

ZIONNEWS

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



Christmas Eve Services

4 o'clock in the evening

This family oriented service will feature child friendly object lesson, carols, communion, and candles.

7 o'clock in the evening

A traditional Christmas Eve service including communion and carols by candlelight.

December 29

9 am service ONLY

December 1 – First Sunday of Advent

First Sunday with Pastor Jason

Holy Communion 8 & 10:30 am

December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent

December 15 – Third Sunday of Advent

Live Nativity 6 pm

December 22 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

Longest Night Service @ 8 & 10:30 am

Shalom!

How good it is to be writing this to you all! I've been patiently (well, kind of patiently) awaiting the chance to connect with you.

I usually try to keep myself somewhat disciplined about the liturgical seasons.

I love them for what they each are and try to experience their unique gifts.

Advent is often so overshadowed by all the other secular Christmas happenings;

I fear it loses its tremendous value.

As a season of patient anticipation, I feel like I've got a jump on it this year. I've been excited to be with you all again since I first met you. Now, that time if finally upon us, I am so very grateful to God.

It will be a busy time together initially with Advent upon us and Christmas fast approaching. There will be mistakes from the new guy. There will be nervous misunderstandings. There will be apprehension and anxiety. However, amidst it all, there will always be Emmanuel, "God is with us." We will get through these times. Even more than that, we will experience the light of peace, hope, love, and joy together, and all will be well.

So, here is how you can help me, help you. First, relax and enjoy this time. Experience Advent, anticipate and celebrate Christmas. Remain the special wonderful community that you are, and simply welcome my daughter and me into your midst. It is a special time in my ministry and the life of Zion Blue Mountain, let's enjoy it. It's really quite simple.

Among all the other events of the season, I will also be busy getting to know as many of you as possible and becoming familiar with the greater community. Please feel free to help me with that as well. It will take some time, but is tremendously important to me.

We will also be learning the intricacies of how to communicate with one another. That can sometimes be very challenging until we get to know our boundaries, comfort zones, preferred methods, etc. I can help by offering you two things. First, my email address: pastorstump@gmail.com. Second, my cell phone number: 757-630-6577. I've found it best to text me if you can, but certainly call if you cannot, or feel it is more appropriate to call. If I am unavailable, please leave a message. Also, I found a suggested boundary several years ago that helped everyone. If it is not an emergency, please hold off on calling between the hours of 8pm and 8am. Of course, please, always get in touch with me in an emergency. I'll also begin using the church Facebook page and you are invited to "like" and "follow" my page Pastor Jason Stump.

Now, since that is out of the way, I want to say again how very grateful I am to receive this call from God and Zion Blue Mountain UCC. We have much to do together! Let's get started! Peace, Rev. Stump



Live Nativity



Sunday December 15

6 pm

Refreshments following the program

Event is outside, please dress warm!

If anyone is interested in playing a part (**Angel, Shepherd or Wise Man or Woman**) or helping to dress characters for the Live Nativity

(NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY)

please sign up at the church or contact

Keith Hamm 610-926-5988 or Wendy Schutt 610-223-8794

Don't forget your church family this holiday season. If you are planning to send a card, drop it off on Sunday morning in the Narthex and save yourself some postage! Cards will be distributed until December 22nd.



POINSETTIAS FOR SALE

6 INCH POT WITH 4-6 BLOOMS; \$9.00 EACH

RED ONLY

PLEASE RETURN ORDER FORMS WITH PAYMENT NO LATER THAN 12/15

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

TOTAL # OF PLANTS _____

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

IN HONOR OF

IN THANKSGIVING OF _____



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

_____ AMOUNT PAID

_____ # OF PLANTS



CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE
Sunday, December 15th and 22nd

KENNEDY HOUSE TRIP **SATURDAY JANUARY 25**

Elbow macaroni
Juice boxes
#10 canned peaches or pears
Butter (please place marked packages in refrigerator in the kitchen)

MONETARY DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED

PLACE ALL DONATIONS IN THE FOOD PANTRY
BOX IN THE NARTHEX. **Donations due by Sunday January 19.**
If you are interested in volunteering please contact Lisa Shupp

Congratulations to our new 2020 Consistory Members

Cindy Emore, Audrey Kirkhoff, Debra Carles,
Todd Moyer & Steve Shollenberger



The Salvation Army Angel Tree
(ours is actually candles!)
Is in the Narthex.

Gifts are due back in the church by Sunday
December 8, 2019

Zion is one of the largest participants of local churches in this mission. Please continue to keep up the good works of the Lord!

Please consider including our shut-ins on your Christmas Card list this year.

