



# Zion News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MAY 2026 – VOLUME 67 ISSUE 5

*Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ~ John 15:4*

## A Great Start for Zion's Gathering Place!

Thanks to everyone who made our soft launch of Zion's Gathering Place successful! We had 12 participants and we heard from many that they are looking forward to coming back next month! We ate, painted, exercised, and reminisced about old movies and downtown Hagerstown during a special presentation on Henry's Theater! Our next date is May 29<sup>th</sup> – make sure you sign up!



**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: 813 6036 7954  
Password: GodswithUs

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

Starting May 24  
Sunday Service: 10am

Address:  
201 N. Potomac St.  
Telephone:  
301-739-7244  
Email:  
[zionrucc@myactv.net](mailto:zionrucc@myactv.net)



## **A Litany to Honor Women**

**We walk in the company of the women who have gone before,  
Mothers of the faith both named and unnamed,  
Testifying with ferocity and faith to the Spirit of wisdom and healing.  
They are the judges, the prophets, the martyrs, the warriors, poets, lovers and saints  
who are near to us in the shadow of awareness,  
in the crevices of memory, in the landscape of our dreams.**

**We walk in the company of Deborah,  
who judged the Israelites with authority and strength.**

**We walk in the company of Esther,  
who used her position as Queen to ensure the welfare of her people.**

**We walk in the company of you whose names have been lost and silenced,  
who kept and cradled the wisdom of the ages.**

**We walk in the company of the woman with the flow of blood,  
who audaciously sought her healing and release.**

**We walk in the company of Mary Magdalene,  
who wept at the empty tomb until the risen Christ appeared.**

**We walk in the company of Phoebe,  
who led an early church in the empire of Rome.**

**We walk in the company of Perpetua of Carthage,  
whose witness in the third century led to her martyrdom.**

**We walk in the company of Saint Christina the Astonishing,  
who resisted death with persistence and wonder.**

**We walk in the company of Julian of Norwich,  
who wed imagination and theology proclaiming "all shall be well."**

**We walk in the company of Sojourner Truth,  
who stood against oppression, righteously declaring "ain't I a woman!" in 1852.**

**We walk in the company of the Argentine Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo,  
who turned their grief to strength, standing together to remember "the disappeared"  
children of war with a holy indignation.**

**We walk in the company of Alice Walker,  
who named the lavender hue of womanish strength.**

**We walk in the company of you mothers of the faith,  
who teach us to resist evil with boldness, to lead with wisdom, and to heal.**

**Amen.**



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

## MAY WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS

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

**Sunday School** – 9:45am – Adult and Children’s classes (through May 17<sup>th</sup>)

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

**Young Adult Class/Bible Study** – 5/10 at 9:45am in the Youth Room

**Youth Sunday School Class** – 5/3 at 9:45am

**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** – 5/7 at 4:30pm in the Burhans Room

**CE Team Meeting** – 5/4 at 5:30pm

**Consistory Meeting** – 5/4 at 7:00pm

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

**Properties Team** – 5/28 at 1:00pm

**Easy-cise Class** – 5/9 at 9:00am

## May Birthdays

Juliet Montgomery	5/1	Steven Wise	5/19
Mark Shroyer	5/3	Randall Schultz	5/19
Marilyn Newlin	5/11	Amber Nilson	5/21
Becky Hohman	5/12	Steve Burgan	5/22
Kelly Weicht	5/13	Marti Talton	5/24
Corey Green	5/17	Kristin Grosh	5/28
Rony Joy	5/18	Lisa Saum	5/31

## May Anniversaries

Barb & Charley Ware	5/5	Krista & Steve Burgan	5/31
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# From the Consistory

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Our updates may be brief this month, but the work happening behind the scenes is anything but small. There is incredible momentum building across multiple areas at Zion!

## Facilities & Security Updates

Progress continues with TelePlus as they advance our security enhancements. In addition, installation of the new ADA entrance doors is anticipated within the next 4–6 weeks.

## Parsonage Updates

Significant improvements have been completed at the parsonage, including the installation of a new HVAC system and full interior painting. Floor refinishing is scheduled to begin the week of April 6, bringing us closer to completing this phase of upgrades.

