

APRIL 2022
VOICE OF ZION

A Monthly Publication of
Zion Lippe United Church of Christ
9000 Copperline Rd E
Mt Vernon IN 47620
812 985-2437
website: zionlippe.org

Secretary email: zionlippesecretary@gmail.com

Secretary Hours:
Tues, Wed and Thurs 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Rev. Jeff Long, Pastor
Pastor cell: 812 306-4675
Pastor email: zionlippepastor@gmail.com

Sunday Family Worship at 10 am
Sunday School at 9 am

Worship Attendance

<u>Date</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Virtual (est.)</u>
2/27	140	51 devices
3/2 Ash Wed	61	n/a
3/6	139	65 devices
3/9 Lent	61	n/a
3/13	133	36 devices
3/16 Lent	46	n/a
3/20	135	40 devices
3/23 Lent	47	n/a

Virtual Sunday worship is available on YouTube, both live stream and recorded for later viewing.

Sunday School Average Attendance

March: Adult (18+) = 14
Youth = 19 (downstairs SS & Confirmation)



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE STREAMED THROUGH YOUTUBE!

You can always join us for worship wherever you might be. To easily view the worship service simply go to our church webpage... www.zionlippe.org... and click on the "Watch Live" tab and you will be able to view the worship service when it goes live. The live stream will normally begin approximately 5 minutes before the scheduled worship time so if you arrive a little early just be patient, the stream will begin at approximately 9:55 a.m. If you have any questions please let Pastor Jeff, the church office, or Greg or Jonathan Schmitt know and we will be happy to assist in any way that we can.

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**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY DATES & TIMES TO REMEMBER**

- April 14<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday Worship - 7:00 p.m.
- April 15<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday Worship - 7:00 p.m.
- April 17<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday
  - 6:30 a.m. - Easter Sunrise Service
  - 7:15 a.m. - Sr. Youth Breakfast
  - 10:00 a.m. - Easter Worship w/special music
  - 11:00 a.m. - Church Easter Egg Hunt



# APRIL

In order to share in the joys and celebrations of our lives as a congregation we publish a monthly list of birthdays and anniversaries of members and friends of Zion. Numbers in ( ) represent year.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

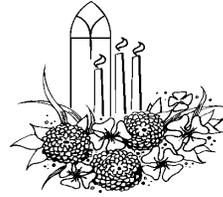
- 1 Phil Wuertz
- 2 Sean Hollen, Grace Johnson  
Dan Hoffman
- 3 Diana Walker
- 5 Jared Reidford, Ramsey Barrow
- 8 Robert Juncker, Max Simpson
- 9 Jennifer Ploetz, April McCutchan
- 10 Lori Breiner
- 11 Nick Neidig
- 12 Cherie Johnson, Samantha Reese
- 13 Rob Bullington, Jr.
- 14 Kyle Voegel, Tom Lang
- 15 Jim Donner, Jessie Brame
- 16 Scott Dougan, Larry Lewis, Ashley Shreffler
- 17 Kyle Hoenert, Mary Schauss  
Melanie Mann
- 18 Philip McCutchan, LeeAnn Hoenert,  
KayLee Roberts
- 20 Linda Koch, Lindsay Calvert
- 22 Tyson Barrow
- 23 Elise Lewis
- 24 Debbie Reineke
- 25 Carol Abbott, Diana Redman,  
Harper Schmitz
- 26 Charlene Wiethop
- 27 Megan Ploetz, Lisa Seitz
- 28 Linda Juncker
- 29 Dillon Davenport, Lily Swope
- 30 Austin Spears

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 1 Kraig & Mackenzie (Smith) Schmidt (2017)
- 4 Rob & Cherie Johnson (1987)
- 9 Travis & Robin (Schroeder) Crowe (2016)
- 12 Philip & April McCutchan (2003)
- 15 David & Lisa Simpson (1989)
- 18 Bill & Doris Smith (1992)
- 25 Robert & Rachel Hast (2015)
- 26 Terry & Mary Jane Schroeder (1980)

- 26 Phil & Sherry Wuertz (1986)
- 27 Cody & Jennifer (Taylor) Elles (2013)

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed or not correct, please call the office at 985-2437 so we may update our records.



*Funeral services and interment for Rev. Ruby Schroeder were held at Zion on March 26, 2022. Her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday would have been on this date. We cherish good memories of Rev. Ruby.*



## Bake Sale for Operation Christmas Child April 3 in foyer

**OCC Collection items for April are** hair brushes, combs and accessories. Leave your items in OCC box by elevator in foyer. Contact Ashley Lashley if questions.



Thanks to Russ Roehr and Linda Juncker for bringing their creative flower arrangements many Sundays to beautify our Sanctuary!

A big Thank You to Ruth & Marvin Redman and Rosie Bogard for putting up the new curtains in the upstairs Sunday School Hall. They look great!



