

FEBRUARY 2025

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.)
12/29	109	28 devices
1/5	cancelled	zoom ? devices
1/12	118	100 devices
1/19	139	20 devices
1/26	139	64 devices

Sunday School Average Attendance

January: Adult = 17

Confirmation (7th & 8th grade) = 10

Youth (6-12th grade) = 2

Children = 5



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 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:

Feb 2 – Steve & Mary Ann Fuelling

Feb 9 – Jake & Kirstin Gibson

Feb 16 – Steve & Gail Grabert

Feb 23 – Nick & Donna Hahn

March 2 – Gary & Donna Hartig

March 9 – Robert & Rachel Hast

March 16 – Anthony & Devon Hautman

March 23 – Shawn & Michelle Heneisen

March 30 – Warren Hildebrand & Sharon Krietenstein

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, Nancy deClaisse-Walford know – but if something comes up and you can't make it don't fret!



FEBRUARY

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 Eleanor McRae
- 2 Kelley Esche
- 6 Patrick Schroeder, Dalton Berry
- 7 Aubrey Becker
- 8 Curt Muntzer, Gary Voegel
Jackson Madden
- 9 Ronald Schroeder
- 11 Rowen Englebright
- 12 Landon Will
- 13 Brandon Reese
- 14 Leon Austin
- 15 Sherry Wuertz, Calvin Crase,
Raelynn Swope
- 17 Pam Martin
- 18 Will Hargett
- 19 Adam Schroeder, Carl Barchet
- 21 Sarah Will, Pam Ford
- 22 Stephanie Duncan, David Reese,
Sarah Taylor, Knox Gibson
- 23 Regina Arguello
- 25 Darlene Roedel, Grace Cullman,
Levi Patterson
- 26 Cory Lingafelter
- 27 Mackenzie Schmidt, Kathy Duncan
- 28 Chellsie Parker, Nitza Long

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

No Anniversaries this month

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

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Sunbeams Senior Citizen Dinners

The Sunbeams are looking forward to continuing our Senior Citizen meal program for the 2025 year. Our dinners begin at 11 am.

Dates planned for 2025 are:

- February 20 May 15
- August 7 October 16
- December 18

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Men's Lenten

Breakfasts will be held again this year with the first one scheduled for Saturday, March 8 at Christ Church, 3601 Washington Ave, Evansville. Breakfasts are at 7:30 am with worship service following.

On Saturdays during the Lenten Season, various churches in the area host a breakfast and morning service. Anyone is welcome to attend. A complete schedule will be available later. Contact Dwight Esche if any questions.

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Church Council 2025

- Bob Juncker -President
- Stacy Wagner-Vice President/Membership
- Andrea Singer - Secretary
- Patrick Schroeder - Treasurer
- Nancy deClaisse-Walford - Worship
- Lauren Kern - Education
- Tim Hoenert - Stewardship
- Roger Roedel - Property
- Adam Kendall - Recreation

Council Meeting Highlights: Tuesday, January, 14, 2025

Present: Bob, Andrea, Russ, Patrick, Adam, Ruth R. for Rosie, Lauren, Stacy over phone
Absent: Carl, Jeff

VP/Membership – Stacy - will look into getting post cards made for Easter

Education – Lauren

- a. Children's Sunday School began again 1/12
- b. Current curriculum will last through semester then will seek a new curriculum for next year
- c. Discuss support for youth church camp

Old Business

Solar Project

1. Cookie Walk went well, had around 1200 cookies, about 4-gallon Ziploc bags left, put in freezer and took to United Caring Shelter. Lots of good help with setting up and clean up. Mr. Darrell Cato brought trains that could be purchased. \$6,000+ raised.
2. Bob Juncker and Carl Barchet have signed the application for our project to the Posey County Area Plan Commission. The signed application and other documents were sent to the APC by Brad Morton with the intent of getting on the agenda for the upcoming meeting on February 13.
3. \$13,802 donations to Solar Fund (as of 1-26-25)
4. Thinking of new fundraisers: Trivia night, Parents night out, Kissing booth with New Life Kiss for luck – St. Pat day, Penny wars with youth – pies in face

