



# Zion News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2026 - VOLUME 67 ISSUE 2

*So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.*  
~ Matthew 7:12

## Cupcake Decorating Event February 15<sup>th</sup> After Worship



Join us Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> after worship for a sweet time! We'll celebrate Valentine's Day with cupcake decorating. This opportunity is brought to us by professional cake decorator Kristin Joy. You don't want to miss it!

**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](https://zoom.us)  
Meeting ID: 813 6036 7954  
Password: GodswithUs

Sunday Service: 11am  
Sunday School: 9:45am

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



# The Immigrants' Creed

I believe in Almighty God,  
who guided the people in exile and in exodus,  
the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,  
the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ,  
a displaced Galilean,  
who was born away from his people and his home,  
who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger,  
and returning to his own country suffered the oppression  
of the tyrant Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power,  
who then was persecuted, beaten, and finally tortured,  
accused and condemned to death unjustly.  
But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the dead,  
not as a foreigner but to offer us citizenship in heaven.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,  
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,  
and reunites all races.

I believe that the church is the secure home  
for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it,  
who speak the same language and have the same purpose.

I believe that the communion of the saints begins  
when we accept the diversity of the saints.

I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal,  
and in reconciliation, which identifies us more  
than does race, language, or nationality.

I believe that in the resurrection  
God will unite us as one people  
in which all are distinct  
and all are alike at the same time.

Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal  
in which no one will be an immigrant  
but all will be citizens of God's kingdom,  
which will never end. Amen.

"The Immigrants' Creed" is excerpted from  
The Book of Common Worship: 2018 Edition.  
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**February****02**

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

**March****03**

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

## FEBRUARY WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS

**Sunday Worship** – 11am in the sanctuary and virtually at [www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive](http://www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive)

**Sunday School** – 9:45am – Adult and Children's classes

**Children's Choir** – every Sunday 10:15-10:30 in the Music Room

**Young Adult Class/Bible Study** – 2/8 and 2/22 at 9:45am in the Youth Room

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

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

**Potluck and Study** – Wednesdays at 6:00pm

**4-H Club** – 2/4 at 4:30pm in the Burhans Room

**Properties Team** – 2/26 at 1:00pm

**Executive Team** – 2/26 at 2:00pm

**CE Team Meeting** – 2/2 at 5:30pm

**Consistory Meeting** – 2/2 at 7:00pm

**Choir Practice** – Thursdays at 5:30pm

**Easy-cise Class** – 2/14 at 9:00am

## February Birthdays

Judy Hess	2/1	Peggy Lowman	2/7
Finn Delosier	2/2	Brett Hendershot	2/8
Rowan Delosier	2/2	Liliana Shroyer	2/8
Ivan Dwyer	2/2	Alyn Wilson	2/12
Michael Schultz	2/2	Colleen Lewis	2/13
Barry Landis	2/3	Linda Cantilena	2/20
Blaine Dockery	2/5	William Wantz	2/21

# From the Consistory

Zion is off to a strong and energetic start in 2026! Our visioning process continues to gain momentum, and we are looking ahead to an exciting and impactful year.

The Consistory leadership for the coming year has been affirmed and includes Becky Hohman as President, Kim Ridenour as Vice President, Megan Shroyer as Secretary, and Lisa Saum as Treasurer. Visioning and Strategic Planning updates highlighted continued progress on facilities and security, including the installation of cameras by TelePlus to extend our security system to the parsonage. Next steps for the parsonage include completing painting, installing new HVAC, refinishing floors, relocating the History Room, and planning a ribbon cutting, open house, and historical society programming. Planning is also underway for the Zion Senior Day Center, with an anticipated opening on April 24.

Financially, the church ended the year under budget by \$71,000. While janitorial supply expenses exceeded projections, options for bulk purchasing through a local contract are being explored. Worship attendance averages eight online viewers per service, and we are grateful to be reaching beyond our walls on Sunday mornings. We are looking forward to our upcoming Trivia Night and Chili Cook-Off on January 24, 2026, and are excited to host VBS the week of June 22, 2026, in partnership with Trinity Lutheran and Christ's Reformed. Properties updates also confirmed that all required approvals have been received to move forward with \$50,000 in FEMA-funded safety improvements, including lighting, doors, cameras, and fencing.

We are pleased to announce that the Keefer House has sold and closing will be happening in the near future. Through prayer and careful discernment, we stepped forward in faith to clarify our vision without knowing how it would be funded. The unexpected gift (in addition to the house) of one million dollars from the Keefer Family affirmed that God was already at work, providing in ways we could not have imagined!

## Tuesday Night Supper

Did you know that in 2025, we served 4,064 people a meal. In the pantry, we served 5,402 people. **WOW!** Thanks so much for all of your support!

Here's some opportunities to help:

- We are going to collect laundry pods.
- We need simple recipes that we can share with pantry visitors. We hand out a recipe with the ingredients that are a part of the pantry. This month's ingredients are ground turkey/Burger or whole chickens, canned veggies—carrots, peas, corn, green beans, potatoes, mixed veggies, noodles and cream soup. Do you have a simple recipe featuring those ingredients? We hope to give opportunities to prepare the ingredients in a different way. Please send your recipe ideas to Kim Ridenour at [miskim@myactv.net](mailto:miskim@myactv.net).



