

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

<u>Rev. Lori Esslinger</u>	<u>Pastor</u>
<u>David Carlson</u>	<u>Organist</u>
<u>August 30, 2026</u>	<u>9:30 a.m.</u>

**those who are able may stand*

“Lydia”

Prelude: “Children of the Heavenly Father” Vara
Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 105)

One: O give thanks to the Holy One, the I Am Who I Am, who calls us together and makes their name known.

Many: We glory in God’s holy name! Let the hearts that seek the Holy One rejoice and testify!

One: O give thanks to the Holy One, God of our ancestors, who lives and reigns with all generations.

Many: Sing praises to our God. Remember their wonderful works, saving acts, and redemptive deeds.

One: O give thanks to the Holy One, Mighty and Just God, who lends strength in the struggle and leads in righteousness.

Many: Seek the presence of the Holy One. Praise God!

Invocation (unison)

Sovereign God, we delight in your presence. Your words bring joy, peace, and strength. You fill us with your Spirit and shape us in truth. Take us beyond the wilderness of our current condition. Remind us of who you are and who we are in you. Receive our praise, our curiosity, our doubts, our fears. With thanksgiving, we come to you just as we are. In hope, we bring our dreams for a better world and better lives. In awe, we recount what you have already done. In faith, we invite you to equip us as your partners in your kingdom. Set a fire for your way and your will within us as we minister in your name. Amen.

***Hymn: "Praise Him! Praise Him!"**

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Prayer for Transformation and New Life (Inspired by Romans 12)

One: Redeemer and Guide, we travel with you because you never leave us.

Many: Yet, sometimes we drift from the path of life you give us.

Rather than holding fast to what is good, we compromise with evil.

Rather than persevering in prayer, we dwell in anger, rage, and

conspiracies. Rather than sharing our blessings and pursuing

hospitality, we hoard the resources you have given us to share. Help

us to live in love and harmony with one another. Empower us to

pursue peace for all. Let us overcome and overwhelm evil with

good, compassion, and hope in your name. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, wherever we go becomes holy ground because the Holy One goes with us. Be firm in hope that the God who met Moses through a burning bush will meet us wherever we may seek strength, encouragement, and the will to live in righteousness, justice, and peace. By the grace of the Holy One, all these things are possible in us and through us.

***Hymn: "Glorify Thy Name"**

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Scripture: Acts 16

page 963-964

Reflection: Lydia

Special Music: "You Make Everything Beautiful"

For King and Country

Neil Harrison, Wendy Yeakel, and Paula Lilly accompanist

Invitation to Generosity

As a spiritual discipline, generosity demonstrates our commitment to the kingdom of God in a tangible way. When we share our resources, we proclaim our trust in God's abundant provision, our concern for the condition of our neighbors, and our responsibility for the maintenance and care of our community. Let us give generously to the good work of God's church.

Offertory: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Wyeth

***Presentation of our Gifts and "We Give Thee but Thine Own"** page 816

We give thee but thine own,

Whate'er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone,

A trust, O Lord, from thee.

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (unison)

Holy One, we present these offerings to you in hope and love. May they be a gift in our community and the world. May they spread hope and love. And, may they witness to your abundant and generous creation. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (seated/spoken)

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

***Hymn: "Majesty"** (sing two times through)

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***Benediction**

Trust in God in the wilderness.
Hope in God through the wilderness.
Follow God beyond the wilderness.
With the assurance that God makes the ground holy,
Hears the cries of the people,
And comes near to the suffering,
Join the work of deliverance,
Believe in the possibility of a just world
And work toward its realization.
Go, in peace and determination,
To serve and love God and all creation.

***Postlude: "How Firm a Foundation"**

Bish

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***Beyond the Wilderness: Service Prayers for the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Year A*** was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are given in loving memory of Martin Bertie, with love from his family.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Jane Bedell.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are Beth Eck and Glenn Shingler.

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.

**Worship will begin at 10:15 a.m. starting September 13.**

**The Sermon Series, Women in the Bible:** The last woman in our series is Phoebe on September 6.

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

**All Things Free (ATF) Sort & Store** will be held on every Monday in August 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 Sherri Harrison.

**All Things Free Giveaway** is Monday, September 14, 4:00–6:00pm and Saturday, September 19, 10:00am - 12:00pm. Setup is September 12 at 10am. For further information, please contact Sherri Harrison.

**September Sandwich Sale.** Ham and Cheese Sandwiches will be offered to purchase in September 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](mailto: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, September 13, 2026. Pick-up will be Thursday, September 24, 2026 between 3:00-5:00pm in our downstairs Social Hall.**

**We are planning to print a new membership directory this month (August).** If your address, email address, or phone number has changed recently, please be sure to let us know by calling or emailing the church office.

