

# ZION NEWS

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

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**I can hardly believe a year has gone by!**

Soon after I arrived we decided to wait until after Christmas to begin the search process so that you might get to know me better, and I get to know you better. The Transition Team has been meeting and has had two 'Looking Ahead' sessions to better understand 'who we are now.' The first Sunday in October, World Communion Sunday, we will have a third session of 'Looking Ahead.' You will receive in the mail a 'Family Survey' to further assist us in describing 'who we are now.' Please return it by October 11.

Then the Transition Team will summarize what we have received and heard about Zion Blue Mountain. That, with some demographic data, will help us describe "who is our neighbor." The answer to these two questions: "Who Are We Now," and "Who is Our Neighbor," will provide the first part of our Church Profile. We will share this work with you at the Annual Meeting.

Then we will ask you to pray about what we have described so far. Why? Because it is essential that we listen for God's call to us. We need to prayerfully determine who God is calling us to become so that we can be clear about the pastoral leader that Zion needs to live into such a vision.

Finally, I urge you to come to church. Worship with your church family. Serve alongside them. Being involved in the life of the church begins on Sunday morning. That is where you will connect with friends who will serve with you in the other activities we are involved in. Spirituality is a practice. It is something you exercise, not something you are. Come and gently stretch your spirit. Limber it up. Then it will be ready to serve you in your life in the world.



**See ya in church,  
Pastor (Interim) Rev. Dr. Jon A. Fogle**



Harvest Home  
Sunday October 21<sup>st</sup>

After 10:30 am worship we will have a potluck lunch!

We will provide Beef Vegetable Soup, sandwiches and a salad. You bring a favorite dish to share!

Help make this a nice display of fresh fruits and vegetables and canned goods as we thank God for the rich blessings of harvest from our homes.

Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>  
8 and 10:30 am



World Communion Sunday

**Meet our Confirmation Class:**

*Name: Sara Ruth*

*Birthday: September 26, 2003*

*Parents: David and Sherry Ruth*

*Siblings: Travis & Caitlyn*

*School: Hamburg*

*Favorite Subject: English*

*Hobby: Swimming*

*Name: Ciara Guinther*

*Birthday: July 15, 2004*

*Parents: Kenny & Pam Guinther*

*Siblings: Colton & Jordan*

*School: Hamburg*

*Favorite Subject: Math*

*Hobby or activities: Rodeos,*

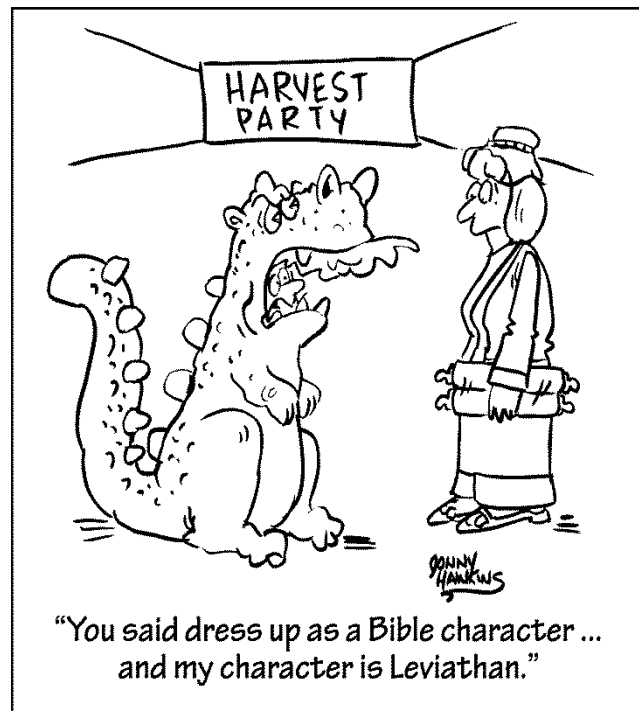
*Demolition derbies & softball*

## Bingo Kitchen October 12

4 – 7 pm	7- close
Lisa Shupp	Lisa Shupp
Amy Yeager	<b>Volunteer needed</b>
<b>Volunteer needed</b>	<b>Volunteer needed</b>
Karen Miller	Karen Miller
<b>5-8 pm</b>	Wendy Schutt

Hot Pot – Dennis Hamm  
Joyce Deisemann

Bakers – Lisa Shupp  
Sue Ehrets  
Lolly Lesher  
Sue Harbonic



If you are available to help out in the kitchen and are not in church to sign the volunteer sheet, please email [lshupp@zionbluemountainucc.org](mailto:lshupp@zionbluemountainucc.org) with the time slot that you are available.

