



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

# The Advance Edition

September 2017 Issue

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## Special points of interest:

- Volunteers Needed for Cleaning Project
- Capital Improvement (*Driveway Paving*) Update
- Church Conference in October



Yes . . . there are rational scientific explanations for the recent eclipse of the sun . . . which happens so rarely that people all over the world were looking *up* to see it. Those who were in the zone of totality didn't have words to express their feelings . . . and the sight propelled them to emotions they had never experienced before. Some did dare to use the word "spiritual" . . . but no one said the word . . . "God."

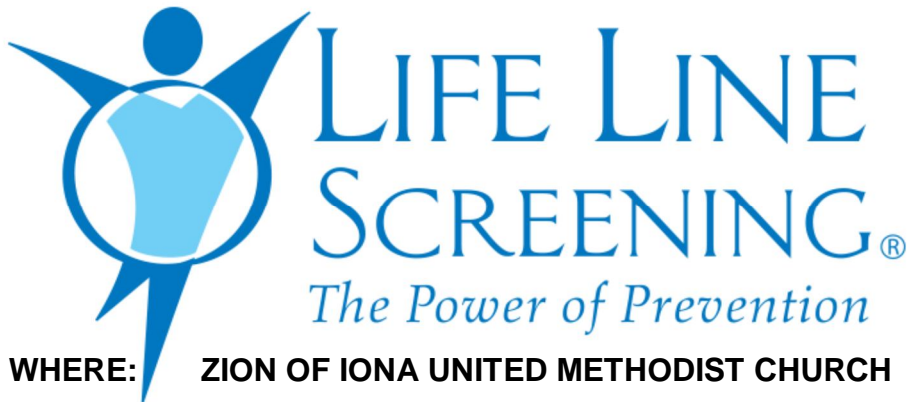
Look at these words of Jesus . . .

"Though seeing they do not see; though hearing, they do not understand. In them, is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah . . . "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people's heart has become calloused, they hardly hear with their ears and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise . . . they might [actually] see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and turn . . . and be healed. But . . . blessed are *your eyes* because they see, and *your ears* because they hear." - *Matthew 13:13-16*

Who could have witnessed the eclipse and not seen God? Didn't this rare event recall the moment our Lord saved us on the cross as he died for our sins?

"From the sixth hour to the ninth hour, darkness came over all the land. . . the curtain of the temple was torn in two and the earth shook." - *Matthew 27:45-51*

From what little I knew of the cosmos . . . I expected the day to become dark. But, as I watched on TV . . . I was rendered speechless when thunder and lightening accompanied this solar marvel. Did you not see God? Did you not hear God? No . . . many expressed a hearty sense of congratulations *due to we humans* who were able to come together . . . *despite our differences* . . . to unite as a people and appreciate this spectacle together. It was



**WHERE: ZION OF IONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**WHEN: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017**

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Zion of Iona UMC on September 19, 2017.

Five related screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete.

**In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount for any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle) or text the word circle to 797979.**

**Appointments are limited...register TODAY!**



## 2017 Annual Church Conference

Our annual Church Conference is scheduled for **Thursday, October 26, 6:30 p.m.** at Cornwall UMC. All members are invited to attend and participate in celebrating the events of the past year, as well as to suggest and/or affirm goals set for the upcoming year. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

## Harvest Home Sunday - October 8, 10 am

As we celebrate the tradition of Harvest Home Sunday, we will do so with a sanctuary adorned with fruits of the fields and orchards, thanks to the 4H Friends.



On this Sunday we want to give thanks to the Lord for his abundant provisions.

Returning to our pulpit is our good friend and former pastor Jerry Zweitzig who will give the morning message!

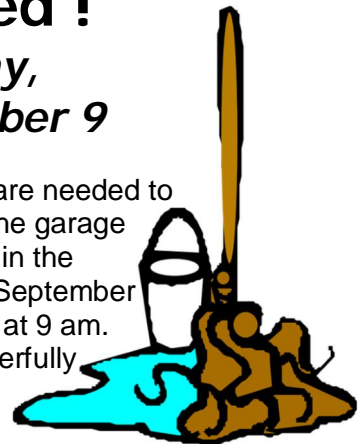
Also during this service we will again be blessed by the special music of The Joyful Quartet (Deb Boger, Ruthann Helwig, Bonnie Leibold, Joanne Krall), as well as the Iona Bell Choir.

Tell your friends and relatives to **"Come on Home...to Zion!"** and be part of our Family of God that special day.

## Volunteers Needed! Saturday, September 9

Volunteers are needed to help clean the garage and kitchen in the pavilion on September 9 beginning at 9 am. Please prayerfully consider offering

your help for this necessary task!



# Capital Improvement Project

Our church family at Iona is extremely blessed by God and has been able to successfully finance our church operations, missions, and capital improvements this year. The Finance Committee thanks all of you for your faithfulness and generous giving.

Recently the trustees have been advised that the parking lot is in need of attention. If we don't do something soon, plowing the snow in the winter will become difficult and digging up the entire area may become necessary in the future. For those reasons, the Finance Committee suggested that the trustees obtain bids for the repaving of the entire area, front and side.

