

# Hi-Lites

**Jan/Feb 2024 LXV No. 1**

The monthly newsletter of  
Zion Reformed United Church of Christ  
259 S. Main Street  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
[www.zionucc-chambersburgpa.org](http://www.zionucc-chambersburgpa.org).  
[Zion1778@comcast.net](mailto:Zion1778@comcast.net)

Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Church School 9:30 a.m.

Contact information:

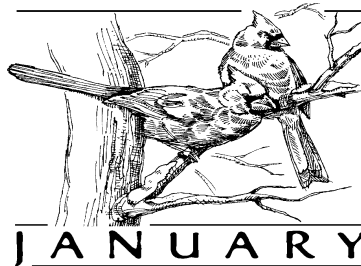
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Organist:/choir director J.J. Johnson



Pastor's Message

*Luke 3: 21-22 21 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."*

Have you ever waited for good news (or perhaps bad) to be fulfilled? Maybe it's been as a student waiting for an exam score, or as an adult getting a performance review and hopefully a pay raise or promotion. As we get older, we might be waiting for health news—lab results, potential remedies, etc. It is especially hard to wait when we really want something good to happen and to be here now. Well, that is what we are going to hear from Scripture the month of January in worship as the Gospel announces Jesus as here and now, fulfilling the words of God through John the Baptist. Quite quickly we will have gone from God sending a baby named Jesus to all the earth, to his baptism and words from heaven affirming that he indeed is the one who has been sent—the one who comes after John. The good news is fulfilled and so the journey of Jesus on earth begins.

As people of the church, we might be waiting for our new Bell Choir, our new Consistory to start, our Pastor to get better at the floss (like that will happen!). Waiting is difficult, and at times we may not see the result of what we do or say in faith. But that does not mean that we stop or

give up. Jesus comes in baptism calling us to remember the promises of God through him. Jesus calls those first disciples and says, “follow me.” They don’t ask where. Even though we have the advantage and know who Jesus is, sometimes we don’t realize the good news of Christ, not seeing all that is being done in his name in this place, and in our relationships and communities. As the New Year comes it is indeed a time to reflect, to praise God, and to give thanks. The good news is here, and we are being called to follow—with faith, trust and love. Knowing that it doesn’t depend on us, but rather Christ is working in us to do God’s will. Just as Mary pronounced AMEN to the Angel Gabriel, so, too, do we daily commit our wills, ourselves, and our lives to God. I pray in this new year that we commit to remain faithful, trusting God’s outcomes, and moving forward in Christ’s Name. Amen.

May the new year be filled with God’s peace for you  
and yours, Pastor Tom



### **Sunday School Board**

The Sunday School Board did elect its board at our meeting January 14th: Sherri Arrowood, superintendent, Diana Johnson, secretary, Candy Wagner, treasurer, Joan Pogue assistant treasurer and members Laura Frey, Barb Metcalfe, Peggy Barnhart, and Esther Wagner.

### **Sunday School Events**

February 11—Fastnacht Social during Sunday School and cards will be created to send to Zion's shut-ins.

March 31—is Easter

May 12—is Mother's Day

June 9—is Rose Sunday starting with a Breakfast, program, selecting the rose and Church Services. There will be a sign up sheet so the cooks know how much food to cook.

July 7—starts our Summer Schedule—church at 9am with a social hour afterward and no Sunday School

September 15 will be Zion's Church Picnic from 4-7pm at the Greene Township Park.

February 18, 2024 for March Hi Lites.



### **UCCA meetings**

Candy Wagner, Laura Frey and Pastor Tom are Zion's Representatives, and the next meeting is March 21, Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church.

## **Consistory news**

On Wednesday, February 14, 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service.  
No Consistory until March.

The officers of the Consistory are: President—Pastor Tom,  
Vice President—Candy Wagner, Secretary—Laura Frey,  
Treasurer—Jim English; Assistant Treasurer—Laura Frey,  
Financial Secretary—Jack Arrison; Building and Grounds -  
Fred Gosart

## **Wednesday Bible Study**

Join us in the Parish House each Wednesday 10 a.m. for our  
midweek Bible study. New members and friends are welcome. This  
is a great time for learning and fellowship. Why not make Bible  
study a New Year's resolution?

**The Blessing Box** always needs food for the local needy people.

## **This hit home**

When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, do you  
just throw it away? Of course not. You change the batteries.  
When a person messes up or finds themselves in a dark place,  
do you cast them aside? Of course not! You help them change  
their batteries. Some need:

AA ...attention and affection, some need

AAA...attention, affection, and acceptance; some need:

C...compassion; some need:

D...direction.

And if they still don't seem to shine..simply sit with them  
quietly and share your light.