### **THE DEACON'S COIN PURSE**

Now that fall is upon us, though are turning to fundraisers, holidays and our annual congregational meeting. At this time of year, the budget starts forming for the next year. Stewardship comes to the forefront of the conversation. Remember Stewardship comes in many forms. From volunteering time and talents at fundraisers, attending our fundraisers and monetary donations. Please take the time to consider your stewardship to keep the doors of **YOUR** church open.

Sincerely,  
The Deacons



## Roof Update

This is a brief overview of our roof situation and an update with the most recent information. The trustees began looking for a roofing company to inspect and quote the social hall roof. We have been continually replacing shingles on that roof due to the wind. The recommendations have been to replace the 3-tab shingle (held in place with 3 nails) to an architectural shingle that is held in place with 6

nails. While they were there we also asked if the roof over the old Sunday School / Overflow area could be looked at. We had noticed a few areas of concern but thought part of the problem was the continual spring rains. The company also presented its recommendations on some problem areas of that roof. While all of this was happening the wet spring turned into an even wetter summer. As you are aware we had continual heavy downpours through the month of August. We began to have leaks in the sanctuary through the slate roof. The current company we are working with looked over the slate roof. We also reached out to several others. All the parties involved were asked to review the slate roof and provide the best solution: repair the current roof or replace it. If it is replaced, then what is our best option: new slate, composite material that resembles slate, asphalt shingle, or metal. Several companies we reached out to have declined to take on the project due to the steep roof and many peaks and valleys involved. It is a complicated roof to work on. The most recent quote received was from Bachman Roofing to replace the slate with a 40 year asphalt shingle. The quote is \$65,995. This cost does not include rotten or damaged wood. Bachman's has been giving us the best pricing to date. We are waiting for some other companies to either return phone calls or stop by and look over the roof, but it usually requires a day when it is not raining. We also have the flat roof over the old Sunday school

room quoted at an additional \$11,045 and the bell tower roof to repair at an estimated cost of \$11,201. The bell tower is an area of concern in that the water is seeping through the concrete deck and seeping through the stones and mortar of the steeple. The last portion of the quote was for the social hall roof which was estimated at \$28,285. The entire quote from Bachman's was \$116,526. We are still searching for other companies to compare numbers and recommendations. We understand that we will be facing expensive repairs to the building but it is a necessary repair for the long term. We also realize that this will need to be completed in stages. For example, the slate roof over the sanctuary will take priority over the social hall roof. As more information becomes available the trustees will get the necessary points to the congregation through the newsletter and speaking directly to the congregation. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to talk to one of the trustees: Brad, Jon, Bryan, or Keith. We may not have the answer at the ready, but we will work on finding one for you.



***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***

We will need to fill approximately 90 Thanksgiving Dinner bags.  
Bags will be distributed at our food pantry distribution on November 15.  
Please place your donations in the Parlor on the marked table.  
It doesn't matter if you can fill a bag with everything or just one item,  
we appreciate your kind heart and generosity!



10/01 Melissa Koenig  
Allison Bashore  
10/02 Seth Stankiewitch  
10/03 Sarah Bentz  
10/04 Debbie Leshner  
10/05 Kyle Machmer  
10/07 Robert Blatt  
Richard Freed  
10/08 Grant Baver  
10/10 Lisa Simon  
Amy Himmelberger  
10/11 Jessica Varone  
10/15 Bailey Unterkofler  
10/17 Shirley Breininger  
10/18 Nicole Wessner  
10/19 Karen Kissling  
10/20 Dwain Schlappich  
10/22 Jacob Carles  
Justin Bentz  
Pat Moyer  
10/23 Jenna Horning  
10/25 Vera Breidigan  
10/26 Ruth Zerbe

Travis Breininger  
10/30 Jackie Stankiewitch



10/02 Melinda & Jonathan Schaeffer  
Russ & Joan Hartman  
10/03 Vera & Pat Breidigan  
10/04 Jackie & George Stankiewitch  
10/07 Monica & Scott Sechler  
Justin & Corinne Bentz  
10/08 Stephanie & Michael Miller  
10/09 Doris & Byrd Wagner  
10/11 Sandy & Allen Readinger  
10/14 Elaine & Dennis Hamm  
10/16 Rose & Richard Freed  
10/23 Joyce & Stanley Deisemann

*Pretzel Dipping Day*  
*Sunday, November 11 @ 9 am*



*Volunteers needed!!!*

## Servant leadership

From Christ's perspective, a true leader is a servant, committed to the success of each individual in the group. Jesus did not criticize his disciples' desire to lead; he just showed them how to do it by washing their feet. ... The essence of spiritual leadership, therefore, is following Jesus and serving people. People rebel against controlling leaders, but it is impossible to rebel against a servant.

## FUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone that helped with our Pot Pie Dinner. Each year we learn something new and we hope to continue to make it better each year. Our profit was \$1960.00! We presold 60 quarts! Again thank you for everyone's help and if you came out that night we appreciated your support.

Clint Faust is heading a sandwich sale on Saturday October 6th. Pick up is at the church from 6-7 pm. We are gearing up for a bunch of other fundraisers. We will be making apple dumplings on Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup>. Then into November we will be selling Pumpkin Rolls.

Hopefully you will continue to support our Fundraisers in the future! We always need help and greatly appreciate any time you volunteer to help make the fundraisers successful.



It's hard to believe it's time to start planning our annual **Chinese Auction**. This year's auction will be held Sunday, November 25 to Sunday, December 16. In addition to Sunday mornings, the auction will be open to the public on the following dates:

**Friday, December 14 4:30-8:00 pm (Bingo)**

**Saturday, December 15 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Sunday, December 16 5:00 - 8:00 (Live Nativity)**

All donations should be placed on the designated auction table in the parlor. No auction items will be accepted after November 24.

Winning tickets will be drawn Monday, December 17. Prizes not claimed that evening will remain in the parlor and can be picked up during regular church office hours. Any questions please contact Keith Hamm, Susan Harbonic or Steph Miller.

## APPLE DUMPLING ORDER FORM

Pick up Sunday October 21 after worship or Monday 8 am – 5 pm

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**\$5.00 a piece or \$20.00 for a tray of 5**

Individual Apple Dumplings # \_\_\_\_\_ Tray of 5 Apple Dumplings # \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Owed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



### *From the Treasurer- August Financials*

	<i>Month</i>	<i>Actual YTD</i>	<i>Budget YTD</i>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>\$15,845</b>	<b>\$171,816</b>	<b>\$180,305</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>\$23,259</b>	<b>\$192,183</b>	<b>\$189,265</b>
	<b>(\$7414)</b>	<b>(\$20,367)</b>	<b>(\$8960)</b>

Overview of the Treasurer's Report:

Worship (Plate Offering) collections were \$16,670 below budget. Property receipts were \$3399.00 above budget. The rental property has consistently generated income , therefore property income was \$1500 above budget.

Disbursements for worship were \$3707 below budget because of the lack of a permanent organist. Property disbursements were approximately \$4600 above budget due to repair expenses on the Sanctuary roof. We are coming into heating season so we will be filling our oil tank and the roof needs to be replaced so we are looking at ending the year above budget in the property maintenance department.

If you ever have any questions please contact me at [CRFaust22@gmail.com](mailto:CRFaust22@gmail.com)

~Clint





October 7 - World Wide Communion  
October 21 - Harvest Home  
November 4 - All Saints Sunday  
November 21 - Thanksgiving Eve -  
Joint Service at Frieden's Bernville  
December 12 - Longest Night Service (NEW)  
December 24 - Christmas Eve 4 & 7 pm  
December 30 - 9 am service only



The 2018 nominating team, an ad hoc committee, is beginning the process of finding suitable candidates to fill the various committee positions that will be needed within the church for the 2019 year and beyond. The positions that are open include three elder, one deacon, one trustee. We seek your help in this process by asking you to give us your suggestions for possible candidates. There are three ways you can assist us. 1. There will be a slotted box available in the library with nomination forms nearby with which you can provide your

nominations. 2. You can personally suggest a potential candidate to any of the elders listed below. 3. You can email your suggestions to Pastor Jon at [Fogleja@comcast.net](mailto:Fogleja@comcast.net). The box and nomination forms will be available beginning Sunday September 30<sup>th</sup> for your use, if you wish to submit your nominations in that way. The nomination process must be completed by November 1. Once the nominations have been submitted, the elders will review them and prayerfully determine which nominees are best qualified to meet the needs of each position. The elders will then approach the approved nominees to determine if they are willing to be candidates. The Elders are the following members: Anne Binner, Doris Wagner, Ruth Himmelberger and Cathy Diggan. As of Sunday October 7, any of these people can be contacted if you would like to make a nomination in person. We ask for your help in other ways as well. Please pray that God would continue to provide our church with wise, loving men and women of faith who are willing to use their gifts to guide us into the future. Pray for the Elders so that their efforts would produce fruit and, above all, honor our Lord.



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

*Staff*

*Interim Minister: Rev. Dr. Jon Fogle (Fogleja@comcast.net)*

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

*Consistory*

*Elders: Doris Wagner (President), Anne Binner, Ruth Himmelberger, Cathy Diggan*

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

*Trustees: Jon Schaeffer, Keith Hamm (Vice President), Brad Faust, Bryan Houpt*

*Contact Information*

*Pastor: 484-269-9624*

*Office Phone: 610-488-7361*

*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.*