MAY 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: <u>zionlippepastor@gmail.com</u>

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

Worship Attendance		
Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
3/27	150	52 devices
3/30 Lent	38	n/a
4/3	170	46 devices
4/6 Lent	30	n/a
4/10	178	50 devices
4/14 MaundyThurs 48		n/a
4/15 Good Fri	59	38 devices
4/17 Sunrise	101	34 devices
4/17 Easter 10 ar	n 258	50 devices
4/24	112	80 devices

Worship Attendance

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

Sunday School Average Attendance

April: Adult (18+) = 19 Youth = 12 (downstairs SS & Confirmation)



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... <u>www.zionlippe.org...</u> 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 approximately 5 minutes before the scheduled worship time so if you arrive a little early just be patient, the stream will begin at approximately 9:55 a.m. If you have any questions please let Pastor Jeff, the church office, or Greg or Jonathan Schmitt know and we will be happy to assist in any way that we can.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! On Sunday, May 8th we will extend a warm welcome to all of the mothers and grandmothers who are worshiping with us that day! Our prayer is that your special day will be full of joy, and also that God would give you strength and wisdom EVERY day for the important role you have in the lives of so many.

ALL LADIES (whether or not you are a mother) are invited to pick up one of the flowers in the foyer on May 8 as our gift to you.



May

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.

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Owen Spears, Martha Ziegler, Warren Bredemeier, Miranda Pieszchalski
- 3 Patti Parker, Ruth Wintczak
- 4 Shelley Schmitt
- 5 Andrea Singer
- 6 Lilly Donner
- 7 Anne Nicholson
- 8 Donald Hoenert, Ryan Ploetz
- 10 Dustin Bredemeier, Ashley Lingafelter
- 12 Sarah Reed
- 13 Kendall Reidford
- 14 Nick Voegel
- 16 Terry Freeman, Janie Cummings
- 17 Anna Mae Droege
- 18 Monica Cullman, James Barrow
- 19 Judy Rueger
- 22 Chris McCutchan, Abigail Reese
- 23 Tom Wintczak, J.J. Mohr
- 24 Carol Jo Droege, Travis Reese, Matthew Coon
- 26 Scott Lewis, Caleb Voegel
- 27 Joanna Dickhaut
- 28 Tyler Schroeder
- 29 Chloe Schroeder, Hudson Key
- 30 Brenda Bean
- 31 Missy Ludwig

Happy Anniversary!

- 1 Dan & Linda Koch (2010)
- 7 Steve & Nancy (Brandt) deClaisse-Walford (1988)
- 11 James & Jennifer (Droege) Hargett (2013)
- 14 Steve and Sally (Nicholson) Noelle
- 15 John & Miranda Pieszchalski (1999)
- 16 David and Dawn Strupp
- 17 Darwin and Gail Lashley (1980) Ryan and Amy Steinhart (1998)
- 21 Jacob & Kirstin Gibson (2016) Josh & Maggie Dye (2011)
- 23 Ralph & Colleen Heneisen (1965)
- 26 Paul and Martha (Donner) Ziegler (1962)

- 27 Elwood and Laverne (Schroeder) Deal (1961)
- 28 Gabe and Amy (Seibert) Schroeder (2011)
- 29 Chris and Beth McCutchan (2004)
- 31 Tom and Ruth (Droege) Wintczak (1980) Greg & Sandy (Dougan) Schmitt (2003)

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!

Attention High School and College Graduates!

So we may honor our graduates, please let the church office know by the morning of May 12 about members or friends of Zion who will be graduating from high school, technical school or college this year. Please include name of school and for post-high school grads also include degree.



Merom Camp & Retreats

Check Merom.org. for their newsletter and what the schedule will be this summer for Camp and Retreats. Funds are available to assist with youth camp expenses, contact Pastor Jeff or a council member. Adult Retreats are also available at various times throughout the year.



Senior Citizen Dinner Thursday, May 12 at 11 am

Our regular indoor dinner is planned.

