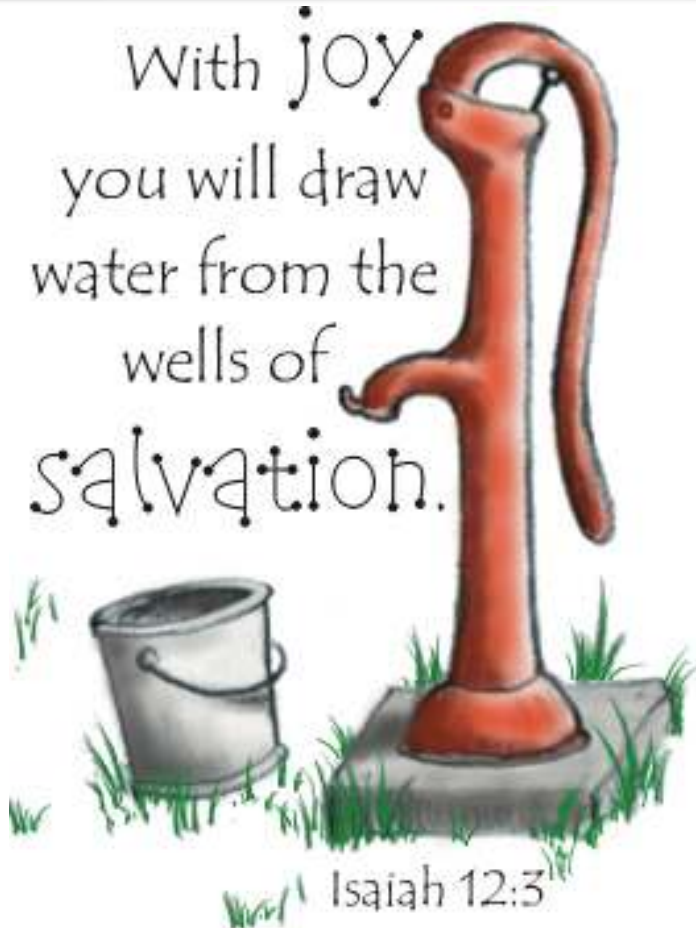


ZION NEWS

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



COME DRINK FROM THE WELL!

One of the things I have do is drink more water. Most doctors and dieticians tell me that I should be drinking at least eight, eight ounces glasses of water a day. If you have ever tried to do it, you know that this is a lot of water. To make consuming this much water a little easier, we usually by those 2 1/2-gallon containers of spring water from the store and put it in the refrigerator so that it is always available and always cold.

