 2/3 of the settled pastors serving our churches are over 60 years old.

From Pastor Lori: Sermon Series for this Summer, 2026, starts July 5 at the 9:30 a.m. worship service with Communion.

I have picked 10 women in the Bible that we will focus on, one per week. I won't tell you the order, so you will have to come to worship to find out who is "on deck" for the day. Here they are:

Hagar	Deborah
Dorcas	Priscilla
Miriam	Phoebe
Lydia	Eve
Jezebel	Esther

Most of them are "good girls" except for one or maybe two. See you in worship so we can decide together.

Also, see the A-to-Z list of Biblical Women at the end of this newsletter. Answers will be in the August newsletter :) Good Luck. No cheating!!!

Back-to-School Drive

OZUCC is joining the Lehigh Conference of Churches in their **4th Annual Back-to-School Drive** this July. A bin will be provided for your school supply donations. **The last day for donations is Sunday, August 2.** Please see below for a message from the Lehigh Conference of Churches. Thank you!!

This July marks our 4th Annual Back-to-School Supply Drive!

Each year, organizations, businesses, churches, community groups, and individuals come together to help collect school supplies for local children and families in need. The supplies gathered throughout the month of July will help support The Conference's annual Back-to-School Bash in August, where we distribute backpacks filled with essential school items to members of our community who may need a helping hand as they prepare for the new school year.

So please pick up a few extra school supplies during your next shopping trip.

Thank you for helping make a difference in the lives of local students and families!



We are planning to print a new membership directory in August. If your address, email address, or phone number has changed recently, please be sure to let us know.

We currently have updates from:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| • Dean Breunig | • Dylan Miller | • Brenda Shoemaker |
| • Matt Brown | • Joan Muth | • Scott Strobel |
| • Debbie Galipeau | • Pam Pavlacka | • Dana Walbert |
| • Jody Hoch | • Ed Puschock | • Nathan Yeakel (Nora) |
| • Donna Lehr | • Deb Schoenberger | • Renee Yeakel |

We need updates from: Jeffrey & Amelia Natysyn and John Zeravsky (add wife's name)

Our Parking Lot between the church and parsonage is small. It can be difficult to back out of your space if you park straight in toward the church building and there is someone parked in the handicap spaces along the parsonage lawn. PLEASE be careful! Park at your own risk in those handicap spaces. We are working on alternatives and safer ways to park in that little lot. You are always welcome to park in the front horseshoe and along Fountain Road in the several spots there.

Greeters and Liturgists! Please consider being a Greeter or a Liturgist during Worship. Call or email the office to get your name added to our List. Thank you! And thanks to those stepped up and volunteered to be greeters and liturgists! **Greeters are needed on 10/25/26.**

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!!

Thanks to all for your support for our Battery collection to recycle at Staples. They have changed the program so **we are no longer accepting batteries.**

We are still accepting ink cartridges, toner or the like to recycle at Staples. Plus, they take "dead" markers and pens for recycling too. There are collection boxes outside of Pastor Lori's office. Thanks in advance for helping us to get credit for future purchases at Staples.

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 wall 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 now 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.

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 18, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104

Take These Steps to Help End Hunger in Our Community and throughout the World:

1. Put on your calendar: Sunday, Oct. 18, 2026, 1:30 PM—Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk.
2. Go to www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa to donate and/or sign up to walk.
3. Spread the word to family, friends, and other members of your congregation/group/business! Ask them to donate and/or walk!
4. If your congregation/group/business doesn't have a CROP Hunger Walk recruiter, ask how you can help.

Our CROP Hunger Walk gifts support the vital ministries of the Lehigh Churches Conference Kitchen and the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank with neighbors experiencing food insecurity in our area.

Our CROP Hunger Walk gifts also support the life-saving work of Church World Service with our neighbors who are struggling in the aftermath of floods, fires, droughts, and other disasters throughout the United States and the world. THANKS for Making a Difference for Our Neighbors in Need!



