

DECEMBER 2025

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 12

ZOON NEWSLETTER

INVITE...GROW...SERVE

December Newsletter by Steve Kladny

When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." Immediately her bleeding stopped, and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." Mark 5: 27-30; 33-34

What happened to the handyman when he lost his hands?

He became an army man.

Why should you never brush your teeth with your left hand?

Because a toothbrush works better.

What did the police officer say to the hand?

Stop! You are under a wrist.

If I have 6 oranges in one hand and 7 oranges in the other hand, what do I really have?

Really big hands.

What happened after the dummy robbed the bank? Police are questioning a ventriloquist who may have had a hand in it.

What happens when you put your hand in a blender?

You get a handshake

Power of a Handshake

On Sunday mornings when pastor tells you to extend a greeting to those around you, what do you do? Do you wave at the person in the next pew? Do you extend a "fist bump"? Do you nod your head while saying hello? Possibly "yes" to all three. But chances are you offer a handshake. Prior to 2020, the handshake was almost a given, but since Covid, the chances have slipped slightly. But I would guess the handshake still tops the percentage list. Do you know the origin of where the handshake came from? Neither did I till I looked it up. The handshake originated thousands of years ago as a gesture of peace and trust. First documented in ancient Assyria in the 9th century BCE and practiced in ancient Greece and Rome. It originally served to show that neither person was carrying a weapon, with the up-and-down motion intended to dislodge any hidden daggers. The practice later evolved to symbolize friendship, alliance, and the sealing of promises. But I would like to discuss how it can mean something far more powerful, and important.

Every December the Brotherhood schedules mini concerts at the local nursing homes in our area. We end up singing for approximately 45 minutes every Wednesday, leading up to Christmas. Depending on the nursing home we visit, our audience ranges from 15 to 30 people. After we sing, members of the Brotherhood will walk through the audience and thank the residents for coming and wish them a Merry Christmas. At the same time, we will shake their hands. At that moment, something very special occurs. A connection is made. I do not know how long these individuals have been in this nursing facility, or how many people come to visit them regularly but in that moment of the handshake, they feel respected, honored, and loved. As I shake one resident's hand and wish them a Merry Christmas, I see the next individual lifting their arm, preparing to greet me. I am sure that these folks enjoyed our performance and the music of the season, but I feel that one-on-one interaction, that handshake, is an even greater holiday gift. My handshake is not healing them physically, as Jesus healed the woman in Mark 5, but there is a certain power in the moment that is happening. Perhaps a healing from the feelings of loneliness and neglect. An honoring of an individual who has felt too alone for quite some time. A sharing of God love in a quick moment of human contact. A feeling of Christmas! I challenge you this Christmas season to place yourselves in a similar environment. Visit someone in a nursing home, a hospital, or even a shut-in. Offer an individual a warm greeting and a Merry Christmas holiday season. You may be surprised, as I was, at how much you will receive from the experience!

Merry Christmas everyone and may God work through each of you this holiday season and all year long!