It was April 4th, 1968 - 54 years ago - that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated in Memphis. He was there to support a group of striking sanitation workers. Some had been holding signs saying, "I am a man." In a society that saw color first, and class second, this strike was an attempt not only to gain bargaining advantages, but to assert human dignity in the face of great injustice.

And it was there in Memphis, on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel, that Dr. King was gunned down in what would become a terribly violent year in American history. At the time of his death, he was both unpopular and feared.

The ensuing decades have proven that his goals were honorable and his ministry helpful in having our country live up to its declared ideals. I am not sure if anything but faith can render a verdict on whether his overarching principle of non-violent resistance was the most effective in overcoming injustice and ancient prejudice.

King was killed just ten days before Easter that year. Hymn writer Brian Wren put pen to paper and wrote a hymn that was intended to express Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. On Easter Sunday 2022, the cross in our sanctuary will stand empty representing a Spirit that continues to promote love, peace, equality, and justice and invites us to make sure that Spirit remains alive and vibrant.

The words to that hymn written 54 years ago ring true for Easter 2022...

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.  
Christ is alive!  
No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching every place and time.  
In every insult, rift, and war  
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.  
Women and men, in age and youth,  
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life, the truth,  
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.  
Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Easter... *Pastor Jeff*

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**** Pastor Jeff will be on vacation Monday, April 18 through Sunday April 24****



Zion's Lenten Services continue each Wednesday evening at 7 pm, through April 6. A light meal (free-will offering) will be served starting at 6 pm before the March 30 Wednesday service, **but no meal on April 6.**

PALM/CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, APRIL 10



On Palm Sunday, we will remember the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and we will look at the preparations underway for Jesus to celebrate the Passover meal with his disciples.



In addition we will also celebrate the Rite of Confirmation with our confirmands and their families. We will hear the confirmands' statements of faith and witness their confirmation during worship. Thank you to Chloe Schroeder and Brock Heneisen for their commitment to their growth in Christian discipleship.



This year's **Children's Easter Egg Hunt** will take place following our 10:00 a.m. Easter worship service. We will have all children gather in the Sunday School Hall following worship. Once everyone has gathered and is ready, children will be allowed to begin the Easter Egg hunt by age, starting with the youngest children. There will be bags for children, however they are also encouraged to bring baskets, etc. to collect their eggs. Parents are requested to help supervise the egg gathering.

Thank you for your help.

Calling All Graduates

We want to celebrate all those graduating from high school, college, and apprenticeship programs! Please call or email Ruth in the church office - zionlippesecretary@gmail.com and let us know about any graduates no later than the morning of May 12th. Include information on where they are graduating from, degree received for college, and what is next. We look forward to celebrating this group on Sunday, May 15th.



Congratulations to Jake & Kirstin Gibson at the birth of their son, Knox Daniel on February 22, 2022. Knox is also welcomed by big brother Grady.

Adult Sunday School—A New Series Starting April 3

For the past few months, Steve deClaissé-Walford has been teaching the adult Sunday School class, attempting to answer questions such as 1) Why were the Jewish people expecting a Messiah?; 2) Why did the Jewish people reject Jesus as the Messiah?; and 3) Why did the Gentiles (those who were not Jewish) accept Jesus as the Messiah?

Starting April 3, Nancy deClaissé-Walford will pick up the mantle and embark on a six-week series titled “A Close Reading of Genesis 1-11.” The first eleven chapters of the book of Genesis are the prelude, if you will, to the stories of our ancestors in the faith—Abraham and Sarah, Rebekah and Isaac, Jacob and Rachel and Leah, and so forth. In those eleven chapters, we find two stories of creation (Genesis 1 and 2), the “fall” of humankind (Genesis 3), the story of Cain and Abel (Genesis 4), the flood Genesis 6-9), and the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11). Why does our Bible begin with these stories? What do they tell us about God, about humankind, and God’s involvement in the lives of humanity?

“A Close Reading” means that we will delve into the way various biblical translations have chosen to render the meanings of the Hebrew words in these chapters. We will look at a number of versions of the Bible—including the King James, the New International, the New Revised Standard Version (our pew Bible), the New Living Translation, and others. I urge you to bring to class two or three versions that you may have at home, and I will supply various versions’ translations. We will then compare and discuss the various translations. Oh, and you WILL learn some Hebrew! That will be the fun part!

The schedule will be:

- April 3: Genesis 1—“In (the) beginning”
- April 10: Genesis 2—The Second Creation Story
- April 17: Genesis 3—“The Fall”
- April 24: Genesis 4—Cain and Abel
- May 1: Genesis 6-8—The Flood
- May 8: Genesis 11—The Tower of Babel

Come as and when you can, and I look forward to meeting with you!

Nancy L. deClaissé-Walford (Brandt)

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*We recently received a letter of appreciation from the **Evansville State Hospital** for our donations over the years of new & used greeting cards and calendar pictures, which they use for craft projects with the residents. Here are some additional needs they shared with us:*

- CD music (any genre) from the past 10 years to download onto mp3 players for the patients
- worn t-shirts in bright colors and denim jeans to make rag rugs and sensory bags
- Ruler Foods gift cards or Visa cards for patients in a new transitions program.