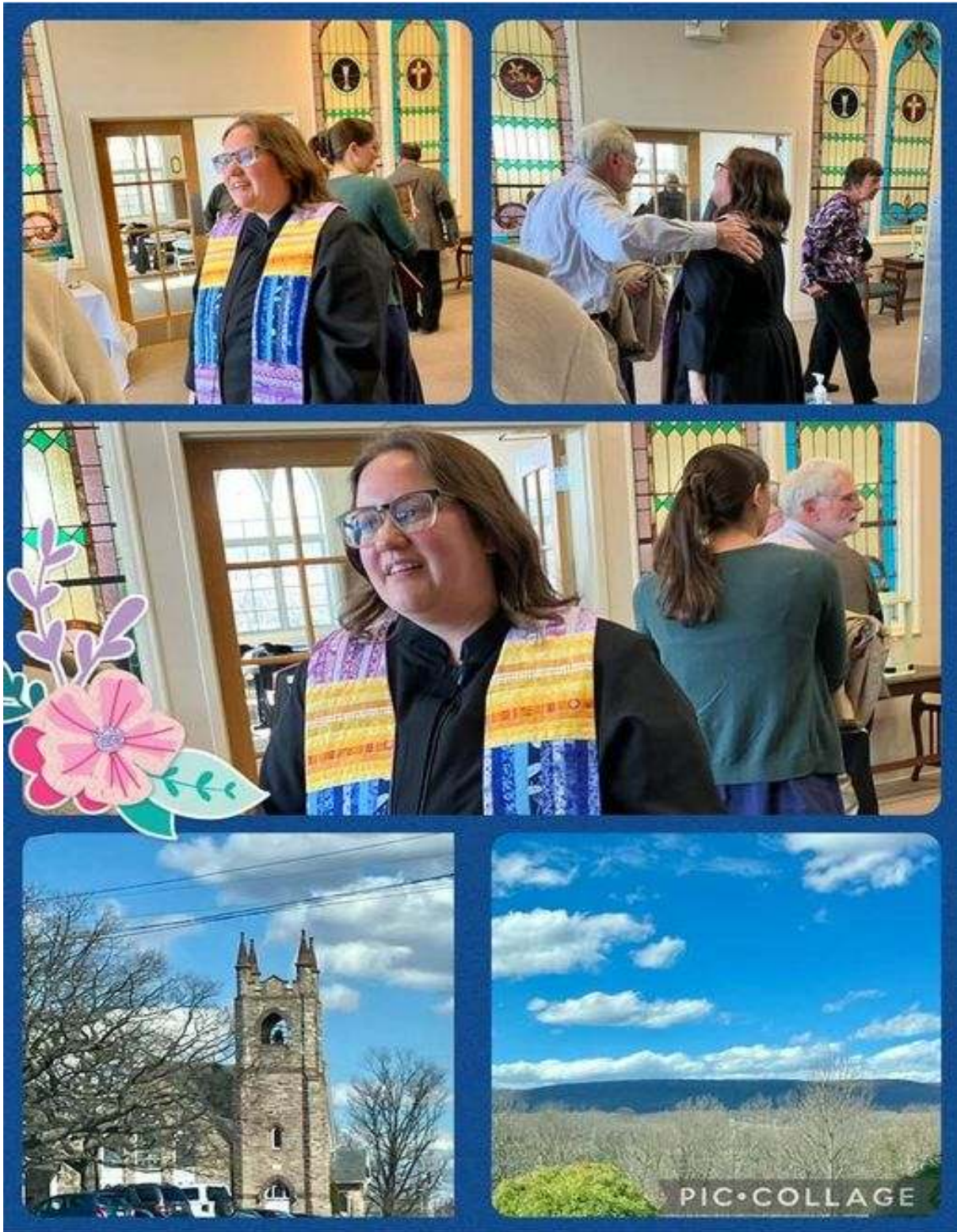
Perhaps it is only physiological but the spring water we buy always taste better than the tap water in our house. A bias I have toward spring water may be due to my memories of drinking water from the spring house when I was a boy. My dad owned a farm that was several miles from where we lived. When my brothers and I would go there to work, digging thistles or cutting brush, there was never a need to bring water to drink. We could always go to the spring house and be refreshed with the clearest, coldest water in the world.

I am sure many of you can resonate with what I am saying. The fact of the matter is, being refreshed by the waters of a spring is nothing new. It is a concept that is as old as time itself. That is why the imagery of Jesus as "living water" is such a powerful image in the New Testament.

No where is this image more powerful than the story of Jesus and his encounter with a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. (John 4:1-42) This woman was not only a social and religious outcast, but also a person of questionable moral character. However, because of her encounter with Jesus she was able to drink from the well of "living water." And the most amazing thing is, not only was her life changed, but because of her testimony, "many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him." (v. 4:39)

Just as water was a source of life to people in one of the most arid regions of the world, Jesus was and continues to be a source of life to a thirsty soul. During this season of Easter I urge you to come to the spring house and drink deep from the waters of the well. My prayer for you is that you will experience the life giving and life changing powers of the "living waters" of Jesus Christ. God's Blessings, Pastor Pat

CONGRATULATIONS REV. CAROLINE BASHORE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARYANN ECKHOFF



April Greeters

04/07 Margaret Luckenbill

04/14

04/21 MaryAnn Eckhoff

04/28 Linda Bausher

UPCOMING

Sunday April 21

Pastor Pat's Installation Please join us

3 pm - Reception to follow

Bingo Kitchen April 12, 2024

3:30 – 7:30 pm

Bernie Himmelberger
Ruth Himmelberger

4:30 – 8:30 pm

Alice Hartman
Bonnie Herb

Bakers – Amy Yeager
Rose Freed
Robin Faust
MaryAnn Eckhoff

Hot Pot – Barry Driesbach
Lisa Shupp
Bonnie Herb

Any questions about the Bingo kitchen please speak with Amber Brown, 717-644-3448



May 12 9 am

Mother's Day Cantata

Consistory News...

Consistory met for their regular meeting on March 18th. In attendance were Dan Brown, president, Candie Riehl, vice president, Jon Schaeffer, Trustee, Barry Driesbach, Robin Faust, Deacons, Susan Etchberger and Brad Faust, Elders.