DECEMBER



2025



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAYS:	FLC - Closed - Live Nativity is Set-up -	FLC - Closed - Live Nativity is Set-up -	FLC Closed	- Live Nativity -Set-Up	
8:00am - Worship 9:30 am - Sunday School All Ages 10:45 am -Worship	1	2	3	4	5
5:30 pm Cub Scout - ED 6:45 pm Boy Scouts- FH	9 am CC-HSG-EDU 2 7pm TRUSTEES	6:30 pm Brotherhood 7:35 pm Zion Choir	6:30 pm Bible Study-Lib 10:00 am "War Room" Bible Study - Library 7pm EVANGELISM/REVIVAL	Live Nativity-FLC 6 pm-7 pm- 8 pm	6
9:00 am Kids Choir 7 9 am Donut Fellowship New Members Both 10:45 Baptism Live Nativity-FLC 6 pm-7 pm- 8 pm	8 7:30 am Meals on Wheels 10 am Staff Meeting 7 pm Admi Bd - Lib 5:30 pm Cub Scout - ED 6:45 pm Boy Scouts- FH	9 9:30 am & 7 pm Walking 7pm WOMEN IN FAITH	10 6:30 pm Brotherhood 6:30 pm Basketball 7:35 pm Zion Choir	11 6:30 pm Bible Study-Lib 9:30 am & 7 pm Walking	12 Newsletter Articles Due! 7 pm Adult Pickleball
14 Christmas Cantata Both Services KIDZ KLUB - Library/FLC 12:15pm-2:30 pm	15 6:45 pm Boy Scouts- FH	16 9:30 am & 7 pm Walking	17 10 am Food Prep-FLC 4:30 pm Community Meal- 6:30 pm Brotherhood 6:30 pm Basketball 7:35 pm Zion Choir	18 6:30 pm Bible Study-Lib 9:30 am & 7 pm Walking	19 6 pm Pk Mt Christmas Party - FLC Cub Scouts
21 7 pm Night Of Music	22 10 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Cub Scout - ED 6:45 pm Boy Scouts- FH	23 9:30 am & 7 pm Walking	24 4:30 pm Family Eve Service 6:00 pm Silent Communion 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service	25 *MERRY* CHRISTMAS	26
28	29 5:30 pm Cub Scout - ED 6:45 pm Boy Scouts- FH	30 9:30 am & 7 pm Walking 6 pm Missions - LIB	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	Classic Conversations - Home School Group Education Wing 2 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Preschool Area Nursery Room 8	27



Happy Birthday December

12/01	Colleen Johnson Ginny Besterman Jonathan Zang
12/02	Tiffany Bandi Aaron Zang
12/04	Jane Woitas *Peggy Logue* Tessa Hartman
12/06	Ryan Fleischer
12/07	Donna Riemer
12/08	Aimee Twiiss-Besterman
12/09	Eric Kooser
12/11	Cheryl Peters Geneva Queen
12/12	Jill Bowser Elizabeth Schwarz
12/18	Drew Homko
12/20	Mia Johnson
12/22	Mark Wise April-Lynn Hartman
12/25	Sally Fleischer Michael Sterner
12/28	Steven Boltz *Howard Sell Jr.*
12/30	Ron Miller
12/31	Ron Fleischer Jean Walker



"SPECIAL"
DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS
TO OUR OVER 80'S CLUB!

Peggy Logue
Howard Sell Jr.

God's best Blessing to you!

*Please Remember our over 80
by sending them a card on
Their special Day!*

**** Congratulations! ****

We are updating the List of Birthdays for
Zion Methodist Community Church
If we did not include your birthday,
it is probably because we do not have the
date on file. If you want your birthday
published, be sure the office has your
birthdate. If you want to be removed, let
us know. Please forgive us if we missed you
on your special day!

**WHO'S WHO IN
DECEMBER**

DECORATIONS

Decorating Team & Helpers

THE COUNTING COMMITTEE

**Colleen Johnson,
Ginny Besterman**

MINISTRY TABLE

Advent & Christmas



Ministries

December

FLC Closed Live Nativity	12/01/2025-12/08/2025	FLC
Trustees	7:00 pm	12/02/2025 Library
Prayer Meeting	6:15 pm	12/03/2025 Chapel
Brotherhood	6:30 pm	12/03/2025 Room #10
Zion Choir	7:35 pm	12/03/2025 Room #10
Evangelism/Rev	7:00 pm	12/04/2025 Library
Live Nativity	6 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm	12/06/2025 FLC
Live Nativity	6 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm	12/07/2025 FLC
Meals On Wheels	7:30 am	12/08/2025 FUMC
Staff Meeting	10:00 am	12/08/2025 Library
Administrative Bd	7:00 pm	12/08/2025 Library
Winter Walking	9:30 am & 7 pm	12/09/2025 FLC
Women of Faith	7:00 pm	12/09/2025 Library
Prayer Meeting	6:15 pm	12/10/2025 Chapel
Brotherhood	6:30 pm	12/10/2025 Room #10
Basketball	6:30 pm	12/10/2025 FLC
Zion Choir	7:35 pm	12/10/2025 Room #10
Winter Walking	9:30am & 7 pm	12/11/2025 FLC
Newsletter Articles Due!		12/12/2025 Office
Adult Pickleball	7:00 pm	12/13/2025 FLC
Cantata	8 am & 10:45 am	12/14/2025 Sanctuary
Winter Walking	9:30 am & 7 pm	12/16/2025 FLC
Community Meal	4:30 pm	12/17/2025 FLC
Prayer Meeting	6:15 pm	12/17/2025 Chapel
Brotherhood	6:30 pm	12/17/2025 Room #10
Basketball	6:30 pm	12/17/2025 FLC
Zion Choir	7:35 pm	12/17/2025 Room #10
Winter Walking	9:30 am & 7 pm	12/18/2025 FLC
Adult Pickleball	7:00 pm	12/20/2025 FLC
Night Of Music	7:00 pm	12/21/2025 Sanctuary
Staff Meeting	10:00 am	12/22/2025 Library
Winter Walking	9:30 & 7 pm	12/23/2025 FLC
Christmas Eve	4:30 pm, 6 pm, 7:30 pm	12/24/2025 Sanctuary
Merry Christmas	12/25/2025	Office & All Facilities Closed
Winter Walking	9:30 am & 7 pm	12/30/2025 FLC
Missions	6:30 pm	12/30/2025 Library
New Year's Eve		12/31/2025
New Year's Day	01/01/2026	Office & All Facilities Closed

