

DECEMBER 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

Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
10/30	128	67 devices
11/6	127	47 devices
11/13	146	77 devices
11/20	88	42 devices
11/27	137	25 devices

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

Sunday School Average Attendance

November: Adult (18+) = 15

Youth = 13 (includes Confirmation)



With snow, ice, &/or other inclement weather... Should questions arise concerning if Worship/Sunday School will be held on a given Sunday, cancellations will be announced on WFIE, Facebook, and the church's website.

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 at approximately 9:55 am. If questions check with Pastor Jeff, Greg or Jonathan Schmitt.

~~~~~



### ***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.*

**Dec 4 – Darryl & Emiley Chamberlain**

**Dec 11 – Brian & Arin Commens**

**Dec 18 – Brian & Channa Crase**

**Dec 25 – Travis & Robin Crowe**

**Jan 1, 2023 – Donna & Nick Hahn**

**Jan 8 - Janie Cummings**

**Jan 15 – Miranda & Ryan Daugherty**

**Jan 22 – Steve & Nancy deClaisse-Walford**

**Jan 29 – Irma Donner & Pat Elkins**

*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. 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!*



## DECEMBER

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 Jackson Kern
- 4 Sophia Starnes
- 5 Lukas Donner
- 6 Autumn Johnson, Kathy Barchet
- 7 Steve Reineke, Morgan Stierley  
Rachel Hast
- 8 Greg Schmitt
- 9 Jamie Grabert
- 12 Emiley Chamberlain, Raymond Noelle
- 13 Julie Bullington
- 15 Russell Roehr, Shelby Conville
- 16 Lindsey Vaught, Toni Roberts
- 17 Peggy Mahrenholz
- 18 Brock Heneisen
- 19 Jeanette Hunter, Abigail Steinhart
- 20 Gabe Schroeder
- 21 Nancy deClaisse-Walford
- 22 David Simpson
- 24 Emma Schroeder
- 25 Theresa Juncker, Nancy Lewis
- 27 Teresa DeGiacomo
- 28 Grady Elless
- 29 Michelle Heneisen
- 30 Connie Eldridge
- 31 Ryan Gleim, Molly McCutchan  
Michael Patterson

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

- 2 Bob & Janie Cummings (1977)
- 6 Warren & Karen (Dickhaut) Evrard (1975)
- 10 Steve & Debbie Reineke (1983)
- 18 Dennis & Judy (Garrett) Rueger (1971)
- 21 Dustin & Janelle (Uhde) Seitz (2013)
- 27 Scott & Suzanne Dougan (2003)
- 29 Jared & Shelby (Schweikhart)  
Conville (2019)

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

## **Zion Senior Citizen Dinner** **Thursday, December 15** **11 a.m.**



It will soon be Christmas and time to consider remembering someone special with a poinsettia or donation to a church fund of your choice. In either case please complete a form, found on foyer bulletin board, and place it along with your payment in the offering plate, or give to Rosie Bogard or drop off in church office **by Sunday Dec. 11.**

The poinsettias will come from the Green River Kiwanis Club, who use this sale as a fundraiser to support their community services.

**Poinsettias are \$14 each** and will be displayed in the sanctuary during this Christmas season. You may pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Eve service.

If you have questions, please contact Rosie.



*Congratulations to  
Mackenzie Dickhaut and Jonathan Boberg,  
who were married November 12, 2022 at  
the Posey County Fairgrounds Community  
Center.*

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**



**Ron McClaren**  
6450 E State Rd 45  
Bloomington, IN 47408  
(his phone # remains the same)

Good heavens! Don't tell me it's Christmas again! Didn't we just have one? Where is my list? What am I going to get everyone this year that is unique? I wonder what shirt size they wear? I don't want to drive on the East side, let alone think about "in store shopping!!" I wonder if they would like to read this book? Why can't they ever get enough people on the cash registers?

*O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL, JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT, O COME YE, O COME YE TO BETHLEHEM. COME AND BEHOLD HIM, BORN THE KING OF ANGELS, O COME, LET US ADORE HIM.*

I can't believe the cost of Christmas cards this year. When is UPS even open? Do I have enough stamps! Do I even need stamps? Do we really need Christmas lights on the highest peak of the house? I wonder if it will snow?

*SING, CHOIRS OF ANGELS, SING IN EXULTATION! SING ALL YE CITIZENS OF HEAVEN ABOVE. GLORY TO GOD, ALL GLORY IN THE HIGHEST. O COME, LET US ADORE HIM.*

I sure hope everyone has safe travels this Christmas season. Should I get a new suit for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day? Isn't that tree a little bare around the middle? Where are all the hooks for these things? Get that dog away from that tree!!! Is that it? Is it over, already?

*YEA, LORD, WE GREET THEE, BORN THIS HAPPY MORNING, O JESUS, TO THEE BE ALL GLORY GIVEN; WORD OF THE FATHER, NOW IN FLESH APPEARING. O COME, LET US ADORE HIM!*

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me and holy is God's name. God's mercy is for those who revere God from generation to generation. God has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; God has filled the hungry with good things and the rich sent away empty." (The Magnificat; Luke 1.46-53)

*O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST THE LORD.*

May the peace of Christ be with you in this Advent/Christmas season. Serving you!! **PJ**



Blue Christmas is a Western Christian tradition that happens on or around the Winter Solstice. It is about gathering with others who are grieving and struggling to find joy and hope during the season. A Blue Christmas service provides a quiet and contemplative worship service as an alternative to the more traditional gatherings. This is in honor of those who are experiencing grief and struggling with loss.

This tradition in the U.S. dates back to 1990. The services draw relatively small, intimate crowds of those mourning the loss of a loved one or a significant change in someone's life.

We invite you to join us for this year's **Blue Christmas service on the evening of December 11th beginning at 5:30 p.m.** There will be a dinner served following the gathering in the sanctuary.