This year the Consistory has hit the ground running with many items being addressed. First and foremost is the parking lot situation. We will be getting estimates from 5 local companies for repaving of the parking lot. We will be starting a capital campaign to raise the necessary funds to complete this project. As the estimates are submitted the Consistory will be looking at them and eventually present them to the congregation.

They are also working on many projects in the kitchen and trying to get maintenance performed on some of the equipment.

The Consistory voted in February to replace some windows at the parsonage and to raise the rent on both properties. They are also trying to finish items at the Sexton House in order to pass the township inspection.

Currently there is not a chairperson for church fundraising. The Consistory would like to see fundraising events return. They have discussed many options but without the necessary help to work these events the point is mute. Anyone interested in heading fundraising please speak with Dan or Candie.

The Consistory asks that if you have any concerns to please speak with a member regarding your concern or attend a meeting, the third Monday of the month. If you are concerned with the building or property – speak with one of the trustees, they are Jon Schaeffer, Kerry Holzman and Bernie Himmelberger. If it is a financial or stewardship concern – the deacons are Robin Faust, Dan Brown, Candie Riehl and Barry Driesbach. If you have need for prayer or spiritual issues please speak with Pastor Pat or one of the elders – Brad Faust, Susan Etchberger and Bryan Houpt.

Calling all parents and children of Zion Blue Mountain UCC!

Would your child or grandchild be willing to draw pictures, add stickers whatever your child loves to do, to send to our shut in's. We will provide cards, but they may color a picture or use something they already have such as coloring books or sticker pages. We are trying to send some sunshine to our shut ins and improve congregational outreach. Look for a bin in the narthex with blank cards for the children to pick up and place the cards/envelopes back in the bin and we will get them mailed out to the shut ins.



or blank

Thank you in advance for your help! If you have any questions please speak with Amber Brown



04/01

Gloria Kauffman
 Randy Sebastian
 Paul Eaton Sr.
 Sue Deisemann
 Kaydence Brandt

04/02

Bonnie Herb

04/07

Brad Faust
 Dennis Dietrich

04/12

Jerry Hoslet

04/13

Andrew Moyer

04/14

Maile Bentz

04/15

Brian Wessner
 April Faust

04/16

Sandy Readinger

04/17

Alice Hartman

04/20

Donna Greim

04/22

Owen Bentz

04/23

Bernie Himmelberger



04/24

Bob Klinger

04/26

Annie Phillips

04/29

Bill Palmer

Dalton Moyer

Gabby Moyer



04/04 Jill & Dennis Baver
married 32 years

04/12 Deb & Jerry Hosler
married 38 years

04/19 Barry & Rita Bentz
married 49 years

04/23 Jeremy & Ivy Bentz
married 19 years

04/27 Todd & Pat Moyer
married 39 years



The Food Pantry

Peace on Earth & Food for All

Please continue to bring your non-perishable food items to church on a Sunday. The need IS great and we can help

SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

Each member must stop at the Redner's store office or Customer Service area to get a Save-A-Tape card. By using this card each time you purchase merchandise at Redner's Warehouse Markets, your receipt will be designated as a Save-A-Tape customer receipt. Turn them into the church and the church will receive 1% of your total. There is a basket on the glass cabinets in the back of the church. Thank you for your participation.



You can watch Sunday Services anytime on Facebook or YouTube? Head over to our website at www.zionbluemountainucc.org and look at the very bottom of the home page for the YouTube link or click on the worship tab at the top to find the dropdown for YouTube. The most recent video should be on the top!



WELCOME TO OUR
NEW MEMBERS



ON SUNDAY MARCH 10 WE WELCOMED 5 NEW MEMBERS TO THE CHURCH FAMILY.

**DEB & JERRY HOSLER
BARB & RANDY HOFFMAN
PASTOR PAT MORRIS**

**AFTER WORSHIP WE CELEBRATED WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS!
IF YOU SEE ANY OF THESE FOLKS, PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF!**



Note of Appreciation



The Eaton families want to thank everyone for their compassion, kindness and prayers during Paul's illness and passing. Thank you for all the work and good deeds done for his wife, Kimi and daughters.

Love always The Eaton Family



Zion (Blue Mountain) Church
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Strausstown, PA 19559

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Patrick Morris (revpmorris55@gmail.com)

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

Consistory

Elders: Susan Etchberger, Bryan Houpt, Brad Faust

Deacons: Candie Riehl (Vice President), Barry Driesbach, Dan Brown (President), Robin Faust

Trustees: Kerry Holzman, Bernie Himmelberger, Jon Schaeffer

Contact Information

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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.