



AUGUST 2026

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 8

# ZOON NEWSLETTER



## INVITE...GROW...SERVE PASTOR TO PARSONS

*The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.*

~ Proverbs 12:26

Our friends have a lot of influence over our lives. We trust our friends to tell us the truth about our lives. We trust our friends to be there during difficult times and joyful moments. Have you ever thought about why you are friends?

Some have the same friends throughout their lifetime. They connected at school and stayed connected throughout the years. Those friendships have shaped both sides of the friendship for better or worse.

Others have moved and had to make new friends. It is hard to hang out with people when they are a couple of hours away or farther. So, you make new friends by finding common interests. When you find those commonalities, you can talk with each other and share parts of your lives.

In either case, we most likely choose our friends carefully. We went through the normal hiccups of differing opinions and beliefs. In the end, we supported each other and continued to be there for each other.

Proverbs 12:26 warns us about choosing our friends because of where they can lead us. Dr. John Maxwell, a leadership expert, defines leadership as an influence. He says our influence on others will allow us to lead them to consider ideas and explore opportunities beyond their everyday experiences. When we find a good restaurant, we want to take our friends so they can experience what we experienced. We not only lead our friends, but our friends also lead us.

We need to be careful about whom we choose as friends, because they influence us. Have you ever found yourself watching a movie or show that you wouldn't normally watch because a friend recommended it? What happens if it's a bad show? Are you a little leery of the next one they recommend?

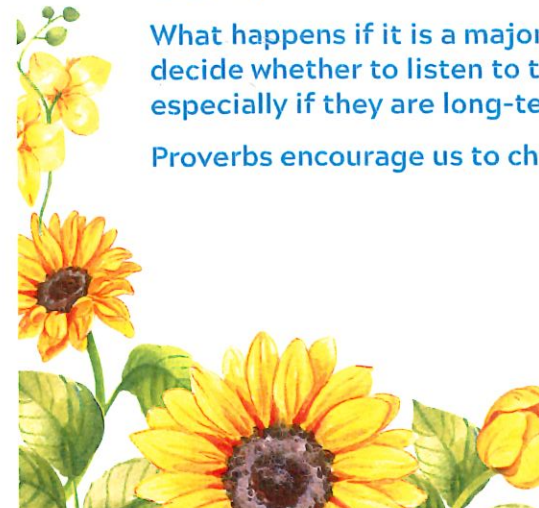
What happens if it is a major life decision? Our friends share their opinions with us. We decide whether to listen to them, and most of the time we do, following their advice, especially if they are long-term friends.

Proverbs encourage us to choose our friends wisely because they can lead us astray.

With Christ's Love,



Pastor Seth





# "Special" August Birthdays



**\*Gerry Hughes\***

**\*Nancy Glunt\***

**\*JoAnn Culp\***

**\*Ken Wagner\***

**\*Eunice Kenton\***

**\*Ruth Gross\***

**\*Henry (Sonny) Goepfert  
To Our Over 80's Club!**



# Happy Birthday!



God's best Blessing to you

Please remember our over-  
80s club by sending them a  
card on their special Day!!

Congratulations!



## WHO'S WHO IN

## AUGUST?

### Decoration

**Back to School  
Heather Richter**

### Counting Committee

**Colleen Johnson  
Cheryl Peters**

### Ministry Table

**Blessings in a  
Backpack**

**08/01 Liam Benzinger**

**Spencer Riemer**

**08/04 Bob Gross**

**08/07 \*Gerry Hughes\***

**08/08 Georgia Campbell**

**08/09 \*Nancy Glunt\***

**08/11 Amy Potocnak**

**Tim Saxman**

**Allison Shaw**

**08/13 Lori Gehenio**

**08/14 Skadi Phillips**

**08/16 Bob Gealy**

**08/17 Tim Zang**

**08/18 Mia Spehar**

**08/19 Dan Harbison**

**08/20 Janet Frye**

**Mack McClelland**

**08/21 \*JoAnn Culp\***

**08/23 Rachel Frye**

**08/25 \*Ken Wagner\***

**Matt Deacon**

**08/28 \*Eunice Kenton\***

**08/29 \*Ruth Gross\***

**\*Henry (Sonny) Goepfert  
Becca Kelley**





GloryWay was founded in Mansfield, Ohio, in 2002 by lead singer Justin Crank. Throughout the years, GloryWay has become known around the country for their powerful harmonies and their inspiring music. GloryWay faithfully presents the love of God to their audience, night after night, by skillfully weaving together laughter, encouragement, and soul-stirring ministry. Travelling over 70,000 miles yearly, GloryWay tirelessly presents the Gospel through their music. They have the privilege of being signed with Twelve21 Records and have had the honor of working with many world-renowned artists, musicians, producers, and writers. They embrace every opportunity to share their ministry and have committed themselves to ensuring that each performance leaves their audience delighted, encouraged, and inspired.



