

Hi-Lites

November 2021
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The monthly newsletter of
Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
259 S. Main Street
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Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Church School 9:30 a.m.

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Thank you God

Luke 16: 19-21 *“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.”*

Patty and I have been so blessed to come to Chambersburg. We have a new roof over our head, food on our table, a loving church family, cars, and I could go on and on. Thank you God for all these blessings. Often for thanksgiving families start with telling something they are thankful for. Thanks God for my family. Thanks God for the food we are about to eat. Thanks God for giving me such a good place to live. Maybe this year one of the prayers might be, *“Thank you God for the opportunities you give me to serve those in need and the strength and courage to do it.”*

In this story of Lazarus and the rich man almost everyone reading this article is living the life of the rich man/women. Some of you now may be saying, “I’m not rich.” If you don’t think you’re the rich man/women ask yourself two questions: First-How would you respond if someone approached you covered in sores from head to toe, dirty, smelly, and probably very scary looking? Next- When was the last time you longed to eat what fell from another’s table? Have you ever sat in a restaurant and saw someone spill some food on the floor and you wanted run over and yell, *“five second rule”* so you could eat what had fallen? Welcome to the world of the rich man/women. Now let’s turn it around and ask: When is the last time you shared the scrapes from your table with those in need in the community. I do mean the poor, the lonely, the lost, and not your equally rich neighbor.

In this passage it is clear that there is only one time to do what is right: the present. After all, the rich man drops dead at the same time as Lazarus, even though he is safely sheltered, well fed

and free of sores. We shouldn't put off until tomorrow what we can accomplish today, because we can never predict for whom the bell will toll for tomorrow. Jesus message wasn't particularly novel. Moses warned: *"do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor: (Deuteronomy 15:7) and Isaiah 58 says, "Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house?"* The word of God is clear to all God's people. We're called to turn away from selfishness and greed, and turn toward our neighbors in need.

I don't expect you will have a man with sores approach you this Thanksgiving season, but maybe the next time you're sitting in your favorite restaurant and you see that young family with the three little ones you can ask your waitress to add their bill to yours. Ask no credit for what you do but for the glory of God. Maybe the next time you are at the grocery store you buy a gift card and leave it with the clerk to give to someone who looks like they need it. Again,

for the Glory of God. Maybe every time you go out to eat you commit to giving two dollars to the Blessing Box. There are so many possibilities to say, Thank you God! Jesus couldn't be clearer, *"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me. Just as you did to the least of my brothers and sisters, says Jesus, you did it to me."* Mathew 25

God bless you all and I pray each and every one of you has a Happy Thanksgiving. Laugh with your family and friends, eat a bit too much turkey, and watch that football game, but remember, 'Thank God for the opportunities you are given to serve,' and go forth and live out your faith. Amen,

God Bless, Pastor Tom



Don't forget to order your poinsettias for the Christmas season.

Get your Christmas Caroling voice in shape

Are you getting anxious to start singing some of the great carols of the season? If so, meet at the church on Sunday, December 19, 4 p.m. to go caroling thru downtown Chambersburg. Following the caroling we will return to the church for refreshments plus some Christmas games and a gift exchange for those who wish to participate. (If you want to share in the gift exchange bring a \$5 gift.)

Come help decorate for Christmas

We need your help on Sunday, November 28, 2 p.m. to decorate Zion for the holiday season. There are jobs for everyone from unwrapping crèche figurines, assembling Christmas trees, and untangling lights. We usually finish in about an hour and have lots of fun in the process.

Christmas Family Night

Save the night of December 7th at 6pm. on you calendar. Meat, rolls and beverage will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share. Entertainment will be provided by the trio "FOG" (Cheryl Stearn, Ginny Cairns and Jeff Diller).

YOZ (Youth of Zion)

Youth group - It is time for the annual cleaning of the chandelier. Come Sunday Nov. 21, at 2—4 pm to help. I will also discuss the upcoming dates for 2021 (caroling, Christmas Party, Bowling, Pinball)



Consistory will meet on Wednesday, November 10, 7 p.m. in the church..

Thank you to Mara and Dan Smith for decorating the sanctuary with pumpkins and corn shocks.



November 7 is the Sunday to turn back your clock an hour and enjoy more sleep, but don't forget the Congregational Meeting.

