

# OLD ZION'S TRUMPET

*...Blow ye the trumpet in Zion...*

Volume 35 Number 1      Brickerville, PA      May 2017

## *Strawberry Social*

*Saturday, June 10, 2017*

*3:30 - 6:30 PM*

### **BERRY BRILLIANCE**

Old Zion Church, Reifsnyder Road, Brickerville will celebrate its 39th annual Strawberry Social on **Saturday, June 10 from 3:30-6:30 pm** (rain or shine) that promises to be a *colorful* event. The *color RED* brings to mind ripe, luscious strawberries. *YELLOW* conjures up the thought of many slices of different types of cake to choose from. *WHITE* will stand out in the vanilla ice cream prepared by Fox Meadow Creamery and of course the whipped cream to top off this amazing berry dessert. All of this delicious start-of-summer fare includes a drink to all for \$5.00.

The delicious kettle cooked, homemade chicken corn soup that is an excellent \$3.00 starter mixes a bounty of colors and flavors from fresh chopped parsley, hard boiled eggs, noodles, chicken, broth, and Lancaster County sweet corn. All proceeds go toward maintaining this historic property for both current and future generations to appreciate and enjoy.



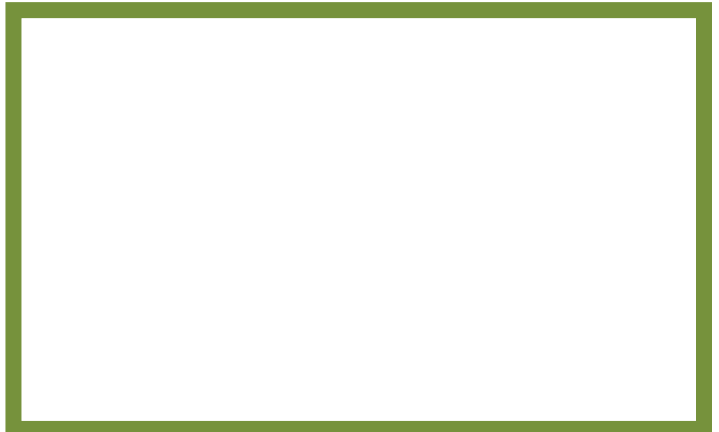
Your visit will be most comfortable if you bring along a blanket or folding chairs and trays for your food.

The final *color*, **GREEN**, is found in the expanse of grass which covers the church's property and the lovely Brubaker Valley below. Take time to visit the cemetery, which dates to the time of the Revolutionary War, and take a walking tour through the 204 year old church to learn about Old Zion's *colorful* history from Old Zion Board members.

Old Zion's *colors* create a most peaceful, delicious, old fashioned summer celebration. Please join us. [www.oldzionchurch@gmail.com](mailto:www.oldzionchurch@gmail.com)

### **PROPERTY CARE**

During the past 6 months, Old Zion's dedicated Board members have made exterior property improvements a priority. In early December a stamped concrete pathway was installed around the church building. This attractive, new path provides a safer walkway for visitors.



This spring, energetic Board volunteers planted grass seed and myrtle next to this path and covered the plantings with protective mesh and straw. In addition, the area immediately next to the building was weeded and mulched. The overall appearance of this path area is quite lovely.



Recent spring time storms brought high winds and torrential rain to the Brubaker Valley area and to Old Zion. Along the church property's wooded area, there were numerous fallen branches, along with a huge tree that was uprooted. Fortunately it landed just past the storage shed. Arrangements were made with a tree surgeon to remove these limbs and the fallen tree. In addition, dead branches along the wood's edge were also removed to prevent future possible property damage and injury to visitors.

As with any property, there are always numerous large and small projects. Some future property improvements at Old Zion include outside painting, window glass replacement, and cemetery maintenance. Old Zion's Strawberry Social, the Christmas Carol Sing, miscellaneous donations and grants go toward making these improvements happen.

### **ANNIVERSARY SERVICE**

*September 10, 2017 @ 4 PM*

### **CHRISTMAS CAROL SING**

*December 9, 2017 @ 2 PM and 4:30 PM*

Join us for a brilliant start to the holiday season. Caroling will be led by and seasonal songs performed by the quartet, *Break From Blue Collar*. FREE tickets required. Check out the winter edition of the newsletter for more information.

## **UNIQUE WEDDINGS**

Weddings at Old Zion church are very special occasions. When wedding guests arrive they often surprised and delighted to visit this wonderfully primitive, but lovely setting. The guests enjoy discovering the church's special features including: the wavy window panes, the iron fixtures, and the original woodwork.



Old Zion Church's unique setting lends itself to traditional services, non-traditional wedding ceremonies, and small intimate gatherings. Every type of service is enhanced by this original, historic environment.

The acoustics in Old Zion are wonderful and work beautifully for all music selections and for varied instruments and voices. Photographers appreciate using the beautiful light, pastoral view, and church building as the background for their photos.

Old Zion Board volunteers are always present at all weddings and rehearsals to answer any questions and to assist in any way possible.

In April of this year, two spring weddings were held. There still are some open 2017 dates until Old Zion's wedding season ends, the second weekend in October. Some arrangements have already been made for 2018.

Interested persons should visit Old Zion's website, [www.OLDZIONCHURCH.ORG](http://www.OLDZIONCHURCH.ORG) for additional information.