FAMILY LIFE CENTER ACTIVITIES

(All FLC Activities
NO Childcare Provided)

Zion Community Meal



Family Life Center
4:30 pm-6:30 pm
12/17/2025

Holiday Meal

Volunteers Needed!

Zion Adult Pickleball

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturday

12/13/2025

12/20/2025



Zion Adult Basketball

6:30pm-8:30 pm

Wednesday

12/10/2025

12/17/2025



Winter Walking

Tuesdays & Thursdays

9:30am-11:30 am

7:00 pm-9:00 pm

12/09 12/11

12/16 12/18

12/23

12/30



Zion Community Skate

Family Life Center

Cancelled!

Watch for new days
and times.
in January



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!





TREASURER'S REPORT



Treasurer's Report as of 10/31/2025 - Nextier Checking Account

	General Fund **	Designated Fund	Capital Imp. Fund	Building Fund	Total
Balance 09/30/2025	(\$1,573.41)	\$33,305.22	\$32,103.75	\$62,899.34	\$126,734.90
Deposits	42,915.90	\$4,044.90	\$700.00	\$10,969.98	\$58,630.78
Disbursements	(\$39,493.45)	(\$3,924.22)	\$0.00	(\$13,900.00)	(\$57,317.67)
Balance 10/31/2025	\$1,849.04	\$33,425.90	\$32,803.75	\$59,969.32	\$128,048.01
		<i>Lisa McClelland, Treasurer</i>			

General Fund - This is the operating fund where many of our expenses are paid, like payroll, utilities, educational materials, general maintenance, mission money above the designated giving, and other items.

Designated Fund—This fund receives monies designated for specific ministries, such as Missions, Memorials, and other particular designations.

Capital Improvement Fund—This fund is used for expenses that are not routine and are usually larger, like appliances for the parsonage, roof repairs, and other long-term issues.

Building Fund—This fund is for the Faith We Build Campaign, which pays the mortgage for the Family Life Center.



MOMENTS WITH MISSIONS Oct-25

615.00	AT THE LAKE MINISTRIES
250.00	BLESSING BOARD
616.00	CABOT FOOD BANK
150.00	CENTER FOR HOPE
350.00	CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP NETWORK
60.04	COMMUNITY MEAL
200.00	DAN AND MADEL BECK (MISSIONARIES)
410.00	HARVEST HOP
200.00	LIBERTY CHAPEL WATER PROJECT
250.00	MEALS ON WHEELS
100.00	NATHAN KUCHARIK (Campus Ministries)
200.00	ROBERT & DONNA GABLER
350.00	WYCLIFFE
100.00	THE PROMISE HOUSE
3,851.04	TOTAL



9% of Zion's income for October



Do you have a friend who is homebound or bedridden due to illness or injury?

They may need a hug or a bit of get-well-soon to let them know someone cares. God loves them!

ZION SUNSHINE BASKETS



SUNSHINE BASKETS—We need volunteers...

- Person/persons to assemble baskets & mugs.
- Person/persons to deliver or arrange delivery to those in need.

