



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

The Advance Edition

February/March 2018 Issue

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Special points of interest:

- Easter Worship Schedule
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Spring Handbell Reunion
- Hollywood Chocolate-Covered Squares

Lord, Teach Us to Pray . . .

The sunny days have helped us all to imagine that spring time will be here soon! It's time for the earth to sprout and grow beautiful things that reflect the artistry of our God . . . and it's also time for us to continue to grow spiritually as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Easter Morning!

One of the best ways to grow to know God better is through prayer. All of us have different questions, or even problems, with prayer and we will see what the Bible has to say to us.

From now until Easter we will encounter the Sermon Series, "*Lord, Teach Us To Pray.*"

We will think about things like . . . Feeling unworthy to pray . . . Wondering if God really hears our prayers . . . How do we know when He answers? . . . How can we know God's will? . . . How to focus our minds during prayer . . . The "power" of prayer . . . Meditation . . . Is it really possible to pray without ceasing? . . . The dangers of not praying . . . and . . . Is there anything such as a "wrong" prayer?

For Palm Sunday, we'll think about Jesus' declaration that . . . "My house shall be a house of prayer!" . . . and . . . during the Maundy Thursday evening worship, we will reflect on how Jesus Christ prayed in the Garden while the Disciples fell asleep.

On Easter Sunday Morning, we celebrate the Good News of the Gospel message and recall how Jesus predicted that the Disciples' mourning would turn to joy . . . remembering that the crucifixion of a "criminal" was not what it seemed to be at all!

The sermon for Easter will be . . . "Good Grief!"

I am looking forward to gathering with you on Sunday mornings as we encounter God together!

Pastor Beth

EASTER and HOLY WEEK Worship Opportunities

Our traditional worship opportunities during Holy Week will continue again this year.



Join us for Palm Sunday worship on Sunday, March 28 as we commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

A quiet time of meaningful contemplation and Holy Communion is planned for **Maundy Thursday** at 7 p.m.

Come and pray with our Lord in the garden.



Also, we plan to hold our traditional **Resurrection Celebration**

Worship Service Easter Sunday at 10:00 a.m. This celebration will include our Bell Choir. Pastor Beth will bring the morning message "Good Grief". Plan to attend this exciting time as we remember our Risen Lord!



So we encourage everyone to invite your friends and neighbors to our 10:00 a.m. Worship where we plan to meet God and His Christ in all His Resurrection Glory! We can't wait to discover the ways God has planned to reveal Himself to us on Easter Sunday as well as every other Sunday morning throughout the entire year!

Iona Egg Hunt Coming Soon!!!

March 31, 10 a.m.



We will have an *eggstra* special time at Iona Church celebrating the death and resurrection of Jesus. The entire family is invited to hear the *eggstremely* important events of Easter in an *eggsceptional* story presentation. There will be singing led by an *eggscellent* song leader.

Children and adults will have the opportunity to hunt *eggstensively* for hidden eggs which should be *eggsamined* for special prizes.

This event is to celebrate the *eggstravagant* gift of salvation that Jesus gave us when He died and rose again.

Invite your friends, neighbors, and family.

The Easter Experience

Beginning Sunday, February 18, at 9:00 a.m. in the Library for 6 weeks, we will experience the passion and resurrection of Jesus through a 20-minute DVD with dramatic storytelling. There will then be a time for discussion.

Will you be a part of this happening as we discuss the purpose of life, how life can change, how pain can be understood, and God's plan for our lives—based on the life of our savior? Why not give it a try?

A Reminder for the Lenten Season

"That is why the Lord says, "Turn to me now, while there is time! Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Don't tear your clothing in your grief; instead, tear your hearts.

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful. He is not easily angered. He is filled with kindness and is eager not to punish you."

~Joel 2:12-13



Spring Handbell Reunion



Can you hear the sound of handbells ringing at Iona over the years? On January 8, 1995, the Iona Bell Choir began under the direction of Lori West. Not long after, Lori moved out of the area and I was asked to direct the choir. After some prayer and reflection, I agreed to assume leadership. Through the years it has been a great blessing to be in music ministry with dedicated, musical bell ringers. I am thankful.

January 1997 the Iona Bell Choir resumed rehearsals and began to play in church again. The members at that time were Chris Sowers, Beverly Henry, Michelle Henry, Shelley Frick, Doris Fake, Dave Shenk, Sue Light, Mike Mulholland, Nancy Mulholland, and Carla Coomer. In the fall of 1997 Suzie Bachman and Kary Weyand joined the choir.

Soon there were others who wanted to play and we formed a second choir. The name "Joyful Ringers" was chosen by that choir composed of adults and youth.

Many people have played over the years and some no longer attend Iona Church. With that thought in mind, the idea of a Handbell Reunion was born. We will invite ringers to return to renew acquaintances and play in a grand choir. Both handbells and handchimes will be used, and if necessary, more than one choir will be formed. The event is planned for this spring.

To make this happen, we will need the congregation's help. As you know, over the years, contact information changes. If you know addresses, phone numbers, or emails of ringers who have played bells in the past, please share that information with me so that they can receive an invitation to the Handbell Reunion.

