



Zion United Methodist Church of Iona
1920 South Fifth Avenue, Lebanon, PA 17042-9101

The Advance Edition

February 2017 Issue

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Special points of interest:

- LCCM Lenten Breakfast
- Agape Christmas Project
- Rescue Mission Food Collection

Driving on the Highway of God: Merge vs. Yield?



Within the last month, we have received confirmation from the Office of our District Superintendent, Rev. Joe Tyson, that the proposed merger between our church and the Covenant United Methodist Church is now “on hold.” The members of the Covenant Church are evaluating their ministry with the hope of continuing to remain as an active congregation in their own church.

Of course, as a Christian family ourselves, we must take this news with the confidence that God always knows what He’s doing . . . and this is by no means any kind of “setback” to our desire for church growth.

Your response to the initial news of the proposed merger was very commendable! You all seemed to be very positive and welcoming . . . which are certainly characteristics of people devoted to God and gifted with His grace! However, as we continue to travel on the path that God has already mapped out for us . . . since we will not be “merging”. . . we now must “yield.” We have seen that triangle-shaped yellow sign that urges “caution” and we are paused on the highway ramp. We must look around . . . evaluate our situation . . . and make sure the way is clear before we proceed further on our journey.

Even though we desire “church growth,” we must keep in mind that we are indeed already connecting many people with God’s love. Many ministries happen during the course of the year that touch lives with God’s love . . . and we may not even be aware of the impact our church is having on our community and the world.

Recently, we have seen many new people with us during Sunday morning worship and this always makes us thankful. Let’s continue to carefully examine our consciences and God’s will as we are now in this position of “yielding” to God’s plans. The first requirement to proceeding appropriately is to continue to pray for direction. Then, as we evaluate whether we should move forward with particular plans or events . . . we have to make sure God has provided the opening for us to succeed in our travels with Him. Do not be tempted to be disappointed if it seems we continue to be paused on the ramp to the highway. Just as we would never move forward into traffic that is risky . . . so also we cannot move forward on God’s journey for us without wisdom, peace, and joy!

God will provide opportunities for us to serve, and will most certainly show us how to follow Him as his loving disciples.

Meditate upon God’s Words as you pray for the future of Zion Church:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

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Please continue to pray for the missionaries and mission groups that Iona Church supports. For additional mission information, please check the mission bulletin board in the hallway next to Classroom #1.

~DAVE AND JOY FORNEY - *MAF: Mission Aviation Fellowship: Uganda*
Dave had some additional ground and flight training with Kodiak planes. This training will help with some short-term flying. Every day MAF flies planes to remote locations in Uganda, South Sudan and East DRC. Flying to these places

can be challenging because of weather, runway conditions, immigration and customs and security situations.

~Pray for Dave as he helps those in need in E. Africa. Also pray for those less fortunate than us.

~AARON AND DANIELLE MINER - *Teachers in St. Petersburg, Russia*

The Miners are doing well. The International Academy closed for a 3-week break at Christmas. They are thankful for a time of rest and snowy recreation at the park across the street from their house.

~Pray for continued good health for the family.

~LEBANON COUNTY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES - *LCCM, Lebanon*

LCCM will celebrate 35 years of service to those in need. While services have changed through the years, the mission remains the same. Making a difference by filling the physical and spiritual needs in individual lives; thereby making this community a better place to live.

~Pray for those in need in Lebanon County

~JENNY CARRINGTON FITCH - *DiscipleMakers: Albright & Kutztown Campuses*

Jenny married Lincoln Fitch on January 21st and has joined him in DiscipleMakers to minister to students at Albright and Kutztown Colleges. She will also continue to do some event planning work.

~Pray for Jenny and Lincoln as they begin their marriage and continue to minister to college students.

~PETER AND JESSIE NAJJAR - *Kazakhstan*

The Najjars continue to encourage the concept of training locals, so they can continue the programs independently. Their daughter, Hannah, helps with the teaching. Joseph, their son, reaches out to others by participating in various clubs and groups.

~Pray that their outreach may continue to grow.

~LEBANON RESCUE MISSION - *Men's Ministry, Agape Family Shelter, and Lebanon Free Clinic*

The Rescue Mission is grateful for an expanded Men's and Administrative facility with more room. All their ministries are growing, especially the Agape Family Shelter, which is celebrating its 30th year of ministry to women and children.

~Pray that their programs will reach out to those in need..

~LEBANON YOUTH FOR CHRIST - *YFC*

YFC will hold their annual "Bids for Kids" auction and chicken barbecue at the Lebanon Valley Expo on March 16-18. It is an important fund raiser to help the many programs and camps that they provide.

~Pray that the auction will be a successful fund raiser for YFC.

~TJ RENNINGER - *DiscipleMakers—Penn State*

TJ spoke at Iona Church about God's plan for him to minister to college students at Penn State through the DiscipleMakers ministry. It was decided that Iona Church will financially help support TJ as he continues his ministry.

~Pray for TJ as he continues to raise financial support.

