

Zion News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2024 - VOLUME 65 ISSUE 12

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

~ Isaiah 9:6

bobby jo valentine
IN CONCERT

Songwriter

Poet

Listener

Seeker

Storyteller

Student

DECEMBER 8, 2024
4:00pm

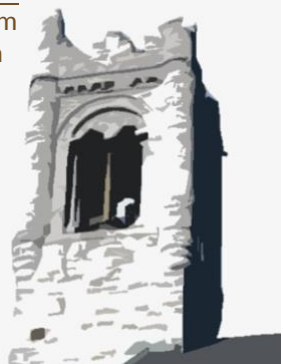
A freewill offering will be taken at the concert.

**ZION'S MISSION:
TO SHARE THE
GOSPEL OF CHRIST
IN SUCH A WAY THAT
WE FIND GOD,
GROW OUR FAITH,
DISCOVER OUR
PURPOSE AND MAKE
A DIFFERENCE**

Worship online [via Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 876 0291 7867
Password: Peace

Beginning September 8
Sunday School: 9:45am
Sunday Service: 11am

Address:
201 N. Potomac St.
Telephone:
301-739-7244
Email:
zionrucc@myactv.net





The Word became flesh
and blood, and moved
into the neighborhood.

~ John 1:14 The Message

The Incarnation is the ultimate
reason why the service of God
cannot be divorced from the
service of man.

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer





December 12							January 01						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01	02	03	04	05	06	07				01	02	03	04
08	09	10	11	12	13	14	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

DECEMBER WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS

Sunday Worship — 11am in the sanctuary and virtually at www.zionreformed.church/worshiplate

Tuesday's Supper and One Stop Shop — Every Tuesday from 5-6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Potluck & Devotion – 6:00pm in the Burhans Room

4-H Club — Thursday 12/5 and 12/19 at 4:30pm in the Burhans Room

Christian Education Team Meeting — 12/2 at 5:30pm

Consistory Meeting — 12/2 at 7:00pm

Staff Meeting — Tuesdays at 11:00am in the Burhans Room

Easy-cise Class – 12/14 at 9am

Choir Practice: Thursdays at 5:30pm

Christmas Pageant Practice: December 1st, and 8th during Sunday School 9:45-10:25 a.m.

December Birthdays

Matthew Cook	12/01	Howard Kaylor	12/20
Richard Owens	12/02	Anissa Wade	12/20
John Dwyer	12/05	David Ridenour	12/21
Jeanne Stoner	12/10	Carol Miller-Schultz	12/22
Koda Bell	12/12	Atlee Mooers	12/23
Carol France	12/13	Sandra Rhodes	12/24
Scherry Sellers	12/15	Mackenzie Ridenour	12/29
Patricia Winnette	12/19		

December Anniversaries

Peggy and Bob Lowman	12/7	Karen and Wells Ridenour	12/12
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Consistory Highlights

October had all of us busy with many activities including the Fall Frenzy, the Haunted House, 5 new members, the Mummer's Day Parade, our Wednesday night fellowship, the 2025 budget preparation, and repairs and upgrades to our property.

225 chairs were sold for the Mummer's Parade raising \$1554 and the Concession Stand cleared around \$800. Some church members who couldn't be there donated money toward the food.

Believe it or not, the furnace has been turned on. There are some additional adjustments and repairs needed before it will be operating smoothly but that should happen very soon. The flat roof on our second floor building area has leaked and will be repaired.

During the Congregational Meeting held on November 3, the Vision and Strategic Plan was passed unanimously. Now we will begin to implement these plans. Related to the Vision and Strategic Plan, the Consistory approved a feasibility test using one of our empty rooms for remote work. This will allow us to assess the adequacy of our space and amenities.

The Consistory approved the proposed 2025 Budget on November 4. The budget will be published and shared with the Congregation prior to the Congregational vote on December 8. We also are excited to announce the following candidates for election to the 2025 Consistory: Susie Clutz (2nd term), Calvin Livingston (2nd term), Rich Owens (2nd term), Tina Shaffer (4th term), Rick Waters (1st term), and Alyn Wilson (1st term).