## COMPANY SUPPORT

Old Zion Church volunteer board would like to thank the many businesses who have supported efforts to preserve and care for the beautiful church building and grounds. This year the board would like to highlight a few businesses in each of the newsletters.

Thank you FOX MEADOW CREAMERY. The Creamery's delicious vanilla ice cream has become a new tradition at the church's annual Strawberry Social.

Thank you SENSENIG'S POULTRY. Sensenig's chicken and broth joined the Strawberry Social last year adding a wonderful flavor to the chicken corn soup.

Thank you DAVIS MULCH. The mulch in the flower beds and newly landscaped edging helps highlight the church and manage pesky weeds.

These three businesses are only the beginning of a great list of folks who support what volunteers do to care for Old Zion.

## WELCOME TO THE BOARD

At the annual organization meeting of the board, four new members were welcomed. We appreciate their volunteerism and look forward to working together. All of the photos were taken during the board spring clean-up day.

We'd like to take a moment and introduce them to you. Emily Jones is pictured with her husband Tony. Emily and Tony were married at Old Zion Church last year. Emily was glad to have the chance to give back to the church serving on the board.



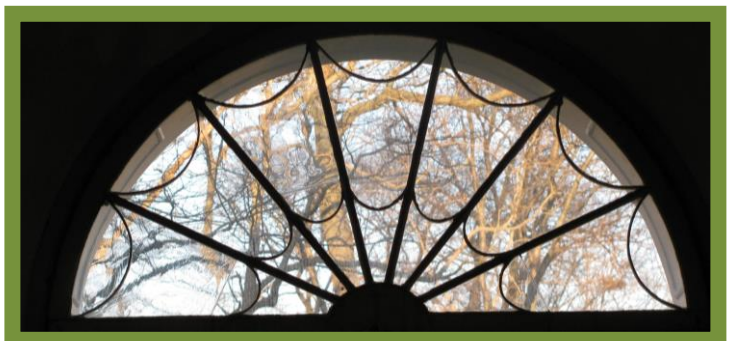
Scott Hartz left is pictured working with his father Charlie Hartz. Both Scott and Charlie have volunteered at Old Zion event for the past few years. You may have spotted a wreath Scott made for the front door at the Carol Sing. He and his dad were on board to join board at the start of the year.



Robin Kegerise is pictured helping to fix boards surrounding the property. Robin is a chorale member and helped to lead songs at the Carol Sing last year.



Each board member brings a unique perspective, valuable skills, and an interest in historical preservation. Meetings allow for discussions, reasoning, and planning. We all appreciate the team approach that moves our mission forward.



# HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Architectural – Historical Report on Old Zion Reformed Church – Brickerville, by John J. Snyder Jr.

This title referenced is the name of a 24 page research paper completed by John Snyder in 1979. It represents many hours of research on Old Zion Church and a tremendous desire to preserve it structure true to its 1813 state. He recognized that Old Zion is the most intact “meeting house” type church in Lancaster County. It is one of a handful in Pennsylvania, and one of the best documented examples of the Federal period of architecture in South Central Pennsylvania.

What follows are several highlights taken from Snyder’s research paper.

The “meeting house” plan of Protestant churches was brought from Europe and common in New England. Emphasis was placed on preaching and the Lord’s Supper, and therefore, instead of long aisles for ceremonial processions, the congregants were seated on three sides with the pulpit and communion table on the fourth side.

The Federal style is evident in Old Zion with its box like form and the symmetrical arrangement of its windows and doors. The semicircular tops of three openings above the doors, inherent in the brickwork, place Old Zion among the structure in the period between 1780 and 1820, a time of burgeoning cultural and economic growth.

Old Zion’s architecture was most likely influenced by Rev. John Theobald Faber, who preached there between 1807 and 1819. Faber witnessed the replacement of the old log church with the present brick building. He brought a Philadelphia orientation to this area which influenced its style of architecture. Another most definite influence was the “joiner” or builder, Emanuel Deyer of Manheim. Records mention him as a leading craftsman and prominent joiner of the area. His name was found on loose boards discovered beneath the chancel platform of 1890. They document Deyer as the builder in 1813, assisted by his sons George and William. It is logical that he followed architectural pattern books of the

period, in particular, the Rules of Work of the Carpenter’s Company of the City and County of Philadelphia, 1786. Old Zion’s six original first floor windows and the two tall windows flanking the pulpit have interlaced muntins (bar or rigid supporting strip between adjacent panes of glass) typical of the decorative ornamentation exemplified in the aforementioned source.

In 1978, Snyder was instrumental in replacing nine pairs of casement window sashes on the second floor. These windows were placed in 1890, replacing the original style. Windows of 1890 represented the late Victorian style with larger panes and broader rounded muntins. Snyder encouraged the board to replace these windows in 1978 with the original sashes found on the first floor. The only difference evident today is that the upper sashes have one less row of panes than the lower ones. The size of the panes on both levels is the same.

Records of bills and receipts of window glass (always the same size) purchased between 1840 and 1860 for Old Zion was found at the Schaff Library at the Lancaster Theological Seminary. The fan lights (meaning glass panes) above all the doors are consistent with the other window style except that the pattern of muntins reflect the different function of these openings.

A photo of Old Zion from 1929, shows an obvious lack of trees and shrubs around the building. This was intentional in order to keep a clear view of the structure and its symmetrical design.

*Look for more information in the next edition.*

