

AUGUST 2023

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>
7/2	105	17 devices
7/9	165	21 devices
7/16	117	57 devices
7/23	145	47 devices

Sunday School Average Attendance

July: Adult (18+) = 14
Youth = No Youth SS in Summer

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE STREAMED and RECORDED FOR LATER VIEWING ON YOUTUBE !

You can always join us for Sunday worship wherever you might be. To easily view the live 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. For later viewing of recorded services, go to YouTube and search for Zion Lippe.



Greeter Schedule for upcoming Sundays:

Thank you to the many folks who have volunteered! Please continue to look for the monthly schedules in the next Voice of Zion newsletters.

- Aug 6 – Roger & Joyce Klenck**
- Aug 13 – Matt & Lauren Kern**
- Aug 20 – Dan & Linda Koch**
- Aug 27 – Tom & Katy Lang**

- Sept 3 – Gail Lashley & Carolyn Turner**
- Sept 10 – Gary & Ashley Lashley**
- Sept 17 – Larry & Nancy Lewis**
- Sept 24 – Ben & Ashley Lingafelter**

We will have magnetic name tags available for our greeters, and hand-shaking is optional. If possible, please try to be here about 9:30 am or so. If you know ahead of time that you can't greet the Sunday you are scheduled, you can let Worship Chair, Rosie Bogard know – but if something comes up and you can't make it that's ok!

If you haven't already talked with Rosie Bogard about greeting, but would like to be added to the schedule, please contact Rosie or the church office.



For the past few weeks, our church, along with many of you, have been enjoying tomatoes from all sorts of places... and a home grown garden tomato is delicious. Almost nothing says summer more than a BLT and a glass of your ice-cold beverage of choice.

And there are so many farmers markets, locally grown vegetable tables at churches, at the ends of driveways and all sorts of extra vegetables that sometimes a bundle just might show up on your porch unexpectedly. Many of those vegetables end up in local restaurants and diners and eating locally supports local growers who choose the freshest and healthiest options, and/or to reduce their impact on the environment. These are now lifestyle choices, but it used to be simply how things worked. People had to eat locally because there was no alternative.

In Jesus' day, people's lives were intimately connected to the cycles of planting and harvesting. Jesus often used metaphors about plants and agriculture. Jesus' own words, coupled with the beauty and bounty of our gardens have caused me to think about the connection between our relationship with food and our spiritual practices.

Two things I have learned from the garden: First, I have learned the importance of remembering that the real work is not completed in a single growing season, but over time. All sorts of things need to be taken into consideration when growing a garden. Considerations must be given to the soil, the water and the sunlight. And the same sort of thing is true in our spiritual lives: certain spiritual practices like reading the Bible, journaling, daily meditation on Scripture, and prayer are important elements to consider when growing in our faith and in our spiritual lives.

Just as in the garden a gardener adjusts and is constantly tending to the plants, we too can try new things as we grow in our faith. Learning to extend a measure of grace to ourselves about our daily spiritual practices is in itself a lesson in spiritual growth.

Second, I have learned that it is a process made easier by a community of people who hold shared values. Our gardening skills can be broadened and greatly enhanced by others. We all can learn from many people in the community about what works and what doesn't. There are all sorts of different strategies for achieving the same results, like the best way to plant, irrigate, and even compost!

In our Christian faith, we have many traditions for spiritual practices from which we can learn, but we also have the gift of living mentors, friends, and a church family who can often shed new light, share practices they use, and help us on our way when we are searching.

The combination of building a deeper relationship with God through faithful spiritual practices and learning alongside one another within our community of faith is what being a church family is all about. How can we help each other tend to the growing season we are currently experiencing? Whether you are growing a seed in a cup on your windowsill or you are a master gardener taking in an abundant harvest,

remember that things grow best when they are given what they need. In your spiritual lives, carve out some time to grow, be gracious to yourself, and give yourself the time, the space, the sunshine, and the soil you need to be fruitful. And then... SHARE yourself and the fruit of your labor with others in the name of Christ.

Blessings Everyone, *Pastor Jeff*

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**SPECIAL GUEST ON SUNDAY - JULY 30TH**

With Pastor Jeff being on vacation July 30th, we are honored to have Paul Watzlavik with us to share an inspiring message centered around the Sleep in Heavenly Peace ministry. Paul will share about the vision, purpose, and drive to construct beds for families who are otherwise sleeping on the floor and the awesome privilege to work with so many awesome volunteers and sponsors throughout the Evansville Tri-State area. His message will focus on the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 11, verses 25-30... "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones..." Please join us on Sunday, July 30th, and welcome Paul to the Zion community.

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Thank you everyone for your support of the North Posey Relay for Life this year. The Zion Lippe team raised \$6359.10 this year towards cancer research and resources. Whether you gave a donation, helped in the booth, walked the track or ate some ice cream, you made a difference and we appreciate it!