Remember that "Bring a Friend" to church and "Friendsgiving" is Sunday, November 24, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Christian Education is organizing the special activities and refreshments for these two events. The Christmas tree setup will also take place after the morning service.

By his own request, Wells Ridenour's name has been taken off our account at Fulton Bank. We owe Wells a huge THANK YOU for his many years of service to ZION in his capacity as a signatory on this account.

Christmas Eve falls on a Tuesday Night this year. The Consistory voted to provide the Soup Kitchen meal as usual. However, the Food Pantry will be closed on the 24th and the 31st. Additional support staff is needed to serve and clean up the meal on the 24th.

Be sure to check out all of the upcoming events, the special services, and the Congregational Meeting that are happening in December. With the very warm November we have experienced, we all may be wishing for a White Christmas.










The Christmas Fund Offering

The UCC Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing assistance to lower-income retirees. Give onsite, online at www.zionreformed.church/give, or by mail throughout the month of December as you are able.

What Is It? – A Parish Nurse Note

'Tis the season for respiratory illnesses. It is often hard to tell whether you should stay home and wait it out or make an appointment to see a healthcare provider. Both the very young and elderly are more apt to experience complications and difficulties with respiratory illnesses. Young children have had less exposure to viruses and have not developed the best hygiene methods to help prevent sickness. The elderly have a less efficient immune system and often have other underlying diseases that affect their response to infections. Respiratory illnesses spread quickly because you are contagious BEFORE you have any symptoms yourself. The chart below may help you decide if you need to see a healthcare professional.

Symptoms of influenza (flu), respiratory syncytial (sin-SISH-uhl) virus (RSV), and COVID-19 are similar and may include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Because the symptoms are similar, it can be difficult to distinguish between illnesses caused by respiratory viruses. To diagnose a potential case, healthcare professionals may use a diagnostic test.

HOW TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FLU, RSV, COVID-19, AND THE COMMON COLD				
Common symptoms may include cough, headaches, sneezing, runny nose, and congestion. Different symptoms may include:				
<div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Rarely</div></div> <div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Sometimes</div></div> <div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Often</div></div>				
	COLD	FLU	COVID-19	RSV
 ACHES	XX	XXX	XX	X
 DIFFICULTY BREATHING	X	X	XXX	XX
 FATIGUE	XX	XXX	XXX	X
 FEVER	X	XXX	XX	XX
 LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL	X	X	XX	X
 SORE THROAT	XXX	XX	XXX	X
 WHEEZING	X	X	X	XXX

Source: <https://www.nfid.org/resource/how-to-tell-the-difference-between-flu-rsv-covid-19-and-the-common-cold/>

Warning signs of more severe illness in children include difficulty breathing, persistent cough, high fever and dehydration (no tears when crying, decreased urination). Elderly people should watch for the same signs as well as decreased appetite, changes in mental status (confusion), and dizziness. Antibiotics are NOT effective in treating viral symptoms but can be given to prevent more severe illness in certain cases. Rest and increasing fluid intake is a good way to start treating your respiratory illness but be aware of the warning signs that should prompt a call to your healthcare provider.



Blessings and Health,
Barb Hendershot, RN Parish Nurse

What's Happening

December 1 – Decorating for Christmas

We are going to eat lunch together and decorate the Chapel and Sanctuary trees, windows and doors .

December 8 – Congregational Meeting

Make plans to join us to vote on the annual budget and for the new members of the Consistory - Rick Walters and Aly Wilson and to re-elect Consistory Members - Susie Clutz (2nd Term), Rich Owens (2nd Term), Tina Shafer (4th Term) and Calvin Livingston (2nd Term).

December 14 – Christmas Caroling

Christmas Caroling with Christ's Reformed at 5pm. We will gather at Zion for hot chocolate and a rehearsal and then we will travel via bus or private cars to the Williamsport Nursing Home.

