

JULY 2026

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.) |
|------|-----------|----------------|
| 5/31 | 85 | 63 devices |
| 6/7 | 154 | 47 devices |
| 6/14 | 189 | 52 devices |
| 6/21 | 140 | 58 devices |

Sunday School Average Attendance

June: Adult = 14

Children & Youth do not meet 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:

- June 28 – Brad & Alicia Becker**
- July 5 – Irma Donner & Pat Elkins**
- July 12 – Dustin & Kim Bredemeier**
- July 19 – Darryl & Emiley Chamberlain**
- July 26 – Council**

- Aug 2 – Martha Ziegler**
- Aug 9 – Brian & Arin Commens**
- Aug 16 – Robin & Travis Crowe**
- Aug 23 – Brian & Channa Crase**
- Aug 30 – Janie Cummings**

We will have magnetic name tags available for our greeters, and shaking hands is optional. 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, please let Rosie Bogard know – but if something comes up and you can't make it don't fret!

Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve as greeters, your turn to greet usually comes up about once over a 2 year period. If you would like to be added or removed from the greeter list please contact the church office.

Finding God's Rhythm in July



July is a month filled with sunshine, celebrations, family gatherings, vacations, and backyard conversations. The pace of life often changes during these summer weeks. School is out, schedules are different, and many of us find ourselves spending more time outdoors enjoying God's creation.

Summer has its own soundtrack. From favorite songs on the radio to the sounds of children playing, birds singing, and fireworks lighting up the night sky, July reminds us that life is meant to be lived with joy.

Yet amid all the activity, God continues to invite us into a deeper rhythm. The psalmist writes, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46.10). Those words remind us that faith is not only found in church pews on Sunday morning. Faith is found while sitting on a porch watching the sunset. Faith is found around a family dinner table. Faith is found while traveling down a country road or taking a walk through the neighborhood.

The summer months give us an opportunity to notice God's presence in fresh ways. We can slow down enough to hear God's voice, appreciate God's blessings, and reconnect with those who matter most. Sometimes the most meaningful spiritual moments happen when we least expect them.

As we celebrate our nation's independence this month, we also remember the freedom we have in Christ—a freedom to love, serve, forgive, and extend grace to one another. In a world that often feels hurried and divided, followers of Jesus are called to be people who bring hope, kindness, and compassion wherever we go.

My prayer for you this July is simple: may you find moments of rest, reasons for gratitude, and opportunities to experience God's love in new ways. May you enjoy the laughter of family and friends, the beauty of God's creation, and the assurance that wherever summer takes you, God goes with you. See you in worship as we continue our journey together.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Jeff



JULY

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 the year they married.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 2 Gary and Donna Hartig (1965)
- 5 Carl & Kathy Barchet (1969)
- 6 Bob & Linda Reutter (1968)
Joe & Rhiannon (Barnhart) Anderson (2013)
- 7 Jeff & Kris Long (1989)
- 14 Cameron & Shelbi (Hollen) Brown (2018)
- 16 Roger and Darlene Roedel (1983)
- 20 John and Darlene (Muehlenbein) Breiner (1957)
- 22 John & Rita Schmitt (1989)
Michael & Carly (Schmitz) Patterson (2005)
- 27 Chris & Joy Wolsiefer (2021)
- 28 Martin and Suzie (Nicholson) Schroeder (1984)
- 30 Ryan & Miranda (Johnson) Daugherty (2022)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 3 Sharon Herrenbruck, Raelynn Hast,
Stephanie Warner
- 4 Michael Klenck
- 5 Susan Schroeder, Kelli Mohr
Elizabeth Green-Adams
- 6 Dwayne Mahrenholz, John Breiner Sr.
Maxen Anderson
- 9 Stacey Hyslop, Jack Wolsiefer
- 11 Grant Cullman
- 13 Eugene Esche . Keith Frank
- 14 Julie Klenck, Olivia Green
- 15 Robert Klenck, Dwight Esche,
Shelby Sauve
- 16 Staci Voegel, Tamara Starnes,
Charles Blake Elkins
- 17 Joli Willett
- 19 Samantha McCutchan,
Thomas Ewers, Jr
- 20 Connie McCutchan, Lucas Bullington
- 22 Nicholas Schroeder, Larry Droege,
Tim Hoenert, Silas Primus