Coming! September 19, 2026. 6:00 pm Free Concert "GLORY WAY" here at Zion Methodist Community Church in the Family Life Center.



 **Family Promise** House

**August Collection \$10 Gift Cards**

Walmart, Dollar General, Dollar Tree  
Family Dollar, Target, or Ross Dress for Less

Clothes Sizes for kids from the Shelter to get ready for School. Clothes may be slightly used

Family 1

Girl age 4 size 4t

Boy age 2 size 2t

Family 2

Girl age 15 size 14/16 med woman

Girl age 12 size 16/18 XL woman

Boy age 10 size 10/12 Husky

Family 3

Boy age 11 size 10/12

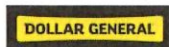
Family 4

Boy age 9 size 10/12

Boy age 6 size 10/12 youth lg/men's sm

Girl age 5 size 5t

New socks and underwear of all sizes



**BUFFALO TOWNSHIP  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

**THE PENNSYLVANIA  
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**



**AUGUST 15, 2026  
10:00 AM**

WILL HOLD A

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

**SCAMMING**



Learn how to recognize scams, protect your personal information, and avoid becoming a victim.

**DRUG AWARENESS**



Learn about the risks of drug use, signs to watch for, and resources available to our community.



THIS WILL TAKE PLACE AT:

**ZION METHODIST CHURCH**

438 BEAR CREEK ROAD  
SARVER, PA 16055



WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER, HEALTHIER COMMUNITY.  
**WE ENCOURAGE ALL RESIDENTS TO ATTEND!**



## **ZION METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Phone: 724-353-1720

Fax: 724-353-1721

E-mail: [office@zionsarver.com](mailto:office@zionsarver.com)

Voice Mailboxes (messages only):

Pastor Seth McClymonds: 724-353-9510

Email: [pastorseth@zionsarver.com](mailto:pastorseth@zionsarver.com)

Church Office:(Hope Albaugh): 724-353-9520  
Director of Education & Children's Ministries  
and Facilities Coordinator

(Donna Scholl): 724-353-9530

Email: [donna@zionsarver.com](mailto:donna@zionsarver.com)

Music Office: 724-353-9540

[music@zionsarver.com](mailto:music@zionsarver.com)

Trustees: [trustees@zionsarver.com](mailto:trustees@zionsarver.com)



### **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."*

## **VITAL STATISTICS**

Weddings: None Reported

Deaths: None Reported

Births: None Reported

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](mailto: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 significant postage costs 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

The cost is \$3.98 per piece of mail if returned to Zion. Let's be good stewards!

Gina Woods  
Autumn Grove Care Center  
555 South Main Street  
Room #112  
Harrisville, PA 16038

Roxanne Freehling  
Quality Life Services  
of Grove City #340  
400 Hillcrest Ave #1708  
Grove City, PA 16127

Jeanne Foster  
11145 SW 69th Circle  
Ocala, FL 34476



Dorothy Bowser  
892 Veterans Lane Apt 105  
Natrona Heights, PA 15065

Bob McGinnis  
111 Lock Street  
Tarentum, PA 15084

Gary & Judy Barbiaux  
148 Marwood Rd Apt 1211  
Cabot, PA 16023

## GOD LOVES YOU!

## SO DOES ZION!

### Visitation and Card Shower Section



Hobe & Eunice Kenton  
154 Keck Road  
Sarver, PA 16055

Gerry Hughes  
607 Parker Road  
Sarver, PA 16055-9440

Margie Freehling  
203 Hepler Road  
Sarver, PA 16055



### ZION SUNSHINE BASKETS

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!

### Bulletin Prayer List



The prayer list on the back of the  
bulletin will be cleared every four  
weeks. Should you want a  
request to remain, please update  
the office.

### PUZZLE EXCHANGE



We have a jigsaw puzzle cart set up in  
the library for all ages. You can bring in  
your slightly used jigsaw puzzles, place  
them on the cart, and take a new puzzle  
to try.

Questions: see Bill Fischer.



### Needed for Bags for Zion's New Babies:

#### Baby Toiletries

Baby Soap  
Baby Shampoo  
Baby Lotion  
Baby Powder  
Diaper Cream  
Baby Brush  
Baby Comb  
Baby Nail Clippers



Please leave in the marked box in the  
narthex. Thank You!

