

# JANUARY 2024 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](mailto: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](mailto:zionlippepastor@gmail.com)

**Sunday Family Worship at 10 am**  
**Sunday School at 9 am**

## Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
12/3	160	70 devices
12/10	153	44 devices
12/17	163	75 devices
12/17 BlueXmas	32	n/a
12/24 10 am	165	73 devices
12/24 7 pm	275	68 devices

## Sunday School Average Attendance

December: Adult (18+) = 16  
Children (downstairs) = 13  
Youth (grades 6-12, includes Conf.) = 13



**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](http://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:



- January 7 – Jerry & Pam Redman
- January 14 – Marvin & Ruth Redman
- January 21 – Steve & Debbie Reineke
- January 28 – Linda Reutter
  
- Feb 4 – Mary Schauss
- Feb 11 – Sue Scherry
- Feb 18 – Sandy & Emily Schmitt
- Feb 25 – Delene Schmitz

*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 don't fret!*



## JANUARY

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 James Droege, Carla Breiner
- 3 Marvin Redman, Jonathan Schmitt
- 4 Bonnie Walker
- 6 Debbie Schorr
- 7 Steve Schroeder
- 8 Marilyn Frank
- 12 Christy Watson
- 14 Eugene Herrenbruck, Suzanne Schroeder,  
Chase Will
- 15 Kyle Wallace
- 16 Clayton Hargett, Mitchell Hargett
- 17 Michael Schorr, Rhiannon Anderson,  
Eliza Schroeder
- 18 Darlene Bosse, Claire Lensing
- 19 Geraldine Schweikhart, Janelle Seitz
- 21 Makenzie Perry
- 22 Terry Schroeder, Lindsey Johnson
- 23 Rick LeGrange
- 24 David Schmitz, Kari Green,  
Rosemary Schroeder
- 26 Olivia Parker
- 28 Darlene Breiner, Katy Lang
- 29 Matthew Donner, Sally Noelle
- 30 Henry Warner
- 31 Lori Davenport, Jennifer Elles

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

- 6 Bill and Sandy (Schenk) Esche (1978)
- 8 Keith and Connie (Donner) McCutchan  
(1977)
- 20 Eugene and Sharon Herrenbruck (1962)
- 28 Patrick and Emily Schroeder (2012)
- 31 Earl and Glenda Schroeder (1960)

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

## January Special Offering

### Church World Service Blankets+

Through CWS, blankets and other relief are sent immediately to people who have suffered disasters. More info at [cwsblankets.org](http://cwsblankets.org) and foyer bulletin board. You may contribute by using Blanket Fund envelopes found at foyer bulletin board or go to [cwsblankets.org](http://cwsblankets.org)

### Giving Statements

In most cases we will send 2023 giving statements by email. If we do not have your email address and you need us to print a giving statement for you, please contact Council Treasurer or the church office. You should receive your email by the end of January. If a printed statement is needed please allow a few days after your request to receive the information.



*Thank you to Pastor Jeff and to our friends at Zion for the funeral, the love & support, and the cards during the passing of our mother, Anne Nicholson. We especially thank you for the funeral dinner provided by the committee and the congregation.*

*Suzie Schroeder, Sally Noelle & families*

*Thanks to everyone for their good wishes, cards and gifts in remembrance of my "older than a codger" 70<sup>th</sup> birthday!*

*Delene Schmitz*

*Thank You... Thank You... Thank You... for your generosity and kindness and the numerous Christmas cards, special gifts, and support that we have received from the Zion Church community this Christmas season and entire year. Thank you all so much for all your unbelievable support.*

*Pastor Jeff and Kris*

***–You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth – Acts 1:8***

Well... now what? The shopping is done. Everything has been wrapped, and then unwrapped. Squeals of joy and sighs of delight have (hopefully) given way to peace and calm. We have waited, wandering for a whole month, drawing ever nearer to the cradle and the baby it holds. Shepherds, angels, kings—all have come and paid their respects, honoring them with their gifts and talents. The star has faded back into the galaxies.

Now what? After all the build-up, after all the hype, what are we supposed to do now? The next season of the church year which begins in a few weeks even sounds kind of boring... following a brief Epiphany time we drift back into the season known as “ordinary time.”

The liturgical color is green, the color of vibrancy and growth. When the excitement begins, transformation begins. Howard Thurman’s poem, “The Work of Christmas,” sums it up perfectly: *When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.*

As the New Year begins, let’s roll up our sleeves and prepare to plant seeds of loving change in our little corners of the world. God is still speaking, still sending gentle nudges to our hearts. Are we paying attention? Hope, Peace, Love and Joy.

Happy New Year Everyone... **PJ**

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Zion Church will continue to host **[grief support groups](#)** every other week on Monday evenings beginning at 7:00 p.m. Groups will start again on Monday, January 15th.



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).

**Planning Meeting for 2024 Men's Lenten Breakfasts**

**Saturday January 6, 8:30 am at Zion**

On Saturdays during the Lenten Season, various churches in the area will host a breakfast and morning service. All men are welcome to attend this planning meeting and we hope to see you at the breakfasts later this year! Contact Dwight Esche with any questions 812 455-5187.



**SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES @ ST. PETER'S CHURCH BEGIN AGAIN ON JANUARY 16TH.**

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



**SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE** - This organization makes bed frames and delivers those frames to homes that have been identified needing beds. All ages are welcome however children under 12 cannot use power tools but can assist in many other ways. Please let Pastor Jeff know if you are interested or have any further questions. The event will go

from **8:00 am - 12:00 pm. on Saturday, January 13th.**

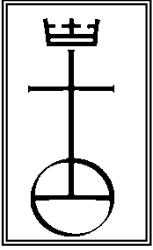


**UNHANGING OF THE GREENS!** Following worship on January 7th, we need your help! We will need volunteers to help take down all the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary, foyer, Sunday School area, and outside. With a lot of help we can accomplish this task easily. Please take some time to stay

following worship on January 7th to help us take down all the wonderful Christmas decorations in our sanctuary and throughout the building. Thank you so much!



*\*\*\*Happy New Year!\*\*\**



ZION LIPPE UCC  
9000 COPPERLINE ROAD E  
MT. VERNON IN 47620



**Zion Annual Congregational Meeting will be held following worship on February 4, 2024**

All Zion members are encouraged to attend.

At this meeting we will review the 2023 church year, elect our new officers, approve our operating budget for 2024, and hear other special reports from other ministries of the church. We

hope you can join us for this important meeting in the life of Zion Church. We will also work to make the meeting available through our Zoom platform. Please watch for more announcements as we get closer to the Annual Meeting date.

Please submit all written reports to the church office by Monday, January 22, 2024.