

From the Pastor's Pen

Can you believe it? Here we are in February? What does February bring to mind for you? When I think of February, I think of the tons of candy and flowers and cards that are given to sweethearts all over the world. Valentine's Day is indeed the holiday of romance. What's that? You say that that this time of year is upsetting for you, that you don't have someone who has a special love for you. Let me tell you something. You do have that special someone. You have a God who loves you more than you can imagine. He loves you so much that He gave His life for you so that you could be in a beautiful relationship with Him for all time and eternity. And He has written you the greatest love letter of all time – His bible, filled with words of how much He cares for you and all that He has done for you. You are His beloved. Never forget that. Hear once again the beautiful loving promise of John 3:16.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

Through Jesus, God has said to you and me and everyone in the whole world, I want you to BE MINE forever.

Happy Valentine's Day! Blessings!

Pastor Al



LENTEN STUDY

The season of Lent is just around the corner. It begins with Ash Wednesday, March 5. This year, Zion will be offering a Lenten study entitled, "The Path to the Cross." The study will take place on Tuesdays, beginning March 11. You may choose a morning session at 10am or an evening one at 7pm. The study will use a DVD by noted teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan which was filmed on location in the Holy Land. We will look at the intense devotion of God's people of biblical times and how their passionate faith prepared the way for Jesus and His ultimate act of obedience and sacrifice at the Cross. Come be challenged in your own life to live as they did – by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

February 2014 Ministries & Activities

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 8:00 AM Bells of Zion 9:00 AM New Song & Sunday School 10:05 AM Connect Cafe 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 5:00 PM Youth Fellowship at Pizza Town | 3 7:00 PM Ministries Council | 4 12:30-2:30 PM Quilting | 5 9:00 AM Work Detail 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting 6:45 PM Adult Choir 7:35 PM Praise Team # 2 | 6 1:30 PM Released Time | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Food Bank 7:30 AM Men of Zion 8:00 AM Bells of Zion 9:00 AM New Song & Sunday School 10:05 AM Connect Cafe 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 1:00 PM Youth Fellowship at Youth Rally | 10 | 11 12:30-2:30 PM Quilting | 12 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting 6:45 PM Adult Choir | 13 1:30 PM Released Time | 14 | 15 |
| 16 8:00 AM Bells of Zion 9:00 AM New Song & Sunday School 10:05 AM Connect Cafe 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 6:00 PM Youth Fellowship | 17 7:00 PM Church Council | 18 12:30-2:30 PM Quilting 7:00 PM UMW | 19 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting 6:45 PM Adult Choir | 20 1:30 PM Released Time | 21 | 22 |
| 23 8:00 AM Bells of Zion 9:00 AM New Song & Sunday School 10:05 AM Connect Cafe 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 6:00 PM Youth Fellowship | 24 | 25 12:30-2:30 PM Quilting | 26 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting 6:45 PM Adult Choir | 27 1:30 PM Released Time | 28 | |

Sunday School & Worship Schedule

Connect Café

There is a time each Sunday morning when our church gathers for fellowship. Have you come to the Connect Café yet? Sunday mornings from 10:05 – 10:20am have a time of informal sharing around hot and cold drinks and a snack. This is a time for people who go to Sunday School, New Song and Traditional Worship to meet and greet each other.

February 2- Kathy Miller & Mindy Barshinger
February 9- Christine Miller & Marianne Altland
February 16- Kendra Dosch
February 23- Michelle Farleman

Sunday School Nursery

February 2- Laurie Herbst
February 9- Mindy Barshinger
February 16- Mary Lou Stein
February 23- Gerri Howell

Sunday School Adult Lecture

February 2- Jeff Miller
February 9- Cynthia Silar
February 16- Skip Silar
February 23- Christine Miller

Sound System & Projector Operators for New Song

February 2- Joe Barry/ Lindy Holzer
February 9- Lonnie Mellinger/Terri Mellinger
February 16- Keith McFarland/
February 23- Joe Barry/ Lindy Holzer

Greeters & Ushers for February

Jim Gemmill, Head Usher & Assistant Greeter
Todd Rose, Greeter,
Jane Haines, Front Door,
Mary Anne King & Brandon Beres

Traditional Nursery

February 2- Vicki McFarland & Peggy Horst
February 9- Vicki Webb & Marie Rose
February 16- Kristi Barry & Andrea Gemmill
February 23- Mary Anne King & Vivian Ilgenfritz

Children's Worship Program

February 2- Little Lambs- Janay DiBerardino
February 9- KWH-Karen Carroll & Jess Winchester
February 16- Little Lambs- Janay DiBerardino
February 23- KWH- Karen Carroll & Jess Winchester