### Good Stewards:



We need to be good  
stewards of the church.  
Please remember before  
you leave an area of the  
church or a meeting, Pick  
Up After Yourself, Clean  
and Put Away Dishes, and  
Turn Off All Lights.  
Thank you.

**BIBLE STUDY**  
**For Anyone!**  
**THURSDAY**  
**6:30 PM**  
**ROOM #11**



**Sweets**  
**For The**  
**Sweet!!!**

Donations of individually wrapped  
candy for the candy dish may be  
dropped off at the church office. Our  
candy supply is starting to get low.

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

Right Now Media has every  
bible study you are looking for  
under the Sun!

rightnow MEDIA



### Weekly Bulletin Board Articles

All articles or blurbs for the Bulletin Board have a **deadline of noon on Thursday of each week** so that articles can be proofread and printed for Sunday's Bulletin.

### Newsletter Articles

All articles for the upcoming newsletter have a **deadline of the second Friday of each month**. If the articles are not in by the deadline, they **will not be placed in the newsletter**. If an ongoing mission is taking **time off or changing a date**, please let us know so we can post it correctly. We try to make the newsletter as informative as possible. Please remember we have people who receive the newsletter who do not attend church but have been helped through our Community Activities. If misinformation goes out, we do not have a way to contact them. We do the necessary updates on social media. But not everybody uses the internet.

### ARTICLE



# TREASURER'S REPORT

## Treasurer's Report as of 06/30/2026 - Nextier Checking Account

|                    | General Fund ** | Designated Fund                       | Capital Imp. Fund | Building Fund | Total         |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Balance 05/31/2026 | (\$7,806.78)    | \$25,394.71                           | \$38,704.76       | \$54,260.83   | \$110,553.52  |
| Deposits           | \$61,578.15     | \$5,340.49                            | \$840.00          | \$11,203.59   | \$78,962.23   |
| Disbursements      | (\$31,982.05)   | (\$7,824.02)                          | \$0.00            | (\$13,900.00) | (\$53,706.07) |
| Balance 06/30/2026 | \$21,789.32     | \$22,911.18                           | \$39,544.76       | \$51,564.42   | \$135,809.68  |
|                    |                 | <i>Lisa McClelland,<br/>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.

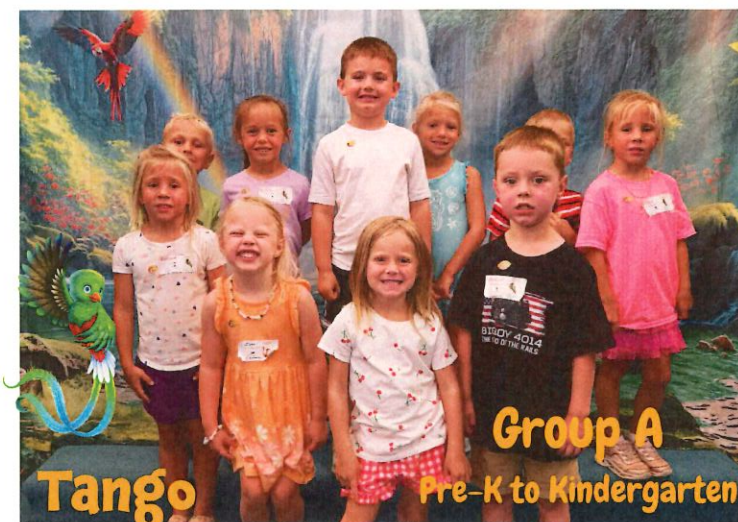
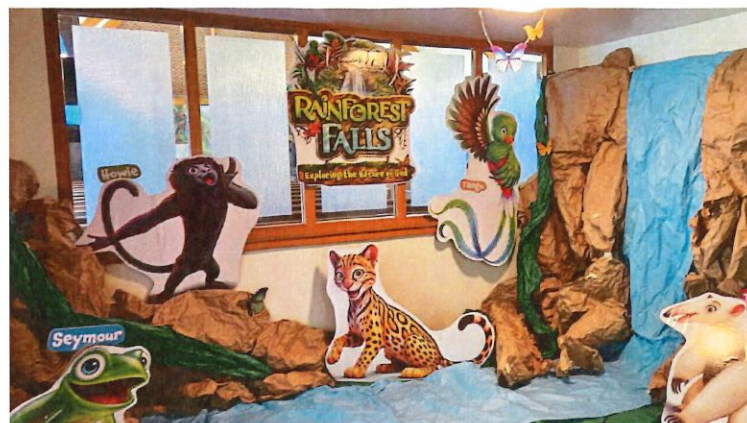
**Building Fund**—This fund is for the Faith We Build Campaign, which pays the mortgage for the Family Life Center.