If you are interested, please get in touch with the office for more details.



OLD PRESCRIPTION GLASSES:

The Ladies and Gents of Concordia are collecting old used prescription eyeglasses, to go to those in need in other countries. There is a basket in the narthex. Questions see Pat Gray



SWEET FOR THE SWEET!!

Donations of individually wrapped candy for the candy dish may be dropped off at the church office anytime. Our current candy supply is running low.



Used Cards for gifts, holidays, thank you, etc. The Ladies and Gentlemen of Concordia are still collecting used cards. Please remember that they need the cards whole. Names may be scribbled or scratched out.

Questions see Pat Gray



ZION'S COMMUNITY MEAL

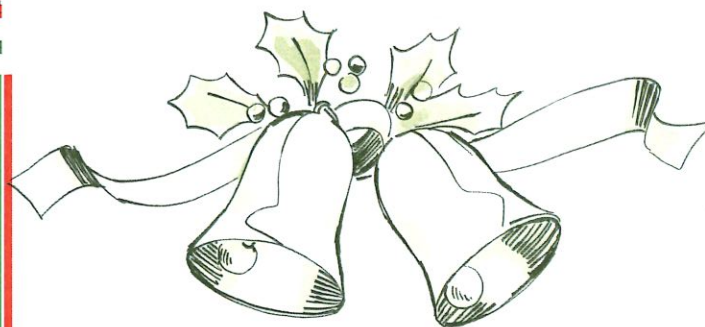


FREE COMMUNITY MEAL *HOLIDAY MEAL*

WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 17, 2025
4:30 TO 6:30 PM

AT ZION FAMILY LIFE
CENTER
COME AND ENJOY THE
MEAL

WITH YOUR FAMILY,
FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBORS
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!



"Give the Gift of Life this New Years!"

ZION METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE



FRIDAY,
JANUARY 2, 2026
1:00 PM-7:00 PM

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

To schedule an appointment to donate>
-Go to vitalent.org and search with
Account Code UC664
-Call 1-877-25VITAL





EXPRESSIONS OF OUR FAITH

*"I was hungry, and you fed me, thirsty
and you gave me drink; I was a stranger
and you received me, naked and you clothed me;
I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and
you visited me.*

(Matthew 25: 35-36)



**MEALS ON WHEELS —MONTHLY, 2ND MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025, 7:30 AM - 11 AM
AT FREEPORT UMC, PREPARE AND SERVE A MEAL EACH MONTH. WE NEED MORE
VOLUNTEERS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO HELP, DON'T HESITATE
TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE COORDINATOR: BECKY ROSS (724)467 2048 OR
(724)295 - 3229 ROSS4HIM@HOTMAIL.COM**



Community Meal- The 3rd Wednesday of every month from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm in Zion Family Life Center. Our next meal will be on Wednesday, December 17, 2025. A Festive Holiday Meal is planned. Volunteers are needed for greeting, serving, and cleanup. Please sign up beside the time slot you are available. All are invited to come enjoy the free meal and the fellowship with the community.



Family Promise® The Mission Encounter Team would like to send a Big Thank You to all who helped supply the Family Promise House over the past year. Everything was greatly appreciated.

House

The Family Promise House and AVAC would like to give a huge thank you to Zion for their support. The people there are extremely grateful.



A great big thank you to everyone who participated in the packing party and packed boxes on their own! A special thank you to the year-round collectors, the awesome people who help set up for the party, and the people who helped pack, stuff, and carton. We want to thank those who contribute money for purchases, boxes, and postage. We have packed 1,194 boxes so far as a church. We are still collecting packs of boxes until Nov 21st. You are an awesome

church, and we thank you!

Scott and Lisa McClelland

Project Leaders

Operation Christmas Child



Expressions of our Faith meets in the library on December 30, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.. New members are welcome. Please join us if you want to serve on our Mission Encounter Team.



