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Our Anchor Holds! As we sensed the changing winds shifting in 2014, the reality crashed upon the shores of national and global commotion as men's hearts failed with fear. This was a time of great opportunity for the church to arise to be light in darkness--holding tight to the only One who is unchanging, and to declare the Hope that lies within us - Jesus Christ - Yesterday, Today and Forever! For we have a Kingdom that cannot be shaken.... "a HOPE that is strong, trustworthy, firm and secure and cannot breakdown under whatever the pressure bears upon it." (Hebrews 6:19 Amplified)

Journey of Prayer Ministries - Journey of Prayer Services have gathered each Wednesday to seek God for the Church, the USA, Israel and the World for the past 11 years. A strong focus has been on our nation which has departed from the Fear of the Lord with a slow but consistent eroding, evidenced in aborting life, taking prayer out of schools, removing God's creation & design for the family, and finally changing the laws to align. A year and a half ago, with a deep burden I began to do Prayer Mapping, whereby we placed a picture of the USA before us. After a time of study of God's Word, we began to do Strategic Prayer with a deeply pronounced urgency of the Holy Spirit. As we stood in the gap, each intercessor came forward with a burden for each specific state in the USA calling out specific needs. In addition, the Journey Team hosted our ZCC 7th Annual National Day of Prayer - a time where the body gathered corporately to worship and pray freely in Jesus' Name for the church, our nation, Israel, the family, media, and evangelism. This year's theme was WAKE UP AMERICA, with the focus scripture "Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet." (Isaiah 58:1)

Spiritual Development - Fellowship/Discipleship - The continued development of the various adult ministries within my area comes with individual mentoring/accountability, pastoral care, and team building, which is monitored and shepherded to grow deeper and ongoing to the scope of oversight. This year I attended the Annual National Christian Counseling Education Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee titled: Emotions, with a team who minister within our Pastoral Care Department. This powerful conference with national speakers, such as Joni Erickson Tada, Ed Welsh and more, targeted our Emotions in Suffering, Grief, Anxiety, Marriage, Abuse -- tooling us as well as ministering to those who shepherd. These equipping conferences avail great resources for all of our Isaiah 61 Ministries that I am able to review and bring back for the next year.

Get Connected Ministry - What a privilege to oversee and teach our 2015 Fall and 2016 Spring Classes! Building upon the strong foundation that has been developed and expounded, this year we saw the diversity of multi-culture, singles and marrieds, young and old - learning, growing and being knit together. Get Connected is a full team effort with a seasoned Leadership Team and faithful Ministry Team that meet the demands of this large interactive ministry. With it came further defining ministry roles as an opportunity to disciple and develop the team members. The Get Connected Ministry is designed to teach God's Word as a gateway ministry to build disciples with a theme that goes beyond Sunday attendance that clearly says: We want to know Jesus More and be changed into His likeness, and we want to know YOU! Together we are empowering a continued platform of true Fellowship in Christ with roots that will grow deep. With that said, pushing against the tide of isolation weekly, we are reinforcing the vital community of doing life together that God offers through His Church. The class environment enhances a deeper and richer opportunity to learn and grow together, while availing a ZCC Membership track as well as Leadership protocol.

As we serve as a ministry, we adopted the Isaiah 61 Hope and Help for the Single Mom Ministry and each Spring and Fall Class supports the children in their back-to-school experience in addition to coming alongside them to help them purchase Christmas gifts. Have YOU attended Get Connected? Register for our Spring 2017 Session!

Baptism Ministry - This year we added an additional Spring Baptism, and I offered a total of 4 separate class options for our Baptisms. These teaching segments included "Walking in Newness of Life", within our discipleship connection experience and 52 people were baptized in our 2016 Spring Baptism Service and our Summer Annual Raise the Praise Picnic Fellowship.