## Upcoming Dates to Note:

- Sunday, May 24, 2026 – Transition to summer worship schedule (10:00am start time)
- June 22–25, 2026 (6:00–8:00pm) – Vacation Bible School

## Zion Visioning & Capital Campaign

We are certainly in exciting times as we start to implement our Visioning dreams. We have made huge progress in the updates to the Parsonage, which we plan to show you a sneak peak on Mother's Day. We are planning to set up our new Music Team's offices on the second floor of the parsonage. And will begin the next steps in planning the move of our history room to the 1st floor. Once that move has been complete, we will plan an official celebration.

We are excited to announce the next steps in our 2026 Capital Campaign. Our Campaign team has been formed and we will have our first lead team meeting on May 20th, and will then follow with additional details of what's next. Our Hope for the Capital Campaign is Dream Big.

## The 2026 Cinderella Shop Report

The Cinderella Shop had another banner year of prom gown sales! We saw 102 visitors to the shop, sold 56 gowns and we raised \$1450 for REACH of Washington County through the sales and some extra generous contributors.

I also thank the 10 volunteers whose gracious donation of their time allow the shop happen. They are Tina Shafer, Dave Parker, Becky Hohman, Sharon Giles, Kathleen Wood, Toinetta Jones, Christine Coleman, Blaine Dockery, Barb Hendershot, and Domenick Gerlando. An extra special shout out goes to Tina Shafer who volunteered all 4 Saturdays!

This outreach project is a labor of love. Every young person should be able to go to the prom in a gown to be proud of. Through the efforts and donations of many, Zion is making this happen while also financially assisting REACH which aids those who are homeless. Thank you to all!!

## New Zion Visioning T-shirts Available

Ms. Kim has done it again. She has designed some marvelous t-shirts. It is such a thrill to see the vibrancy of the Zion family as we wear Zion t-shirts and sweaters. She has added the option with our Visioning Logo. It will be nice to see it worn.

Click the QR code to fill out an order form. This round of shirts needs to be ordered by May 10.



## Picnic Time! – A Parish Nurse Note

It's the time of year for picnics! Careful preparation is essential for an enjoyable and safe experience. When planning your meal, be conscious of proper food preparation and storage to prevent the dreaded Ptomaine poisoning (an outdated term for food poisoning). Wash and dry any fruits or vegetables at home before packing them for your picnic. Remember to take enough plates and utensils so that any items used for handling raw meat will not be reused for other foods. Consider taking all those packets of condiments you saved from take out meals instead of larger containers; they take up less space and are more sanitary. Separate coolers should be used for food and drinks; both should be kept at about 40 degrees. A cooler for drinks only is recommended because it is opened more frequently. Place any cold food that will be eaten last (desserts) on the bottom. Pack cold foods at the last minute and try to fill the cooler as much as possible to avoid cooling open space. Place ice packs on top of the items to be kept cold. This will keep your food cold for a longer time.



Any raw meat should be packed separately from other cold items. Take only cold foods unless you are able to keep hot food at a temperature of 140 degrees or more.

Do not leave your coolers in the trunk of your car. Place them outside in the shade or cover them with a blanket to keep them cool.

Food should be outside of your coolers for a maximum of 2 hours unless the outside temperature is 90 degrees or more; in that case, food should be back in the cooler after 1 hour.

If a hand-washing station is not available at your picnic site, remember to take along a water jug (s), soap, paper towels or hand towels, and wet wipes. If you are picnicking during the afternoon, don't forget to pack your sunscreen. A hat, insect repellent with DEET and a First aid kit are also essential items. If you plan to be out after dark, be sure to have working flashlights with your other supplies.

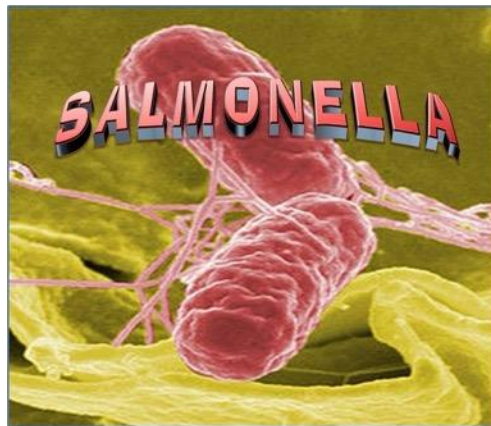
Be aware that ticks are most active during warmer months (April through September). Also, mosquitoes prefer dawn and dusk as their "hunting" times.

