

MARCH 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

Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
2/1	145	32 devices
2/8	85	46 devices
2/15	175	98 devices
2/18 Ash Wed	72	n/a
2/22	149	76 devices

Sunday School Average Attendance

February: Adult = 19
 Children = 7
 Youth (grade 6-12) = 2
 Confirmation = 11

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.



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 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.  
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Greeter Schedule for upcoming Sundays:



- March 1 – Terry & Mary Jane Schroeder
- March 8 – Dustin & Janelle Seitz
- March 15 – Darrin & Lisa Seitz
- March 22 – Andrea & Bexley Singer
- March 29 – Ron Strupp

- April 5, Easter 10 am – Joli & Kinley Willett
- April 12 – Gary & Staci Voegel
- April 19 – Doris Strupp & Karen Evrard
- April 26 – Phil & Sherry Wuertz

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



MARCH

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 Judy Fluty
- 2 Barbara Klenck
- 3 Tim Reineke, John Moyer
Bexley Singer
- 6 Lisa Simpson, Emily Schroeder,
Laikyn Lingafelter
- 8 Stacy Wagner, Bryan Reese,
Drake Seitz
- 9 Nora Hautman
- 10 Stephanie Elkins
- 11 Jack Kleiman, Josiah Patterson
Kraig Schmidt
- 12 Grady Gibson
- 13 Andrea Terhune
- 14 Duane Barnhart, Jordan Redman, Vince
Frazier, Mariah Voegel
- 15 Justin Schroeder, Leah Schroeder
- 16 Drake Davenport, Alana Bredemeier,
Shelby Lang
- 17 Melissa Coon
- 19 Shelbi Brown, Matthew Long
- 20 Nathanael Byerly
- 21 Albert Schmitz, Erika Evvert
- 22 Ruth Redman, Roger Eldridge,
Sam Englebright
- 23 Joe Anderson
- 24 Reece Terhune
- 25 Tina Spears, Kyle Swope, Zachary Will
- 26 Addison Voegel
- 27 Ethan & Hailey Moyer
- 28 Irma Donner
- 29 Kinley Willett, Brad Becker
- 30 Cooper Fuquay
- 31 Iris Barrow

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 1 Jim & Melanie (Wolf) Mann (2014)
- 3 Tom & Lindsey (Droege) Johnson (2018)
- 9 Clay & Erika (Lewis) Evvert (2024)
- 10 Dave & Pam (Tavener) Ford (1979)
Brad & Cindy (Embrey) Hollen (1990)
- 13 Lowell & Bonnie (Butcher) Walker (1960)
- 15 James & Karen (Boberg) Campbell (1971)

- 18 David & MaryBeth (Richardson) Reese
(1978)
 - 26 James & Hilda (Schroeder) Donner (1955)
 - 28 Andrew & Kim (Herrenbruck) White (1998)
Blake & Stephanie Elkins (2005)
- 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!

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*It's time for another evening of fun and fellowship with the **Women of Zion!** All ladies of Zion are invited to meet on **Thursday, March 12 in New Harmony.** We will begin the evening at Capers Emporium on Main St at 5:30 – 6 pm. They are opening specifically for our group to shop. Then we will head to Casa Armonia Restaurant at 500 Church St for dinner at 7. In the spirit of St. Patrick's wear green! Please **RSVP with Irma Donner by 3/8.***

*Also reminder the WOZ will make the **Lenten Meal on March 11.** Please bring a dessert and arrive about 4 pm to begin cooking for the 6 pm meal. Menu is spaghetti, salad and breadsticks.*

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All are invited to attend the **Saturday Community Lenten Breakfast & Services.** Breakfast will be at 8 am with a service following.

- March 7 at Bethlehem UCC*
 - March 14 at St Lucas UCC*
 - March 21 at St John's East UCC*
 - March 28 at St Paul, German Twp.*
- Contact Dwight Esche 812 455-5187 with any questions.*



Dear Church Family,

As we step into March, we begin to see signs of change all around us. The days grow a little longer, the chill of winter slowly gives way, and hints of spring begin to appear. This season of transition reminds us

of the faithfulness of God—how God walks with us through every season and brings renewal in God’s time.

March leads us toward the sacred journey of Lent and ultimately to the celebration of Easter. During this season, we are invited to reflect deeply on the sacrifice and love of Jesus Christ. As it says in Lamentations 3. 22–23, *“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.”* Each new day is an opportunity to experience God’s mercy and extend that same grace to others.

This month, I encourage you to set aside intentional time for prayer, Scripture reading, and quiet reflection. Ask God to renew your heart. Where do you need healing? Where is God calling you to grow? Sometimes spiritual growth happens not in dramatic moments, but in small, faithful steps of obedience.

As a faith community, let us also recommit ourselves to serving one another and our community. March is a wonderful time to reach out—invite someone to worship, encourage a neighbor, or participate in one of our ministry opportunities. The love of Christ is most visible when it is lived out through us.

If you are walking through difficulty right now, please know you are not alone. God is near to the brokenhearted, and your church family stands ready to pray with you and support you. Seasons change, but God’s promises remain steady and sure.

May this month be one of renewal, hope, and deepening faith for each of you. I am grateful to serve alongside you and look forward to all that God will do in our midst.

Blessings on your journey... **PJ**



See zionlippe.org for church calendar



One remaining CPR Class is available at Zion

- Sat March 7, 9 am – noon
If interested, Please sign up ASAP
on the big pink poster on table in foyer.
Or Contact Carla Barnhart 812 838-1710.

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**The Family of Faith Retreat/Spring Gathering** will be held on March 13-15 at Santa's Lodge in Santa Claus, Indiana. All church members (and friends) are invited to gather together and explore the theme "Resurrecting Faith".