~~~~~



UGLY SWEATER SUNDAY - December 18th!!!! We are inviting everyone to wear the ugliest Christmas sweaters, coats, jackets, slacks, etc. on **Sunday, December 18th**. Come worship with us on December 18th and please invite your friends and other family members to join us for this fun filled, right before Christmas worship celebration.

~~~~~



### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship** **December 24th - 7:00 p.m.**

We hope that you and your family... and maybe even a special guest or two... can join us on Christmas Eve.

Worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be filled with your favorite Christmas hymns, choir music, candles, and

an incredible time with our children. Please come early as seating in the sanctuary is normally filled to capacity this evening. We look forward to worshipping with you on this incredible night when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.



## GRIEF IN COMMON

Zion Church will continue to host **[grief support groups](#)** every other week on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Each session will be led by Pastor Jeff - Coaching at the End of Life Certified Coach.

The loss of a loved one is a heartbreaking experience and it's natural to feel overwhelmed with grief, and the holiday season makes loss even harder because people will reminisce about previous years with their loved ones who are now gone. It's never an easy time of year for a grieving person, which is why groups like these can mean so much to those who are feeling alone in their journey through grief.

Anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one or who are experiencing other life issues that are difficult (loss of a job, change in a relationship, health related issues, etc.) is welcome to attend this grief support group. Please contact the church office or email Pastor Jeff with questions or to secure your spot in one of these groups...

[zionlippepastor@gmail.com](mailto:zionlippepastor@gmail.com).

~~~~~

We Welcome 3 New Members to the Zion Church Faith Community!

Ruby Niemeier - Ruby is a widow, her husband passed away August 28, 2022. She enjoys spending time at her house at Barkley Lake, going on bus trips with friends, and spending time with her 2 sons, daughter-in-laws, and granddaughter. Ruby is looking forward to making new friends and helping whenever she can at church.

Verna Hudson - Verna was born and raised in Union Township where she met her husband, Don. She graduated from Reitz High School in 1950 and married Don in 1951. Verna is retired from the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, and after she and Don were both retired, they traveled in their motorhome out West several times, to Florida and to the East Coast. Don passed away in 2012. Verna has two daughters, Janie Cummings and Judy Fluty along with four great-granddaughters and three great-grandsons, and she likes to attend their sporting events, of which there are a bunch!

Mildred Montgomery - Mildred was born and raised in Union Township along with her sister, Verna. She married her husband, Jim in 1949 and he recently passed away this past October. Mildred is retired from Thin Twins Potato Chip Factory. She has been on many bus trips all over the U.S. with her husband and friends, and she has several nieces she couldn't do without: Janet Leibring, Janie Cummings, Judy Fluty and Donna Hahn! Mildred also enjoys watching and feeding birds and doing crossword puzzles.

Zion Lippe UCC Council Highlights

11/08/22

Attendance: Jeff Long, Nancy Lewis, Russell Roehr, Rosie Bogard, Brian Crase, Dan Hoffman, Carl Barchet, Laura Droege.

10/31 YTD Regular Offering: \$142,650.42

10/31 YTD General Fund Income: \$150,742.71

10/31 TTD General Fund Expense: \$162,967.13

Difference: (-)\$12,224.42

The Greeters are responding very well and Rosie follows up with a reminder text or phone call. Offering and Communion with the younger kids helping is working out very well and hopefully making memories and being a big part in services.

Communion served on 1st Sunday in Advent as well as Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, which is on Sunday this year.

Council will help with Hanging of the Greens last Sunday of this month.

Blue Christmas Service on December 11th.

Completed property projects this month are increased fan speed on roof top unit to push more conditioned air to the office. Setting is now at near capacity. Can possibly adjust air vent flow reducing the amount going to the foyer. Will assess when temperature drops to see if office is warmer. Still potential to add spray insulation.

Also door to church furnace basement was removed by removing complete door frame (thanks to Larry Lewis). The cemetery plot marker grid fell into the stairs and jammed against the door. Work has started to clean up the "hut" and create permanent place to hang the marker grid.

New issues are the 2nd row of sanctuary lights do not come on (breaker suspected), SS basement receptacle only partially working, lights to "hut" are not functioning, switch is broken. Plug on food warmer is "hot" and has issues, likely need to replace cord and plug. Ron Strupp has agreed to assist with these issues.

