



A Message from Pastor Mathew

Darryl was riding his mule to town to get some supplies. His coon hound ran alongside them. A car came speeding up from behind and hit all three of them. Darryl ended up suing for losses and damages. At the trial, the defense attorney asked him "Is it true that at the scene you told the office 'I've never felt better?'" Darryl explained, "When the officer saw my mule with a broken leg, he put him out of his misery. When he saw my hound with a broken pelvis, he put him out of his misery. Then he asked me how I was doing."

* * *

How accustomed are we to just saying we're fine when things are not really fine? I've begun to notice more and more the darker mornings and the darker evenings and it's waning on me at times. It's a challenge to get moving when it's dark outside in the morning and it's tempting to be lazy when it's dark in the evening. Seasonal Affective Disorder can afflict people as we get into this darker time of year. Thankfully, I've heard it's treatable with light therapy or medication and one or the other can help the winter "blahs."

But, what about a Spiritual Affective Disorder? It may not be a physical darkness but a spiritual darkness that can lead to the spiritual "blahs." Life can be uncertain. Stress can be overwhelming. That darkness around us can spread within us. Thankfully, this is treatable as well with a certain Light therapy, the Light of the World, that is. Just as we might have a response to a physical or mental sickness or ailment, we should likewise have a response ready for those spiritual ailments.

Consider how everyday tasks and routines can become spiritual practices for us to help shine the Light on our "blahs." Throwing something in garbage can remind us that God in Jesus casts away our sin. As we make a meal or grab a snack, remember that we are fed with the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. As we wash our faces, let's remember our baptisms and the promises that go with them. As we exercise, remember that our bodies are gifts of God and to be thankful for whatever shape they are in because He can use us to bring Good News to others.

We may be hurting, disappointed, or depressed. If we try to cover it up, God can see through it. He knows our struggles. And if we find that we are having difficulty sustaining ourselves, look no further than to our Creator and the words of the Psalmist who says, "cast your burden on the Lord and he will sustain you." (Psalm 55:22). We may not like the spiritual "blahs" but we can be encouraged to know that we have a God who knows us, loves us, and not only deal with them but grant healing and wholeness along the way.

God's peace
Pastor Mathew



*None is
righteous,
no, not one.
Romans 3:10*

OUR MISSION: WHY WE EXIST

To bring people into a covenantal relationship with the Lord (Matthew 28:19-20), and to equip them for personal growth and impact.
Ephesians 4:11-26

COE President's Message *by Hal Donachy*

I've been involved in real estate investing for a long time, and this time of year reminds me of many experiences I've had with roofs over the years. Certainly, unfortunately, many of you have had similar experiences to mine. But, as a landlord and a custom home builder, I can tell you both the value of a good roof and the headache and heartache of one a leaky one. Throughout their life, roofs require maintenance and upkeep for them to survive well. We all need to depend on that top level of protection.

Our relationships are much like a roof. We've all heard *1 Corinthians 13* read at weddings, but do you associate it beyond weddings and into your daily lives. I can't say I do it knowingly daily, but I can say I do just that in my life. It's not easy to forgive and forget, to be patient and kind, to display humility over selfishness; to always trust and endure for the sake of our Lord and savior, Christ. But when I fail, I try again next time, and I believe that about you too- you fail and keep trying. After all, we're all sinners. As fellow Christians, can we depend on that from each other, without it being said to one another? Do you love me? Do you know that I love you? I do.

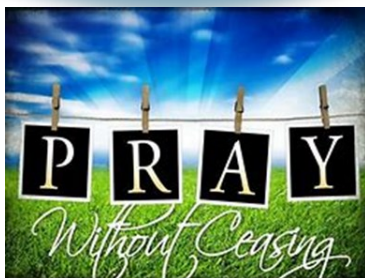
As a leader in our church, I live out these challenges regularly, always striving for better success together. I recognize shortcomings in myself and others and work to improve together always. I can say we're in real need of help in our church's leadership regularly. Our leaders are honestly overstretched and running a bit thin. (no one likes to hear that and it's never the thing you want to hear about your roof either.) Alternatively, we are still celebrating our recent wonderful additions to Zion's financial team. Now we're coming into a crucial time of need for Council members to replace those whose term has expired. I want you to prayerfully consider joining us and recommending others that you think would serve Zion well. Share your gifts, recognize the gifts of others and talk to them about this wonderful blessing of an opportunity. **YES, I'm talking to each of you.**

We need to lift each other up. No relationship will make it without grace, and the bible tells us that this is part of love....we gotta cut some people some slack and we gotta let things pass. (check out *Romans 3:10*) Love never stops being patient, it puts up with anything. The ESV translation says "love bears all things" The word in original Greek is "**STEGO**" which literally means to cover it with a roof. This kind of patient love and gracious love covers the relationship, and it lets some things slide because we all damage pretty easily.