United Churches of Chambersburg Area

The meeting is Thursday, November 18 at 7 pm. and they will be meeting at Zion in Chambersburg. Laura Frey and Candy Wagner are our representatives, along with Pastor Tom.

Annual meeting will be November 7

Our annual congregational meeting follows worship on Sunday, November 7. It begins with a catered fellowship meal by Smith's Catering and followed by our meeting which includes brief reports, election of consistory: Esther Wagner continues as Elder for the next 5 years; consistory voted for and to replace the out going members and adoption of a budget. We finish about 1:30 p.m. Thank you to Pastor Bob for conducting the meeting.

Get Your Christmas Caroling Voice in Shape

Are you getting anxious to start singing some of the great carols of the season? (Sherri and Laura) If so, meet at the church on Sunday December 19 at 4 pm. to go caroling thru downtown Chambersburg. Following the caroling we will return to the Church for refreshments plus some Christmas games and a gift Exchange for those who wish to participate. If you want to share In the gift exchange bring a \$5 gift.



Offering envelopes are ready for pick up

Boxed sets of offering envelopes for 2022 are available now at the church. If you have used envelopes in the past and notice your name is missing, please check with the church office. If you have not been using envelopes and wish to begin doing so, please also inform the office.

The boxed sets contain a dated envelope for each Sunday on which you can designate your contributions for operating expenses, special offering, or for future needs with the progress fund.

In addition, there are three special envelopes. One is an "initial Offering" to pay for the envelopes. Another is a "Mother's Day Offering" which goes toward meeting our annual budget goal for Support of our church homes. And still another is a "Christmas Offering" to use during the extra holiday services.

Historical Committee

The Historical Committee is planning for a special Christmas season Windows display and we need you help. We are looking for old Photos of Christmas events at ZION or Christmas at your home. Please submit photo copies to the church or give to Candy, Esther, Jean, or Jane by Sunday November 21. Please include names and dates to the best of your knowledge and if photos need to be Returned. Any questions give Candy or Jane a call.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 7 pm.

Mark your calendar for this traditional start to the holiday season with our lighting of our chandelier at 7 p.m. service on Thanksgiving Eve, November 24. The service features traditional hymns and readings from various traditions. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to join you in worship.



Healing service

Our monthly service of anointing and healing will follow worship on Sunday, November 21. This is an opportunity to seek prayer for yourself, for a loved one or friend, or a community or world concern. Simply join us at the front of the sanctuary as the postlude concludes .



Hayride and Camp Fire on Saturday, October 23. Thank you, Jane Johnson for arranging this fun day.



Adults and children's
Halloween Party on Sunday,
October 24, 2021

Holy Communion on:

Sunday, November 7, 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary

Our Advent Communion will be

Sunday, November 28, 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary



Women's Guild meets on Tuesday, November 9, 1:30 p.m. in the Parish House. At this meeting plans will be made for the Christmas Family Night on December 7th at 6 pm. In October Cash For Causes Cards were donated to Thornwald UCC Home for Christmas and to Hoffman Home Gala for the auction. Plans were made for the November Congregational Dinner. Goodie bags were filled for prizes for the Halloween Party.

Wednesday Bible Study

Come to Bible Study at 10 am. and enjoy the fellowship



Upcoming Dates. There are many special events and activities scheduled for the coming holidays. Please mark these events on your calendars.

November 7, Sunday

Turn back clocks

All Saints Day, Congregational Meeting and Luncheon

November 10, Wednesday, Consistory 7 in Fellowship Hall

November 14, Sunday

Veterans Day Celebration

Pastor Emeritus—Pastor Diller at 3 pm.

November 24, Wednesday

7 p.m. Thanksgiving Service with Chandelier lighting

November 28, Sunday

10:45 a.m. 1st Sunday of Advent

Communion at 10:45 am

2 p.m. Christmas decorating

December 4, Saturday Bowling at Nellie Fox 2-4 pm.