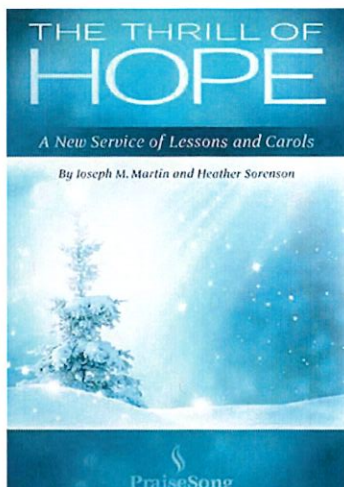
ORDER POINSETTIAS

The price is **\$7.50** for a 6" pot with one branched plant.

Colors available are **RED** or **White**.

Put your order slips and money marked "Poinsettias" in the offering plate or in the Office.

Orders must be turned in by Thursday, December 4, 2025.



"The Thrill Of Hope"
Cantata

by
Joseph M. Martin
&

Heather Sorenson

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Presented By Zion Choir

8:00 am Church Service

&

10:45 am Church Service

Zion Methodist Community Church
438 Bear Creek Road
Sarver, PA 16055



CHURCH AND SOCIETY ANGEL TREE



The Angel Tree is ready to use. The tags list a child and the items that need to be purchased. The extra tag is to be filled out and placed in the basket. **The gifts need to be returned by the end of the 10:45 a.m. service on Sunday, December 7, 2025 (no later than noon).** If you prefer not to shop, you can also make a donation. Checks should be made out to Zion through our designated envelopes. We will use those monetary gifts to purchase pajamas, slippers, and any other requested items for them. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

Church And Society Committee



**Night
of
Music
2025**

December 21, 2025

7:00 pm

Night of Music



**ZION METHODIST
COMMUNITY CHURCH
438 Bear Creek Road
Sarver, PA 16055**





ZION METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phone: 724-353-1720

Fax: 724-353-1721

E-mail: office@zionsarver.com

Voice Mailboxes (messages only):

Pastor Seth McClymonds: 724-353-9510

Email: pastorseth@zionsarver.com

Church Office (Hope Albaugh): 724-353-9520

Director of Education and Children's Ministries

(Donna Scholl): 724-353-9530

Email: donna@zionsarver.com

Music Office (Davlin Smith): 724-353-9540

music@zionsarver.com

Trustees: trustees@zionsarver.com

VITAL STATISTICS

Weddings: None Reported

Deaths: Judy (Einsporn) Deberry
November 18, 2025

Births: Lydia Jane Heeter 12:52 am
November 7, 2025

Parents: Joseph & Allison (Hanz) Heeter

Grandparents: Scott & Beth Hanz

Great Grandparents: Ottalee & Steve Hanz

Baptisms: None Reported

New Members: None Reported

Welcome to the Zion Family!

If you are considering joining Zion, Pastor Seth would be pleased to speak with you and address any questions you may have. If we have omitted your special date or event or printed incorrect information, please notify the Office Manager, and a correction will be made.



PRAYER WARRIORS LEADER

Prayer Warriors are standing by to pray for you.
Allison Shaw is serving as the point person for our prayer chain ministry!

Allison can be reached by email, text, or phone.

Her email is aemcc11@gmail.com

Allison's Phone is 724-822-5339



ADDRESS and EMAIL CHANGES

Please NOTIFY the office if your address or email changes. You can notify us by phone, mail, email, or by leaving a note on the attendance pad.

Over the past few weeks, we have incurred a significant amount of postage because people didn't provide us with their new addresses. I want to emphasize this point: please notify us promptly if your address changes. Every piece of bulk mail (newsletters, holiday letters) sent to the wrong address Now, the cost is around \$3.98 per piece of mail to be returned to Zion. Let's be good stewards!



Zion's Mission Statement

Invite people to know Jesus Christ.

*Grow those who respond into
disciples.*

*Serve all people in the name of
Christ.*



Zion's Faith Statement

*"Zion Methodist Community Church is
Jesus-centered, believing in the inspired
authority of scripture, the lordship of
Jesus Christ, and the maintaining of
traditional Methodist beliefs."*



Sweet Hour of Prayer

Every Wednesday night from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, we dedicate a time of prayer to lifting our church, its needs, its vision, and the community of believers, seekers, and the lost, among other areas the Holy Spirit directs us to pray for. We meet at 6:15 p.m. to prepare our hearts with prayer and scripture, then set out to do one thing...PRAY! Speaking to God and being still so that God can talk to us. Roaming inside, outside, or just being in the presence of Jesus in the sanctuary with nothing but the glow of the cross. Come and join us! We would love for you to join us in prayer!