Hans Schmitz & Nancy Dougan

THANK YOU VBS HELPERS... On behalf of all the volunteers who helped with nightly food preparation, song leading, skit writing, registration, crafts, recreation, group leaders, set up, tear down, and created an incredible VBS experience for so many children, thank you for your efforts, time, and commitment to our focus on a positive faith message and experience. A big thank you to all the parents of so many wonderful children and for bringing them each night. A big shout out to all the kiddos who brought donations each evening for <https://shpbeds.org/chapter/in-evansville> - you raised over \$700.00.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!!!

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***Good Luck in the next school year !!***



## AUGUST

To share the joys and celebrations of our lives we publish a monthly list of birthdays and anniversaries of members and friends of Zion.

### *Birthdays*

- 1 Rosie Bogard, Isaac Hautman
- 2 Bill Meyer, Nathan Perry, Blake Elkins, Nicole Hoffman, Nick Hahn
- 3 Alex Barnhart, Kay Austin, Jennifer Cotton
- 7 Kimberly White, Sandy Schmitt
- 8 Nancy Dougan, Jan Droege, Steve Martin
- 10 Cameron Calvert, Jennifer Rotelli, Joyce Hendrix
- 11 Shannon Vandagriff, Beth McCutchan
- 12 Jacob O'Risky, Allison Hoffman
- 14 Austin O'Risky
- 16 Maizee Goebel
- 17 Elwood Deal, Cathy Schroeder, Breanna Phelps, Dave Ford
- 18 Stephanie Fifer, Dan Koch
- 19 Randy Stierley, Amanda Green-Adams
- 20 Dustin Smith
- 21 Gary Droege
- 22 Jessie Juncker, Colleen Heneisen
- 23 Robin Fluty
- 24 Zachary Schroeder
- 26 Amy Schroeder
- 27 Monte Anderson
- 28 Chuck Schroeder, Mallory Hatzinikolaou, Linda Reutter
- 30 Miranda Daugherty, Leah Dugan, Ryder Hast

### *Anniversaries*

- 1 Tom and Katy (McFadin) Lang (1998)
- 2 Brad & Alicia (Sander) Becker (2008)
- 5 Austin & Claire (Schroeder) Lensing (2022)
- 6 Tim & Johlene (Boring) Hoenert (1988)  
Jon & Stephanie (Herrenbruck) Fifer (1994)  
Jeff & Missy Ludwig (1994)
- 7 Eugene & Kelley (Elkins) Esche (1982)  
Dwayne & Peggy Mahrenholz (1981)
- 8 Anthony & Devon (Parker) Hautman (2009)
- 9 Steve & Mary Ann (Lang) Fuelling (1996)
- 10 Mike & Stacy (Herrenbruck) Wagner (2002)
- 11 Roger & Joyce Klenck (1962)
- 13 Shawn & Michelle (Ford) Heneisen (2005)
- 15 Warren Hildebrand & Sharon Krietenstein (2015)

- 17 Dennis Jr. & Lori (Embrey) Davenport (1985)
- 19 John Jr. & Carla (Valier) Breiner (1984)
- 20 Nicholas & Arra Schroeder (2016)
- 21 John & Judith (Schroeder) Hanebutt (1976)
- 23 Glenn & Ann Proctor (1997)
- 28 Robert & Linda Juncker (1976)
- 31 Wesley & Sarah (Herrenbruck) Taylor (2010)

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed or not correct or your address changes, please call the office at 812 985-2437 so we may update our records. Thanks for your help!

## Zion Nursery Center 2023-24 School Year

Zion Nursery Center will officially begin its 52nd year on Sunday August 20th with our Orientation that afternoon. Classes will begin Monday, August 21 and are held Monday through Friday from 9 – 12:30 every day.

Students will be dropped off at the back of church from 8:50 to 9:10 every morning. Please be aware of vehicles pulling around the church during this time, and if possible plan your visits to the church around this time frame, as students gather in the foyer until everyone has arrived.

We are looking forward to another great year at Zion Nursery Center!

Sandy Schmitt, ZNC Director, 812-598-1722,  
[zionnurserycenter@gmail.com](mailto:zionnurserycenter@gmail.com)

**Thursday, August 10  
at 11 am  
Sr. Citizen Dinner**



### *With Sympathy*

We extend heartfelt sympathy to the family of Barbara Jeanne (Dawn) Strupp. Dawn passed away June 27, 2023 at the age of 80. Funeral services were held July 3 at Pierre Funeral home and interment of ashes at Evansville Crematory.