Lebanon County Christian Ministries

Annual Lenten Breakfast

**Saturday, March 25, 8 a.m.
at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center**

This year's guest speaker will be Rev. Dean Cover, Senior Pastor at Living Waters Chapel in Lebanon. Providing the special music for this event will be Mike Kitchen and the Family Reunion.

The breakfast will be provided by Country Home Catering and provides an opportunity for people to gather together to enjoy a delicious buffet breakfast, listen to uplifting music, hear an inspiring speaker and fellowship with one another. Plan now to attend.

Cost for the event is \$10. See Bev Henry for tickets. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Rescue Mission Food and Personal Items Collection



Items will be collected during the month of March. Watch for a WISH LIST which will be available at the beginning of the month.

Driving on the Highway of God

(Continued from page 1)

*in all your ways acknowledge Him
and He will make your paths
straight." Proverbs 3:4-5*

*And . . . as we "stand at the cross-
roads and look, ask for the good
way to go and walk in it. . . and
you will find rest for your souls."
Jeremiah 6:16*

~Pastor Beth

Iona Church to help with the Agape Christmas Project



The project began this past Christmas to honor the seniors in our community by providing them with groceries and gifts. This year the plans are to give lap robes as gifts.

Iona Church will be helping with this project by making fleece lap robes that are knotted. A workday is planned for Wednesday, March 1st at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the church. If you can cut fabric or tie a knot, you can help! It will be a time for fellowship, while working on a project to help others in our community!

More information will be available at a later date.

MISSION FINANCE REPORT—2016

Thank you for your generous gift to support the missionaries, mission groups and projects. In 2017 TJ Renninger, who will be ministering to college students through DiscipleMakers, will be added to the list of missionaries supported by Iona Church. Some money will also be used to purchase fleece for the Agape Christmas Project.

Money donated for Missions: \$19,915.00

Total Expenses: \$15,666.03

Support of Missionaries and Mission Groups:

Peter and Jessie Najjar, Aaron and Danielle Miner, Jenny Carrington, Dave and Joy Forney, Lebanon

County Christian Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Ministry, Lebanon Valley Youth for Christ, Red Bird Mission

Bibles for Cedar Crest Students

Items for Christmas Stockings

Gift for Brandon Allen

Servants of Worship Schedules for February

Thank you to all those volunteering their service for Sunday Worship. Below are the schedules for **February 2017**. If you are unable to serve on the date or time you are scheduled, please make arrangements for a substitute (*call someone from the volunteers list*). Let us know of the swap or if you have trouble finding a substitute. Chuck and Christina Watson (717-270-6667 or watsoncc@comcast.net)

Greeters	
Feb. 5	Russ & Shirley Dundore
Feb. 12	Jeff & Sue Steckbeck
Feb. 19	Fred & Diana Beaver
Feb. 26	Jim & Dianne Miller

Sound Technicians	
Feb. 5	Kathleen Steckbeck
Feb. 12	Jake Barrett
Feb. 19	Christina Watson
Feb. 26	Ray Arnold

Announcers	
Feb. 5	Jeff Steckbeck
Feb. 12	Bev Henry
Feb. 19	Janet Nelson
Feb. 26	Robert Beamon

Nursery (contact Sue Light with changes)	
Feb. 5	Amy Donnachie & Suzie Bachman
Feb. 12	Bev Henry & Janice Kingsley
Feb. 19	Deb Smith & Sue Light
Feb. 26	Linda Hower & Janet Swift

Refreshments	
Feb. 5	Russ & Shirley Dundore
Feb. 12	Ted Holcombe
Feb. 19	Maryellen Martin
Feb. 26	Aaron Robinson

Zion Iona UMC Financial Info *as of December 2016*

	Monthly	YTD	Budget YTD
Income	\$ 15,197.10	\$ 180,645.35	\$ 157,210.00
Expenses	\$ 13,561.04	\$ 149,687.73	\$ 149,694.16
Net	\$ 1,636.06	\$ 30,957.62	\$ 7,515.84