Mental Health

1. First event 2/8 @ Jacob's Village – Can take 100 max reservations
2. Committee to continue meeting to plan next events (April 12th)

VI. New Business

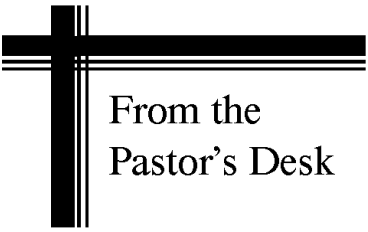
- A. Annual Meeting Agenda
- B. New copy machine for office – asked Ruth W. to get some quotes
- C. Website is not updated, but being paid for – this needs worked on by V.P.
- D. Property projects to come

Next Meeting and Council Retreat is February 1 at Center for Congregations Conference

Center for Congregation Mental Health Initiative Events for February



We invite you to join us for a wonderful Mental Health event on **February 8th at Jacob's Village**. The event is a result of a Mental Health Initiative Grant received through the Center for Congregations. There is no cost to attend or for lunch. Please contact Lauren Kern or Pastor Jeff to register.



Dear Friends,

During our recent Advent, Christmas and Epiphany season, we took a lot of time to discuss how God used unlikely people in God's story, and the magi were some of those unlikely people. They were outsiders. They weren't Jewish and lived in the east. The magi wouldn't have known about the Jewish understanding of a messiah, but God used them.

You may be asking why I am still focused on the magi since we are past Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany season. It is because I always hope that what we do on Sunday mornings, in Bible study classes and fellowship events will have a lasting impact. That our faith is something that continues to evolve, grow, and blossom into something new, dynamic, and exciting not just on special moments but beyond those special moments as well.

In celebration of Epiphany a few weeks ago, we continued our "Star Word" practice and many of you had incredible star words that chose you for this year. However, due to weather and other circumstances, some of you were not able to be present. These words that choose us are intended to travel with you throughout the coming year. If you were unable to be present on the Sunday morning when we participated in this activity, I invite you to receive a star word this year by using the following link if you were not present to get your own star word for 2025... [click here](#) or use the following web address if you aren't viewing the newsletter online...

<https://epiphanystars.neocities.org/>

I encourage you to ponder what significance the word might have to you right now and then continue to ponder it throughout the year. There have been years where I have been disappointed by my star word but by the end of the year it has a deeper meaning to me.

I also encourage you to receive the star word as a gift. We are created to give and to receive, but as we know, God gives first. God always initiates, and then we are invited to respond to God's grace. The magi were only able to give their gifts because they had first received the gift of the star God allowed them to see and follow. For something to be a gift, we must receive and be open to receiving all year long... we must be open to giving and sharing all year long. Blessings on your journey... **PJ**

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Zion Church will continue to host **[grief support groups](#)** each week on Thursday evenings beginning at 6:00 p.m. 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).



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

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 each morning from 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. If you have any questions contact Pastor Jeff @ [zionlippepastor@gmail.com](mailto:zionlippepastor@gmail.com).



**FEBRUARY PENNY WARS**

Throughout the month of February we will be collecting your change - pennies, nickels, quarters, or other donations - which will go toward our solar project. Our 8th grade confirmands and Senior High Youth will be overseeing donations. **Here is the catch!!!** You are also invited to nominate the person of your choice. Of those nominations we will pick the top 5 nominated persons. The congregation is then invited to donate to the top 5 person of choice throughout the month of February by placing your donation in their designated jar. The nominee who receives the most "donations" in their jar will be the recipient of a freshly prepared pie in the face. What a great way to tell someone that you love them then a pie to the face! All donations received will go toward our solar project. Let's have some fun with this February fundraising event.



Dear Zion Lippe Parishioners,

Thank you for providing our male unit with all of the Christmas Gifts from their wish lists. Many of them remarked it was the best holiday they ever had, and for some it was their first time celebrating. We're incredibly grateful for your gift, it means so much to our patients!