Offerings and Donations Received from June 2026

General Use	\$6,744
Flowers	\$100
Benevolence	\$320
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$130
Cemetery	\$90
Utilities	\$0
Building Repair	\$125
Bulletins	\$30
Trinity UCC Fire	\$465
Communion	\$79
Parking Lot	\$20
Memorial	\$615
General Expenses	\$12,454
includes gas	\$376
includes electric	\$320
includes new refrigerator for parsonage	\$1,153

Note: Does not include June 28, 2026 offerings/donations.

Please remember there is a third box on your offering envelopes should you wish to give offering toward our Parking Lot Maintenance, Cemetery, Building Repairs or any Property Expenses. Just designate in what area the money should be placed. Thank you.

In order to be reimbursed, or to receive credit as a church donation, original receipts for labor and materials purchased on behalf of the church must be received in the office within 60 days of the date from purchase. There is a ½ sheet of green paper with room for you to explain your reimbursement request in the office on the shelf above Tammy's In-box.

**There is a feeling around Birthdays, that is festive and full of joy.
There is a happiness and hopefulness in the air that we all experience together.
So here's to sharing the wonder of this special day...and here's to celebrating YOU!
-- Samantha Chase Meyers**

Altar Flowers and Bulletin Sponsors

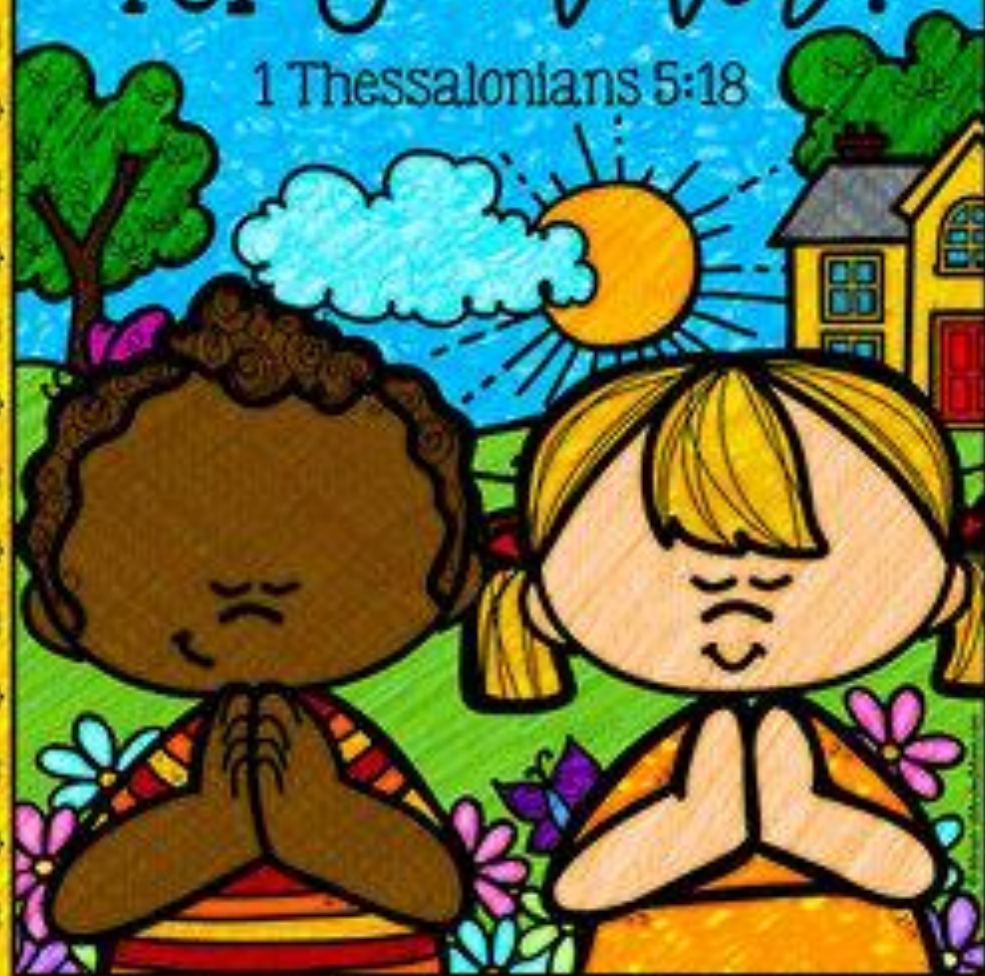
If you wish to sponsor Bulletins or Flowers, please call the church office, 610-966-3601 or email at ozuccoffice@ptd.net. Bulletins are \$10.00, Altar Flowers are \$40.00, our Seasonal silk arrangement is a donation of \$30.00 to our Mission Fund. If you are already signed up to sponsor Altar Flowers and would like us to use our silk arrangement, please let the office know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE so Ellie can cancel our arrangement with Rich Mar Florist for that Sunday. Thank you!