Acolytes

February 2- Lance Altland
February 9- Megan DiBerardino
February 16- Ashley Morris
February 23- Jacob Dosch

Counting Teams

February 2- Todd & Marie Rose, Bruce Silar
February 9- Todd & Marie Rose, Bruce Silar
February 16- Carl & Carol Belcher,
Rick & Laura Slaybaugh
February 23- Carl & Carol Belcher,
Rick & Laura Slaybaugh

Sound System Operators for Trad. Worship

February 2- Brian Holzer
February 9- Lonnie Mellinger
February 16- Keith McFarland
February 23- Brian Holzer

Projector Operators for Trad. Worship

February 2- Lindy Holzer
February 9- Christine & Jeff Miller
February 16- Michele Farleman
February 23- Terri Mellinger

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES
ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Monday, January 6, 2014

Opening and prayer: Pastor Al

Family Ministries & Children's Ministries: Terri Mellinger

"Soup"er Bowl Sunday: Wear the colors of your favorite team, covered dish after church. The "soup" part of the day is for everyone to bring items for the food bank. The focus of the sermon that Sunday will be "service" so that ties in perfectly.

Dinner/Auction: Need to check dates for Turkey suppers and set a date to reschedule the dinner.

VBS: Starter kit has arrived. Plans will begin shortly.

Goals: Scrapbooking day, possibly in May at Ambulance Club

Outreach: Lindy Holzer –Pictorial Directory: work in progress

Goal: some type of work mission

Men of Zion/ Bruce Silar - Plan to invite New Life for Girls at some point this year. Good Advent offering and Men of Zion offering.

United Methodist Women & Congregational Care: Small Groups/Adult Education: Christine Miller –

UMW goals: to increase membership by 2 persons and to actively participate in a mission project.

Congregational care: to form a committee to review our membership rolls and have contact with everyone that does not attend; continue to provide transportation, visitation, caring for the military, homebound, etc.

Small groups/Adult Education: To have a group meeting to discuss the future of these programs, and to seek out someone to take over this committee.

Youth Fellowship: Liz Jackson – Goals: to get the youth to get more comfortable with each other and to share more; to try to reach more youth. Several events coming up...Avalanche Express, 30 hour famine, District Rally. Mission trip: Raleigh County WV at a cost of \$269 each and would be the last full week of June. Looking for someone to assist in weekly meetings and events.

Web site: Matt DiBerardino – When will we have a new site up and running?

Worship/Assimilation: Peggy Horst – Church has been de-decorated. There will be an Ash Wednesday service (March 5) with communion. Mary Anne King currently takes care of bread for communion; Peggy will be asking her to also take over filling the cups.

Pastor's Report: Goals: To lead a study during Lent to begin March 11. It is a five week study titled "The Path to the Cross". This will be offered on Tuesday mornings and evenings.

New Business:

It was suggested we possibly plan some sort of spiritual event.

We have a box of old hymnals. Suggested we donate them to the prison.

Next meeting: Monday, February 3, 2014

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Mellinger



**NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER AND GAME NIGHT
DECEMBER 31, 2013**





*Children's Christmas Play: December 22, 2013
"A Christmas Hide and Seek"*



UPCOMING EVENTS

“SOUP”ER Bowl Sunday



Sunday, February 2: Wear your favorite team colors to church and stay after for Zion’s “Soup”er Bowl party. Bring canned goods (does not have to be soup!) to benefit the Red Lion Food Bank. After Thanksgiving and Christmas, the food banks are always low on supplies. Let’s help replenish their stores and have a good time of friends and fellowship in the process. Please bring a dish to share. This is a great opportunity to **Invite a Friend** to church!!

Dinner/Auction

Saturday, April 5, 2014 to be held at Canadochly Valley Ambulance Club. Our Christmas dinner has been rescheduled to April 5. We will begin with our auction at 5PM, dinner will be served at 6PM, with our auction concluding after. I am still looking for someone to plan a couple activities for the children. There is a separate room that will be great for this while the auction is in progress.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 19, 2014 at Zion. The morning will start with breakfast, continue with egg decorating and conclude with an egg hunt. We will be asking for donations of Easter Baskets, candy, small gifts to put in the baskets, and hard boiled eggs for the kids to decorate.



SCRAPBOOK/CARD DAY

Saturday, May 17, 2014: This will be an all-day event. To be held at Canadochly Valley Ambulance Club Watch for details!!

MEMORIAL DAY

Yep, it's February but I'm thinking about Memorial Day....