Loan Balance: Paid in Full

Average Attendance for the Month (November): 70

IONA UMC MINISTRY LEADERS 2017

	MINISTRY POSITION	NAME
√	LAY LEADER	AMY DONNACHIE
√	LAY DELEGATE TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE	CHUCK WATSON
	ALTERNATE LAY DELEGATES TO ANN. CONF.	AMY DONNACHIE, BEVERLY HENRY
√	ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS	KEITH DONNACHIE, CHUCK WATSON
√	MISSIONS COORDINATOR	BEVERLY HENRY
	MISSIONS TREASURER	LINDA HOWER
	MISSION TEAM MEMBERS	BEVERLY HENRY, LINDA HOWER, MARYELLEN MARTIN, SHELLEY ARNOLD
√	ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION LEADERS	DAVID SHENK, CHUCK WATSON, REV. DR. JUDY KEHLER-SHIREY
	CHILDREN'S EDUCATION LEADERS	SUE LIGHT, JANICE KINGSLEY
√	ADMIN COUNCIL RECORDING SECRETARY	SHERIE DONNACHIE
	FINANCE COMMITTEE	TED HOLCOMBE (Chair.), DIANA BEAVER (Treas.), SHEILA SHENK (Fin. Sec.), MIKE HENRY
√	FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR	TED HOLCOMBE
√	FINANCIAL SECRETARY	SHEILA SHENK
	ASST. FINANCIAL SECRETARY	JANET SWIFT
√	CHURCH TREASURER	DIANA BEAVER
	SERVANTS OF WORSHIP COORDINATOR	CHUCK & CHRISTINA WATSON
	NURSERY COORDINATOR	SUE LIGHT
	PRAYER MINISTRY COORDINATOR	SHARON CURTIER
√	SPR CHAIRPERSON	JEFF STECKBECK
√	PRESIDENT OF TRUSTEES	DORIS SHYDA
	SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRETARY	
√	WORSHIP COMMITTEE FACILITATOR	PASTOR TRONE
	WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS	DAVID SHENK, CHRISTINA WATSON, AARON DONNACHIE
	MULTI-MEDIA TEAM	YALE MAIER, CHRISTINA WATSON, JAKE BARRETT, KATHLEEN STECKBECK
	FACEBOOK COORDINATOR	AARON DONNACHIE
	WEBSITE COORDINATORS	WILLIAM BAILEY, PASTOR TRONE
√	MEMORIAL FUND COORDINATOR	JANICE KINGSLEY
	CHURCH SIGN	TOM & PEGGY HOMBACH / JIM & DIANNE MILLER
	COMMUNION STEWARDS	BRUCE AND SUE LIGHT
	ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS	PEGGY HOMBACH, HELEN ENGLE, MARILYN DENGLER, BETSY SWISHER
√	VISION TEAM FACILITATOR	REV. DR. JUDY KEHLER-SHIREY
	VISION TEAM MEMBERS	JUDY SHIREY, RUSS DUNDORE, ROBERT BEAMON, DORIS SHYDA, PASTOR TRONE
	YOUNG AT HEART COORDINATOR	RUSS & SHIRLEY DUNDORE
	SAFE SANCTUARIES COORDINATOR	JEFF STECKBECK
	SECURITY COUNCIL	JEFF STECKBECK, CLIFF SWISHER, AARON ROBINSON, RAY ARNOLD

√ = Member of Administrative Council

	MINISTRY POSITION	NAME
	KITCHEN COORDINATORS	MIKE AND BEV HENRY
	WOMEN'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP FACILITATORS	SHEILA SHENK, SUZIE BACHMAN, AMY DONNACHIE, MARILYN DENGLER
	USHER COORDINATORS:	CLIFF SWISHER (1 st & 2 nd Sunday) CHRIS DONNACHIE (3 rd , 4 th , 5 th Sunday)
	CUB SCOUT LIAISON	DEB SMITH
	REFRESHMENT MINISTRY COORDINATORS	CHUCK WATSON, TED HOLCOMBE, MIKE HENRY
	PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR	WENDY BARRETT
	SHARE-A-MEAL COORDINATOR	MARYELLEN MARTIN
	FELLOWSHIP/SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR	
	CEMETERY COORDINATOR	KEITH DONNACHIE
	PHOTOGRAPHER	JENNIFER BEAMON
√	ADMIN COUNCIL (Members at Large)	BRUCE LIGHT, RON ENGLE
	MEMBER RECORDS COORDINATOR	REV. DR. JUDY KEHLER-SHIREY
	MINISTRY TEAMS	NAME
	SPR COMMITTEE	
	2017	JANET NELSON, CHRISTINA WATSON,
	2018	JEFF STECKBECK, AMY DONNACHIE, TOM AMBLER
	2019	MARYELLEN MARTIN
	TRUSTEES	
	2017	DENNIS NELSON
	2018	JIM MILLER
	2019	DORIS SHYDA, CLIFF SWISHER, AARON ROBINSON
	NOMINATIONS COMM.	
	2017	SUE LIGHT, MARGIE DECK, HELEN ENGLE
	2018	DIANNE MILLER, SHIRLEY DUNDORE
	2019	PEGGY HOMBACH
	STAFF	
	SECRETARY	BONNIE HOFFMAN
	CUSTODIAN	SHARON CURTIER
	GROUNDS KEEPER	
	IONA BELL CHOIR DIR.	SHEILA SHENK
	ORGANIST	DAVID SHENK
	ASST. ORGANISTS	

√ = Member of Administrative Council

February 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3 6-9 Cub Scouts Mall Show Work Night (Gable)	4
5 <i>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship (Communion) 4:00 Iona Bell Choir (Gable)	6 4:00 LCEHS (Lounge) 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	7 6:30 Vision Team Meeting	8 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)	9 7:00 Finance Committee Meeting	10	11 9:30 4H Friends (Gable)
12 <i>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship VBS Meeting following Worship 4:00 Iona Bell Choir (Gable)	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 9:00 Young at Heart Breakfast @ Quentin Haus 6:00 Trustees Mtg. 7:00 Administrative Council Meeting	15 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)	16	17	18
19 <i>Seventh Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Confirmation Class 4:00 Iona Bell Choir (Gable)	20 3:30 Worship Committee Mtg.	21	22 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)	23 7:00 SPR Committee Meeting	24	25
26 <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	27	28				