We require each other's support, forgiveness and grace. We all depend on that covering from one another; and just like you, I keep trying and praying. I know that you depend on me, and I promise you that I depend on you too. Just like you, I let the world see that I refuse to give up and it's because of love and the Grace of God,

Prayer Concerns

Eric Bedont
 Corey Fischer
 Bill Greiner
 Pat Jason
 George Langford
 Shirley Mosticone
 Janice Reed
 Glenn Ribblett
 Suzanne Roberts
 Pat Sheridan
 Sandy Valenson



OCTOBER BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Emma Oeler	11/2/2013
Ian Oeler	11/2/2013
Abigail Dolgos	11/5/2006
Nicholas Garris	11/8/2020
Cassidy Delu	11/12/2016
Sheperd Hoffman	11/13/2016
Griffin Buzzelli	11/14/2021
Mark Morrow	11/20/2011
Vanessa Warden	11/21/2010
Alexander Wiskeman	11/23/2011
Emily Schubert	11/29/2009

*If we are missing your child's baptism date, please advise the church office.

DISCOVERING ZION

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 12
12 N—3 P

Interested in becoming a
 Zion Member?

Join us in the Fellowship
 Hall to learn more about
 Zion's beliefs, ministries
 and how you can be-
 come a part of Zion's
 faith community.
 A meal will be served
 after the meeting.

