



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

The Advance Edition

November 2017 Issue

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Special points of interest:

- Breakfast with the Holy Family
- Church Decorating
- Advent Services
- Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Praise God...from Whom all Blessings flow


*Thank you, God, for everything . . . the big things and the small.
For every good gift comes from You . . . the Giver of them all.
All too often, we accept – without any thanks or praise –
The blessings that You send to us in so many different ways.
And so, at this Thanksgiving time, we offer up a prayer,
To thank you, God, for giving us a lot more than our share.
Make us more aware, O God, of daily little graces,
That come to us with great surprise from ‘never-dreamed-of-places!’
We thank you for the miracles we’ve been just too blind to see,
And let us never take for granted the gift of faith from Thee!
Help us to remember that the peace in daily living . . .
Is to understand that You alone make every day Thanksgiving!*

“O give thanks unto the Lord . . . for He is good . . . and his mercy endures forever!” ~Psalm 106:1

Let us pray for the gifts of humility and generosity this Thanksgiving as we share with family and friends. May God Himself be present at your table.

~ Pastor Beth





SENDING A MESSAGE OF LOVE
to children around the world

It's Shoebox Time!

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, collects shoeboxes filled with gifts and delivers them to children in need around the world. To participate, just fill a shoebox with a variety of quality gifts that a child would enjoy!

How to pack your shoebox:

1. Get a Shoebox.
2. Select a quality "wow" toy, such as a doll, soccer ball with pump, or stuffed animal.
3. Include other gifts.
Changes this year: **NO TOOTHPASTE OR CANDY!**
4. Pray for the child who will receive your box.
5. Include a \$9 donation to cover shipping and other project costs.
6. Return your box by Sunday, November 19.

For more gift ideas and information pick up a flyer at the church!

Thank you for your participation!

LCCM Benefit Dinner...

The Lebanon County Christian Ministries Benefit Dinner will be held at the Lebanon Area Evangelical Free Church in Jonestown on Thursday, November 16.

An auction will be held at 5:30 p.m. followed by a "buffet style" dinner at 6:30 which will be catered by Country Home Catering.

Music will be provided by The Naimolis' and the Lebanon High School Choir.

Tickets can be purchased for \$25 from Bev Henry by Friday, November 10.

Adult Bible Study

Beginning December 3, we will be looking at Christmas through the eyes of Joseph for 4 Sundays. Little is known about Joseph, but we'll see that Joseph's place is much like our own in life. We encounter circumstances that we would have never chosen for ourselves. At times it can be tempting just to walk away.

Join us in the Library at 9:00 a.m. for the month of December and see how Joseph provides us with an example of obeying God even when we don't understand. We'll watch a video and then discuss what we saw.

All Saints Sunday November 5, 2017

All Saint's Sunday will be observed during the hour of worship on Sunday, November 5. This sacred time is set aside for anyone in the congregation to light a candle in memory of a loved one(s) who has passed away at any time.

Those of us who have experienced such a loss know that we may carry our grief for a very long time. Plan to use this part of the service to draw near to God ... receive His comfort and healing ... and to have the 'blessed assurance' that love never ends. Our Hope is in God alone.



Breakfast with the Holy Family

Tentative Date: Saturday, December 9

Mary and Joseph host this Saturday morning activity for children and families from the community. The guests enjoy a breakfast with character interactions and entertainment. The drama segments highlight Gabriel's visit to Mary, the journey to the census, no room at the inn, Jesus' birth, and the accounts of the shepherds and wise men discussing the events that happened in the past. There would be activities and sing-along Christmas carols.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

In order to carry this out, we will need Mary and Joseph, 2 shepherds, 3 wise men, and a child to read their parts. No memorizing. And we'll need kitchen help.

If you would be interested in taking one of these parts, please call Dave Shenk at 717-274-1206 or e-mail him at dstb4@comcast.net. Without your help, we won't be able to present this to the community.

Although it is scheduled for December 9, it is possible to change it to a more suitable date for the participants.



Church Decorating Saturday, December 2

Advent begins on December 3. The church will be decorated for the holidays on Saturday, December 2, beginning at 9:00 am.

We can use all the help we can get. Any questions? Please contact Betsy Swisher.

Fill Christmas Stockings on November 19

The Christmas Stockings for those in nursing homes will be ready to be filled with items (toothbrush, toothpaste, chapstick, a comb and tissues) by Sunday, November 19.



Following worship that day, everyone is invited to the library to help fill and sew the stockings. It usually takes about an hour to complete the job. Come help us in this worthy cause!

Servants of Worship Schedules for November

Thank you to all those volunteering their service for Sunday Worship. Below are the schedules for **November 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	
Nov. 5	Tom & Peggy Hombach
Nov. 12	Russ & Shirley Dundore
Nov. 19	Margery Deck & Maryellen Martin
Nov. 26	Jim & Dianne Miller

Sound Technicians	
Nov. 5	Ray Arnold
Nov. 12	Kathleen Steckbeck
Nov. 19	Ray Arnold
Nov. 26	Jake Barrett

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

Announcers	
Nov. 5	Robert Beamon
Nov. 12	Jeff Steckbeck
Nov. 19	Bev Henry
Nov. 26	Wendy Barrett

Refreshments	
Nov. 5	Aaron Robinson
Nov. 12	Deb Smith
Nov. 19	Jeff & Sue Steckbeck
Nov. 26	Cliff & Betsy Swisher

Zion Iona UMC Financial Info as of September 2017

	Monthly	YTD	Budget YTD
Income	\$ 17,027.00	\$ 135,869.81	\$ 117,345.00
Expenses	\$ 56,103.50	\$ 158,686.43	\$ 121,450.00
Net	\$ -39,076.50	\$ -22,816.62	\$ -4,105.00

Average Attendance for the Months: 53



Come! Lord Jesus!

Advent 2017

PEACE . . . Advent Week 1

Sunday, December 3, 10 a.m.—

“Let Us Find Our Rest in Thee” Isaiah 9:2-7

Communion

JOY . . . Advent Week 2

Sunday, December 10, 10 a.m.—

“Joy of Every Longing Heart” Luke 2:8-20

HOPE . . . Advent Week 3

Sunday, December 17, 10 a.m.—

“Hope of All the Earth Thou Art” Isaiah 40:21-31

LIFE . . . Advent Week 4 (Christmas Eve Morning)

Sunday, December 24, 10 a.m.—

“Born Thy People to Deliver” Matthew 1:18-25

LOVE . . . Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24, 6 p.m.—

“The Gift that Keeps on Giving!” John 3:16-21

November 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 10:00 F2F Pastor's Study (J. Shirey) 7:00 Men's Bible Study	2	3	4
5 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Communion Worship 4:00 Bells (Gable)	6 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	7	8 7:00 Men's Bible Study	9 7:00 Finance Committee Mtg.	10	11 9:30 4H Friends (Gable)
12 23rd Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bells (Gable)	13 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	14 9:00 Young at Heart Breakfast @ Quentlin Haus 6:00 Trustees 7:00 Admin. Council	15 7:00 Men's Bible Study	16	17	18 Cub Scouts—Game Night— Sleepover in Gable Hall
19 Thanksgiving Sunday 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship—Collection/dedication of shoeboxes Following worship—fill Christmas stockings	20 3:30 Worship Comm. 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	21	22 7:00 Men's Bible Study	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 Christ the King Sunday 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	27 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Women's Bible Study	28	29 7:00 Men's Bible Study	30		