## MISSIONS

### MOMENTS WITH MISSIONS Jun-26

|                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 500.00          | AT THE LAKE MINISTRIES              |
| 250.00          | BLESSING BOARD                      |
| 375.00          | CABOT FOOD BANK                     |
| 150.00          | CENTER FOR HOPE                     |
| 196.52          | COMMUNITY MEAL                      |
| 200.00          | DAN AND MADEL BECK (MISSIONARIES)   |
| 850.00          | FATHER'S DAY TOOLS                  |
| 1,440.00        | HAITI                               |
| 140.00          | HANZ BENEFIT                        |
| 200.00          | LIBERTY CHAPEL WATER PROJECT        |
| 250.00          | MEALS ON WHEELS                     |
| 300.00          | MERCY SHIPS                         |
| 2,332.50        | MORITZ SCHOLARSHIPS                 |
| 100.00          | NATHAN KUCHARIK (Campus Ministries) |
| 800.00          | PASTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND          |
| 200.00          | ROBERT & DONNA GABLER               |
| 100.00          | THE PROMISE HOUSE                   |
| <u>8,384.02</u> | TOTAL                               |

11% of Zion's income for June



Thank you!

Offering Vacation Bible School has many components, and without the help and commitment of our Station Leaders, Crew Leaders, Decorators, and kids, this ministry could not exist. When you see the following folks, please send your gratitude, thanks, and prayers for a "job well done!"

Station Leaders: Sing and Play Tune Lagoon: Caty Deacon & Bailey Ross, Sound: Lochlan Kooser & Riley Ross, Rooted Bible Adventures: Becky Ross & Matthew Neff, Imagination Station: Clarissa & Kayla Hawk, Wild Games: Bill Fischer & Kale Meyers, Treetop Treats: John & Jane Waitas, Diane McDonough, Riley Ross, & Carol Zang, & Cindy Shick Sticky Scripture: Hope Albaugh & Diane McDonough Floater/Photography: Traci Meyers, Paradise Preschool: Donna Riemer, Organizational Assistant: Ginny Besterman Crew Leaders: Group Tango A: Aspen & Skyler Thompson, Aubrey & Avelyn Hess, Sydney Neff, Group Seymour B: Ella & Brooks May, Kenny Dorian, Tyler Deacon, Group Dottie C: Riley Ross, Declan Kooser, Wyatt Bandi, Brady Kobik, Group Tia D: Lexi Hardt, Annabelle Graper, Emma Kobick Decorating: Sanctuary: Designer: Bill Fischer. Eric, Shannon, & Riddick Kooser, and Bill Ross. Narthex and Hallways: Lochlan, Riddick, & Declan Kooser, Carol Zang, Cindy Shick, and Zack Kladny. Preparing Decorations: Zack Kladny & Carter McGee



Soccer Skills Night! – TUESDAY, August 11, 2026

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Zion's FLC

Kids entering Grade 5 & Up (High School players too)!

Come learn some new skills, improve the skills you know, and have some fun playing a "pick-up" game to put the skills to use.

An evening led by Dean Besterman and some friends who are Soccer players for some of our High School teams. You'll work on the skills and then get to put them to use!

Sign up in the Narthex on the counter, the Bulletin Board outside Donna's Office, or email Donna - donna@zionsarver.com

Help us plan the numbers!

#### Vacation Bible School Mission 2026

Our kids attending Rainforest Falls collected items and money to pack Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Money collected was \$285.80 total.

Many school supplies, hygiene articles, toys, etc. were also collected throughout the week to be added to our packing party supplies. The kids learned about Operation Christmas Child during their visit to the Bible Adventure Station and were able to see what is included in a box. They will be invited to join Zion for Packing Party Day to be "hands on" in mission! GREAT PRAISE!

We are still accepting monetary gifts toward supplies and postage. Prayerfully consider sending 1 shoebox this year.



#### Facilities Rentals



#### Reminder...

If you are planning an event in one of our halls, or within the church, please be sure to contact Donna to complete the reservation forms and any other information needed. This includes workshop events, picnics, and social gatherings. Regular church ministry (meetings etc.) do not need the completed forms. Some use does require a rental fee but ALL need to complete forms for insurance purposes. We also want to be sure the calendar reflects an area in use.

# Blessing of the Backpack A Fall Gathering for Sunday School Kickoff!

Sunday, September 13, 2026

9:15 - 10:30 am

Zion's Fellowship Hall

We invite you to mark your calendar, prepare your Backpack, and come join us for a time of celebration!