COMMUNITY CLOTHES EXCHANGE

November 4
10 A—2 P

FREE Clothes, shoes &
 coats for infants thru
 adults 2XL

Bring empty bags to fill

NO donations accepted
 at the event

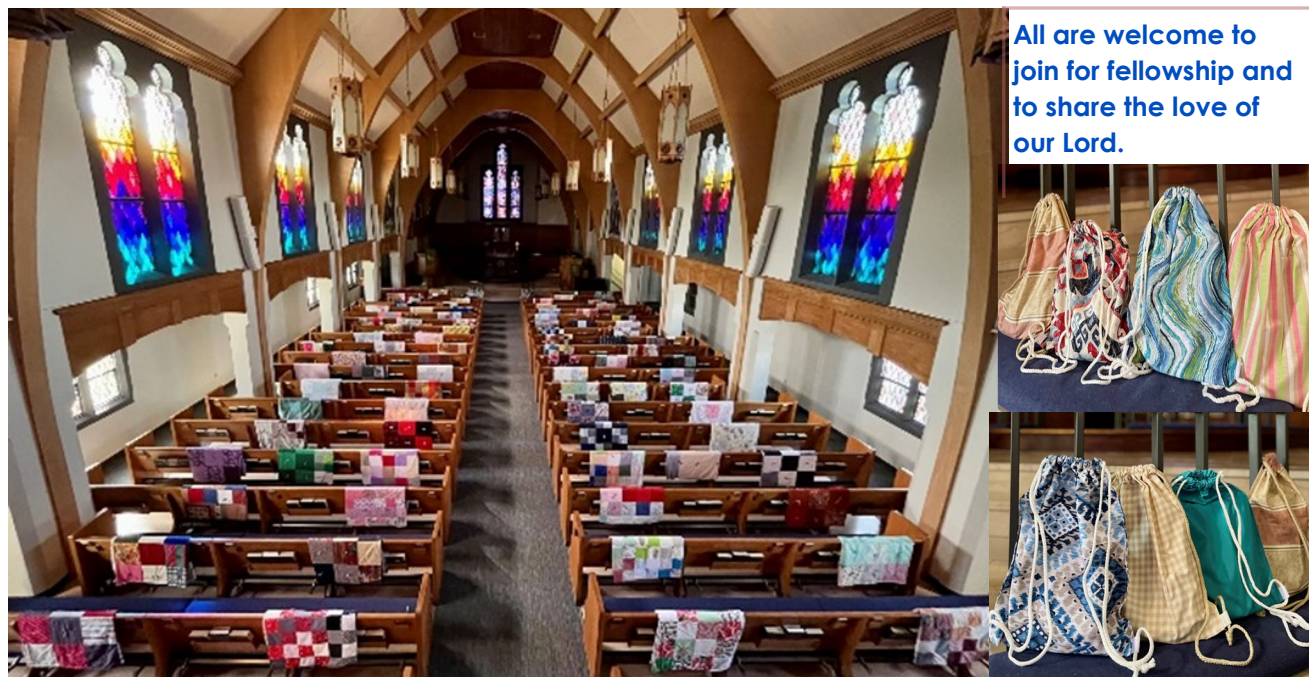
Hosted by Zion

Contact information
[Facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/)
 Community clothes
 exchange

**Please share if you know
 of someone in need.**

QUILTING MINISTRY

Every Thursday from 10A—3P, the quilters meet in Fellowship Hall. Each person contributes as they are able from cutting patches and tying quilts to sewing. They joyfully work to fulfill God's command to help others in need. The fruits of their labor were displayed during worship services on 10/1/23. **Thank you** to the quilters and those that delivered the quilts and school packs.



All are welcome to join for fellowship and to share the love of our Lord.



Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, Nov. 22

7:00 PM

(Stay for pie social following Worship)



Leaf Raking

On 11/11/23, the Property and Youth Ministries will be working together to offer leaf raking services to those in need within our church and community. If you would like this service or know of someone in need, please contact Amy Donachy or send an email to youth@zlcbbrentwood by 11/3/23. Space is limited.

BLESSING OF THE BEASTS

October 4, 2023



CHRISTMAS COOKIES FOR ZION'S HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Please share the love of Jesus by baking Christmas cookies for the homebound.

- Place 1-2 cookies each in 30 small ziplock bags.
- Drop off in Zion's kitchen by Thursday, **November 30th**.
- NO NUTS or NUT products due to allergies.



VESTRY ELECTIONS

Vestry elections will be held following services November 18 & 19, 2023



CHRISTMAS EVE 5PM WORSHIP

- Singing!
- Speaking parts!
- Costumes!

*Please RSVP in
Sunday School that
your child(ren) will
participate!*



PIES NEEDED

Please share the love of Jesus by helping Zion with pie donations to the Light of Life Rescue Mission this Thanksgiving.

- Apple, Cherry and Pumpkin pies in disposable tins are needed.
- The pies should be delivered to Zion's kitchen on Tuesday, November 21, 2023.



SENIOR CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Let us serve you!

Wednesday, December 6, 2023
10:30 AM—1:00 PM

RSVP on the Zion's website or call the church office.
(412-881-5512)



MINUTES MATTER

A UPMC Community Initiative

The **minutes matter** program prepared both Zion and community members to better respond to the scene of an accident, cardiac arrest, overdose or other crisis.

Thanks to UPMC for a great presentation!



Youth Craft Fair/Bake Sale – October 22, 2023





Angel Tree Program

Each Christmas, Zion shows a caring spirit for seniors in our community nursing homes by providing Christmas presents through the Angel Tree Program. The program seeks out seniors that have no family contact. For those that want to show our care for these residents, please take a tag from the tree in the narthex or basement entryway and sign your name on the sign-up sheet by the name you have selected. Please return wrapped gifts with the **original tag attached** by **December 4, 2023**. Place gifts in the Heritage Room, or if locked, in front of the doors.

Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent.
Psalm 71:9

Sarris Candy Sale

Please support our youth by purchasing your Sarris Christmas candy.

- ✦ Order forms available in the Narthex
- ✦ Return forms and payment to the church by **November 19, 2023**
- ✦ Orders will be ready for pick-up at the church on Saturday, **December 16, 2023**
- ✦ If you prefer to shop online or have friends/family members that live out of town and would like to support Zion's youth, there is easy online ordering at SarrisCandiesFundraising.com using Group ID# 10-1370. Shipping costs will apply to online orders.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