Thank you for your help,
Sheila Shenk
717-274-1206 / dstb4@comcast.net)

HOLLYWOOD CHOCOLATE-COVERED SQUARES



Saturday, February 24, 5 p.m.

Please join us for a night of games, dinner and desserts!

First, enjoy a light dinner of chicken-corn noodle soup, BBQ, hot dogs, and snacks. Next, indulge in delicious chocolate dipping stations for your enjoyment! Finally, you can participate in a fun-filled game of chocolate-covered Hollywood Squares!

All you bring is a dessert or dipping item to share. For example, you could bring brownies, cookies, strawberries, marshmallows, pretzels . . . whatever you would like to dip in chocolate!!

Please look for sign-up sheets on February 11 and 18, to designate your dessert or dipping item to share. It is sure to be a night of fun!!!

Lebanon County Christian Ministries

Annual Lenten Breakfast

**Saturday, March 24, 8 a.m.
at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center**

This year's guest speaker will be Rev. Jim Heath, Pastor of Cornwall U.M. Church. Providing the special music for this event will be St. Paul the Apostle Church Bell Choir.

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.

Secretary's Vacation

I will be on vacation from Friday, February 16 through Friday, March 9 and will return to the office on Monday, March 12.

As I will be preparing the bulletins before I leave, I ask that you please submit the info for the following bulletins as soon as possible but no later than **Monday, February 12**; February 18 & 25 and March 4 & 11.

During this time, several people have volunteered to collect and sort the mail, check phone and email messages and count and deposit the offerings. ***If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Beth at 717-376-8634.*** Thank you all for your help and support!



COME SUPPORT

Lebanon Valley Youth For Christ®

BIDS FOR KIDS

32nd Annual Auction

March 15, 16 & 17th

Lebanon Valley Expo Center & Fairgrounds

Baked
Goods &
Food
Available

Bid on great items
Support youth of Lebanon
Enjoy the community

Never been to
an auction?
That's okay! We
make it simple
and fun!

- Gift Baskets
- Lawn & garden
- Sports
- New & Used Items
- Quilts
- Gift cards
- Bicycles
- RV
- Jewelry & coins
- Books & media
- Winross trucks
- Hot Wheels
- Furniture
- Tools
- Vacation Packages

All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast
Saturday March 17th 6:30-10:00 AM,
Pay at the door
\$5.50 Adult \$3.50 Under 12

Kauffman's Chicken BBQ
Saturday, March 17th 10am-2pm
Eat-in or Take-out - Limited Tickets
available. Order yours today by calling.

For more information or donations contact
www.LVYFC.com 717.272.5106

Servants of Worship Schedules for February

Thank you to all those volunteering their service for Sunday Worship. Below are the schedules for **February 2018**. 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. 4	Russ & Shirley Dundore
Feb. 11	Doris Shyda & Maryellen Martin
Feb. 18	Jim & Dianne Miller
Feb. 25	Jeff & Susan Steckbeck
Mar. 4	Cliff & Betsy Swisher
Mar. 11	Doris Shyda & Maryellen Martin
Mar. 18	Chuck & Christina Watson
Mar. 25	Margery Deck & Tom Ambler

Sound Technicians	
Feb. 4	Christina Watson
Feb. 11	Jake Barrett
Feb. 18	Kathleen Steckbeck
Feb. 25	Ray Arnold
Mar. 4	Jake Barrett
Mar. 11	Christina Watson
Mar. 18	Kathleen Steckbeck
Mar. 25	Ray Arnold

Nursery (contact Sue Light with changes)	
Feb. 4	Margery Deck & Suzie Bachman
Feb. 11	Christina Watson & Sue Light
Feb. 18	Amy Donnachie & Bev Henry
Feb. 25	Deb Smith & Linda Hower
Mar. 4	Janice Kingsley & Sue Light
Mar. 11	Amy Donnachie & Suzie Bachman
Mar. 18	Margery Deck and Christina Watson
Mar. 25	Bev Henry & Janet Swift

Announcers	
Feb. 4	Janet Nelson
Feb. 11	Wendy Barrett
Feb. 18	Jeff Steckbeck
Feb. 25	Bev Henry
Mar. 4	Wendy Barrett
Mar. 11	Robert Beamon
Mar. 18	Janet Nelson
Mar. 25	Jeff Steckbeck

Refreshments	
Feb. 4	Maryellen Martin
Feb. 11	Aaron Robinson
Feb. 18	Deb Smith
Feb. 25	Jeff & Susan Steckbeck
Mar. 4	Cliff & Betsy Swisher
Mar. 11	Chuck & Christina Watson
Mar. 18	Russ & Shirley Dundore
Mar. 25	Ted Holcombe

Zion Iona UMC Financial Info as of December 2017

	Monthly	YTD	Budget YTD
Income	\$ 16,480.00	\$ 178,307.00	\$ 156,460.00
Expenses	\$ 12,556.00	\$ 197,714.00	\$ 159,607.00
Net	\$ 3,924.00	\$ -19,407.00	\$ -3,147.00

Average Attendance for the Month: 56

Community Events and Ministry Opportunities...