Plans are underway for the Memorial Day activities in East Prospect. Zion has committed its parking lot to a Community Social on Sunday, May 25th. I am in **NEED** of people to help with the planning of this event as well as the carrying out of this great connection event! We have in the past provided hot dogs, chips, and drink to the community at large. We also provided some entertainment i.e. children's games and music. We have also in the past provided a float (or two) for the parade. I have placed a sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board and will hold an organizational meeting on **Monday, February 24th at 7 p.m.** here at Zion regarding parking lot activities.

Any questions or concerns see Lindy Holzer, lholler1@comcast.net or 252-2986.

A Note of Thanks

Thank you so much for your prayers and support these last few months. We really appreciate all the help you have given to us.

Don & Torrie Taylor,
Brandon Beres & Ashley Morris

2014 Member & Friend Directory... coming soon...

A big **THANK YOU** to Carl Belcher for taking pictures! We are now in the layout stage and hopefully we will have the Directory available no later than March 1, 2014. If you have any questions or concerns, please see Lindy Holzer or Cynthia Silar. Thank you everyone for the great response to this project!

United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women will be meeting on **Tuesday, February 18, 2014, at 7:00 P.M., at the Zion House.**

The program for the evening will be a review of the basic tenets of forgiveness as practiced by the Amish and explained through the Amish response to the tragedy at Nickel Mines in October of 2006. The book, *Amish Grace*, and excerpts from the Lifetime movie with the same name will be used as a background that evening. All women are invited to attend.

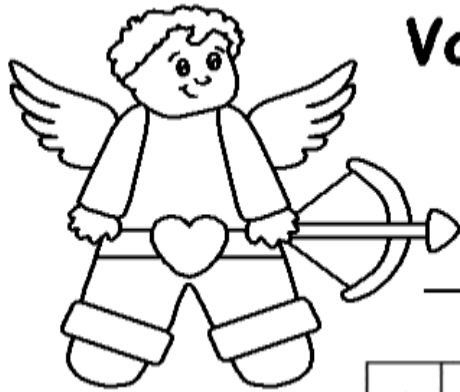
Thank You to East Prospect Lions Club

Joy El Released Time Bible Program meets here at Zion once a week from September to April. At the present time we have 52 students from Canadochly School enrolled in our program. We are blessed to have many eager students. They are interested in the Bible stories and enjoy singing the songs of praise.

During the 2013-14 school year, providing bus transportation has been a challenge. East Prospect Lions Club surprised us with a check for \$750 to defray the cost of providing a bus for this ministry. What an answer to prayer! Thank you Lions for allowing God to use your organization to meet our needs.

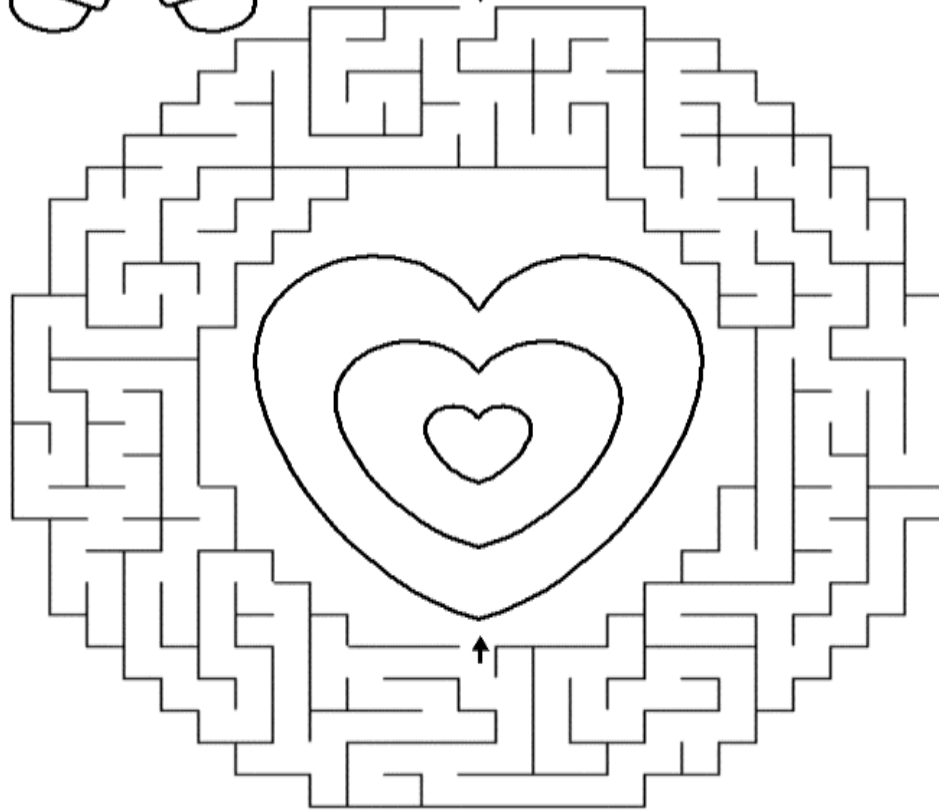
If you know a Lions Club member be sure to say "Thanks!"

