

Hi-Lites

February 2022 LXIII No. 2

The monthly newsletter of
Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
259 S. Main Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201

www.zionucc-chambersburgpa.org.

Office phone: 717-264-2854

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Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

Church School 9:30 a.m.

Contact information:

Minister: Pastor Tom Dunkle

Cell: 330-663-1496

Secretary: Peggy Barnhart Home: 717-263-5952

barny4@comcast.net

Organist/ Music Director : Jeramias Johnson





A prayer of Moses the man of God. *I Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn people back to dust, saying, “Return to dust, you mortals.” A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—they are like the new grass of the morning: In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered. We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. If only we knew the power of your anger! Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due. Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

Psalm 90 is called the Prayer of Moses. In the first three verses Moses states that God has always been there for us and will be with us for all generations. He is our dwelling place. Moses goes on to say how short our lives are compared to God's. We are but a day or night in God's time. Time is something most of us hold dear. I am always thinking or worrying about time. Will I ever have enough time to get this done? How do I get prepared for Lent right after Christmas and get all the rest done? Or, it can't

be that time already. Time goes by so fast and the older I get the faster it seems to go. Lately, I have been thinking of things I want to see, do, and experience before my time is up here on earth. Maybe go sky diving, visit Australia, or swim with a humpback whale. Will I have the time? Moses asks God in verse 12 to teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Maybe Moses is trying to tell us to appreciate each day, slow down, smell the roses, play with the puppies and enjoy life to its fullest. God does not want us to waste our days worrying, hurrying or thinking about what should have been done. Let us take time today to fully appreciate all that God has given us and the wonders that surround us. Enjoy the snow, breath in the crisp air, maybe sing a song in the shower. Take time today and every day to praise God and thank Him for all the wonderful things He has given us. Ask God, what we might do for Him today. Finally, thank Him for always being there for us, even when we have been too busy for him.

God Bless
Pastor Tom

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild meetings and Events: All meetings are at 1:30 pm. in the Parish House unless noted.

February 8

March 8

April 12

May 3—Family Night 6:00pm

June 14

No meetings July and August

August 21—Ice Cream Social

September 13

October 11

November 8

December 6—Family Night 6 pm.



There will be no Soup and Sandwich Luncheon this year due to COVID but an alternate Fundraiser will be held to support the Children we sponsor in Global Ministries.

Guild Officers for 2022

Esther Wagner, President; Mara Smith, Vice-President; Candy Wagner, Secretary; Pat Hileman and Millie Willman, Treasurers.

Benjamin Chambers Donations

Thanks to all who contributed. Approximately \$200.00 was raised as well as donated items. The school will be presented with 7 sets of headphones, 17 pair of boy's underwear, 21 pair of girl's underwear, 8 pair of boy's sweatpants, 11 pair of girl's leggings (various sizes) and two t-shirts. \$15 left from purchases will also be donated.



Sunday School

February 27 - Fastnacht Social 9:30 am. (crafting cards for
Shut-ins and LOC nurses
April 12—Easter Program
May 8—Mother's Day
June 12—Rose Rent/breakfast/Program
July 3—September 4—Summer schedule 9am worship with
Fellowship following church
July —Tentative Vacation Bible School
September 18—Picnic

Church

March 2—Ash Wednesday
April 10—Palm Sunday
April 14—Maundy Thursday
April 15—Good Friday streamed at 12 noon
April 17—Easter - 9:00 am.
June 12—Rose Rent
November 6— Congregational Dinner

L.O.C. “Love Our Caregivers” L.O.C. is a new ministry starting at Zion to reach out to some of our local caregivers and show them they are loved and appreciated. We will be starting with sending food and cards to 2 west nursing unit at Chambers-burg Hospital. If you can sponsor a week of food or donuts please contact the office and let Pastor Tom know. If not I ask you to write a letter or two or three to a nurse letting them know that they matter and how important they are to you. Pastor Tom will deliver them to the unit. There are about 60 nurses on 2 west so as many letters as you can write would be appreciated. Let us reach out with Christian love and action to live out Christ call to



Lenten Dollar Folders on the way

Each household will receive a Lenten Dollar folder during the week of Ash Wednesday (March 2). You are encouraged to use the folder during the days of Lent and return it during Easter week. Your gifts provide funding for various national and international mission projects of Zion. You may mail it to the church, drop it off at the office, or place it in the special collection baskets that will be placed at the rear of the sanctuary during Easter.