We will have breakfast together, we will recognize our 2026-2027 teachers, we will honor our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students with the presentation of their Bibles, and we will take a time to bless the backpacks of our students as they go off for a new year in school. There will be NO classes that day so that ALL can join the festivities. Supporting our children as they commit to be here in Sunday School and church is a vital part of our mentoring and encouragement as they continue their faith walk.

BRING YOUR FAMILY and START A NEW TRADITION! Classes are available for ALL ages!

Watch for more details in the weekly Bulletin Board and on our Social Media announcements.



## Zion's Fellowship Groups...

Time is quickly approaching to begin a new year of our Youth Group meetings and Activities!

Some groups have already scheduled their September Kick-Off Events. Mark your calendar, invite a friend, and prepare to have some FUN!

KIDZ KLUB (Preschool - Grade 2) & ELEMENTARY YOUTH

(Grades 3 - 5) are having a Picnic & FUN event on

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 from 4 to 6 pm (The FLC is in use from 12 to 3 pm). Weather permitting, they will be in the Pavilion!

Regular meeting schedules will be posted on our Bulletin Board and on our Website!

JUNIOR HIGH (Grades 6-8) and SENIOR HIGH (Grades 9-12) have not finalized any plans. Watch for their information SOON! Now is the time to invite a few friends and help this group to GROW! They meet Sunday from 6-8 pm for a time of sharing, reflection, and discussion. They also have a chance to compete, have fun, and even go on an adventure or two throughout the year!



WE HOPE TO SEE OUR YOUTH IN SEPTEMBER!!!

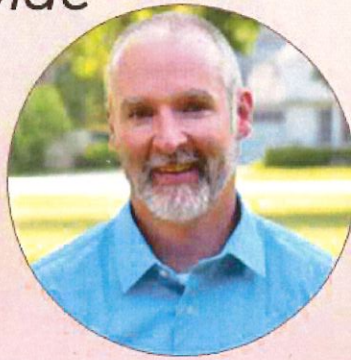
# Join Us for a Circuit-wide Worship Gathering

**ALLEGHENY WEST**

THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH



**Pittsburgh North Circuit**



with Allegheny West  
Associate Conference Superintendent  
**Dan Gildner**

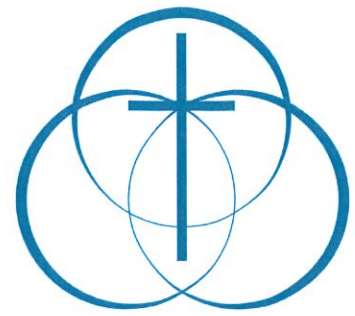
**August 13**

**1:00 pm**

**Butler Global  
Methodist**

200 E North St  
**Butler, PA 16001**

*"Joshua told the people, 'Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow  
the Lord will do amazing things among you.'" (Joshua 3:5)*



## **ZION'S MEETINGS IN \*AUGUST\***

- 08/04 ~ Trustees  
7:00 pm - Room #11
- 08/06 ~ Evangelism/Revival  
7:00 pm - Library
- 08/10 ~ Staff Meeting  
10:00 am - Library
- 08/10 ~ Administrative Board  
7:00 pm - Library
- 08/24 ~ Staff Meeting  
10:00 am - Library
- 08/25 ~ Missions  
6:00 pm - Library



This summer and fall, Rev. Dr. Dan Gildner, our new Associate Conference Superintendent, will visit each circuit across the Allegheny West Conference for a time of connection, worship, and prayer.

These visits are centered on two important purposes:

To strengthen relationships among pastors, churches, and the Conference, fostering greater connection within each circuit.

To consecrate our circuits by dedicating ourselves, our churches, and our communities to a renewed work of God.

Each visit will include two gatherings:

A pastors' gathering designed to encourage fellowship, conversation, and mutual support among the pastors of the circuit.

A circuit-wide worship gathering open to everyone, providing an opportunity for churches to come together in worship, prayer, and a shared commitment to Christ's mission.

You're invited! Whether you are a pastor or a member of one of our churches, we encourage you to participate as we seek God's guidance, celebrate our unity, and ask Him to continue His work throughout Allegheny West.



## BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK



**BLESSINGS IN A  
BACKPACK**

*Who will feed the kids this weekend?*

AS SUMMER DRAWS TO A CLOSE, OUR THOUGHTS RETURN TO BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK. THIS IS A NATIONWIDE ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO OFFER NOURISHING WEEKEND MEALS TO STUDENTS WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE GO HUNGRY DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR. CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE "FREE" OR "REDUCED" LUNCH PROGRAMS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. THE PROGRAM RELIES ON FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND CHURCHES, BOTH NATIONALLY AND LOCALLY. SCHOOLS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM MUST HAVE SOMEONE WITHIN THE SCHOOL WILLING TO COORDINATE, PACK, AND DISTRIBUTE THE FOOD ITEMS, AND SOMEONE IN THE COMMUNITY TO ACT AS A LIAISON BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND THE BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK ORGANIZATION. DR. FRAZETTA, OUR LOCAL LIAISON, TAKES CARE OF THE STUDENTS IN SOUTH BUFFALO ELEMENTARY AND BUFFALO ELEMENTARY.

ZION BEGAN PARTICIPATING IN THIS MISSION IN FEBRUARY OF 2023. DESIGNATED FUNDS ARE USED TO PURCHASE SPECIFIC FOOD ITEMS BY ZION SHOPPERS, JEAN WALKER, AND LORI SMIESKO. A TYPICAL PACK CONSISTS OF FOUR BREAKFAST ITEMS, TWO ENTREES, AND TWO SNACKS. THE ITEMS ARE TAKEN TO DR. FRAZETTA, WHO IN TURN DELIVERS THEM TO THE SCHOOLS, WHERE THEY ARE DISCREETLY DISTRIBUTED TO THE STUDENTS BY THE SCHOOL NURSE. IN THE CASE OF INSUFFICIENT FUNDS, DR. FRAZETTA CAN REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM THE CORPORATE OFFICE LOCATED IN KENTUCKY. LAST SCHOOL YEAR, THAT WAS NOT NECESSARY. ZION WAS THE SOLE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTOR AND PROVIDED ALL THE FOOD REQUIRED TO FILL THE 58 PACKS NEEDED EACH WEEKEND FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR. THE AMOUNT OF THIS ENDEAVOR WAS \$5,692.68. TO DATE, THE TOTAL OF YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION IS \$18,725.34. THANK YOU!!

SCHOOL WILL BE STARTING SOON, AND CHILDREN WILL ONCE AGAIN BE ANTICIPATING AND MAY EVEN BE DEPENDING ON THESE MEALS TO SUSTAIN THEM THROUGH THE WEEKEND. ZION HAS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE TO SERVE AND WITNESS TO HER NEIGHBORS. PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION. EVERY DOLLAR IS USED LOCALLY AND GREATLY APPRECIATED. IF YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE, PLEASE MARK YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPE, "BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK". THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PRAYERS!!!



### Quick & Easy Buffalo Chicken Mac & Cheese

#### Ingredients:

6 TBSP - Butter/Margarine

3 Cups - Water

1 Cup - Milk

2 pkg Knorr Pasta Sides - Buffalo Chicken Favored Pasta

4 - Lg cans chicken breast (rinsed)

1 - 16oz block of cream cheese

½ cup - Frank's Buffalo Sauce

½ cup - ranch dressing

½ cup shredded cheddar cheese

In a medium pot, bring water, milk, and butter to a boil. Add 2 pkgs pasta and chicken, bring to a boil, and let boil for 8 minutes. Turn down to a simmer, add cream cheese, Buffalo sauce, and ranch dressing, then let simmer on low for 10 minutes. Add Cheddar cheese and let sit on low for 10 to 15 minutes, then serve. (If you want a spicier or hot dish, add more buffalo sauce or chopped jalapeños.

**Serves 8 people.**

## 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 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, August 10, 2026, 7:30 am to 11:00 am at Freeport UMC,

Prepare and serve a meal. We need more Volunteers. If you have any questions or would like to help, do not hesitate. Get in touch with the Coordinator:

Becky Ross(724)467-2045 or ross4him@hotmail.com.



### Blessings In A Backpack

ONE in FIVE kids relies on their school's free and reduced-price meal program to provide the nourishment they need to learn and grow. But what happens when the kids leave school on Friday? Join us in making a positive impact to prevent weekend hunger. We support this monetarily throughout the year. Questions? See Jean Walker & Lori Smiesko



## ORGANIZATIONS THAT WE SUPPORT AS PART OF OUR MISSION.



### Operation Christmas Child:

WE are ramping up in 2026 to have a bigger year. We are going to collect each month this year. August's collection consists of school supplies (such as crayons, kids' scissors, colored pencils, notebooks, etc.) Please put any collections in the box under the cabinet in the narthex marked OCC Operation Christmas Child. Thank you for collecting year-round.



### ZION'S FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

Community Meals are on the third Wednesday of every month from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm in the Family Life Center.

Our next meal will be on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Volunteers are needed for food preparation, greeting, serving, and cleanup. If you would like to help, contact or have questions, contact the Office at 724-353-1720 or office@zionsarver.com. Everyone is invited to come enjoy a free meal and community fellowship.



