

# ZION NEWS

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For the Members, Family and Friends of Zion Blue Mountain United Church of Christ

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## OFFICIAL CALL

Zion's UCC Annual Congregational Meeting, November 19, 2017  
Following the 10:30 AM worship service.

### Nominating Report

At time of printing the Consistory has not confirmed all nominations. There are three positions open, Trustee, Deacon and Elder.

### Proposed By Law Changes

#### **Proposed Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws:**

##### **Article IX: Pastoral Relations Committee**

1. The Pastoral Relations Committee shall be an advisory body that seeks to support and maintain an open and healthy relationship between the Pastor and members of the Congregation by communicating to the Pastor concerns of and suggestions from member of the Congregation and by providing support for the Pastor's leadership.
2. The Pastoral Relations Committee shall consist of five members of the Congregation. The Pastor shall appoint two Committee members, one or both of whom may also be members of the Consistory. The Consistory shall appoint three Committee members, one of whom shall be an Elder. No more than two Committee members appointed by the Consistory may be members of the Consistory. Any appointed person by Pastor or Consistory shall not be an employee of the church.
3. Members of the Pastoral Relations Committee appointed by the Pastor shall serve for a term of one year and may be reappointed indefinitely. Committee members appointed by the Consistory shall serve for a term of three years, except that upon adoption of this Article of the Bylaws, one of these members shall be appointed for a one-year term. Consequently, as the term of one Committee member expires each year, one new Committee member shall be appointed by the Consistory. With the exception of the one Committee member initially appointed for a one - year term, no Committee member shall be reappointed during the two years following the expiration of his/her term. Members of the committee previously authorized by the Consistory shall be eligible to be appointed to the Pastoral Relations Committee by the Pastor or by the Consistory.
4. The Pastoral Relations Committee shall meet monthly and may schedule additional meetings as necessary. The Committee may make a report at any meeting of the Consistory and shall prepare an annual report which may be included in the Annual Report to the Congregation after approval by the Pastor and the Consistory. The Committee may, with the agreement of the Pastor and the Consistory, make a presentation to the Congregation about any concerns or suggestions.

5. All discussions between members of the Pastoral Relations Committee and the Pastor shall be held in strict confidence. With the approval of the Pastor, mutual concerns or suggestions may be shared with the Consistory by the Committee. However, if the Pastoral Relations Committee should become aware of an action or situation that, in the opinion of the Committee, is detrimental to the spiritual or moral health of the congregation, the Committee as a whole may present that information to the Consistory in a confidential meeting.
6. Any complaints, personal issues or suggestions with respect to the Pastor that come to the attention of a member of the Consistory should be promptly shared with the chairperson of the Pastoral Relations Committee.



Dear Christian Friends,

During November (and December) most congregations are in the midst of 'catching up,' trying to close the gap between our expected expenses and our anticipated income.

In October I preached a whole series of sermons on "Enemies of Gratitude." We considered Nostalgia, Entitlement, and Greed as things that 'block' our sense of gratitude. One of the great ironies of our life as disciples of Jesus is that one thing that fills our hearts with gratitude is the opportunity to be generous. The opportunity to give to your church should be framed as a way to be a good steward of all the blessings that God has given you. Sharing is a part of the whole of caring for all that we have and are. Stewardship involves saving, spending, and sharing faithfully.

Thanksgiving is on our minds in November. This year the Thanksgiving Eve service will be held at Friedens ELCA in Shartlesville. I believe that this special service is important because Thanksgiving is a religious festival, if it is about what God has given us. But worship, if we do it well, moves us toward thanksgiving and then service *every* Sunday. I pray that in our thanksgiving we might not only be generous with our own ministry, but that we might see Our Churches Wider Mission as the primary way we give outside these doors, saying thank-you to God who has given so generously to us.

"But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving."  
(2 Corinthians 8:7 NIV)

It isn't enough to think about these things. Participation is the key. Someone once told me that the key to changing your feelings is to change your behavior. It makes sense, if you are more active in worship and prayer you will 'feel' closer to God. If you make time to serve, or more intentionally practice 'random acts of kindness,' you will increase your sense of Christian purpose. You cannot experience gratitude without being generous yourself. Let this be some of the ways we share God's blessings.