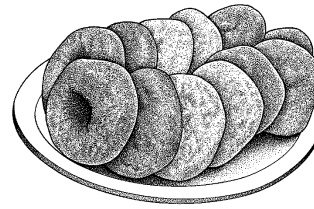
In the past we have used a coin folder about which many complained of the difficulty of getting the quarters to stay in, and the trouble of delivering or mailing to the church. Plus the offering counters found it tedious counting and wrapping the quarters. So we switched to Dollar Folders. We hope these will be easier to use. However we also recognize these require a greater commitment financially to our mission budget. We are anxious to see how we will respond. Will we step up our devotion to helping those in need in our community and beyond?

Quarterly Improvement Fund

The Improvement Fund provides resources for improving our church grounds and buildings. But now we need to replenish the account. We have more projects that need to be accomplished.

Included with the Hi Lites is an Improvement fund envelope for use this month. Please include your name and envelop number if you wish your gift recorded on your financial statement.





Fasnacht Social coming

Lent begins February 27. The Sunday School invites everyone to a pre-Lenten party on Sunday, February 27, 9:30 a.m. in the Sunday School room. There will be fasnachts (donuts), coffee, tea, and juice. Participants of all ages will have the opportunity if they wish to help with a cards to shut ins or the Nursing Unit.



Healing service

Our monthly service of anointing and healing will follow worship on Sunday, February 20. 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.

Everything Happens for a Reason

**You may not see it now, but
Sooner or later,
God will reveal why He let
Things happen.
Always remember that His way
is better than our ways. His will
is beyond our will.
Put your trust in Him.
Amen**

Painting class with Patty



Ice Fest—Youth
Group old and
Young





February Holy Communion

We will celebrate Holy Communion on:

February 6, Sunday in the sanctuary;

Ash Wednesday , March 2 at 7 p.m

Holy Week Communion: Maundy Thursday, April 14 at (to be announced)

Consistory will meet on Wednesday, February 9, 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

At its January meeting, Consistory elected the following officers:

President: Pastor Tom

Vice President: Candy Wagner

Secretary: Laura Frey

Treasurer: Fritz Pogue

Assistant Treasurer: Jim English

Financial Secretary: Jack Arrison

Also appointed were Candy Wagner and Laura Frey as our representatives to United Churches of Chambersburg Area and Laura Frey as representative on the Sunday School Board.

Please **don't forget** to place your order for Easter flowers. The order form is on the back page. Thank you



Family Page

Birthdays:

Feb 1	Robert Smith
2	Harper Duke
6	Miranda Rupert
7	Megan Duke
8	Riley Wagner
10	Chelsea Egolf
10	Elma Walker
12	Baillie Barnhart
16	Sean Wible
27	Joan Thomas

Prayers from the church for Merle Pefley, the brother of Sheldon Pefley.

If you have the chance to make someone happy
just do it. Sometimes people are struggling silently.
Maybe your act of kindness can make their day.

To Everyone who is reading this. May joy
find you, Love surround you, Laughter sing with you,
Good health bless you, and God walk with you
each & everyday

Giant's Cash for Causes

The Women's Guild continues with the Giants Cash for Causes program. Jane Johnson has the Giant's Cash for Causes gift cards in values of \$25, \$50, \$100 and they are good at all Giant's and Martin's food stores. With your purchase of the gift cards the Women's Guild receives 5%. In other words we are able to purchase the gift cards at a 5% discount. These extra funds help with the various needs of Zion. The Cash for Causes Gift Cards never expire and make great gifts all year. Don't shop at Giants' or Martin's you may purchase a \$25 gift card for the church office, which will help those in need that walk in the church office. See Jane or call 717-263-1416 (home#). Yes, Jane will deliver to you.



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent leading us to Easter. Lent is a time to refocus and recommit ourselves to be followers of Jesus.

Appropriately the March 2 at 7pm. Ash Wednesday Service leads us to recognize our need for God, and our human frailty, with the symbolic imposition of ashes on our foreheads. The service concludes with communion restoring us to God. Friends are welcome.