**THANK YOU ZION!**

# February Is For Nuts – A Parish Nurse Note

February is a “nutty” month. The 16<sup>th</sup> is National Almond Day and the 26<sup>th</sup> is National Pistachio Day. If you have never tried these nutritious snacks, now is the time. Almonds deliver many health benefits, including protein, fiber, healthy fats and vitamin E. Magnesium and potassium, also present in almonds, are essential to healthy blood pressure and heart function. Prebiotics for good digestive health, and both calcium and phosphorus for good bone health can be obtained by eating almonds. Antioxidants, like Vitamin E and polyphenols (good for your skin), in almonds help protect cells from stress; inflammation and chronic disease risk are also decreased by consuming almonds. The protein and fiber in almonds can increase the feeling of fullness, which in turn, can reduce hunger and facilitate weight loss. The healthy fats found in almonds help with the absorption of fat-soluble Vitamins (A,D,E, and K).



When choosing almonds, remember that most of the antioxidants are in the skin of this nut. (Choose unblanched almonds). The appropriate serving size for almonds is a handful per day, about 30 – 50 grams. The almond in its original form is more nutritious than almond milk. Almond milk is mostly water, and the process used to make that milk loses many of the desired nutrients.

Pistachios offer many of the same health benefits as almonds: support of heart health by providing healthy fats, potassium, and being free of cholesterol; helping with weight management by providing protein, fiber and low calories; managing blood sugar because of their protein and fiber. Pistachios also have beneficial antioxidants and boost digestive and eye health. Bone density is supported by these nuts, and your immune system is made stronger. Pistachios contain phytosterols (a plant compound resembling cholesterol that blocks the absorption of cholesterol in the digestive system resulting in lower LDL-bad cholesterol). The manganese and copper in pistachios support your digestion and Vitamin B6 and phosphorus, needed to maintain health are also present. Pistachios can help prevent age related eye problems because they provide both lutein and zeaxanthin. Your immune system's white blood cell production and muscle health is supported by the copper and protein found in pistachios. You should pick unsalted pistachios for the best benefits.

So, you really can be a bit on the “nutty” side. The numerous health benefits and support that almonds and pistachios can provide are a real boost to staying in good shape. Crunch away!

Blessings and Health,  
Barb Hendershot, RN Parish Nurse

Sources:

[healthline.com](http://healthline.com)  
[nutritionletter.tufts.edu](http://nutritionletter.tufts.edu)



# What's Happening

## Sunday Lunch Bunch

Every Sunday after worship a bunch of us get together and go out for lunch, fellowship and lots of laughter. Anyone and everyone are welcome to join us. We try to patronize a different local eatery each week. We meet up in the chapel right after worship and that is when we usually decide where we are going. Come join us whenever you can.

## Dinner Theatre Rehearsal

We'll be meeting in the chapel every Sunday at 12:30pm from February 1<sup>st</sup> until the performance on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

## February 15 - Children's Choir

Our children's choir will be singing during worship!

## Ash Wednesday Service - February 17

Start the Lenten season with us on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm as

Ash Wednesday marking the beginning Of Lent, a 40-day journey of introspection

and repentance. You are invited to come to and receive ashes on your forehead.

Remember you are **dust**, and to **dust you shall return**.



## Reach Coldest Night of the Year - Feb 28

The Zion Walkers will be out raising money for REACH of Washington County during the Coldest Night of the Year Event on Saturday, February 28 at Hagerstown Community College. Walkers may check in at the ARCC beginning at 4pm. The walk itself begins at 5pm. It is followed by a light meal for the walkers. If you are not able to walk, please consider making a pledge or donation to the Zion Team. Questions? Ask Carroll Sager. Please use this link (<https://cnoy.com/location/hagerstown>) to either register as a participant or to donate to a member of the Zion Team.

## Cinderella Shop Opens in March

March is right around the corner. That means it's Cinderella Shop time! The Shop will be open every Saturday morning in March from 9am to Noon. Volunteers are needed to assist shoppers and to guard the door as visitors come and go. A volunteer sign-up sheet is located in the Chapel.

## March 14 - Parents Night Out

Parents, mark your calendars! Join us for Parents' Night Out on March 14, 2026, from 5 - 8pm. Enjoy a well-deserved date night while Miss Kim takes care of the kids with an evening full of fun activities planned.

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

Children's Church Helpers: **2/8** - Becky Hohman , 2/22 - Tina Shafer

TREASURER'S REPORT		
	December	2025
Contributions	\$9,869.10	\$77,605.71
Transfers	\$0	\$395,000.00
Other Income	\$5,691.45	\$45,609.39
Expenses	\$57,437.74	\$522,174.22
Net Income	-\$41,877.19	-\$3,959.12

<b>Pastor:</b> Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette <b>Admin Assistant and Docent:</b> Rae Smith <b>Multimedia Specialist:</b> Brandon Hackett <b>Music Director/Organist:</b> Claire-Marie Moblard <b>Choir Director:</b> Byron L. Stay <b>Treasurer:</b> Lisa Saum <b>Special Funds Treasurer:</b> Carol Mooers <b>Parish Nurse:</b> Barb Hendershot  <b>Consistory Elders:</b> Susie Clutz, Megan Shroyer, Alyn Wilson, Rick Waters, Tina Shafer, Kim Ridenour  <b>Consistory Deacons:</b> Carol Mooers, Rich Owens, Calvin Livingston, Matt McDonald, Jean Simmons, Becky Hohman	<b>Zion News</b> is published monthly by Zion Reformed United Church of Christ 201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740.  <b>Office Hours:</b> Monday - Friday 9 am - 12:00 pm <b>Telephone:</b> 301-739-7244 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:zionrucc@myactv.net">zionrucc@myactv.net</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.zionreformed.church">www.zionreformed.church</a>  Deadline for articles is the 13 <sup>th</sup> of each month prior to the month of publication. All articles are subject to editing for space.  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.
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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