See you in church, Pastor Jon

# POINSETTIAS FOR SALE

6 INCH POT WITH 4-6 BLOOMS; \$8.00 EACH

RED ONLY

PLEASE RETURN ORDER FORMS WITH PAYMENT NO LATER THAN 12/11

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL # OF PLANTS \_\_\_\_\_

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN THANKSGIVING OF \_\_\_\_\_



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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

\_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT PAID \_\_\_\_\_ # OF PLANTS Pd \_\_\_\_\_

## MARTHA'S CIRCLE PUMPKIN ROLLS

Pick up between November 19 - 21

*Just in time for Thanksgiving*

*Whole roll \$12*

*Half roll \$6*

*Call the church to order your roll for the holiday!*

### NOVEMBER 5





**Boxed Stuffing Mix (like Stovetop)**  
**Instant Mashed Potatoes**  
**Turkey Gravy (Canned or Gravy Mix Packets)**  
**Canned Yams**  
**Canned Veggies (green beans, corn, peas)**  
**Cornbread Mix**  
**Pumpkin Pie Filling or Fruit Pie Filling**  
**Boxed Pie Crust Mix**

Deadline to bring in above items is November 12th  
It doesn't matter if you can fill a bag with everything or just one item,  
we appreciate your kind heart and generosity!

About two-thirds of Americans say eating Thanksgiving leftovers is more important than eating the actual holiday meal. That's one of the few times people hope food is left on the table.

When it comes to giving out blessings, God doesn't want any leftovers to remain. In Genesis 12:2, God blesses Abraham so he will be a blessing to others.

Charles Stanley writes: "A hoarded blessing is never enjoyed as richly as a shared one. Using your gift to meet someone else's need glorifies God by demonstrating his grace at work in your life. Don't let his generous provisions end with you. Pass them on and discover the joy of a never-ending cycle of blessings."

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"If money is the root of all evil, why do we ask for it in church?"

The church asks for money to help maintain the church physically and monetarily to fund missions, education, and general running of the church, including salaries and upkeep.

Please consider joining us at the annual congregational meeting on November 19th to find out more information.



# Nut Sale

**Kettle cooked nuts available in 1 lb. boxes on Wednesday, November 28.**

Completed order forms along with payments may be placed in the box in the Narthex

ORDERS DUE BY NOV 19

Pick up between 10-12 AM Wednesday November 28 or after church on December 3

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

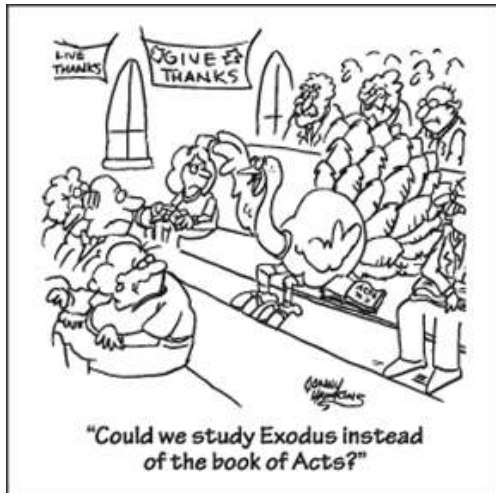
	Boxes/Salt	Boxes/No Salt	Dollar Amount
Peanuts (\$6/box)	_____	_____	_____
Almonds (\$13/box)	_____	_____	_____
Cashews (\$13/box)	_____	_____	_____
Zion's Nutty Trail Mix (\$8/lb)	_____	_____	_____

Salted Peanuts, Almonds, Cashews; dried fruit mix (raisins, papaya, pineapple, cranberries); M&Ms.

Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_



November 22<sup>nd</sup> 7 pm at  
Friedens of Shartlesville



## Bingo Kitchen Nov. 10

4 – 7 pm	7- close
Lisa Shupp	Lisa Shupp
Chick Stambaugh	Lolly Leshner
Kerry Holzman	<b>Help Needed</b>
Karen Miller	Karen Miller

5-8 Robin Faust

Hot Pot – Susan Harbonic  
Pat Moyer

Bakers – Sharon Eaton  
Karen Miller  
Steve Shollenberger  
Lisa Shupp



# Cookie SALE

Don't have time to bake this year?  
 Cookies will be for sale after  
 church December 10 & 17



- 11/7 Betty Symanowicz
- 11/8 David Behm
- 11/12 Judy Lando
- 11/13 Lori Rentschler
- 11/14 Jacob Shollenberger
- 11/15 Dennis Baver  
Travis Ruth
- 11/16 Corinne Bentz
- 11/17 George Brown
- 11/20 Byrd Wagner
- 11/22 Robin Wessner
- 11/24 Gail Hamm
- 11/26 Judy Stafford  
Michael Miller
- 11/27 Irene Birkenbine
- 11/28 Susan Harbonic
- 11/29 Lynda Himmelberger
- 11/30 Ralph Sweigart

**Anniversaries**

- 11/21 Mike & Sharon George
- 11/26 Debbie & Allen Leshner

November 19  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**SANDWICH & SALAD FUNDRAISER**  
*Order form in the Narthex*  
*Pick up in the Parlor after late service*

## WORSHIP DUTIES

	Nov 5	Nov 12	Nov 19	Nov 26
Greeter			Sherry Wessner	
Reader	Wendy Schutt	NEEDED	Sherry Wessner	NEEDED
Flower sponsor Altar/Organ		Dale Behm/Sue Shollenberger		Kerry Holzman/ Wendy Schutt

**THE SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS  
ANGEL TREE PROGRAM 2017**

**Guidelines:**

- \* The Salvation Army has selected the Angel from the neediest in our communities.
- \* The items your Angel needs are listed on the tag. You may buy anything listed or you may choose to substitute other age appropriate gifts. You may purchase more than 1 gift.
- \* Gifts must be new – Please secure/attach Angel Tree card to the gift.
- \* **Please do not wrap your gifts.** The Salvation Army will un-wrap all wrapped gifts to make sure that gifts are suitable. **No toy guns please.**
- \* All gifts are given anonymously.
- \* If using a gift bag for gifts, please secure/attach the Angel Tag **to the inside of the bag either with tape or a staple.**
- \* Please return the gift to your designated drop off location no later than **Sunday December 3, 2017**

**The Salvation Army will pick up Angel Tree gifts at your location on  
Monday December 4, 2017**

Thank you for your continued support of The Salvation Army Christmas Angel Tree Program. It is through your generosity and kindness that Christmas will be special for those in need in our Northern Berks Communities.

The Salvation Army  
Hamburg Service Center  
700 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hamburg, PA 19526

Contact : Cathy Correll, Angel Tree Coordinator @ 484-650-2161





Zion (Blue Mountain) Church  
PO Box 98 (6573 Old Rt. 22)  
Strausstown, PA 19559

*Staff*

*Interim Minister: Rev. Dr. Jon Fogle*

*Office Administrator: Lisa Shupp (lshupp@zionbluemountainucc.org)*

*Sexton: Brad Faust*

*Consistory*

*Elders: Doris Wagner (President), Anne Binner, Ruth Himmelberger, Terry Boyer*

*Deacons: Sharon Eaton, Wendy Schutt, Susan Harbonic, Melissa Miller*

*Trustees: Jon Schaeffer, Keith Hamm, Dorsen Berger, Brad Faust*

*Contact Information*

*Office Phone: 610-488-7361*

*Pastor's Phone: 484-269-9624*

*Website: [www.zionbluemountainucc.org](http://www.zionbluemountainucc.org)*

*ZIONEWS is published monthly to keep our congregation and friends informed of current events, ministry opportunities, and other pertinent information. We reserve the right to print any letter or article, unless, in the opinion of the elders, it is unsuitable for the newsletter. We also reserve the right to edit or alter any article for length and content.*