**Please see Matthew Yenser** about sales items to benefit his football team.

**Supper Club – RSVP by Sunday 8/30/2026**

Wednesday September 2, 2026, 6:00 PM

Superior Restaurant

102 Main St., Emmaus

**Maximum of 15 for this event. Sign Up Early!!!**

**Sunday Brunchers – RSVP by Wednesday 9/16/2026**

Sunday September 20, 2026, ~ 12 Noon

Mercantile Club

427 Railroad St., Emmaus

CASH ONLY

**Lunch Bunch – RSVP by Sunday 9/20/2026**

Wednesday September 23, 2026, 12 Noon

(Note: Change to Wednesday for September ONLY due to conflicting dates)

Powderbourne Sportsman's Club

2071 Baus Road, East Greenville (Pennsburg)

**250 Years of America! Saturday, Sept. 5, 2026 at Lenape Park. See flyer in the Narthex.** All of the churches have been asked to help prepare activities for the children throughout the afternoon. **If anyone has some ideas of games or team activities that we can play we are looking for ideas and volunteers.** **If you can help, even for only an hour, please let Pastor Lori know.** Some colonial games suggested so far include: Hoop rolling, Hopscotch, Spinning Tops, Tug of War, Button on a String.

**Here is the tentative time schedule for 250 Years of America on Sept. 5: Parade starts at the Historical Society and marches to Lenape Park - approx. noon to 12:30 p.m.** There will be a reading of the Declaration of Independence at the park.

Children's activities from **1 - 5 p.m.**, including a Petting Zoo from **2 - 4 p.m.**, a Balloon artist, games, and other fun activities. Old Time Music **1 - 3 p.m.**, Kelly Planer and The Perks **3 - 5 p.m.**

**AND an added bonus to the 250 Years of America: Sept 5, Old Zionsville UCC will show the Fries Rebellion movie at 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in our sanctuary - no charge.** Macungie Township in the late 1790s was a hotbed of patriotic protest. Local farmers and others joined together to voice strident opposition to the way they perceived the new nation was going under President John Adams's administration, and rebelled against a new federal tax. Named after its leader, John Fries (pronounced "freeze"), the Fries Rebellion made waves at the highest levels of the new government.

In anticipation of America 250 celebrations to be held nationwide in 2026, the Lower Macungie Township Historical Society (LMTHS) produced a special film that celebrates one of the region's defining periods.

**LMTHS** partnered with award-winning production companies, In the Wee hours and ubiFire Video Productions, to produce a 32-minute film delving into 'The Fries Rebellion.' The professionally produced and edited educational tool for K-12 teachers in Eastern Pennsylvania has been distributed nationwide via streaming services, film festivals and local showings in museums and historical societies. The film provides insights into the ongoing, unfolding American experiment, highlights aspects of local heritage, and will be a legacy for generations to come.

In this docudrama, places and events of the Fries Rebellion are seen through the eyes of a modern schoolgirl. Audiences of all ages will be entertained and informed about an insurrection that occurred in 1798-1799, primarily among the German-speaking populations in and surrounding the "Lehigh Hills" region of then Northampton, Eastern Berks, Upper Bucks, and Upper Montgomery counties of Pennsylvania. Several of the scenes feature original sites that still exist, including the Red Lion Inn (formerly Enoch Robert's Tavern - Quakertown), Jamision Publick House (formerly Conrad Mark's Tavern - Geryville), Hendrixson's Furniture Store (formerly John Shymer's Tavern - Shimersville), Buckeye Tavern (formerly Henry Shankweiler's Tavern - Macungie), 1760 House (formerly Peter Trexler's Tavern - Trexlertown), Commix Hotel (formerly Martin Ritter's Tavern - Allentown), and the 1758 Sun Inn (Bethlehem).

There is also a 30-minute film that shows how the movie was made. We will show that also. **Come on in and sit a spell and learn. Donations accepted.**

**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.

**Sunday School classes will resume on September 13** at 9 a.m. each Sunday. 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.

**You are invited to a church family gathering to celebrate with the Eck-Esslinger family!** The date is Thursday, October 15, 2026. Time: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Come and go anytime. The buffet will be set up for the whole time of the event. The food is being catered by Nick's Bistro and Pizzeria. We will eat together and **celebrate the wedding of Lori's son and daughter-in-law.** Please see the September Newsletter and the flyer in the Narthex for more information.

**The annual Bazaar & Filled Basket Auction is scheduled for Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> this year.** Faith Uniting Neighbors Group would greatly appreciate a volunteer(s) from the congregation to solicit donations for the baskets from area businesses. Please see the **September Newsletter** for more information and resources. Thanks!

**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 who have stepped up and volunteered! **Greeters are needed on 10/25.**

**Currently, our Webpage is down for maintenance.** We hope to have it back up and running by September 13.

**Week of August 31 through September 6:**

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday, 10am-3pm.  
(other times by appointment)

Church Hours: Tuesday 11:30am-1:30pm,  
Wednesday & Thursday 10am-2pm  
(please call before coming to make sure secretary is in the office)

Monday: 10am ATF Sort & Store  
6pm Scouts

Tuesday: 7pm Cubs

Wednesday: 6pm Supper Club, Superior Restaurant, Emmaus

Saturday: 12 Noon 250 Years of America, Lenape Park, our church & parking lot.

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

**Next Sunday, September 6:**

9:30 a.m. Worship (last 9:30 a.m. service)

**Church office closed on Monday, September 7 for Labor Day**

**Total Offerings from August 23, 2026:**

General Offerings: \$1815.00

General Missions: \$50.00

OCWM: \$150.00

Flowers: \$80.00

Bulletin: \$20.00

Pastor Discretionary: \$20.00

Cemetery: \$10.00

Attendance: 46