**Deadline for material to be included in our August Newsletter is
July 12. Please place all info in the Secretary's mailbox
or email to the office at ozuccoffice@ptd.net**

To add names to our Prayer List please call or email the church office.

Thank You God for Summer!

1 Thessalonians 5:18



Old Zionsville United Church of Christ

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm	2 Ellie 12-4pm	3	4 
5 9:30am Worship, Communion	6 10am ATF Sort & Store 6pm Scouts	7	8 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm	9 Ellie 8:30am- 12:30pm	10	11 ATF Setup 10am Fritzingers friends parking in small parking lot. 1-6pm
12 9:30am Worship 11:00am Ron Wetherhold Service of Remembrance Sandwich Orders Due	13 ATF Giveaway 4-6pm 6pm Scouts 7pm M&W Committee	14 7pm FUN Group	15 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm 7pm Finance	16	17	18 ATF Giveaway 10am-12 noon
19 9:30am Worship	20 10am ATF Sort & Store 6pm Scouts	21 7pm Consistory	22 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm	23 3-5pm Sandwich Pickup	24	25 10:15am Confirmation Class to Safe Harbor, Easton
26 9:30am Worship After worship: Bingo (sponsored by Confirmation Class)	27 10am ATF Sort & Store 6pm Scouts	28 Ellie Vacation	29 Pastor Lori Office Hours 10am-3pm Ellie Vacation	30 Ellie Vacation	31	

Old Zionsville UCC

P.O. Box 215, Old Zionsville, PA 18068

July Ham and Cheese Sandwich Sale

For the months of 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.**

Pickup will be on a Thursday so you will be able to sell sandwiches at work and deliver them for lunch on Friday! **Sandwiches are \$5.00 each.** Please indicate below what you would like and how many. 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), ozuccoffice@ptd.net; or Annie Souder to place your orders. Keep the bottom of the form below for your records if you sell to others. Proceeds will be split between the Church and the Cemetery Association to help pay bills.

Orders must be received by Sunday, July 12, 2026. Pick up will be Thursday, July 23, 2026 between 3:00-5:00 p.m. in our downstairs Social Hall

Name: _____

Phone#: _____

Total # of Ham & Cheese Sandwiches: _____

at \$5.00 each: \$_____



**Pick up Thursday, July 23, 2025 in our downstairs Social Hall
between 3:00-5:00 p.m.**

[illegible]

BIBLE WOMEN FROM A to Z

How Many Can You Name?

A _____

B _____

C _____

D _____

E _____

F _____

G _____

H _____

I _____

J _____

K _____

L _____

M _____

N _____

O _____

P _____

Q _____

R _____

S _____

T _____

U _____

Answers coming in August Newsletter!

V _____

W _____

X _____

Y **AHWEH - Creator of us all!** _____

Z _____