### The Family Promise House

We are collecting gift cards for the House month of August. Zion is collecting \$10 gift cards to Walmart, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, Family Dollar, Target, and Ross Dress for Less. We are also collecting new or gently used clothing for the families of the Promise House. The kids' sizes of the families are: **Family 1** - Girl age 4 size 4t, Boy age 2 size 2t, both attend daycare. **Family 2** - Girl age 15 size 14/16 med women, Girl age 12 size 16/18 xl women, Boy age 10 size 10/12 Husky. **Family 3** - Boy age 11 size 10/12. **Family 4** - Boy age 9 size 10/12, Boy age 6 size 10/12 youth lg or men's sm, Girl age 5 size 5t. New socks and underwear of all sizes. There will be boxes in the entryway for the clothing. There is a clear box on the counter in the narthex to collect the gift cards. Thank you for all you do to help those in need.



Expressions of Our Faith meets in the library on August 25, 2026, at 6:00 pm, so you know that new members are welcome. Please join us if you want to serve on our Mission Encounter Team.

# Sweet Hour of Prayer

Every Wednesday night from 6:30-7:30 pm, we dedicate a time of prayer, 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 pm to get our hearts ready with prayer and scripture, then set out to do one thing...PRAY! Speaking to God and being still for God to speak to us. Come and join us! We would love to have you pray with us!

I have been praying for the Holy Spirit to guide me in these invitations to prayer. This month, He led me to a song sung by Cody Carnes entitled "Nothing Else." If you haven't listened to Christian music outside of the hymns at church, I encourage you to tune in...whatever genre you like, I am sure there is a Christian artist that fits the bill...just listen and let the lyrics speak to you. Cody is a gifted young man who has heartfelt messages in his worship songs. Below is just a sample of the lyrics. I encourage you to search for it on the internet and listen.

I'm caught up in Your presence  
I just want to sit here at Your feet  
I'm caught up in this holy moment  
I never want to leave  
Oh, I'm not here for blessings  
Jesus, You don't owe me anything  
More than anything that you can do  
I just want You



All relationships require communication to grow and deepen. Our relationship with Jesus is no different. The more we read and study the scriptures (Jesus is the Word in flesh) and pray one-on-one, the deeper our relationship will become and the more we will WANT to strive to be like Him. Colossians 3:16 states, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." (ESV) Use whatever you can to draw nearer to Him...music, scripture, prayer, serving others...all of it. Jesus is Lord and worthy of our time, service, and being

In His Service & Yours,  
Cheryl Peters



## College Addresses & Recent Graduates

Please call the office at 724-353-1720 or email [office@zionsarver.com](mailto:office@zionsarver.com) with your student's new or updated college address as soon as they receive it.

This will ensure they receive a newsletter and future mail from the church. The deadline for 2026-2027 addresses is September 13th, 2026. So that can be included in the September mailing. We appreciate your Help in keeping our records updated



**Don't Let the Heat Keep You from Saving a Life – Give Blood in August.**

Give blood Aug. 1-31 to help patients this summer – and we'll thank you with a \$15 Rewards gift card.\* Must use code **AUGUST15-2026-V** when scheduling your appointment. Schedule your appointment today! Donor Rewards program opt-in required for gift card.

[Make an appointment at vitalant.org](#) or call 877-25-VITAL

Use blood drive code: UC664

### **SARVER COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**

THURSDAY AUGUST 27, 2026

1:00PM - 7:00PM

ZION METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

438 BEAR CREEK RD SARVER, PA

To schedule an appointment to donate:

-Go to [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org) and search blood drive code UC664

-Call 1-877-25VITAL or Scan the code to see available times

\*Terms and condition apply: see [vitalant.org/AugDonorGift](http://vitalant.org/AugDonorGift).



877-25-VITAL | [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org)  
Because of you, life doesn't stop

**vitalant**

Zion Methodist Community Church,  
Thank you for hosting your blood drive in June. We collected 29 units of blood products, which will help up to 87 area patients!  
Thank you for all you do to support blood donation, and thank you to all of the life-saving donors! Thank you for supporting our "Vital" blood supply!



Make an appointment to donate blood

412-209-7000 Vitalant.org

Download the App



Because of you, life doesn't stop. Donate blood.

Thanks  
Dena Gribble  
Account Manager  
Vitalant  
412-418-3288 cell  
gribble@vitalant.org



Dear Zion Methodist Community Church,  
Thank you for your generous gift. Because of you, families in our community will experience real hope- through God's love, a welcoming home, and the comfort of furniture and medical supplies they could not otherwise afford.  
Your support truly means the world to us. We are deeply grateful for your kindness and faithfulness. Every gift you give helps transform lives, restores dignity, and reminds our neighbors that they are not alone.

