



We are thrilled to share some exciting updates and progress from our Strategic Planning Committee as we continue working towards our goals for Zion. You shared a desire to jump in or jump in bigger in the following areas. Spread the news – we are growing in ministry, community and love!

**Soup Kitchen Changes** - In response to evolving needs, we have made some adjustments to our Soup Kitchen operations. Take-out orders have been discontinued or limited, allowing us to focus on serving our guests more effectively on-site.

**Nursery Renovation** - We are pleased to announce that our nursery bathroom/storage area has been freshly painted! We are requesting members and friends complete a **Skills/Interest form** from which we will seek volunteers to serve in the Nursery.

**Youth Events Schedule** - Our Christian Education (CE) department has been hard at work developing a dynamic schedule of youth events for the upcoming year. Watch out for the Souper Bowl fundraiser.

**Grants for the Soup Kitchen** - We have been awarded several grants to support our Soup Kitchen. This funding will help us acquire additional tables and shelving.

**Online Calendar** - We have an online calendar to keep you informed about upcoming events and activities. You can now easily stay updated and plan your participation.

**4-H Community Involvement** - A special thanks to the 4-H group for their help at the Ag Expo, where they assisted in dipping ice cream. Their involvement was a wonderful addition to the event and a testament to our community spirit.

**In worship we are:** Forming a liturgical drama group, expanding our music by exploring a new hymnal, learning new songs and reengaging in the classics, improving our Safety with new magnetically locking doors to the Sanctuary, encouraging the use of our main entrance doors.

**Serving our neighbors we are:** Inviting more neighborhood churches to share in VBS, ever seeking to better reduce food insecurity, improving our Tuesday Ministries, adding hygiene items to the Pantry, finishing the refresh of the Fellowship Hall: painted, new lights, HVAC system, new tables, ice machine, carts, freezer and refrigerator, growing the volunteers who help with Micah's Backpack and seeking to increase funding, hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Resource Fair.

**Serving our Members and Friends we are:** Communicating how easy it is to give online to Zion and Zion's Ministries, undergoing a Skills/Interest Inventory, organizing drivers to provide transportation, providing new ways to pray for each other (Prayer Chain, Facebook Group, Prayer Circles), communicating life events in the Newsletter and Friday What's Happening Email.

We are grateful for the support and involvement of our congregation as we make these positive changes and continue to grow together.

**Keep an eye on this space. More, much more is coming.**