Food Pantry donations

Dan and Mara Smith as coordinator of the food pantry has this to encourage each one of us to bring food. Please remember you may bring food items any Sunday and place them in one of the collection boxes located either outside the elevator or at the base of the Social room ramp. We especially ask you to think of the first Sunday of each month as Food Pantry Sunday to encourage you to remember to bring items on a regular basis. Remember too that heavy material carrying bags are needed also.

Financial statements

Your annual statement of financial giving for 2021 for those using envelopes is now available in the church vestibule. This can be helpful in preparing your tax return. If you notice any omissions or errors, please contact the church office.

Rose Rent is Sunday, June 12

It is still early, but mark your calendars for our Annual Rose Rent Celebration on Sunday, June 12th. The schedule will be as in the past:

- 9:00 a.m. Fellowship breakfast
- 9:45 a.m. Making cards for shut-ins and/or the Nursing Unit
- 10:30 a.m. Rose Selection Ceremony
- 10:45 a.m. Rose Rent Worship



Hoffman Homes “THANK YOU”

Several thank you from Hoffman Homes can be found in this month’s Highlights and the story from Terri Meyers’ about her son Braden also Jessie struggles and success with the help of Hoffman Homes and staff.

From ... Jane Johnson

You’re in kind donations of back to school supplies, word search books, clothing, hygiene and toiletries, cards, snacks, gift cards and cash donations for the Zion’s residence (at Hoffman Home) Christmas gifts was greatly appreciated by the staff at HH and our Hoffman representative Jane Johnson .

In the Sunday school room social hall you will find a clear tote to continue to place various items for Hoffman Homes Items that are always needed can be seen on the list at the tote. You may take a copy.

For more than 110 years Hoffman Homes for Youth has offered shelter, care, and comfort to children with severe emotional and mental health issues due to trauma, abuse, and neglect. Our support helps to ensure a brighter future for children in our community. Thank you for the compassion you show to the children at Hoffman Homes.

Hopefully we will be able to have a speaker from Hoffman later this year.



Hoffman Homes for Youth
A Psychiatric Residential Treatment
Program for Children

MELISSA LEATHERY, LSW
CEO & PRESIDENT

December 23, 2021

Pastor Tom Dunkle
Zion Reformed UCC
259 South Main Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201

*Thank you!
Happy New Year!*

Dear Pastor Tom,

Thank you for your most generous, continued, and vital support! We can't do it without you, and we greatly appreciate your willingness to be a helping hand. Your in-kind donations help our children thrive and truly makes a difference in their lives. Let me share a child's story with you.

Jessie resided at Hoffman Homes for Youth (HHY) for almost a year. She was diagnosed with PTSD and had a history of severe physical and sexual abuse. Jessie came to HHY with nowhere to go upon completing her treatment and was initially overcome with frustration towards being "stuck" in a residential treatment program. She struggled to create and maintain healthy relationships, as well as, work towards treatment goals. After being introduced to a family who was sincerely interested in welcoming Jessie into their home, Jessie became more engaged and involved in her treatment. She participated in family sessions and visits with the potential adoptive family. The effort and kindness that this family had given in supporting Jessie throughout her treatment was a key turning point for Jessie. Jessie made significant progress showing exponential growth, not only in her behaviors but by being a role model for peers in her residence. Jessie was able to leave HHY to live with her adoptive family. To witness Jessie create healthy relationships and be united with a loving, supportive family was truly touching. Jessie continues to excel and work towards future goals, while still having the support of her adoptive family each step of the way. *"Name changed for privacy"*

How inspiring! I hope you are enjoying seeing more stories about the children in your *Hoffman Happenings* newsletter. Please don't hesitate to contact me for more ways to get involved; I'd love to hear from you! **Thank you** for giving hope and investing in our children's future!

With gratitude,

Alicia Stanley
Vice President, Marketing & Development
astanley@hoffmanhomes.com | 717-359-7148 x4500



Hoffman Homes, Inc., d/b/a Hoffman Homes for Youth, is a nonprofit organization and exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN # 23-2732296. No benefit was bestowed upon this donor in exchange for this contribution. Please check with your personal tax advisor regarding the deductibility of your gift.

815 ORPHANAGE ROAD / LITTLESTOWN, PA 17340 / 717-359-7148 / 717-359-2600 FAX / WWW.HOFFMAN



Terri & Braden Meyers' Story

Good Evening, I wanted to take a moment to tell you all our story.