Christ United Methodist Church of Yorkana is willing to provide us with a bus free of charge. What Released Time needs is a volunteer bus driver. We are willing to train. Anyone interested? Call the church office.



Valentine's Day Maze

Help cupid aim
for the heart.



SIMPLY GOD 101 MINISTRY

In today's society, texting is the quickest form of communication. It takes a matter of seconds to read a text message. There is an urgency to share God's word, so why not use the most popular and quickest form of communication? Simply God 101 does just that. It is an outreach ministry of First United Methodist Church in Williamsport, PA, that shares God's word thru the use of technology and social networking.

Simply God 101 was formed in 2012 as a grassroots effort to inspire and encourage individuals wherever they are on their walk with Christ. We do this by writing our own devotions and sending them to others via text messages and e-mails three-days a week, allowing people to stay connected to God and to each other throughout the week. The devotions are also posted on our webpage at www.simplygod101.com, Facebook and Twitter. As a result of Simply God 101, lives are being transformed. People look forward to the positive messages that come across their mobile devices. The devotions stick with them personally and provide encouragement as they go about their day at work, home, and in social settings. Each time someone says "yes" to receiving devotions, we "win one" for Jesus. After all sharing the love of Christ is not about a denomination, but is rather about sharing God's Kingdom.

For more information or to sign up for Simply God 101 devotions, please call or text your information to Terry Garner at 570-279-0167 or Melissa Lundy at 570-419-0445 or email- tgarneronline@gmail.com.

**MINUTES OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL
ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2014**

1. Welcome/Opening Prayer: Brian Holzer

Welcome new members: Carl Belcher, Marion Hunter, Steve Leiphart, and Mike Herbst

2. Election of Officers: Secretary: Terri Mellinger Chairperson of Church Council: Brian Holzer Trustees: Dave Marks We will need an assistant Chair for Council and a head of the Finance Committee. PPRC: Terri Mellinger All positions approved. The following committees will be in place for the 2014 year: Trustees: Dave Marks, Ken Gochnaeur, Mike Herbst and Dick Hood; PPRC: Terri Mellinger, Dave Evans, Jane Haines, Brian Holzer and Bruce Silar, Finance: Carl Belcher, Steve Leiphart and Marion Hunter.

3 Finance/Treasurer Report: Steve had a suggestion that we exempt the gift card totals in the totals reported in the bulletin each week. Overall we ended up with a shortfall of about \$18,000.00 for the 2013 year. The giving in December helped the bottom line. This final number also gets us a bit closer to the budget for this year. The treasurer's report was presented for the 2013 year. A motion to accept this as presented was made by Jane Haines and seconded by Bruce Silar. Approved.

3. PPRC : Do we pursue trying to keep Pastor Al in this church? What do we do? Steve Leiphart made a motion that assuming Pastor Al prefers to be retained as our pastor, we set up a meeting with the DS to find out what we would need to do; seconded by Dave Evans. Motion approved.

4. Pastor / Worship matters / Nominations / Volunteer Staff matters: We are still seeking an assistant for the Youth Fellowship meetings.

5. Trustees: Need to have a committee meeting. A group will be working in the Zion House starting this week (scraping and painting)

A. 5 Year / 10 Year Planning & Goals: tabled until a later date.

B. Secretary security and safety: Completed

C. Downstairs flooring: On hold

D. Piping in back yard: will be continued in spring.

E. Selling Zion's Hill Property: still being discussed.

F. Snow removal: Still seeking someone to take care of sidewalks

6. New Business / Open Discussion

A Directory: Lindy Holzer presented a letter to be sent out to members we seem to have lost touch with. All council members were in favor of sending the letter. (see attached)

B. Web site: Matt DiBerardino is in charge of updating our web page, along with Joe Barry. Matt is planning to have a demo ready for the next Ministry Council meeting. We have put off adding E-giving until the new web site is up and running.

C. Christmas dinner has been rescheduled until April 5.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: February 17th

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Mellinger

(Attachment:Letter from Ministries Council to members)

Greetings, Members of Zion, and Happy 2014!