December 7, Tuesday

6 p.m. Christmas Family Night Covered Dish Supper

December 5, Sunday

10:45 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent worship

December 12, Sunday

10:45 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent Worship

December 19, Sunday

9:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program

10:45 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent worship

10:45 Communion Sunday

4 pm. Christmas Caroling with refreshments and a gift exchange scheduled

December 24, Friday

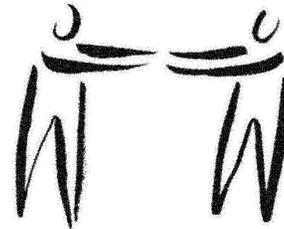
7 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 25, Saturday

No Service

Thank Offering time for the Women's Guild

November is the Guild's month for the annual Thank Offering. Half the contributions are used to help meet our church goal for Our Church's Wider Mission, and half is used for Guild projects to support our local mission. A special envelope is included with your newsletter. Please include your name or envelope number if you wish your gift recorded on your financial statement.



Reach out to those in need

Sunday School—Sherri Arrowood

Adults— You are all welcome to come to Sunday School for our special Advent Study. It will begin on Sunday, November 28th at 9:30 am. and continue through the 4th Sunday of Advent.

The first Sundays of November we will continue learning how to be wiser as we get older.

Children will be preparing for the Advent Season and their Christmas Program in December.

Bowling Party

Get ready; December is the month for our Fall Bowling Party on Saturday, December 4 at 2-4 at Nellie Fox Bowling. All ages are Welcome. The event is sponsored by the Sunday School and friends are welcome.



Family Page

Sympathies from the church for Wilma, Joey Carbaugh and family on the passing of Ron Carbaugh on October 15, 2021.

Hay Ride

A big Thank You to Jane Johnson for organizing Zion's First Hay Ride. (At least the first one in the last 40 years.) The Forrester Family and New Holland Farm Equipment provided the tractor, driver, and cart. 20 Participants enjoyed the fresh air, changing leaves and different entertainment from Zion's members. We returned to Jane & Gene's house for a fire pit for roasting marshmallows, enjoying the neighbor's farm animals and found a few fair weather Zion members hanging out in the warmth. Check out Zion's Facebook page for pictures from the Hayride and Halloween Party.

Halloween Party

No Zombies or Ghosts showed up but we had a Pig-in-a-blanket, larger than life cow, SWAT team member, lady in her bathtub, Wednesday, and Bag of Jelly Beans. This is only to name a few of our attendees. 30 Adults and children showed up to enjoy the games by Jenelle Wagner. Women's Guild provided a hand gift bag of treats to all attendees. Thanks to Esther Wagner, Joan Pogue and Barb Metcalfe for cooking the hotdogs and preparing the snacks. Millie Willman, your buffalo dip and apple salad were an exciting addition to the hotdogs. Denny Metcalfe and Sonya Frey—your cupcakes were wonderful as always.

Hoffman Home Holiday Gift Guide

Zion will be doing the Holiday Gift giving for the children at Hoffman Home a bit different. Instead of purchasing individual gifts for the girls in the Zion residence, Jane Johnson will be accepting cash or checks—made out to Hoffman Home Inc. or gift cards from **Amazon, Target, or Walmart** only these cards are acceptable. Your generous donation of \$40.00 is greatly appreciated. The staff will use these cards to full fill the gifts of the teenagers in Zion residence. Please give donations to Jane Johnson.

You may place your envelope in the collection basket, mail to the church or give to Jane Johnson. If you have any questions give Jane a call at 717-263-1416.

New Christmas Tradition

Beginning December 1st read one chapter Of the book of Luke in the Bible each evening.

There are 24 chapters.

On Christmas Eve you will have read an Entire account of Jesus' Life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!



How about instead of
rushing from Halloween to
Christmas, we use
November as a month
of THANKS to
properly prepare
our hearts to celebrate
Christmas for what it
is really about, the
Birth of our Savior
Jesus Christ.

I will NEVER be
OVER THE HILL.
I'm too tired to
CLIMB IT!

C.O.F.F.E.E.
Christ Offers Forgiveness For Everyone Everywhere

Good Morning!
If you can carry just one
thing with you today,
Let it be this:
You are BEAUTIFUL,
You are STRONG,
You are LOVED, and
Your are NEVER ALONE!

Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

Yes, I wish to place a poinsettia in the church

_____ I will place my own order and see that the flower is delivered on Saturday, December 18th.
(Please be sure your name is on the flower.)

_____ Please order for me.
(Payment of \$11 per flower must accompany this order. Make checks payable to Zion.)

_____ red

_____ white

Please print clearly:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Presented by _____

Please return to the church office or place in the offering plate by November 14th.