Our Journey begins with Braden being four and half years old. We were driving down 81 when he became angry over something, I can't recall exactly what. Not knowing how to control his anger, he unbuckled his seat belt and became aggressive towards me while I was driving. Fortunately, I was able to pull over safely, and tried to reason with Braden, which I didn't succeed at. I then had to pray and call 911 for help.

This incident led to Braden's first hospitalization. He was diagnosed with a mood diagnosis at that time. I remember this day like it was yesterday, as it was the first time ever being away from my baby and he would celebrate his 5th birthday among strangers.

Braden did well on the medication, participated in behavioral therapy, and attended a special school. Things were looking up for us, until they tried putting Braden in a regular classroom. He couldn't handle all the stimulation and eventually hit the teacher, hurt a child and kicked the principle.

This landed him with his next hospitalization, which was down towards state college. This time he was in the hospital for about a month. The day we picked him up he was on such a cocktail of medications the child didn't know who I was, tried opening the door on the way home, and was hallucinating. I was so beside myself that we took him to a local emergency room for treatment and they flushed his system of all the medications.

A few days had past and Braden wasn't acting like himself. His behavior was odd, for example, he was having bowel movements in his pants. When I asked him if he was ok, he finally opened up and told me revealing that his roommate in the hospital had sexually assaulted him.

I was devastated as I am supposed to protect my child, and I didn't.

The next couple of years Braden did well and we were able to keep him out of the hospital, as I was nervous to send him after our last experience with hospitalization. However, things erupted, again, and he was sent to a hospital 2.5 hours away. He was there for about 5 weeks and returned home and things were stable for a couple of months.

Fast forward to the summer of 2019. Braden is now diagnosed with autism, Bipolar disorder, ADHD and oppositional defiant disorder. He has had back-to-back hospitalizations in September, November, and late December for a suicide attempt. During the hospitalization at Kids peace, his team decided that for him to get proper treatment he needed to be placed in a residential treatment facility.



Braden was accepted into 5 treatment facilities, so as a mom I had my work cut out for me trying to find the best placement for my son's needs and overall safety.

I chose Hoffman Homes for the programs they provided and wonderful statistics they had. As a mom that is highly involved with her child's care, I wouldn't accept placement until I toured a facility. I reached out to Brecia, the VP of Admissions, for a tour and from the first moment we spoke to when we arrived at Hoffman, she treated us with respect and like family.

I chose Hoffman Homes, and our journey with proper treatment began.

Braden was placed there for a year and four months. The staff became Braden's family. They taught him coping skills, how to respect people, to communicate, and to succeed academically.

As soon as Braden was accepted Covid hit, and it changed everything for us. I was once again devastated that I couldn't see my son face to face. But with the amazing team in Barkley House, and with the help of his therapist, we were able to talk daily. As a nurse on the front lines working 3-11pm shift, they always made sure we could talk whenever my schedule allowed. We were also able to zoom once a week.

The staff in the house treated Braden like their own, they prayed with him, hugged him when he needed it, and loved him while I couldn't be there. Braden was a very challenging in the beginning, he wouldn't eat and lost some weight. The dietician and house supervisor, Brian, allowed me to send his favorite food to him. Eventually, with the support of his staff he began eating new foods and today is making much better food choices.

Braden could hardly read when he came to Hoffman Homes, and through the school, Hoffman Academy, and the awesome animal-assisted therapy program, which Braden loved, he is reading almost on his grade level.

I will forever be grateful to Hoffman Homes for being such a positive piece on our journey. They will always hold a special place in my heart, as we continue to fight mental health!

Lastly, as a mom, I want to thank you all for your donations that keep such a wonderful facility open and available for children like my son.

Thank you and God Bless you all.

Easter Flower Order Form

Yes, I wish to place a flower in the church

_____ I will place my own order and see that the flower is delivered on Saturday, April 9, 2022
(Please be sure your name is on the flower.)

_____ Please order for me.(Payment of \$10 per flower must accompany this order..)
Please make checks payable to Zion.

_____ Lily

_____ Mum (A lily will be substituted if mums are unavailable)

Please print clearly:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Presented by _____

Please return to the church office or place in the offering plate by **March 20, 2022**