



A Message from Pastor Mathew

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you" - Ephesians 1:18a

We are entering yet another new year and while any time is a great time to begin new habits, hobbies, or lifestyles, we typically enjoy attempting such feats at key beginnings like a new year. I like to ask people the following question: On a scale of 1-10 where are you in regard to actively deepening your faith? Most people would take this question to mean "where is your faith right now?" but that's not what I'm asking. While your faith may be at a 5 or 6, the question I am asking is how much of an effort are you making at turning that 5 or 6 into a 7 or 8? As we embark on this new year together, I pray that you would consider new ways to actively deepen your faith and to live 2026 for Jesus. Here's two options I'd like to share with you.

1). Participate in or start a new Bible Study

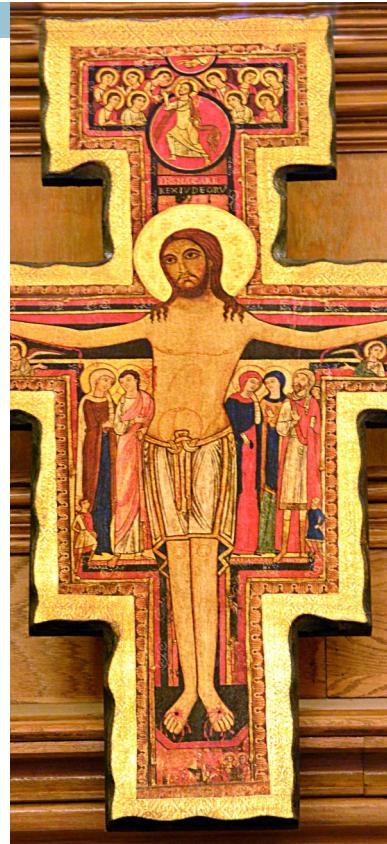
Some of you already participate in Bible studies or small groups, but others don't. Just because you are in a Bible study already doesn't mean that you can't do another one. Go to a second Bible study. If you don't go to a Bible study already, start going to one. There are plenty of options, all of which are different. There are plenty of ways for you to participate in a new Bible study.

2). Pick One Person

There are many thoughts out there on how to best bring Jesus to other people who don't go to church. The NALC focuses on what they call Life to Life Discipleship. Rather than focus on the masses, they encourage people in their congregations to single people out and develop a relationship with them. Many people already have friendships or family relationships with those who don't go to church and this is a great way to start. Engage within one of those relationships and do what you can to share your faith with them. Do you have a book that you enjoyed reading about faith? Pass it on to them. Do you see them after church on Sunday? Talk about the service. Ask questions that could be openly discussed without fear of a wrong answer. When you feel comfortable not having all the answers when it comes to faith, it can open others up as well. Share something you recently learned about God or the Bible. Focus on that one person all year. Even if it is not the time to invite them to church, at least bring church to them through you. If you are their only connection to a church, then you are one very important person.

God's peace,

Pastor Mathew



*"Set your minds
on things that
are above, not on
things that are
on the earth."*

Colossians 3:2

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

Zion's 2026 Vestry

President	Anita Reck (president@zlcbrentwood.org)
Vice-President	Denny Oeler (COE liaison to Health & Safety Committee)
Secretary	Mike Miller (COE liaison to Ministry of Property)
Member	Nancy Angelo
Member	Shari Dodge (COE liaison to Ministry of Youth)
Member	Karen Stoddart (COE liaison to Ministry of Disciple Life)
Member	Vacant
Treasurer (Appointed)	John Thatcher
Financial Secretary (Appointed)	Alice Carney

Servants Needed

Counter

A counter is needed to join a team that counts on Sunday following worship. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is in need of 1-2 more members. The members work in teams of 2 to assure the altar is prepared for worship and communion. The team decides date/time to set up. If you are interested, please contact Cheryl Squier (cheryllsquier@outlook.com) or the church office.

Please prayerfully consider how you may best serve God and Zion; as a counter, on the altar guild, on a Ministry or committee or in another way.

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

Romans 12:11

Sunday Adult Class Schedule

Session 9: **January 4**, Forgiveness and Forgiving

Session 10: **January 11**, Cause us to Flee

Session 11: **January 18**, A Desperate Plea

January 25: No class due to annual congregational meeting

In Our Prayers

**Joshua Alukonis
Bob Ammon
Kevin Barrett
Lynn Broman
Joe Coreno
David Detwiler
Mary Ann Dunlap
Corey Fischer
Jon Galland
Marshawna Hill
Casey Hirsh
George Langford
Glenn Ribblett
Dani Richey
Suzanne Roberts
David Sheridan**

Dear Zion Church Family,

Thank you for your extremely generous gift card donation. We are able to help so many families thanks to your generosity. Have a blessed Holiday Season!

Moore & Elroy Elementary Schools
Brentwood School District

JANUARY BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Laura Thatcher
Alexandra Gosnell
Max Breisinger

January 14, 2018
January 18, 2009
January 21, 2024

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

**Worship Times
Saturday 5 PM
Sunday 9 AM**

See Zion's Website or the worship bulletin for information about small group Bible Study and Faith Education.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday, January 25, 2026
10:30 AM
(following 9AM service)**

Following the meeting please join in fellowship for a potluck brunch. For those who are able, please bring a dish to share.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual reports must be submitted to office no later than **1/5/2026** to assure that they may be assembled and distributed two weeks prior to the Congregational meeting. Thanks!

**2026 Offering
Envelopes
are available
in Narthex.**

CHRISTMAS EVE



***Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!***



January 23-25, 2026
Marriott Pittsburgh Airport

Youth Quake is a regional youth gathering that is being held in Pittsburgh. The event includes worship, a speaker, several breakout sessions, games, a dance, a talent show, and more. We are looking for interested youth and chaperones. For more details including cost, please contact Pastor Mathew.



Community Clothes Exchange

Saturday, February 7, 2026
10A - 2 P

If you are interested in helping with this exchange or future ones, contact Lane Magera.

Senior Christmas Brunch



Happy New Year!

“Jesus Christ in the same yesterday and today and forever.”
Hebrews 13:8