After returning home, wash the inside of your coolers and let them air dry. Following these simple instructions will help you prevent mishaps and keep your outdoor adventures as safe and enjoyable as possible. Bon Appetit!

Blessings and Health,  
Barb Hendershot, RN Parish Nurse

Sources:

[extension.psu.edu](http://extension.psu.edu)  
[foodnetwork.com](http://foodnetwork.com)



# What's Happening

## May 17 - Graduation Sunday

Please let Megan or Kim know if you or someone in your family will be graduating so we can recognize and celebrate them on Graduation Sunday. We would love to honor all graduates!

## May 30 - End of Year Party for Youth and their Families

Join us at the Shroyer House from 4 to 6:30pm for a great time of games, laughter and spending time together!

## June 22-25 - VBS at Zion!

All children Pre-K through 5th grade are invited to join us for Vacation Bible School, June 22-25! Please help us spread the word to your families and friends. This year, we'll journey into the rainforest as we explore the nature of God! It's always a week filled with fun, friendship, and meaningful connection. If you'd like to be part of this special program, please reach out to Kim or Megan.

You can sign up using this QR code - - >



A big **THANK YOU** to Carol Mooers, Holly and Toby Bell, and Angel Livingston for all of your help with the Seder Dinner. It was a huge success with approximately 30 people attending. I couldn't have done it without you. ~Rae Smith



## Aluminum Can Donation Bin Moved

We have discovered that a few of our neighbors have been using our Can Donation Box as storage, we moved the box to inside the fence line of the cemetery, just outside the ADA door. You can bring the cans there on Sundays, or you can drop off at the church office and Rae will move them to the box for storage.

## MURD-ARRR: Pirates of The Salty Dog

We had another very successful Comedy, Murder Mystery dinner theater Saturday night. Our thanks to Barb Hendershot for leading this wonderful event. A great time was had by all. This event really does take a village, a Zion Village. The acting team, the shopping team (Carol Mooers) the cooking team, the serving team and the clean up team probably touches 25 Zion members. Special shout out to Pastor Scott for his outstanding sound effects, and Marshall Lowman who somehow managed to steal time away from Mom and Dad to help run the meal prep. And to Peggy Lowman, who we desperately tried to channel in all the dinner related activities. We continue to pray for a quick recovery from her fall a few weeks ago.



Date	Lector	Ushers	
May 3	Jean Simmons	William Brewer Calvin Livingston	Gerald Saum Jean Simmons
May 10	Rae Smith	Burnie Clutz Susan Clutz	Becky Hohman John Schnebly
May 17	Barb Ware	Frank Ebersole Carol Mooers	Rich Owens Rick Waters
May 24	Rick Waters	Jamie Coates Tina Shafer	Barb Ware Kathleen Wood
May 31	Barb Hendershot	Christine Coleman Blaine Dockery	Judy Thompson Cowboy Ward

Children's Church Helpers: May 10 - Megan Shroyer

TREASURER'S REPORT		
	March	2026
Contributions	\$7,452.00	\$20,040.00
Transfers	\$60,000.00	\$200,000.00
Other Income	\$9,929.43	\$14,308.09
Expenses	\$124,312.86	\$232,136.04
Net Income	-\$46,931.43	\$2,212.05

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette  
**Admin Assistant and Docent:** Rae Smith  
**Multimedia Specialist:** Brandon Hackett  
**Treasurer:** Lisa Saum  
**Special Funds Treasurer:** Carol Mooers  
**Parish Nurse:** Barb Hendershot  
  
**Consistory Elders:** Susie Clutz, Megan Shroyer, Alyn Wilson, Rick Waters, Tina Shafer, Kim Ridenour  
**Consistory Deacons:** Carol Mooers, Rich Owens, Calvin Livingston, Matt McDonald, Jean Simmons, Becky Hohman

Zion News is published monthly by Zion Reformed United Church of Christ 201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740.

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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.

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Hagerstown, MD 21740  
201 North Potomac Street

# ZION REFORMED UCC



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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