



Zion Goshert's UCC
1588 Mt. Zion Road
Lebanon, PA 17046

<https://ziongosherts.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/ziongoshertsucc/>

Pastoral Search - 2025

The Opportunity:

Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ is a multi-generational congregation seeking a full-time ordained Pastor who is gifted in leadership and Biblical preaching. The person will be called to the church ministry to have a passion for evangelism and love people.

The Church and Demographics:

Location: We are located about five miles north of the City of Lebanon. Hershey is located about 25 miles to the west, Reading is approximately 25 miles to the east, and Lancaster County is 25 miles to the south.

History: The land of the current church was donated by Samuel Goshert in 1853, and dedication of the church was held on September 10, 1854. However, there is documentation showing that a Reformed congregation was in existence about 1813, and the first regular pastorate began in 1824 organized with Rev. John Gring serving as pastor. In 1934 a "giant remodeling program" on Zion Church was undertaken with rededication services held on September 30, 1934. In 1963 an addition was built onto the church containing washrooms. In 2006 another addition was built onto the church to the north containing a narthex, office area, a handicap bathroom, and a small kitchenette on the main floor. Three classrooms and a handicapped bathroom were included downstairs. The existing downstairs was also rehabbed by a committee of the church with upgrades to the kitchen/serving area.

A new Wickes pipe organ was purchased and installed in 1958. Several upgrades to the organ have been completed over the

years, with the most recent organ upgrade of \$17,500 just completed February of 2025.

In 2024, Consistory established a Vision Committee that is currently working on plans to renovate an existing Fellowship Hall on the 6+ acres in our church grove, which is adjacent to the church.

Current Membership: 120

Average Sunday Attendance: 55

Community Outreach and Church Activities:

- Home-made soup and pot pie sales
- Home-made chicken barbeque fundraiser
- Vacation Bible school
- Trunk or treat
- Sight & Sound trip in Lancaster
- Bears Hockey game in Hershey
- Quarterly serving of the community meal at Lebanon County Christian Ministries
- Bring your tractor to church, backpack blessing, and other outdoor services held in our church grove.
- Bible/book study groups
- Confirmation class currently with five participants in the class of 2025.
- We have a small but active choir that is led by a very enthusiastic Music Director during each Sunday service.
- All are welcome to participate in open communion.

The Candidate:

The chosen candidate will have effective communication and organizational skills, preach the Gospel, enhance small study groups, and good leadership skills. They must have strong people skills and a driving passion to reach people and help them grow deeper in their faith with God. Experience or a strong passion to lead a small church with a rural setting is desired. Above all, the candidate must have a passion for God himself - dedicated to knowing Him and loving Him with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Goals and Expectations

- Willingness to reach out and encourage young families and youth to join the congregation.
- Build relationships with the body of Christ: through Consistory, worship services, small group participation, counseling, visitation, youth ministries, and engaging the church in various opportunities.
- Bring knowledge and ideas to Consistory and committee meetings.
- Develop sermons that will connect with the congregation and provide life application that results in a transformed life and will challenge and inspire all in their daily walk with Jesus.
- Leading, developing, and coordinating volunteers to expand existing programs and create new ones.
- Oversee Music Director/Pianist whether on staff or contracted. Work with them to enhance the worship service.

Personal Characteristics

- The candidate will prayerfully seek the wisdom of God who is the almighty leader of the church.
- A person with a strong love of the Lord.
- A strong leader with deep beliefs of God's Word in the life of His church, standing firmly and preaching on the Biblical truth.
- A person with good communication and organizational skills, ability to build relationships, and a compassionate and encouraging leader with a profound love for people.
- A person able to motivate others to find their God given gifts and use them in the life of the church and community.
- A person that will continue our rich tradition of welcoming, loving, and supporting each other in their walk with the Lord.

Education

A B.A. degree with Pastoral/Ministry Leadership or equivalent education is preferred but not required.

Salary: Range of \$45,000-\$60,000 PLUS benefits, Depending On Experience. Zion Goshert's UCC is willing to work with any individual currently in training for ministry.

Please send your resume and salary requirement by July 31, 2025 to: ZGTreas2021@Outlook.com.