***Meal Plan payments are due March 1.***

Please call Hans Schmitz at 812-483-7554 or Gabe Schroeder at 812-449-9445 for more information, or see the materials for sign-up in the church lobby.



Bids for mowing/groundskeeping for church properties and both cemeteries are due by March 8. If interested, please contact Roger Roedel (812) 319-1133 for job description details.

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Senior Youth Ready to Serve This Spring!

Spring is just around the corner, and with it comes the opportunity to freshen up our homes, yards, and outdoor spaces. The Senior Youth of our church are excited and ready to lend a helping hand with spring clean-up projects in our church family and community!

If you have tasks that could use some extra hands, our youth would be happy to help. Some of the projects they're available for include:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Raking leaves | Pulling weeds | Spreading mulch | Cleaning out flower beds |
| Washing windows | Cleaning garages or sheds | | Light yard work |
| Picking up sticks and debris | | | General outdoor clean-up |

This is a wonderful opportunity for our youth to serve, connect, and be the hands and feet of Christ while helping our church family prepare for the new season.

If you would like to arrange a time for our youth to come and help, please contact **Chris Wolsiefer at 812-774-2345** or call the **church office at 812-985-2437**. We look forward to serving you this spring!

February 10, 2026 Council Meeting Highlights

Council President Tim Hoenert called the meeting to order and welcomed new and current members to the council. There were 8 Council members present.

A correction to the January minutes – The meals will be before Lenten Services, not after.

All January meeting minutes were approved.

January Financials: 1/31 YTD Regular Offering \$7260.87

1/31 YTD General Fund Income \$8252.13

1/31 YTD General Fund Expense \$13,412.83

Worship Report – Pastor Jeff Long is going to add information to the slide for communion – stating the outer 2 rings of the communion tray is wine.

Property Report – Roger Roedel would like to thank Tim and Kyle Hoenert for the use of their tractor and blade to clear snow, and also thanks to Bob Juncker, Gary Voegel, Tom Paul, Pastor Jeff Long and himself for the use of a snow blower, all snow removal was successful. Mowing bids will be received from February 8th to March 8th.

Stewardship Report – Brian Crase - Endowment Request #183 for Weekday Christian Education a \$2,000 donation was approved by Council.

Pastor Jeff Report – Church Council Visioning retreat Feb 21, 2026 8:30 am to 12:00 pm at Metro Net. No meal Ash Wednesday – There is a sign up sheet for meals for the rest of Lenten services. Church council will do the dinner for the February 25th service.

Pastor Jeff stated the New Life Animal Rescue & Adoption fundraiser event went really well and Zion was well represented. Pastor Jeff took Sue Scherry and she presented a check for \$2,565 to New Life from Rev. Scherry's memorial fund at Zion.

New Business – All Council members should have a copy of Zion's Constitution for their review.

Next Meeting is March 10 at 6:30 pm.

A **special meeting** was done via email by the Church Council on February 16th, 2026. At this meeting the council approved Endowment Request #187 on behalf of At the Cross Mission in the amount of \$1,000.



Flower orders for Easter due Friday March 13

If you would like to honor or remember someone special by providing a flower to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please complete an order form found at foyer bulletin board. Several choices of flowers are available. Contact Rosie Bogard with any questions.

OR in lieu of flowers you may make a donation of any amount to a church fund of your choice in honor or memory of someone special. In that case please leave a note and payment with Ruth Wintczak in the church office or with Rosie Bogard.



On each Wednesday evening in March - a dinner will be served at 6 p.m. with Lenten worship held in the sanctuary at 7 p.m. **Volunteer group is still needed for March 25 to provide the dinner.** Please contact us or sign-up on foyer bulletin board if any group can help cover those dates.



Now Hiring: Pianist/Organist and Choir Director

Zion Lippe UCC is currently seeking passionate and dedicated individuals to serve in two important music ministry roles: **Pianist/Organist** and **Choir Director**. These positions offer a meaningful opportunity to share musical gifts while supporting the worship life of our congregation.

Pianist/Organist: We are looking for a skilled musician to provide piano and/or organ accompaniment for Sunday worship services and special services throughout the church year.

Responsibilities include:

- Providing prelude, offertory, postlude, and hymn accompaniment
- Collaborating with the pastor and choir director to select appropriate music
- Participating in seasonal services (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, etc.)
- Attending rehearsals as needed

The ideal candidate will be dependable, comfortable with a variety of church music, and open to working collaboratively in a worship setting.

Choir Director: We are also seeking an enthusiastic Choir Director to lead and grow our choral ministry.

Responsibilities include:

- Planning and leading regular choir rehearsals
- Selecting choral music appropriate for worship
- Directing the choir during Sunday services and special occasions
- Encouraging participation and fostering a positive, faith-centered rehearsal environment

The ideal candidate will have choral directing experience, strong leadership skills, and a heart for worship.

Music is a vital part of worship at Zion Lippe UCC, helping to inspire, uplift, and bring our congregation together in praise. We are excited to welcome individuals who feel called to share their talents in service to God and our church family.

For more information about either position—including schedule, compensation, and application details—please contact the church office or **Church Council President - Tim Hoenert - 812-455-2921**. We look forward to the gifts and energy new leadership will bring to our music ministry!

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

MARCH
UCC SPECIAL
OFFERING
IS

***“ONE GREAT HOUR
OF SHARING”***

**See bulletin board in foyer for
more info, or go to
UCC.org/OGHS**



Holy Week Worship Preview

Palm Sunday – March 29, 10 am
Maundy Thursday – April 2, 7 pm
Good Friday – April 3, 7 pm
Easter Sunday – April 5, Sunrise and
10 am services