Other issues are the main sanctuary doors need exterior painting (bare wood on weather overlap strip). The pew pads need to be cleaned, possibly ask Steve Martin to clean them. Requested that Brad inspect/service the furnaces. And a SS down spout tore off due to high winds.

Open issues are the basement formica. The handicap door, still considering a hard wire option or upgrading the remote unit. The furnace room under sanctuary dry wall/plaster ceiling is crumbling/falling down, I beam support shows major rust near the floor-potential structural concern (long term project). The north hoods on the SS hall vents need painting. And the shelter light.

Projects completed last month are the new 5 inch guttering installed on the block garage on October 7th by Chapman, the NW new gutter downspout was rerouted to drain water to the west away from the garage and SE down spout will be tied into the tile running around playground perimeter (working with Larry Lewis for the tie in). The grease trap cleaned out under the dishwasher, septic smell remediated. And the cross walk stripe was repainted (used existing paint).

There was an Endowment request from Ashley Lashley on behalf of Operation Christmas Child for \$1,500 (\$1,250 for shipping) to fund last minute needs and postage for 125 boxes.

The Chili Cookoff held October 23rd was a success and enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to Andrea Singer, Adam Kendall, and all who worked to make it a success.

We have 22 people including 3 confirmands signed up for the Peppermint Pops concert on December 4th at 2:00 pm and a block of seats have been reserved. Carl will purchase the tickets this week and hopefully distribute them beginning next Sunday. Carl plans to purchase the tickets on his credit card and collect from the attendees without going through the church treasury. Carl will submit an accounting to the council in his next report.

The Thunderbolts Hockey are having Faith Night at their game on Friday, January 27. Carl will prepare a slide for Sunday morning and a sign-up sheet to explore interest from the congregation as he did for the Peppermint Pops.

Membership requests from Ruby Niemeyer, Verna Hudson, Mildred Montgomery. The council approves the new members.

Thanksgiving service-November 20th at St. Peter's UCC.

Dream list in the foyer.

Coat a Kid box in the foyer.

Steve and Nancy will cover for Pastor Jeff on November 20th while he is on vacation.

The project to move the streaming equipment to free up seating upstairs will be completed before Christmas Eve.

~~~~~



### **SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES @ ST. PETER'S UMC**

We hope you can join us on **Tuesday and Thursday mornings** at 9:00 a.m. For those of you who like to walk prior to class time, the gym will also be available for walking. Come and join us for a great time while benefiting your own personal health and well being. If

you have any questions please contact Pastor Jeff @ [zionlippepastor@gmail.com](mailto:zionlippepastor@gmail.com).



Thanks to Paul Schorr, Mike Schorr, and Gary Voegel for their help and use of the building and equipment to cook pork chops for the Zion Senior Citizen meal and for United Caring Shelter. It's very much appreciated!

The Sunbeams and Shelter Cooks

---

*Unfortunately, due to a mix-up at the calendar printing company, Pierre Funeral Home will be unable to provide 2023 yearly calendars as they have in the past for Zion and other area churches. Pierre is hoping to continue the calendars for 2024 and future years.*

---

## REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.

December 1 - box of cereal  
December 2 - peanut butter  
December 3 - stuffing mix  
December 4 - boxed potatoes  
December 5 - macaroni and cheese  
December 6 - canned fruit  
December 7 - canned tomatoes  
December 8 - canned tuna  
December 9 - dessert mix  
December 10 - jar of applesauce  
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes  
December 12 - cranberry sauce  
December 13 - canned beans  
December 14 - box of crackers  
December 15 - package of rice  
December 16 - package of oatmeal  
December 17 - package pasta  
December 18 - spaghetti sauce  
December 19 - chicken noodle soup  
December 20 - tomato soup  
December 21 - can corn  
December 22 - can mixed vegetables  
December 23 - can carrots  
December 24 - can green beans

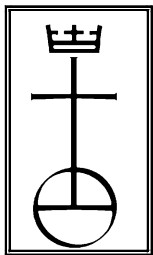
PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

*But, speaking of  
calendars . . .  
here is an idea shared  
with us by Carol Embrey  
for a different  
type of calendar . . .*

**A Reverse  
Advent Calendar!**







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

DECEMBER SPECIAL  
OFFERING IS  
THE CHRISTMAS FUND

Administered by the UCC Pension Board, gifts to the Christmas Fund helps provide pension and health premium supplementation to low-income UCC retirees, emergency assistance to the families of clergy and lay employees, and Christmas Gift Checks to hundreds of annuitants. Please use the purple envelopes found at foyer bulletin board, or donate online at [www.christmasfund.org](http://www.christmasfund.org)

***The Women of Zion  
will have their annual  
Christmas Party on  
December 8 at 5:30 pm***

*Officers will provide the meat, everyone  
please bring a covered dish.*

*Also, anyone that has not participated in  
the Secret Pal, please bring a \$10  
wrapped gift to exchange that night.*

***Hope to see everyone for a  
fun-filled evening!***

