

Baltzer Meyer Historical Society Restoration Project Update

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We're excited to share the progress of our **Restoration Project** at the historic Old Zion Lutheran Church! With your help and enthusiasm, we are steadily bringing this cherished landmark back to life.

Phase 1: Sanctuary Clean-Out – Completed!

Over the years, the Sanctuary has served many purposes — from worship space to storage and work space for both the Hempfield Area School District and Hempfield Township, and later as an area for our own displays and collections. During our recent cleanup, we uncovered a surprising number of leftover materials from those earlier times.

Now, the Sanctuary is cleared, organized, and ready for its next transformation. All valuable items have been safely moved to the garage. **Phase 1 is complete!** Come visit and see the difference — and catch a glimpse of what's ahead.

Phase 2: Windows – Let the Light Shine Again!

The next step in our restoration is replacing the windows. Soon, light will once again pour through the Sanctuary!

The new windows will feature **UV protection** to safeguard our artifacts while filling the space with natural light. We're also planning something special for the upper window sections to reflect the church's heritage.

- **Large windows (cemetery side):** 10 ft. tall × 2½ ft. wide
- **Small windows (parking lot side):** 2 ft. tall × 2½ ft. wide

You can help by **sponsoring a window**:

- **Large Window – \$2,600**
- **Small Window – \$1,000**



Two large windows and two small windows have already been sponsored — thank you to our generous donors! Please consider joining them to help bring light and warmth back into the Sanctuary.

Phase 3: Removing the Old Heating System

The large metal heating system near the ceiling no longer works and must be removed. If you or someone you know could assist with this task, please contact us — your help would be greatly appreciated!

Phase 4: Electrical system

The electrical system needs upgraded.

Phase 5: Carpentry

Once the windows are in, we'll move on to repairing the interior. This phase will include:

- Fixing holes in the floor
 - Replacing damaged wainscoting
 - Repairing the lower sections of the small windows
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Future Phases

As you can imagine, there's still much to be done to restore this historic treasure. Future projects will include:

- Adding modern lighting
 - Installing a new heating system
 - Painting
 - Refinishing the floors
 - Restoring the mural
 - Upgrading the security system
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How You Can Help

As you can see, the plans are extensive. We have made great progress and have some funds in place, but **we need your help to complete this important restoration.**

Please consider making a **tax-deductible donation** to the Baltzer Meyer Historical Society. Every contribution, large or small, brings us closer to preserving our community's history and breathing new life into this remarkable building.

Together, we can ensure the light shines again in the Old Zion Lutheran Church — a lasting symbol of our shared heritage and community pride.

With gratitude,

The Baltzer Meyer Historical Society