I have been praying for the Holy Spirit to guide me in these invitations to prayer. This month, He led me to a song written by Zach Williams entitled "Say a Prayer." If you haven't listened to Christian music outside of the hymns at church, I encourage you to tune in...whether it is gospel, contemporary, rap, country, or worship music, listen and let the lyrics speak to you. I am certain God will touch you with that special song that you need to hear. I really enjoy the lyrics in many of Zach's songs. God has truly blessed this man with an incredible voice and gospel-filled messages in his music.

When the ground around me is shaken
When this heart of mine is breaking
When the world keeps on taking
And life doesn't seem fair
When there's nowhere left to run to
When there's no one else to turn to
When I can't find the answers anywhere
I can say a prayer



Never give up. Continue to pray every day, without fail. Luke 18:1 states, "Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up."
In His Service & Yours,
Cheryl Peters



Blessings In A Backpack

Thank you for supporting the Blessings in a Backpack program. The 2025-2026 school year began with 55 students enrolled in the program and has now increased to 58 local students. To date, your generous financial contribution of \$2,442.90 has provided 12 weeks of weekend meals for each of these children.

Your monetary donation provides these children with nourishing meals, as well as peace of mind. Please remember them in your prayers and through your giving.

Thank you again!





Christmas Eve
Services at Zion

4:30 pm Family Christmas Eve Service

6:00 pm Silent Communion Service

7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

Isaiah 117
changing the way foster care begins

kidz club

December 14, 2025

12:15 pm-2:30 pm

Library/Family Life Center



Elementary
Youth

December 14, 2025

Outing - TBD

December 20, 2025

Christmas Party



Jr & Sr High
Youth

December 14, 2025

Christmas Party



Thank-Offering Tea Given by the Women in Faith

The Thank-Offering Tea was hosted by the Women in Faith on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at the Zion Methodist Community Church Library. There were close to 30 ladies in attendance. The guest speaker was Martha Hailey-Jones from the Isaiah 117 House.

The Isaiah House 117 is a place for children who are being placed in foster care. Close your eyes and think about a child who has just gone through a tragedy and lost both their parents. First, they would be with police officers, then a social worker who would put them in a corner of their office. There might be some toys, paper, and a few crayons. The child is scared, does not know anyone, and is being told to sit there and be quiet for minutes, hours, or up to 48 hours until the case worker finds them a place to stay. What Isaiah House 117 does is try to make this process a little less traumatic and easier for that child. At Isaiah House 117, the case worker has an office to work in, and personal caregivers are available to attend to the child's needs. There are snacks, drinks, toys, and a room with a bed for sleeping. If they want to go outside to play, there is a playground. They also get new clothes in their size, which they take with them to their new living place. Isaiah House 117 is located in Butler and is the first of its kind in the state of Pennsylvania.

We learned a great deal about this program and how we can support these children, either as a group or individually, by donating, serving as a sock buddy or bin buddy, or volunteering. The speaker, Martha Hailey-Jones, was very informative, and the food and fellowship were a blessing for all of us who attended. Thank you, Women in Faith.

GOD LOVES YOU! SO DOES ZION!!!

We have several members of our congregation who are home bound due to age, illness, or life in general. They have been on the prayer list for months, but what they really could use, and need is a friend to stop by and say hello, or a card to say we are thinking of you. With Covid and Flu those people are getting forgotten. I would like to use this section as a possible Visitation and Card Shower For those Members of Zion!