Sincerely, Jennifer Choisser,  
Community Services Director, Evansville State Hospital

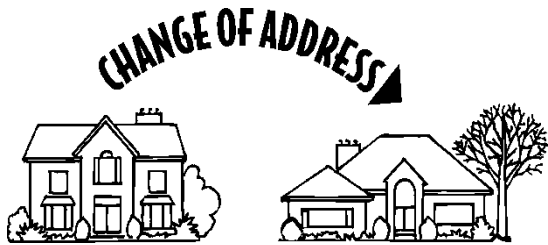
Thanks to Pastor Jeff, all my family, and everyone at church for all your visits (some overnight), delicious food, texts, phone calls, grocery shopping and all your prayers! Still need some prayers, have a ways to go, but I WILL be back soon!

God Bless you all! Love, Rosie



Here's a little more info about one of our new members, Angela Becker. Unfortunately there wasn't time to get this in last month, so thanks Angela for sharing this with us!

*Hi! I am Angela Becker, 51 years old from Evansville. My Mom and Step-Dad are Sandi & Steve Brown, and Rick Becker is my brother. I work at Warex as a secretary and have been dating my boyfriend Bobby James for 15 years. I enjoy traveling and picking up seashells, also working in our yard, and I love pink flamingos!*



Martha & Suzie Ziegler  
2542 Serenity Place  
Evansville IN 47720



*The Zion Choir invites you to join them in  
"Making Merry Music"*

*If you like to sing, please feel welcome to be a part of our choir! Contact Sandy Willett or Carol Jo Droege to find out about practice times and upcoming planned Sundays for special choir music.*

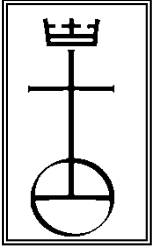


*And, according to an interesting article from Woman's World magazine, shared by long time choir member, Carol Embrey, making music can also improve your brain health! That's the word from researchers in their journal 'Human Brain Mapping'. In their study of healthy adults ranging in age from 21 to 88, they discovered that regularly participating in choir singing enhanced the structure of the brain's white matter – an effect that's been linked to enhanced memory, focus and communication – especially among the older study subjects. What's more, previous research has found that the mental stimulation of learning lyrics, melody and rhythm can help speed thinking, and of course the social aspect is great for your brain too!*

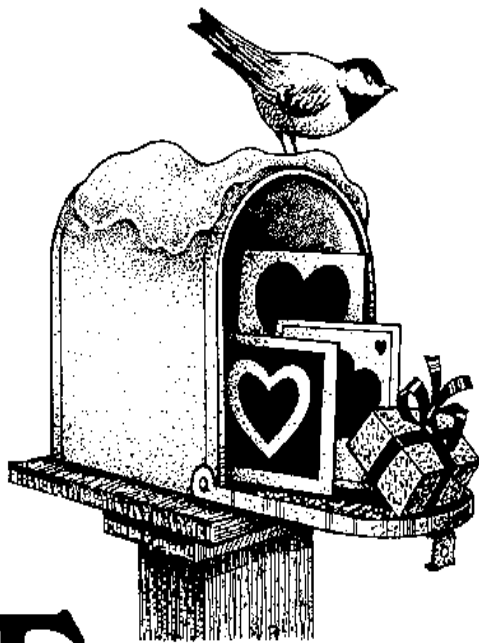


We will be accepting **bids for Lawn and Grounds Maintenance** for both cemeteries and the church and parsonage grounds. If interested, **please submit your bids by March 9**. Contact Property Chairman Roger Roedel, (812) 319-1133 for questions and job descriptions.





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



**FEBRUARY**



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

**SLEEP IN  
HEAVENLY  
PEACE**

This organization makes bed frames for kids and delivers them to homes that have been identified as needing a complete bed set. All ages are welcome to help, however children under 12 cannot use power tools but can assist in many other ways. Let Pastor Jeff know if you are interested or have questions. The next build event is

**8 am - noon on Saturday, Feb 8 at  
1303 S Green River Road, Evansville,  
IN 47715**