PennState Health
Milton S. Hershey
Medical Center

On Saturday, March 10, the Penn State Cancer Institute, in partnership with the American Cancer Society, is holding an educational program for the general public on the latest information related to prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment of common cancers. The program is free to participants.

Enrollment is limited and preregistration is required. Brochures and an on-line registration form is available on their website: <https://ce.med.psu.edu/reducing-cancer-forum>.

Hospice
OF CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

Hospice of Central PA is preparing for their Spring 2018 volunteer training programs.

The primary need at this time is for caring, compassionate volunteers to become part of the patient care team. They work with nurses, social workers, chaplains, bereavement counselors, and others on the hospice team to help care for patients and provide emotional support to the patients and their loved ones. HCP provides extensive training and ongoing support to their volunteers.

A list of volunteer opportunities is posted at the church on the bulletin board outside the church office and the first training session begins February 28.

For a volunteer application or

more information, prospective volunteers may call the Hospice of Central PA office at 717-732-1000 or 1-866-779-7374, or visit the website at www.hospiceofcentralpa.org and click on *volunteer opportunities*. Completed applications are due one week before the start of training to allow time for an interview.



Volunteers needed at Jubilee Ministries—a Christian non-profit that seeks to bring Life Change to men and women in prison, addiction, and homelessness.

Volunteer opportunities available at their five stores include: clothing tagging and sorting; pricing housewares; donations processing; cashier; cleaning; outdoor seasonal tasks.

For more information see the flyer posted on the bulletin board outside the church office or contact the Volunteer Coordinator John Balderrama, Jr. at 717-274-7528, x237 or johnb@jub.org.

Women's Spiritual Retreat



Midway Church
Wednesday, March 14
9:30 am - 2 pm

All women are warmly invited to the Annual Spiritual Retreat to enjoy good fellowship, be en-

couraged in your life and be a blessing to others.

The retreat topic is "Beauty Marks - A Day of Hope". Guest speakers are Linda and Jen Barrick. Come hear the remarkable true story of a family who overcame tragedy and learned to trust God's plan for their lives in a whole new way.

Registration deadline is Sunday, February 25. For more information see the flier on the bulletin board outside the church office, call 717-273-4832 or visit www.midwaychurch.net.


February 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>National Freedom Day</i> <i>African American History Month</i>	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3 9-Noon 4H Friends (#4 & 5) 10 am—4 pm Private Event (Gable Hall/Kitchen)
4 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship (Communion) 4:00 Iona Bell Choir (Gable)	5 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	6	7 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)	8 7:00 Finance Committee Meeting	9	10
11 Transfiguration Sunday Boy Scout Sunday 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Iona Bell Choir (Gable)	12 Lincoln's Birthday 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	13 9:00 Young at Heart Breakfast @ Quentin Haus	14 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)	15	16	17 9 -Noon 4H Friends (#4 & 5)
18 First Sunday in Lent 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Iona Bell Choir (Gable)	19 President's Day 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	20 6:00 Trustees Meeting 7:00 Administrative Council Meeting	21 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)	22 Washington's Birthday 7:00 SPRC Meeting	23	24 5:00 Hollywood Chocolate-covered Squares (Gable Hall/Kitchen)
25 Second Sunday in Lent 8:45 Children's Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	26 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	27	28 7:00 Men's Bible Study (Lounge)			

March 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 4 Third Sunday in Lent 8:45 Children's SS 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Communion Worship 4:00 Bell Choir (Gable)	5 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	6 13 9:00 Young at Heart Breakfast @ Quentin Haus 6:00 Trustees 7:00 Administrative Council	7 7:00 Men's Bible Study	8 7:00 Finance Committee	9 Evening - Cub Scouts Banquet Set-up (Gable Hall)	10 Cub Scouts Blue and Gold Banquet (Gable Hall)
11 Fourth Sunday in Lent Scouting Sunday 8:45 Children's SS 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bell Choir (Gable) *Daylight Savings Time Begins	12 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	13 9:00 Young at Heart Breakfast @ Quentin Haus 6:00 Trustees 7:00 Administrative Council	14 7:00 Men's Bible Study	15 7:00 Finance Committee	16 Evening - Cub Scouts Banquet Set-up (Gable Hall)	17 St. Patrick's Day 9—Noon 4H Friends (Rooms 4 & 5)
18 Fifth Sunday in Lent 8:45 Children's SS 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bell Choir (Gable)	19 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	20 9:00—3:00 F2F Training (Pastor's Study)	21 7:00 Men's Bible Study	22 7:00 SPR Committee	23 Evening - Cub Scouts Banquet Set-up (Gable Hall)	24 Cub Scouts Blue and Gold Banquet (Gable Hall)
25 Palm / Passion Sunday 8:45 Children's SS 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bell Choir (Sanctuary)	26 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts	27 9:00—3:00 F2F Training (Pastor's Study)	28 7:00 Men's Bible Study	29 Maundy Thursday 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship	30 Good Friday 10:00 Easter Egg Hunt	31 Evening - Cub Scouts Banquet Set-up (Gable Hall)