*Contact Irma Donner for more info about donating these additional items.*



The Women of Zion are planning an evening of "Painting with a Twist" on Thursday, May 12 at 6 pm. Any and all ladies are welcome to join us for this evening of fun and fellowship!

Be sure to sign up by May 7. There is a \$35 fee for the cost of the canvas - fee is due by May 7 - pay in cash or by check payable to Brush Mileage LLC. Turn your payment in to Rosie Bogard and check with her if any questions.



**Relay for Life Card Party** is Thursday, April 7, 6-9 pm at St Francis Catholic Church in Poseyville. Come for soups, sandwiches, nachos, desserts and games! Tickets are available at First Bank in Poseyville for \$5. See flyer on foyer bulletin board, or contact Nancy Dougan if questions.

**Also mark your calendars for the Posey County Relay for Life main event to be held June 11** at Murphy Park in New Harmony. Zion will again have a Relay Team. Sign-ups will be forthcoming. Contact Hans Schmitz or Nancy Dougan.



## Zion Lippe UCC Council Highlights 03/08/22

Attendance: Michelle Heneisen, Brian Crase, Dan Hoffman, Bob Klenck, Rosie Bogard, Russell Roehr, Carl Barchet, Jeff Long, Nancy Lewis.

2/28 YTD Regular Offering: \$26,966.83  
2/28 YTD General Fund Income: \$27,387.39  
2/28 YTD General Fund Expense: \$31,103.88  
Difference: (-)\$3,716.49

March 30th Council will furnish Wednesday evening meal of vegetable soup with council providing desserts. Will decide later if additional sandwiches are to be provided.

St. Peters has reached out with interest in Co-sponsoring Vacation Bible School with Zion. Further discussion details to be continued.

Positive response to restart of Sunday school, both Children and Adults. Pastor Jeff considering a restart of Young Adults SS in downstairs/kitchen area, schedule yet to be determined.

Lenten Benevolences discussed. Council would like to wait until post Easter to designate.

Brad Becker evaluated office/foyer restrooms/communion prep room heat and cooling issue on Feb 17th. Recommendation and Quote yet to be provided.

Slate/steeple repair-no info yet. To re-contact Jasper to set up an evaluation.

Curtains in SS Hall completed; many thanks to Rosie, Ruth, and Marvin Redman, they look very nice. Cost was \$240.

Mowing bids to date are: Old Cemetery-one bid by Lee Cullman; Parsonage lawn/front SS/play ground-no bid; Ball Diamond-confirmed area will be mowed by Gary/Staci Voegel; New Cemetery-one bid by Lee Cullman (handled by Cemetery Committee). Council would like to extend mowing bids thru end of March, mainly due to update of groundskeepers work rules/expectations recently updated via council.

Minor formica repairs in the basement/kitchen area needed, suggestion to contact Joe Anderson for guidance.

Beginning discussion on tuck pointing of the church, suggest to secure a review and cost estimate from Bunge Masonry to understand project cost and potential timing.

Work with Pastor Jeff in establishing an outdoor dedication event post installation of the children's playground.

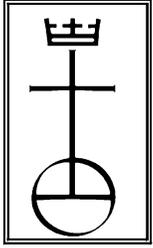
Upcoming events are Holy Week, Easter, Palm/Confirmation Sunday.

Easter egg hunt will take place Easter Sunday after worship, Nancy will coordinate the activity.

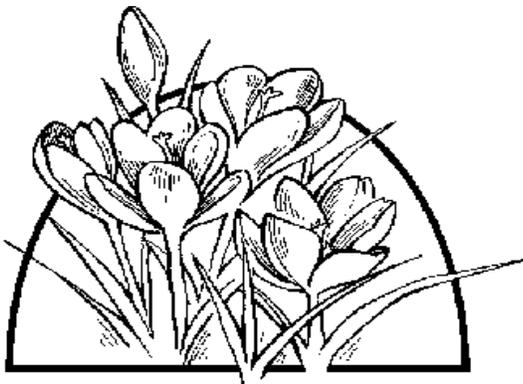
Playground update: checks have been issued for fencing and 50% of Playground equipment. Timing yet to be established pending availability. Interest has been expressed from members in the existing playground equipment. Loss and replacement of trees at the playground was discussed. Most of the trees will likely be replaced. Possibility of offering a "sponsorship" for tree replacement. Discussion will be held with donors of existing trees that were provided in memory of a loved one.

Center Point energy bill was reviewed for Jan/Feb.

Positive comments were made that the transition post Covid to in house worship and activities seem to be progressing well.



ZION LIPPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
9000 COPPERLINE ROAD E  
MT. VERNON IN 47620



**April**



***5000 Roll Toilet Paper  
Challenge!***

Zion Lippe, Immanuel, and Salem  
Heusler Churches are collecting toilet  
paper for United Caring Services.  
Please drop off your tp in the foyer  
by Easter Sunday, April 17.