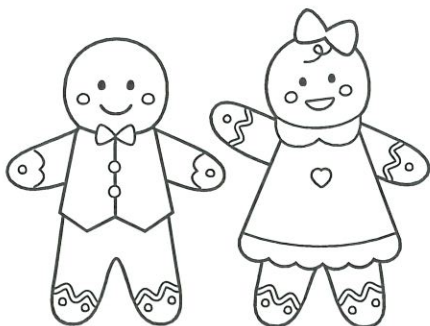
Wilda DeBerry
111 Edgewood Drive
Sarver, PA 16055

Don Bicker
602 Sherrett Road
Cowansville, PA 16218

Jeanne Foster
11145 SW 69th Circle
Ocala, FL 34476

Vincent Sell
1165 Cornplanter Road
Cabot, PA 16023-9535

Art Borland
218 Prairie CT
Freeport, Pa 16229-2420

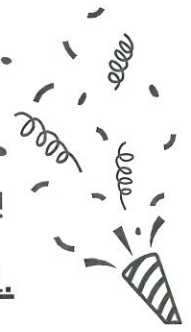


✕ ✨
Happy
New Year ✨ ✕

 **rightnow MEDIA**

New Year's, Check out a New
Bible Study at Right Now Media!

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/zionsarver>



ZION RECIPES



Christmas Salad

Ingredients

1 head of broccoli chopped into florets
1 head of cauliflower, chopped into florets
1 red onion, thinly sliced
2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved

Dressing

1 cup mayonnaise
½ cup sour cream
1 tbsps sugar

Instructions

Add veggie to a salad bowl.

In another bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, sour cream and sugar. Pour over veggies and toss together.

Chill in the fridge for one hour before serving.



Best Christmas Cheese Ball

Ingredients

2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
1 tablespoon finely chopped onion
1 tablespoon diced pimientos
1 tablespoon diced green pepper
2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon lemon juice
Chopped pecans, toasted
Assorted crackers

Directions

In a large bowl, combine the first 7 ingredients. Shape into 2 balls; roll in pecans. Cover and refrigerate. Remove from the refrigerator 15 minutes before serving. Serve with crackers.





Dear Pastor Seth & Church,
Greetings! We are very grateful for your prayers and financial support. Thank you for the recent donation, which is designated for food for the children you sponsor. We thank you for helping us to provide food for our fellow Haitians in need. Not only do you sponsor their children's education, but you also help the families with food. You are one of a kind.



May the Lord bless you,
Ermithe and Pierre

Zion Methodist Community Church,
Thank you for the beautiful sheath of wheat arrangement sent for Bernie Fox's funeral. Thank you for all the assistance and support provided to his family. Much appreciated.

Sincerely
Jill Ruzich & for
The Bernie Fox Family



Dear Pastor,
Thank you for the opportunity to have Madison Bajuszik's baby Shower in your Fellowship Hall. It was a very lovely, memorable occasion and your church played a wonderful part.

Thank you again-
Allison Bajuszik



Dear Zion Methodist Community Church,
Thank you very much for your incredibly generous in-kind food donations in 2025, including tuna, chicken, canned pasta, oatmeal, and granola bars, which benefited the Buffalo Elementary School Program of Blessings in a Backpack. **Thank you for letting kids be kids - without worry of being hungry.**



Sincerely,
Erin Kerr
CEO

Dear Zion Methodist Community Church,
Thank you for your recent donation. We truly appreciate your generosity. We are pleased to offer this service to the community, and your support is greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Sincerely,
Freeport Area Meals on Wheels
We Deliver a Difference



**Dear Friends in Christ,
The Cabot Church Food Bank
would like to thank Zion
Methodist Community Church for
the very generous donations
throughout this year. The caring
hand of God reaches out to
others through your continued
support.
We remain, yours in Christ's love.
Cabot Food Bank**



Dear Friends,
Because you rose to the challenge to help address food insecurity, our food pantry can meet the growing need with dignity and care. Every bag of groceries distributed, every family fed, and every child who goes to bed with a full stomach is a testament to your kindness and commitment to making a difference. We are deeply grateful for your partnership. You are helping us not only to meet urgent needs, but also to build a community where no one has to face hunger alone.



Sue Otto
Director

Dear Friends in Christ,
On behalf of the Staff, Volunteers, and all those we serve, we wish to thank you again for your support throughout the year, given to Society St. Vincent de Paul. Please continue to keep us in your prayers, as we will keep you in ours.

Have a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Alex Harrison
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Butler District Council



**We at Zion Methodist Community Church would like to thank everyone in the church for all the Friendship, Fellowship, Volunteerism, and help in making Zion a part of God's Family.
We wish Everyone near or far, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**





New Book Donations to Read!