Christmas window





Caroling at Penn Hall 2023









**Pastor Tom and Laura Frey**  
Thanksgiving Eve, lighting of the chandelier.



## **Family Page**

### **January Birthdays:**

- 4—Lleigh Truett**
- 10—JJ Johnson**
- 12—Kevin Barnhart**
- 16- Barb Metcalfe**
- 27- Jack Arrison**
- 29- Denise Foreman**

### **February Birthdays:**

- 1—Robert Smith**
- 2—Harper Duke**
- 6— Miranda Rupert**
- 7— Megan Duke**
- 8—Riley Wagner**
- 9— Fred Gosart**
- 10— Chelsea Egolf**
- 12 - Baillie Barnhart**
- 16—Peggy Barnhart**
- 16—Sean Wible**
- 20—Myra Gosart**
- 23—Diana Johnson**
- 26—Pat Hileman**
- 27—Joan Thomas**

**I want to thank everyone for the prayers, food and cards that were sent to me during my time in the hospital, Menno Haven Rehab and home.**

**Peggy Barnhart**

## **Zion's Women's Guild**

### Election of Officers

President— Patty Dunkle

Secretary --Candy Wagner

Treasurer --Millie Willman and Pat Hileman

Committees: Sunshine and Global Ministries (Candy Wagner), Hoffman Homes and CASH for Causes (Jane Johnson), Church Women United (Esther Wagner)

### 2024 Schedule

#### Regular meetings:

February 13 at 1:30 in the Parish House

March 12 at 1:30

April 9 at 1:30

June 11 at 1:30

September 10 at 1:30

October 8 at 1:30

November 12 at 1:30

#### Special Events:

Family Night Dinner - May 7 at 6:00pm

Appreciation Dinner—July at 6:00 pm

Ice Cream Social — August 25 at 4:00 pm

Family Night Dinner —December 3 at 6:00 pm

More information to follow on special events.

Fundraisers — planning a CASH for Causes continues throughout the year. The money from these help to sponsor the Congregational Dinner and other special events.

## Sunday School

Come join us at 9:30am each Sunday as we continue to watch Religious Movies and have discussion about their content. We are watching **Left Behind** currently. It is based on the book series of the same name. Our next movie will be **God's not Dead**.

Sunday February 11 we will pause the movie to create cards to send to our shut ins. It is our Fasnacht Day. Come enjoy a donut or two. No artistic ability is needed to make cards. Barb Metcalfe will be providing her collection of ink stampers to help make the beautiful cards.

Sherri Arrowood, Superintendent of the Sunday School

### TODAY

Lord, It's me again. Thank you for helping me sleep through the night and waking me up to this beautiful morning.

Lord, I pray that you teach me to love my life with each passing day.

Fill my heart with joy and gladness and remind me of all the things in my life to be thankful for.

When thoughts of negativity begin to fill my mind, please remind me that you love me.

When I begin to feel helpless and hopeless, please remind me that you've got me.

When I feel like I hate my life, please remind me that you created me for a purpose.

Mold and guide me to your purpose for me, because I trust that Your plans for me are better than anything I could ever ask for.

In Jesus' name, I pray. *Amen*

January 23, 2024

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



Dear Pastor Tom,

Thank you for bringing the spirit of Christmas to the youth and young adults in care at Hoffman Homes this year. Your generous donation of \$40.00 on 11/30/2023 and various gift cards to include \$100 Amazon gift card, \$50 Amazon gift card, \$40 Amazon gift card, \$50 Walmart gift card, \$40 Walmart gift card, \$50 Target gift card, and a \$40 Target gift card is truly a blessing to everyone on campus. With your help, the Holiday Gift Program gathered an amazing 288 of gifts for individuals and 30+ gifts for each residence in the 2023 season!

As you know, Hoffman Homes provides life-changing care, treatment, and support to youth and young adults from across Pennsylvania who are struggling with their mental health. Your generosity lets them know that they are not alone in their journey!

We wish you a happy and bright new year. Thank you again for being a part of our Holiday Gift program!

With deep appreciation,

Susan Cann  
Director of Development  
[scann@hoffmanhomes.com](mailto:scann@hoffmanhomes.com)  
717-359-7148 x4500

OFFICIAL RECEIPT FOR INCOME TAX

**Please retain this letter for your records.** No goods or services were provided in exchange for this charitable in-kind donation and monetary donation of \$40.00 via Cash on 11/30/2023. Hoffman homes, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization, IRS Tax ID 23-2732296.

Jane Johnson always has Cash for Causes cards—\$25, \$50, & \$100—use to buy food, gas, Rx. The purchase helps the Women’s Guild.

The online fundraiser for various door mats and flags was not a success as we only had 3 orders from our church. Our profit was \$48.37.