

ZIONNEWS

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

Peace be with you!

The world is significantly changing in regards to public health measures that were put in place during the pandemic. Things are improving and this is good news!

Though we are not through it yet, and we need to stay the course to continue this path, some areas are beginning to feel more “normal” and many folks are beginning to return to activities they participated in before this all began.

One of those activities for a pastor is visitations. I’d like to share some thoughts that can help us all moving forward in understanding expectations and boundaries. First, for those who can, many people have become much more comfortable and proficient with online resources. Visiting via a video platform is certainly something that has worked this past year, and we should always continue to consider using that going forward. Please keep that in mind. Additionally, it is important for us to acknowledge that both cultural and personal ideas around visitation and privacy have changed. We may not all share the same thoughts about this as others. In light of that, I’d like to offer a simple expectation that will help. Please let me know directly if you desire for me to visit with you. If you are unable to, please have a close family member let me know. This is very important, and can easily remedy misunderstandings, miscommunication, and hurt feelings.

I am here for you as best as I can be, but I need you to let me know when you want me to be there with you.

Blessings,
Pastor Stump



Celebrate Zion's Heritage

Sunday, June 13

during our 9 am worship service

NEXT Drive thru Communion **Sunday June 6, 2021**

*If you would like to receive communion and are unable to come
in person to worship services or drive thru communion
please contact Pastor Jason 757-630-6577*



Consistory met on Monday May 17 and due to CDC updates, our current rules concerning masks and social distancing were discussed. While many of us have been able to be vaccinated, there are members who are not able to be vaccinated, therefore our policy of wearing masks during worship and social distancing will remain in place. We must continue to prioritize the health of the most vulnerable, and support them during this time. We will update you each month as conditions improve.



CHOCOLATE CARAMEL CASHEW BARK IS BACK!

pick up on **Sunday June 6**

8 am – 10 am

If you cannot make this pick up time please contact the church office to arrange another time.



"The rich man is not one who is in possession of much, but one who gives much."

~St. John Chrysostom

**NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHER NEEDED**
Helps with folding, labeling and mailing newsletters monthly.
Contact Lisa in the church office.



OUR GRADUATES



Alexis E. Deisemann, daughter of Susan and Rob Deisemann and granddaughter of Joyce and Stanley Deisemann will be graduating from Hamburg Area High School on June 3, 2021. Alexis plans on attending Penn State Schuylkill in the fall.



Sarah Kline, daughter of Holly and Robert Kline Jr. and granddaughter of Joyce Kline, will be graduating from Cedar Crest College with a master's degree on May 14. Sarah received the Lillian S. Brunner graduate award, presented to the graduate student that exemplified exceptional writing and translation of current best evidence into nursing practice. After passing her boards, she will be a nurse practitioner at Lehigh Valley Hospital as an Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.



Cail Lewis Schrack, son of Gail Hamm and grandson of Dennis and Elaine Hamm is graduating from Hamburg Area High School on June 3, 2021. Cail has been accepted to Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach FL and will pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering.



Alison Shupp, daughter of Lisa and Jim Shupp is graduating from Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia. Alison was recently awarded a Ph.D. in genetics, genomics and cancer biology for her research on breast cancer metastasis to bone. Alison is employed with Ashfield Health Communications.



Jessecca Eden Smith, daughter of Rebecca (Schaeffer) Johnson and granddaughter of Jonathon and Melinda Schaeffer graduated early last Fall. She attended Berks Career and Technology Center for two years. The first year she took Graphic Imaging and the second year she took Painting and Decorating. She was homeschooled earning her Commonwealth of Pennsylvania High School diploma last November 30, 2020. Jessecca plans to pursue a career in photography, graphic imaging and/or the print production field.

STRAUSSTOWN COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Join us **on Saturday June 12** for a **FREE** lunch
Under the portico (drive thru or eat at an outdoor table)
Choice of Hot dog or hamburger BBQ, chips and a drink.
Extras by donation
There will also be a **bake sale!**

6/2 Amber Dietrich
Tori Dietrich
Faye Bigman
6/8 Beth Machmer
Kristen Breininger
6/9 Joyce Kline
6/13 Scott Sechler Jr.
6/17 Amber Martinez
6/20 Tammy Davis
6/21 Peg Wagner
6/23 Paul Eaton Jr.
6/25 Kristy Schutt
6/26 Michael Bashore
6/27 Ryan Gebely
6/30 Pinky Himmelberger



Glenn & Cindy Snyder married 44 years on 06/04
Dean & Audrey Kirkhoff married 34 years on 06/06
William & Laura Leshner married 32 years on 06/10
Richard & Amy Yeager married 21 years on 06/17
Dorsen & Cindy Berger married 45 years on 06/19
Kermit & Margaret Wagner married 63 years on 06/21
George & Mary Brown married 53 years on 06/22
Tony & Judy Stafford married 37 years on 06/24



God's left hand

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. “Look at the gorgeous leaves!” Grandma exclaimed. “Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!” “Yep,” said her grandson, “and he did it left-handed.” Perplexed, Grandma asked, “Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?” “Because,” said the boy matter-of-factly, “we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God’s right one.”

It's time for... the Baby Bottle Campaign for Mary's Shelter.

Bottles will be available beginning on May 2 through June 20. All you need to do is come to the church and pick up a baby bottle provided to you through Mary's Shelter. Fill the bottle with your loose change for the month and return the bottle to the church before Father's Day. It's that simple. If you fill a bottle and would like another just grab one, we will have plenty. You are welcome to take a bottle for friends and family members that would like to participate. Last year due to your kindness we were able to collect and donate over \$1100 and the year before that we collected \$1600! Thank you for your continued compassion and generosity.



Monthly needs: small (1 pound) bag of flour

From the Treasurer- April 2021 Financials

	<i>Actual YTD</i>	<i>Budget YTD</i>	<i>Variance</i>
<i>Receipts</i>	<i>\$88,632.32</i>	<i>\$95,135</i>	<i>(\$6502.68)</i>
<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>\$91,121.40</i>	<i>\$101,376.75</i>	<i>\$3752.67</i>
	<i>(\$2489.08)</i>	<i>(\$6241.75)</i>	<i>(\$2750.01)</i>



Congratulations to Cail Schrack on receiving scoutings highest rank of Eagle Scout. Only 4% scouts attain this rank. Well Done!



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

Staff

Minister: Rev. Jason Stump

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

Consistory

Elders: Karen Miller (President), Todd Moyer (Vice President), Deb Carles

Deacons: Audrey Kirkhoff, Cindy Emore, Caroline Bashore, Dan Brown

Trustees: Steve Shollenberger, Bryan Houpt, Kerry Holzman, Bernie Himmelberger

Contact Information

Pastor: 757-630-6577

Office Phone: 610-488-7361

Website: 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.