Family Ministry/Pastoral Care - In addition to the great privilege to oversee and teach, a large piece of ministry is tending our large growing church. There are many areas of shepherding that have expanded the last year within pastoral counseling that encompasses marriages, addiction, grief/funerals, family support, visiting the sick as well as the family. Those we shepherd are further encouraged to embrace our well rounded biblical model of discipleship through Growth Groups, Life Groups, and our Isaiah 61 Ministries. Jen Olszyk, Pastoral Minister and Counselor, continued to minister, counsel and make visitations in our Care Department as well as connect with other counseling/rehab partners for referrals. Our ZCC Pastoral Care Leaders minister specific in their focused area of expertise, as well as visitation. They continue to be used in a powerful way to minister grace, hope and care as called upon. Donna Burzynski coordinates the traffic of this area with myself to dispatch caregivers to meet the needs and follow-up.

Isaiah 61 Healing & Renewal Ministries - Continue to impact the lives of the brokenhearted and set the captives free within the local church and community. Victory in Christ-Men, led by Carl Scialfa and Frank Menci held a special Conquers Series on Purity - an outreach to all men that brought freedom, accountability and victory! Victory in Christ-Women, led by Jan Dunlop, and Friend of a Wounded Heart, led by Deb Scialfa and Alicia Herald, joined our overall vision to bring healing, deliverance and restoration to individuals and families associated with codependency. GriefShare Ministry, led by Eloise Russo and Maura James, and Divorce-Care led by Patti Parker, Hope and Help for the Single Mom, Joan Stahl; minister with hope and healing with testimony of new beginnings! Surviving the Holidays Seminar was hosted that brought comfort and care to many struggling men and women in the Holiday season that have come through the current and past sessions. Surrendering the Secret, led by Lescena Minn, ministers to those who are struggling with post abortion healing, and we have partnered with the First Choice Women's Resource Center on Sanctity of Life Weekend in January to raise awareness and care.

Hearts of Joy Women's Ministries - Attended the Girl Friends Ministry Weekend in 2015 at beautiful Sandy Cove, MD. In 2015, 130 Women celebrated Christmas at the beautiful Bridgewater Manor as our own Raphael and Aly Giglio led us in worship and special song. Our keynote speaker was Jessie Seneca from "More of Him Ministries" in Bethlehem Pa. Kathy Miller leads HOJ, co-leading with Lillian Diaz, Julie Pitcher and Janet Mulcahy, who coordinate our Monthly Fellowships with a variety of speakers, food and fellowship! Other events included a Spring Concert with national performing artist Cheri Keaggy and our Annual Garden Brunch on our beautiful Somerset campus with 128 Women. We also returned again to Sandy Cove Retreat Center, MD for our 2016 Retreat, with Sharon Glasgow of the Proverbs 31 Ministries, and a theme of BATTLE READY, a powerful weekend in the Word and our own Samantha Butler who led us in worship!

Discipleship/Growth Groups - Our Women's Discipleship continued by a faithful team of dedicated Women's Leaders with an array of Women's Bible Studies going deeper into God's Word while growing together as iron sharpens iron. These studies were held on select mornings/evenings that met the needs of our ladies and encompassed a vast scope of areas that women walk through. Go to www.zarephath.org/growthgroups to discover our 2017 Spring Groups!

ZCC Fellowship Team - Tony Pampani, Lynda Marsman and Carl Scialfa coordinated our 2016 Annual Raise the Praise, our all church fellowship to encourage the Body of Christ to STAY CONNECTED! We are so grateful as over 100 people stepped up to serve - greeting, setup, hospitality, cooking, parking, and children's games - and over 500 were in attendance. During the course of the year, our ZCC ministries are working in their individual areas, but these events bring big picture synergy to serve one another together. WELCOME RECEPTIONS - Our ZCC Fellowship Team hosted 3 seasonal Welcome Receptions that brought together 320 new visitors to share a meal, while being welcomed by our pastors and leaders. Our Welcome Receptions provide an intentional, intimate setting where those who are new to ZCC can meet the Pastors and Ministry Leaders, while connecting with others who are new for the first time. If you are new and if you have never attended before, our next Welcome Reception is March 12, 2017 immediately following the 11:30 Service. Looking forward to meeting you personally as we... Get Connected - Grow Connected - Stay Connected!