We wanted to touch base with everyone with an update of what is happening in 2014 at Zion. Our ministries continue to operate with our Mission Statement of "Connecting Our Community to Christ," and, because we are trying to connect Zion to our community, we realize that we also need to connect all of Zion's members to each other.

We are currently gathering information on all members for inclusion in a 2014 Members and Friends of Zion Directory. Your information as contained on the enclosed sheet will be added to the Directory because of your membership status. If the information is incorrect, please notify the church by February 15 via phone, email, fax or mail at the contacts listed on this letterhead. Also, let us know if your desire to receive our monthly newsletter by email or postal delivery (please provide your address). If you no longer wish to retain your membership at Zion, please provide a written statement to the church by that same date.

We have some very energetic community outreach programs that we will be continuing in 2014. Zion sponsors RELEASED TIME Bible Program, a weekly one hour program of Bible study, scripture memorization, prayer and song with children in grades 3-5 that come to Zion each Thursday afternoon from Canadochly Elementary School. Additional CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES OUTREACH programs include our week long Summer Vacation Bible School, Easter Egg Hunt with the Easter story and Parents Morning Out Christmas Party. The YOUTH in our community, along with the youth active in our church, are led by our Youth Director, Liz Jackson, who provides activities and Bible Study for the youth on Sunday evenings and plans service projects and social activities as well. All ages are invited to the community social in the parking lot the Sunday before Memorial Day and to the Thanksgiving Eve dinner at the Community Hall.

For those attending church programs on a weekly basis, the children have opportunities to participate in children's choir, Sunday morning age appropriate Bible classes and a children's style worship program on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Of course, Nursery and pre-school care is available during the church hour. Adult Bible study and an informal worship service are offered at 9 a.m. each Sunday; a traditional worship service is held at 10:30 a.m. The United Methodist Women and Men of Zion meet monthly; both groups continue to support local, national and international missions. There is also a group of quilters and sewers meeting regularly to create projects used for both outreach and financial support.

2013 was a challenging year at Zion financially. The church building is old, and some repairs were required to the physical structure that exceeded our planned budget. All of our programs need your support as each of us promised to do when taking our membership vows through our prayers, presence (attendance), tithes (financial support), service (physically helping), and witness (telling others about Jesus). We hope that you will link with all members at Zion once again with your time, talent and tithes as we renew our commitment to serve Jesus Christ in our community.

Sincerely,
Zion's Ministry Council

February Birthdays

February 4- Scott Winter
February 5- Carol Belcher
February 7- Jim Gemmill
February 8- Karlye Gipe
February 10- Devin Barshinger
February 12- Glenn Leiphart
February 15- Tony Abel & Andrea Gemmill
February 18- Lynn Haines
February 19- Conner Barshinger
February 21- Kendal Hengst & Gabi Putt
February 22- Ernie Massa & Jessica McMillion
February 23- Luke DiBerardino & Isaiah Kling
February 24- Linda Brown & Emma Dosch
February 25- Doug Holzer
February 26- Jaime Kurtz
February 27- Ray Elfner & Mary Anne King
February 29- David Marks

February Anniversaries

February 14- Jeff & Kathy Miller
February 18- Wayne & Kendra Dosch

Youth Fellowship News

February 2nd - The youth will be meeting at Pizza Town for dinner from 5 pm-6 pm. Please come out for some food and fellowship and you can still get home for the kickoff. Hope to see you there!

February 9th - York District Youth Rally in Chambersburg. The youth will be meeting at the church to leave at 1 pm and returning at 9:15 pm. This will be a time to worship and engage in a service project with other area United Methodist churches. You won't want to miss this! Also, one more adult is needed. If you would like to join the youth for this awesome time, please contact Liz Jackson.

February 16th - Regular Youth Fellowship from 6 pm - 7:30 pm. Come out as we explore how to live out the faith that we have. Don't forget to bring a friend.

February 21st - 22nd - 30 Hour Famine! Youth, come out for the weekend as we fast for 30 hours and learn about what it is like for those in other countries to go without food. We will also be engaging in a service project. If you feel that you can't fast or have a medical reason why you can't, please don't let that stop you from coming. Please speak with Liz Jackson so that food is available for you. Adult volunteers are needed! If you would like to help out for the whole weekend or part of the weekend, please contact Liz Jackson.

February 23rd - No Youth Fellowship

BIG ANNOUNCEMENT!!! This summer, the youth will be going on a week-long mission trip to Raleigh County, West Virginia from June 22-27. A final count is needed soon. If you would like to sign up, please contact Liz Jackson to make sure you're spot is reserved. If you have any questions about the trip, please see Liz.