December 15 – Youth Christmas Pageant

Join us for our annual Youth Christmas Pageant during worship - it's called "The Biggest Fan of Jesus."

December 20 – Zion Book Club

The book selection for December is *Twelve Days of Christmas* by Debbi Macomber, a delightful story about how one woman sets out to break through her neighbor's Scrooge-like demeanor by using kindness. Please join us for a fun holiday discussion at the home of Daisy Schlotterbeck at 7pm on Friday, December 20. For more information, contact [Sue Graff](#).

December 22 – Cookie Exchange

Join us after worship for a wonderful time of exchanging Christmas goodies! Please bring 3 dozen of your favorite cookies for the exchange prepare to go home with an assortment of cookies. The extra cookies will be shared with Zion's guests for the Historic Houses of Worship Tour.

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Make sure you join us at 7pm for this beautiful service as we celebrate The Birth that changed the world and and our lives.

December 24 and 31 – Tuesday Night Ministries

We will be serving our normal Tuesday night dinners on these holiday nights - we need volunteers to help on Christmas Eve. The food pantry will be close and re-open on January 7th.

December 26 – Historic Houses of Worship Tour

A wonderful opportunity to see the interiors of historic downtown Hagerstown houses of worship. Learn about the architecture and ecumenical heritage from docents and guides. The tour runs from 3-7pm. Zion is a tour stop and we will be serving cookies and punch. We are looking for donations of cookies to share and volunteers to lead tours.

January 18 - Quiz Bowl /Chili Cook-Off at Zion

Join our Quizbowl a popular trivia game and fundraiser for the Youth's Summer Mission Trip on January 18th, from 6:00-9:00pm. Teams of 6-8 participants will play a game with ten trivia categories. Start practicing your chili recipes.

Date	Lector	Ushers	
December 1	Rae Smith	Frank Ebersole Carol Mooers	Rich Owens Rick Waters
December 8	Rich Owens	Domenick Gerlando Barb Hendershot	Matt McDonald Willian Wantz
December 15	Wells Ridenour	William Brewer Calvin Livingston	Gerald Saum Jean Simmons
December 22	Amber Nilson	Burnie Clutz Susan Clutz	Becky Hohman John Schnebly
December 29	Barb Hendershot	Frank Ebersole Carol Mooers	Rich Owens Rick Waters

TREASURER'S REPORT		
	October	Year-to-Date
Income	\$5,857	\$76,406.59
Transfers	\$25,000	\$300,000
Insurance Claims		\$13,812.23
Expenses	\$32,025.89	\$385,288.65
Net Income	-\$1,168.89	\$4,930.17

<p> Pastor: Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette Admin Assistant: Rae Smith Multimedia Specialist: Brandon Hackett Music Director/Organist: Claire-Marie Moblard Choir Director: Byron L. Stay Treasurer: Lisa Saum Special Funds Treasurer: Carol Mooers Parish Nurse: Barb Hendershot </p> <p> Consistory Elders: Kim Ridenour, Carroll Sager, Tina Shafer, Susie Clutz and Carol Mooers </p> <p> Consistory Deacons: Rich Owens and Calvin Livingston, Megan Shroyer, Matt McDonald, Becky Hohman and Jean Simmons </p>	<p> Zion News is published monthly by Zion Reformed United Church of Christ 201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740. </p> <p> Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 am – 12:00 pm Telephone: 301-739-7244 Email: zionrucc@myactv.net Website: www.zionreformed.church </p> <p> Deadline for articles is the 13th of each month prior to the month of publication. All articles are subject to editing for space. </p> <p> The medical information in this newsletter is provided without any representations or warranties, express or implied. You must not rely on the information in this newsletter as an alternative to medical advice from your doctor or other professional healthcare provider. </p>
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ZION REFORMED UCC
201 North Potomac Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

GIVE ONLINE

