

# OLD ZION'S TRUMPET

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

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## A BERRY BENEFIT

Come celebrate 40 years of summer socials at the Old Zion Church, Reifsnnyder Road, Brickerville where we'll celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Strawberry Social on **Saturday, June 9 from 3:30-6:30 pm** (rain or shine). The passing chilly spring has enhanced cravings for Lancaster County's home grown summer strawberries. June 9 is just around the corner.



Picture your choice of cake smothered in sweet, ripe berries with Fox Meadow Creamery vanilla ice cream to the side topped with whipped cream along with drinks available. Delicious chicken corn soup will be made on the property with local ingredients. The cost remains at \$5 for dessert/drink and \$3 for soup.

This is summertime at it simplistic best. Visitors can enjoy local delicious food, stroll through Old Zion Church and the historic cemetery that dates prior to the Revolutionary War. The view from the grounds is hard to beat and there's plenty of room to visit with family and friends.

For your comfort and convenience, bring along a folding chair, a tray to carry food, and please don't forget your summertime appetite.

## A NEW FENCE

Reifsnnyder Road travelers may have noticed an updated appearance surrounding the Old Zion Church grounds. A new stable white fence now encompasses the property. Board member, Scott Hartz researched and coordinated this much needed improvement, which was made possible through a legacy gift.

Replacing, repairing, and painting the traditional locust posts and board fencing was a never ending project. Each spring board members considered fence focused discussions regarding: Where could the proper lumber be obtained?, Who would work on installing needed repairs?, and Who would be available to repaint sections?.

Three separate automobile accidents in the past several years damaged sections of the fence along the road and heightened a need for a sustainable solution. The end result was completed in April this year by Mill Creek Fence Company. The white low maintenance long lasting material includes a natural wood grain to keep in step with a historical appearance. It is both weather resistant and quite attractive.





## A WEDDING SEASON

Old Zion Church is a unique wedding venue. Wedding season at Old Zion begins the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in April and concludes at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of October. To date, five weddings have been scheduled for 2018.

Old Zion has hosted a wide variety of wedding services ranging from those that are very traditional to others that are more casual yet each is in keeping with the historical nature of the venue. Whatever the style of the event, the lovely original building and grounds provide a perfect and memorable setting for weddings and other special occasions.

## A SNOW STORY

On December 9, 2017 at 8 AM members of the Old Zion Board gathered at the church grounds with an eye gazing up at the sky, looking out over the Brubaker Valley, and repeatedly checking the weather forecasts on phones.

None of us wanted to cancel the Carol Sing scheduled for that afternoon and early evening. Our hearts were saying one thing, while you could see snow was falling to the south, beyond the immediate Brubaker Valley area. At that point a board member commented that we needed a “clear sign from above”. With-in moments, snow began to fall. The “sign from above” made it clear, the event would be canceled.

When it snows or there is snow/ice on the ground, the historical grass parking area is not able to be plowed. A grassed area with multiple automobiles becomes unstable and could be hazardous to vehicles and people. Most importantly is the concern for the safety and well-being of the attendees. The parking area and walkway also remains historical without electric lights in and out of the building. Safety is always our number one concern.

The good news is that our 2017 scheduled musicians, “Break From Blue Collar” have agreed to lead the music for the Dec. 8, 2018 Carol Sing. So please, mark that date on your calendars with the hope that a “clear sign from above” will bring a clear day for singing.



Recent weddings included one where all of the members of the wedding party arrived and departed in shiny, pick-up trucks. At another ceremony the bride and groom drove away in a vintage 1966 dark blue VW beetle with a vanity license plate that spelled out the wedding date.

The invited guests seem to enjoy the unique and different atmosphere. Their comments reflect their surprise and appreciation. Frequently they will spend time prior to and after the service exploring the building and cemetery. The rehearsals and weddings are always hosted by volunteer board members, who are available to answer guest questions.

For more information, additional details, and a rental agreement form, please check out Old Zion’s website, [www.oldzionchurch.org](http://www.oldzionchurch.org).





## **A THANK YOU**

Thank you HENDRICK’S FLOWERS. Hendrick’s Flowers has generously donated spring bulbs to be planted around Old Zion Church. As the winter cold subsided, the south side of the church was the first place to pop with colors of tulips and daffodils. We appreciate Hendrick’s donation and invite visitors to enjoy the lovely addition to the spring view of the church.

## **A NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD**

Rev. William LaSalle joined the Old Zion Church Board this year. With an avid interest in history and genealogy, Bill decided to join the board after retiring from Bethany UCC, Ephrata. The board is a diverse group of individuals filled with a variety of skills and talents. We welcome Bill on board!



## **A PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVE**

Can you remember what that stone or that brick looked like just 5 years ago? This is a question members of the board have asked. Maintenance and preservation go hand in hand when projects are considered.

Funded through a grant, the board is in the process of creating a photograph archive of stones, bricks, wood, and glass. Imagine that when Old Zion’s original congregation gathered photography hadn’t been invented. Today we’re starting a new method for the board to track changes and sustainability.

Board members are always appreciative of archival photos in black and white that illustrate the church in the 1900’s; these treasures are hard to find. Today there are a variety of platforms for managing photos so that hopefully they’ll be available for many years to come. Josh Slaymaker Photography has taken on the project. Each single photograph is a combination of three snapshots blended for focus and lighting both inside the church and outside. Stay tuned as this project progresses through 2018.



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# 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

*September 9, 2018 @ 4 PM*

It's the Homecoming season in September at Old Zion and for more than 70 years a fall service has been held at Old Zion. The organ will come to life with a truly unique sound, and you'll have a chance to join in a hymn from the days gone by.

Any and all ages are encouraged to attend. There's always a bit of history shared and everyone will leave with something to consider for the week ahead. No theatre speakers or ear buds can compare to sounds of the acoustics in the church space.

It's a welcome mindful worship and historical service sure to get your week off to a great start. Mark your calendar.

## CHRISTMAS CAROL SING

*December 8, 2018 @ 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.



[www.oldzionchurch.org](http://www.oldzionchurch.org)



## A HISTORICAL BITE OF INFORMATION

The organ in Old Zion Church was a gift to the church. A hand-me-down gift so to speak, the organ was donated from Brickerville Lutheran Church. Old Zion has a fondness for hand-me-downs which also include the chandelier in the church.

Originally, there had been a small pipe organ in the church. Then the current organ found a home at Old Zion after a journey that started at Salem Lutheran Church in Lincoln and on to Brickerville Lutheran Church and finally Old Zion Church.

Looking at the pew directly in front of the organ you'll find that markings of the organ bench which attached to the pew by two iron bars.

## A PERSPECTIVE

200 years ago, in most cases Sunday school classes were divided by girls and boys with boys sitting in this section of the church with a wide perspective of the church.