## Council Meeting Highlights – 7/18/23

In attendance (no quorum): Michelle Heneisen, Brian Crase, Rosie Bogard, Carl Barchet, Patrick Schroeder

6/30 YTD Regular Offering: \$101,505.48

6/30 YTD General Fund Income: \$106,031.18

5/31 YTD General Fund Expense: \$96,634.23

- Rosie reported that Pastor Jeff to be on vacation on Sunday, 7/30. Paul Watzlavik from Sleep in Heavenly Peace will be attending, giving the message and doing children’s time that Sunday. He will be presented the check for the funds that the kids collected during VBS totaling \$760.
- Carl secured August 4<sup>th</sup> date for the Otter’s game and paid deposit of \$560. 51 people have signed up as of 7/18.
- Carl gave an update on the basketball court and goals project. Goals and posts have been removed (thanks to Bob Juncker and Jeremy) and concrete footers removed. Estimates have been obtained for the remaining items in the project. \$750 for resealing the court and patching the crack, \$3,000 to completely resurface the court. \$1,947.99 for a new 60” backboard and \$1,727.99 for a 54” backboard (includes installation and delivery).
- Michelle (for Nancy) gave an update on Vacation Bible School (VBS). Average 60 children a night, everything went very smoothly, and lots of volunteers and helpers from the church. \$760 was raised by the kids for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.
- Michelle (for Russ) gave an update on property projects. Dying maple tree and Bradford pear sprouting stump were cut down in old cemetery and hauled away by Roger Roedel. Church bell was repositioned moving the toll striker to the normal outside position. Jarvis Commercial Kitchen fixed sprung oven door and cleaned/reset pilot burner for the first bay burner (cost of \$125). New soap dispenser system was installed on the dishwasher (fee yet to come).
- Solar Project Update – Sunday School (SS) roof is believed to be the original shingles installed when the gabled roof was created over the SS hall in 1998. Chapman representative came out to look/assess the condition of the SS side roof. Additional details to be provided when Chapman provides report.

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ZNC IS HIRING! Zion Nursery Center is looking for an energetic teacher aide to join our team. This person will be helping our Nursery class (3-4 year olds) with their art projects. Hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 8:15-1:00. We do follow the school calendar! If you have a love for children and would like to learn more, please contact Sandy Schmitt at 812-598-1722.

Dealing with Grief... (Taken from <https://blog.calm.com/blog/dealing-with-grief>)

If you're grieving, we hope that the following words from a reflection shared by a gentleman named G.S. Snow will help you to honor your experience and move through your emotions with compassion and care...

Alright, here goes. I'm old. What that means is that I've survived (so far) and a lot of people I've known and loved did not. I've lost friends, best friends, acquaintances, co-workers, grandparents, mom, relatives, teachers, mentors, students, neighbors, and a host of other folks. I have no children, and I can't imagine the pain it must be to lose a child. But here's my two cents.

I wish I could say you get used to people dying. I never did. I don't want to. It tears a hole through me whenever somebody I love dies, no matter the circumstances. But I don't want it to "not matter". I don't want it to be something that just passes.

My scars are a testament to the love and the relationship that I had for and with that person. And if the scar is deep, so was the love. So be it. Scars are a testament to life. Scars are a testament that I can love deeply and live deeply and be cut, or even gouged, and that I can heal and continue to live and continue to love.

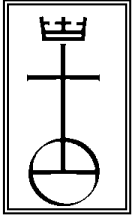
And the scar tissue is stronger than the original flesh ever was. Scars are a testament to life. Scars are only ugly to people who can't see.

As for grief, you'll find it comes in waves. When the ship is first wrecked, you're drowning, with wreckage all around you. Everything floating around you reminds you of the beauty and the magnificence of the ship that was, and is no more. And all you can do is float. You find some piece of the wreckage and you hang on for a while. Maybe it's some physical thing. Maybe it's a happy memory or a photograph. Maybe it's a person who is also floating. For a while, all you can do is float. Stay alive.

In the beginning, the waves are 100 feet tall and crash over you without mercy. They come 10 seconds apart and don't even give you time to catch your breath. All you can do is hang on and float. After a while, maybe weeks, maybe months, you'll find the waves are still 100 feet tall, but they come further apart. When they come, they still crash all over you and wipe you out. But in between, you can breathe, you can function. You never know what's going to trigger the grief. It might be a song, a picture, a street intersection, the smell of a cup of coffee. It can be just about anything...and the wave comes crashing. But in between waves, there is life.

Somewhere down the line, and it's different for everybody, you find that the waves are only 80 feet tall. Or 50 feet tall. And while they still come, they come further apart. You can see them coming. An anniversary, a birthday, or Christmas, or landing at O'Hare. You can see it coming, for the most part, and prepare yourself. And when it washes over you, you know that somehow you will, again, come out the other side. Soaking wet, sputtering, still hanging on to some tiny piece of the wreckage, but you'll come out.

Take it from an old guy. The waves never stop coming, and somehow you don't really want them to. But you learn that you'll survive them. And other waves will come. And you'll survive them too. If you're lucky, you'll have lots of scars from lots of loves. And lots of shipwrecks." ~G Snow



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

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, August 13 following the worship service

Please submit all written reports to church office by Monday Aug. 7

All Zion Members are encouraged to attend!



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Next Work Day is Sat August 12

8 am –Noon

at 1303 S Green River Rd - Evansville, IN 47715

All ages are welcome (children under 12 cannot use power tools but can assist in other ways). Let Pastor Jeff know if you are interested.