With heartfelt gratitude,  
All of us at The Blessing Board



**Dear Friends,**  
On behalf of everyone at the Center of Hope, thank you for your generous donation. 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. 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.



Sue Otto  
Director

**Dear Zion Methodist,**  
Thank you for your recent donation. We truly appreciate your generosity. We prepare and deliver 50+ meals every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Our Administrators, cooks, clerks, and drivers are all volunteers, so your donation goes directly to those who most need our help. We are pleased to be able to offer this service to the community, and your support is critical. Thanks!

Sincerely,  
Freeport Area  
Meals on Wheels



Dear Zion,  
Thank you for the Scholarship money. It will be very helpful as I prepare for the coming school year.

Sincerely,  
Lincoln Claypoole

**Zion Church,**  
Thank you so very much for the scholarship I have been given. The funds will be used towards my Westminster Honors College payment.

Thank You!  
Rachel Blöse

Dear Zion Methodist Community Church,  
Thank you so much for your generosity of the scholarship. It is such a blessing to use the support of the church and the power of God to help me obtain further education. I am so grateful for all the support and wisdom shown to me by members and the Holy Spirit.

Love,  
Jacob

Dear Zion Methodist Community Church,  
Thank you for your generous support of CWS Tools. We are grateful to have you as a partner in mission and ministry. Your gift empowers communities with strength and hope. Thank you for making this possible!

Sincerely,  
David Costellow



# August 2026

| SUNDAY                                                                                       | MONDAY                                                      | TUESDAY                                                                                            | WEDNESDAY                                                                    | THURSDAY                                            | FRIDAY                                                                               | SATURDAY                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>SUNDAYS:</b><br>8:00am - Worship<br>9:30 am - Sunday School All Ages<br>10:45 am -Worship |                                                             |                                                                                                    |                                                                              |                                                     |                                                                                      | 1<br>FH- In Use                  |
| 2<br>9 am Donut Fellowship<br>12:30 pm FH - In-Use                                           | 3                                                           | 4<br>7 pm Trustees                                                                                 | 5<br>6:15 pm Prayer Meeting                                                  | 6<br>6:30 pm Bible Study<br>7 pm Evangelism/Revival | 7                                                                                    | 8                                |
| 9<br>7:30 am Meals On Wheels<br>10 am Staff Meeting<br>7 pm Admin Bd - Library               | 10<br>6 pm-8 pm Soccer Skills - FLC<br>7 pm Women Inf Faith | 11<br>6:15 pm Prayer Meeting                                                                       | 12<br>1 pm Worship Gathering at Butler Global<br>6:30 pm Bible Study         | 13<br>Newsletter Articles Due!                      | 14<br>BTPD & PAGO<br>Public Discussion : Scamming & Drug Awareness<br>10:00 am - FLC | 15                               |
| 16<br>8 am Baptism Riley Kelley                                                              | 17                                                          | 18<br>10 am Meal Prep- FLC<br>4:30 pm Community Meal<br>FLC- Picnic Fare<br>6:15 pm Prayer Meeting | 19<br>6:30 pm Bible Study<br>11 am Vitalent Set-Up<br>1 pm Blood Drive - FLC | 20<br>6:30 pm Bible Study                           | 21<br>Pavilion - In Use                                                              | 22                               |
| 23                                                                                           | 24<br>10 am Staff Meeting                                   | 25<br>10:30 am Newsletter Fd.<br>6 pm Missions                                                     | 26<br>6:30 pm Herbal Thymes<br>6:15 pm Prayer Meeting                        | 27                                                  | 28                                                                                   | 29<br>10 am-3 pm OCC Picnic - FH |
| 30                                                                                           | 31                                                          |                                                                                                    |                                                                              |                                                     |                                                                                      |                                  |

THE ZION NEWSLETTER  
ZION METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH  
438 BEAR CREEK ROAD  
SARVER, PA 16055-9221  
724-353-1720 FAX 724-353-1721  
WWW.ZIONSARVER.COM



NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
PAID  
NATRONA HEIGHTS, PA  
PERMIT #53

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

august

2026

**ZION  
METHODIST  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

*You're Invited!*

**COMMUNITY MEAL**

 **AUGUST 19TH**

 **4:30 - 6:00 PM**

**HOT DOGS • BAKED BEANS • POTATO SALAD • DESSERT**

 **438 BEAR CREEK RD, SARVER, PA**