- 23 Delwin Parker, Bob Cummings
- 24 James Klenck
- 25 Roger Klenck, Maggie McCutchan.
Mildred Montgomery, Joy Wolsiefer
- 26 Elodie Key
- 27 Hope Schmidt
- 30 Hans Schmitz, Kim Bredemeier
- 31 Darrel Smith



*Dear Zion Lippe,
Thank you for thinking of me during this busy grad season. Your gift is greatly appreciated and will be greatly used as I start this next chapter.*

Love, Lilly Donner

* * * * *



Julia Reese Voegel, daughter of Kyle & Mariah Voegel, was baptized at Zion on June 13, 2026.

* * * * *

**July Collection Item for
God's Storehouse Food Pantry
is Peanut Butter Crackers**

* * * * *



Happy 4th of July
and Happy 250th USA !!



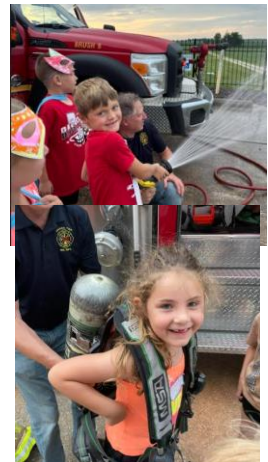
Our Youth on a Work Day **SERVING** the community
at
New Life Rescue and Adoption.



* * * * *



VBS 2026 Highlights of our Super-Heros !



Council Highlights June 10th Church Council Meeting

Tim Hoenert called the meeting to order. 8 Council members and Pastor Jeff attended. Guest, JJ Mohr attended part of the meeting.

May meeting minutes and treasurer's report were approved

5/31 YTD Regular Offering: \$87,123.50

5/31 YTD General Fund Income: \$94,375.47

5/31 YTD General Fund Expense: \$93,438.58

Membership - Currently 110 people have signed up for Church Directory pictures with Portrait Café. A motion was made and passed to get 5 additional activity pages for the directory at a cost of \$500. Nancy wanted to give a special THANK YOU to Carol Embry for all her hard work with the church directory.

Pianist/Organist - Pastor Jeff and JJ Mohr gave an update on the interviewing process with 2 separate candidates for the pianist/organist. One of the candidates declined the position due to other arrangements; Pastor Jeff and JJ were going to meet further with the 2nd candidate who applied to play on a part-time basis.

Education - Lauren gave an update on VBS, 47 kids attended and there was lots of volunteer help. Sandy Schmitt reached out to request \$5,000 benevolence for ZNC from the church budget.

Property – Roger noted both sanctuary furnaces have been installed. Steeple work is continuing. Installation of 2 new countertops in the basement kitchen is planned for June 23rd.

Zion church was approached for permission to hold meetings concerning a possible data center in the area. Council approved.

Semi-annual Congregational Meeting is set for August 16th after church. Council is considering a revision to the church By-Laws regarding Quorum requirements. Council will further discuss this at their next Council meeting and have the proposed change information available to the congregation well before the Congregational Meeting in August.

Next Council meeting is July 14th, at 6:30 p.m.

~~~~~



### **Church Pictorial Directory Make-Up Portrait Session July 23**

We have a date for makeup photography appointments for the new church directory. If you were not able to attend the June photography sessions, this will be your opportunity to be included in the directory. Photographs will be taken by appointment from 1:00pm to 8:00pm on Thursday, July 23.

A link to 'The Portrait Café's' appointment page is on the church website—[zionlippe.org](http://zionlippe.org). Or call 'The Portrait Café' directly to schedule an appointment at 1-877-896-9667 ext 360.

You may make your own appointment at any time. Or, if you wish, Nancy deClaissé-Walford will be available in the foyer before and after church on July 5, 12, and 19 for appointment sign-ups. After you have made your appointment, 'The Portrait Café' will call or text you with a reminder of your appointment date and time.

Make your appointment and mark your calendar. Photographs will be taken in the upstairs Sunday School hall.

## A few church 'funnies' to give you a smile today !

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country.

"Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments." answered the lady.

"Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."