(18) **Choosing Marriage** - by Debra Fileta. The author demonstrates that when you can navigate the struggles of marriage, you can also experience its joys. Learn about eight powerful choices that will encourage and equip you to take your marriage from average to exceptional. ~ 2025 Donation from Focus on the Family.

(19) **Reagandoodle and Little Buddy** - by Sandi Swiridoff. Told by Reagan (the dog) himself, the true story of how one adopted dog and a foster child develop an unforgettable friendship. ~ 2025 Donation.

(16) **The Gentle Ways of the Beautiful Woman** - by Anne Ortlund. Three Bestselling Works Complete in One Volume: Disciplines of the Beautiful Woman; Disciplines of the Heart; Disciplines of the Home. For the woman who wants to be truly beautiful, inside and out, Anne Ortlund's trio of bestselling handbooks offers all the practical "how-tos" and thoughtful encouragement she needs. ~ 2025 Donation.

(13) **Prayer, Faith and Healing** - by Kenneth Winston Caine. The most complete, most compelling advice ever gathered on how to heal yourself with prayer. ~ 2025 Donation.

(12) **Daily Splashes of Joy** - by Barbara Johnson. Pen this book each morning and let the "Queen of Encouragement" splash your day with joy. ~ 2025 Donation.

(F) **One Shenandoah Winter** - by T. Davis Bunn. An eccentric older man is dying of cancer, and his painfully proud daughter must ask an embittered doctor for help. ~ 2025 Donation.



December 2025 News

Education & Family Ministries



As we celebrate the season of Advent & Christmas, we get so busy, we forget the reason of the season!

Help us remember... join in Christmas activities, visit someone you know is alone, worship with your church family, be a part of the Christmas reminders!

Zion will hold our annual LIVE NATIVITY on December 6th & 7th with presentations at 6pm, 7pm, & 8pm. Walk with Mary and Joseph, imagine their journey, rejoice in the birth of Christ!

Fellowship after each presentation in the Fellowship Hall.

Christmas Cantata "The Thrill of Hope" will be presented by our choir on December 14th at both the 8am & 10:45am worship. The "Night of Music" will be December 21st at 7pm.

Christmas Eve services are 4:30pm Family Oriented Service

6:00pm Silent Communion

7:30pm Christmas Eve Service

COME, LET US ADORE HIM!

Make this season special in your life!

GLOBAL METHODIST CODE OF CONDUCT

An abbreviated name for the Safe Sanctuaries we have previously done. There will be some changes and we'll be sharing them in January.

ALL VOLUNTEERS will be required to participate and complete the steps. We're going to schedule a meeting when we're ready to go!

COMMUNITY SKATING will return in January.

We are in need of a few folks willing to come and be the "person in charge." See Donna if you'd like to help us out.



LETTERS TO SANTA CAN BE MAILED FROM HERE!

If you'd like to send a letter to Santa with your wish list and News, you can mail it right from here at Zion!

There are two mailboxes, one by Miss Donna's office and one in the Children's Library (downstairs entrance lobby).

Be sure to give Santa your home address so he can send a letter back to you! If you give him your email address, he can email one to you when he finished working for the day!

Be sure you're being GOOD...he knows!!!

As 2025 comes to an end, I'd like to end this newsletter page with a thank you to all for your support, your prayers, and your help as we continue to offer Christ to our kids and the community. It is so needed in today's time...showing kindness, caring, loving, and encouraging. Zion does this in so many ways and God continues to bless the ministries, the folks, and the kids. Without you, many would not know the love of God.

May God continue to bless you for the remainder of 2025 and for 2026 as we continue to fulfill our mission.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



THE ZION NEWSLETTER
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724-353-1720 FAX 724-353-1721
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DECEMBER



Zion Methodist Community Church
is Presenting
A Live Nativity
for the Community
Family Life Center
438 Bear Creek Road
Sarver, PA 16055

Performances

Saturday December 6th
6:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 8:00 pm
Sunday December 7th
6:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 8:00 pm

Walk with Mary and Joseph to
Bethlehem. Performances will be in the
Family Life Center, and refreshments
will be in the Fellowship Hall. For more
information: office@zionsarver.com or
Phone: 724-353-1720