Whether they you know them personally or not they more than appreciate knowing they are thought about during the holidays. **Just sign your card with your name and Zion Blue Mountain UCC.** If you want we will even deliver your cards, drop them off in the stocking at the church with the recipient's name on the front (no address necessary)

Nancy Fitzgerald

20 S. Summit Ave. #316
Shillington, PA 19607

Mildred Long

239 Pine Street, Apt. 201
Hamburg, PA

Betty Symanowicz

354 Tulley Drive
Bernville, PA 19506

Laura Ditzler

PC 201
99 Bethany Road
Ephrata PA 17522

Polly Himmelberger

1 Reading Dr. Apt. 267
Wernersville, PA 19565

Marian Long

Apt. 319
501 Hoch Rd.
Blandon, PA 19510

Erma Koenig

4605 Werley's Corner Road
Cornerstone Living
Room 21
New Tripoli, PA 18066

Kenny Grimes

Columbia Cottage
3121 State Hill Road
Wyomissing PA 19610

BINGO KITCHEN DECEMBER 13

4 – 7 pm	7- close
Ruth Himmelberger	
Shirley Breininger	
Joyce Deisemann	
Karen Miller	Karen Miller
5-8 pm	



Thank you Cindy Emore and all her pretzel dipping friends! Check out our Facebook page for more pictures

Hot Pot: Cindy Emore
Steve Shollenberger
Bakers: Adele Dietrich
Karen Kissling
Karen Miller
Joan Hartman

12/01 Tim Rentschler
John Emore
12/02 Kerry Holzman
Jeremy Kamp
Scott Etchberger
12/03 Jonas Hartman
Pastor Jason
12/08 Owen Dubble
Tony Stafford
Diane Wessner



12/09 Todd Moyer
12/13 Lisa Shupp
12/15 Cody Readinger
12/19 Jonathan Koenig
Helen Shirey
12/20 Ruth Himmelberger
Marlene Adams
12/22 Monica Sechler
Glenn Snyder
12/23 Peggy Behm
Troy Breininger
12/25 Dawn Reddy



12/08 Wendy & Jim Schutt married 29 years
12/26 Sharon & Paul Eaton Sr. married 44 years

ANNUAL CHINESE AUCTION

This year's auction will run from **Sunday, December 1 to Sunday, December 22**. In addition to Sunday mornings, the auction will be open to the public on the following dates:

Friday, December 13 4:30-8:00 pm (Bingo)

Saturday, December 14 9:00 am-3:00 pm

And during the Live Nativity (Date to be determined)

Winning tickets will be drawn **Sunday, December 22**. Prizes not claimed that day can be picked up during regular church office hours or before church services. Any questions please contact Keith Hamm, Susan Harbonic or Stephanie Miller.

BASIC NEEDS DRIVE



DID YOU KNOW that basic needs items (things we use every day) can't be purchased with food stamps.

We will fill gift bags with the following suggested items:

(Please no travel size items)

- toilet paper
- paper towels
- laundry detergent
- dish soap
- bar soap/body wash
- shampoo
- conditioner
- deodorant
- toothpaste
- toothbrushes
- shaving cream
- comb or brush
- band aids
- Chapstick

Items will be collected through December 15th place donations in the box in the Narthex.

Over 30 Vendors

Homemade
Food

Raffles

1ST ANNUAL HOLIDAY VENDOR & CRAFT FAIR

Sat. Dec. 7, 2019

10:00am - 3:00pm

Zion Blue Mountain UCC
6573 Old Route 22
Bernville, PA 19559

Anyone that donates any of the following for the church Helping Seniors & The Food Pantry will get a free Raffle Ticket! :

Most Needed: Cereal & Canned Vegies	
Canned or Dried Fruit	
Instant Mashed Potatoes	
Canned Chicken or Tuna	
Healthy Snacks: Granola bars, etc	
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Rice a Roni	Hamburger Helper
Canola or Olive Oil	Instant Oatmeal
Spaghetti & Sauce	Any type of Noodles

Laundry detergent	Toilet paper
Paper towels	Dental Floss
Toothpaste	Toothbrush
Cleaning products	Deodorant
Feminine Hygiene products	Soap
Shampoo	Lip balm
Lotions	

Contact Bridgett If Interested In
being a vendor: 610-568-8899

Made with PosterMyWall.com



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

Staff

Minister: Rev. Jason Stump (pastorstump@gmail.com)

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

Consistory

Elders: Ruth Himmelberger, Karen Miller, Wendy Schutt

Deacons: Barry Miller, Clinton Faust (President), Susan Harbonic, Melissa Miller

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

Contact Information

Pastor: 757-630-6577

Office Phone: 610-488-7361

Website: www.zionbluemountainucc.org

ZIONNEWS 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.