At the June meeting, the administrative council approved the awarding of a contract to Hackman Paving. The work is scheduled to begin the first week of September.

There is a balance of approximately \$36,800 in the Capital Improvements fund which will be used for this project. Repaving the entire parking lot will cost about \$45,000. If you would like to contribute to this project, please give through the Capital Improvements line on your envelope. Thank you.

*Finance Committee*

# The Prayers of the People!

Iona will start a new method for collecting prayer requests for our Sunday service. At the back of the church and in the pews, you'll find Prayer Request cards.

You are asked to write your prayer PRAISE or CONCERN on the card and place it in the "Prayer Basket" near the church entrance **PRIOR** to the start of the service. An usher will collect the cards and give them to Pastor Beth immediately following the announcements so that she may review them prior to the pastoral prayer.

This process will enable Pastor Beth to know for certain the prayer requested and whether or not to speak the request aloud. The rest of us will also be able to hear and know the request as well.



# Evidence of God Unseen

*(Continued from page 1)*

love all around. Indeed it was a day of pride in the inherent "oneness" of humanity.

How sad to glorify the brotherhood of the human race when the evidence of God goes unseen. Yes . . . science informs our thinking . . . but it is God who gave us a brain to understand, eyes to see, ears to hear and a heart to worship and bow down . . . that is . . . unless we have become hardened to it all. Pray for the world that . . . when God shows up . . . he will help us all to know He's here.

*-Pastor Beth*



# Iona's Handbell Choir Resumes Rehearsals

You will soon be hearing the sound of handbells ringing in the Iona Church again. Our rehearsals resume on September 10th.

We will be preparing a number for September 24th. We have also been asked to play for the Harvest Home service on October 8th. There will be a Thanksgiving praise number on November 19th and a Christmas piece at our Christmas Eve service.

You can be involved by praying for our choir as we practice and participate in worship. There will be an opportunity for others to play handbells in the choir as we go through the year. Please contact me if you would have an interest in ringing. You will be instructed in techniques and well rehearsed.

Thank you, church, for your support,  
*Sheila and the Iona Bell Choir*

# Servants of Worship Schedules for September

**Thank you** to all those volunteering their service for Sunday Worship. Below are the schedules for **September 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)

<b>Greeters</b>	
Sept. 3	Jim & Dianne Miller
Sept. 10	Cliff & Betsy Swisher
Sept. 17	Tim & Rachel Turley
Sept. 24	Margery Deck & Maryellen Martin

<b>Sound Technicians</b>	
Sept. 3	Jake Barrett
Sept. 10	Christina Watson
Sept. 17	Kathleen Steckbeck
Sept. 24	Ray Arnold

<b>Nursery (contact Sue Light with changes)</b>	
Sept. 3	Janet Swift & Bev Henry
Sept. 10	Janice Kingsley & Deb Smith
Sept. 17	Amy Donnachie & Margery Deck
Sept. 24	Sue Light & Suzie Bachman

<b>Announcers</b>	
Sept. 3	Bev Henry
Sept. 10	Robert Beamon
Sept. 17	Jeff Steckbeck
Sept. 24	Wendy Barrett

<b>Refreshments</b>	
Sept. 3	Aaron Robinson
Sept. 10	Deb Smith
Sept. 17	Jeff & Sue Steckbeck
Sept. 24	Cliff & Betsy Swisher

## Zion Iona UMC Financial Info as of July 2017

	Monthly	YTD	Budget YTD
Income	\$ 18,235.00	\$ 104,803.00	\$ 91,268.00
Expenses	\$ 15,264.00	\$ 87,038.00	\$ 95,262.00
Net	\$ 2,971.00	\$ 17,765.00	—\$ 3,994.00

Average Attendance for the Months (May, June, July): 54

# September 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
<b>3 13th Sunday After Pentecost</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship (Communion)	<b>4 Labor Day</b> 6:30 Vision Team Meeting		6 7:00 Men's Bible Study	7 7:00 Men's Bible Study	8 7:00 Men's Bible Study	9 9:00 Volunteers Needed to Clean Garage & Kitchen
<b>10 14th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>Grandparent's Day</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bell Choir (Gable Hall)	11 6:30 Cub Scouts	12 9:00 Young at Heart Breakfast @ Quentin Haus	13 7:00 Men's Bible Study	14 7:00 Men's Bible Study	15 7:00 Men's Bible Study	16 7:00 Men's Bible Study
<b>17 15th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bell Choir (Sanctuary)	18 3:30 Worship Committee Mtg. 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	19 Life Line Screening @ Iona Church (8 am—6 pm) 6:00 Trustees Mtg. 7:00 Administrative Council	20 7:00 Men's Bible Study	21 6:00 DKG Meeting	22 5:00 Private Event (Gable Hall)	23 5:00 Private Event (Gable Hall)
<b>24 16th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	25 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	26 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	27 7:00 Men's Bible Study	28 7:00 SPRC Mtg.	29 7:00 SPRC Mtg.	30 7:00 SPRC Mtg.