

October 25, 2020 – Reformation Sunday

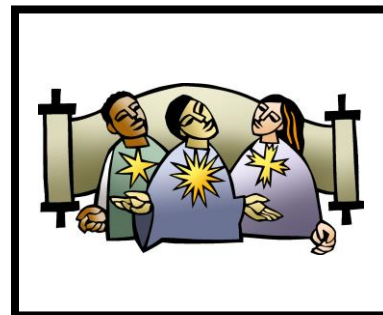
Farewell



On Sunday, November 1st, we will be bidding Farewell and Godspeed to Pastor May, as he retires from 36 years of ordained ministry. Please join us at 9:30 a.m. outside the CEB for a reception to wish him well. With the arrival of colder weather, we will be holding a 15-minute Holy Communion Service at 9:00 a.m. at the church, and a service of Spoken Word and Communion at 10:30 a.m. In keeping with state and CDC guidelines, there will be no singing at either service.



Sunday School families with children in Pre-K through 6th grade are invited to come to the CEB at 6:30 p.m. on Wed., November 4th to help pack the bag lunches for Faith Kitchen. Masks and gloves will be worn. RSVP to Rhonda Rossi at youth@zionoldwick.com.



All Women of Zion are invited to this year's Virtual Thanksgiving Dinner on Wed., Nov. 11th at 6 p.m. We will connect on Zoom to share our meals, a devotion, and a time of thanksgiving and prayer. Thanksgiving meals will be available for pick-up at the CEB from 12 p.m.-5 p.m. on 11/10 and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on 11/11. We can also deliver the meals in the local area. Sign up via the link sent by email from the church office. Any questions? Contact Debra Kaufman at 703-402-2158.



Please continue to support the ministries of Zion with your offerings and prayers. Financial contributions can be mailed to the Parish Office at P.O. Box 41, Oldwick, NJ 08858.



Sign up to donate items to this year's Military Recognition care packages. Visit signupgenius.com and find the sign-up by clicking on the magnifying glass at the top of the page and entering the church's email address (parishadministrator@zionoldwick.com) in the "Search for a Sign Up" box. Please drop off



Welcome one and all to Sunday morning Adult Fellowship, hosted by Rhonda Rossi! This is a time of informal conversation and reconnecting with each other. We are practicing social distancing, wearing our masks, and having a great time! It's been good to catch up and see familiar faces again.

We are gathering in front of the CEB at 9:30 a.m. and finding a place to meet. Bagels are being provided. Please bring your own coffee. Let's reconnect!

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Gospel: John 8:31-36

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members

- + **Donna Gorky**, *who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.*
- + **Linda Herder**, *who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.*
- + **Bonnie Summer**, *who is undergoing rehabilitation and recovering at home.*
- + **Ted Talis**, *who is recovering at home.*
- + **Paul Zerfas**, *who received a stem cell transplant to combat his multiple myeloma.*

Friends and Family

- + **The family of Pat Ciccattelli**, *friend of Millie Mellblom, who are mourning Pat's passing.*
- + **Bill Gibbs**, *relative of the Formalarie family, who has ALS.*
- + **Rita Gorky**, *mother of Paul Gorky, who is recovering at home from a stroke and remains unable to communicate.*
- + **Jeff**, *brother-in-law of Robbin Lamo, who has been diagnosed with esophageal cancer.*
- + **Daniel Kentopp**, *brother of Linda Smith, who is struggling with a number of health issues.*
- + **Dixie Kentopp**, *mother of Linda Smith, who is recovering at home.*
- + **Sally Kohl**, *mother of Stacey Rothermel, who is in long-term care and struggling with Parkinson's disease.*
- + **Greg Minerowicz**, *son of John and Wendy, who is making progress in his recovery from an acute stroke.*
- + **Noreen**, *friend of Debra Kaufman, who is undergoing chemotherapy.*
- + **Martin Simon**, *friend of the Kunkel and Wintemute families, who suffered a stroke and is recovering at home with ongoing issues.*
- + **Nicole Smith**, *friend of Colleen Bryson, who is undergoing her third brain surgery this month.*
- + **Mary Ann Wilmoth**, *relative of Judy Formalarie, who has been diagnosed with Lymphoma.*

Those in the Armed Services

Lindsay Carrick, Daemon Durham, Christopher Grinnell, Robert Heinke, Erik Lindquist, Hunter MacKenzie, David Maravel, Cody McAleer, Gilbert Mercedes, Patty Oelschlager, Kurt Rossi, Elizabeth Snyder, Daniel Wort, Joshua Wort

Suggested prayer for those with health concerns:

Almighty and merciful God, you are the only source of health and healing; you alone can bring calmness and peace. Grant to our sisters and brothers an awareness of your presence and a strong confidence in you. In their pain, weariness, and anxiety, surround them with your care, protect them by your loving might, and grant to them once again the gifts of health and strength and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Suggested prayer for military members:

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces, and all who serve this country at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.