"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke up and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is a joy." — Kahlil Gibran

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." — Mahatma Gandhi

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace...." 1 Peter 4.10

The Word is - Serve. As followers of Christ, service is our calling. Jesus, calling the disciples to him, said: "If anyone would be first, he must be last and servant of all."

Reflecting on the word: "Serve", I was reminded of three creative ways I have experienced disciples serving beyond the walls of their church building. Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner: How wonderful has it been to be gathering for dinners, lunches and breakfasts again in the church. So much laughter, sharing, and being together is something that we have longed for a long time... We are so blessed to be able to meet and eat and share again.

By our service, we are providing a ministry of presence in Christ's name.

Flowers: All of the Easter lilies beautified the sanctuary this Easter season. Thank you all for providing an Easter lily for the sanctuary. But think about this... randomly send someone you care about a bouquet of flowers as an act of kindness and caring.

Serving others beyond the walls of our buildings, out in the community, is where we are called to serve in Christ's name. We do so by our simple acts of kindness, helping others with rides to medical appointments, delivering meals on wheels, delivering flowers, or providing food for others who would go without otherwise. I wonder where Christ is calling us to serve next? Perhaps it is where, as Fredrick Buechner says, "The place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." PJ

Pastor Jeff vacation time...

May 23-29th - Pastor Jeff and family will be in Nebraska attending his nephew's High School graduation. If you need anything in his absence please contact Ruth Wintczak at the church office or home and arrangements will be made.



Vacation Bible School

Zion Lippe UCC is partnering with St. Peter's United Methodist Church for Vacation Bible School again this summer!

VBS will be June 26 - 27 - 28 from 5:30 -7:45 PM at St Peter's UMC on St Philips Rd.

Kids age 2 through 6th grade are invited to attend! Community participation is welcome and you don't need to be a member from either church. A light dinner will be served each evening to kick off the fun.

Growing spiritually doesn't have to be an unsolved mystery! Take a three-day journey with kid detectives as they dig into a few of Jesus' parables to solve the mysteries of how to grow their faith, how to care for, serve, and love others. They'll discover that the answers have been there all along: spend time with God, spend time with others, use your gifts, and share your story. Sign-up by filling out your child(ren)s information here:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx...



Congratulations to Chloe Schroeder and Brock Heneisen who were confirmed at Zion Lippe on Palm Sunday, April 10, and celebrated their first communion on Easter April 17.

Congratulations to Cameron & Shelbi Brown at the birth of their daughter, Remi Jo Brown on April 1, 2022. Proud grandparents are Brad & Cindy Hollen and great-grandma Carol Embrey.

Congratulations also to Travis & Amanda Reese at the birth of their son, Andrew Rhett Reese on April 12, 2022. Proud great-grandparents are Elwood & Laverne Deal.

Zion Lippe UCC Council Highlights 04/12/22

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

3/31 YTD Regular Offering: \$40,998.26 3/31 YTD General Fund Income: \$42,894.63 3/31 YTD General Fund Expense: \$47,255.71 Differences: (-)\$4,361.08

Communion Maundy Thursday and Good Friday using individual cups, pew communion will be on Easter Sunday. Brock, Chloe and their families will be served at the alter. Will have bread and the trays filled with wine and grape juice.

Pastor Jeff will be on vacation after Easter. Andy Hape will have the service April 24.

Last Sunday school classes for children will be May 22nd, no Sunday school through the summer and start up again in the fall.

Bible School will be in conjunction with St Peter's UMC again, will use the Grow curriculum, will be on June 26th, 27th, and 28th.

Endowment request made by Hans Schmitz for the Relay for Life at \$3,000 was approved by the council.

Mowing bids have been awarded to Lee Cullman for the cemetery and Roger/Darlene Roedel for the church grounds.

Loose slate panels on the steeple were repaired by Helming Brothers. More repairs will be needed soon.

The louver on the east end of the building was replaced on the same day by Helm who was subcontracted by Benthall Brothers.

Tristate Painting will repair the parsonage ceiling after Easter.

Bunge have been contacted to set an appointment to assess the church tuck pointing. The mold in the basement boys bathroom has been removed, will wait till summer to repaint. Trees have been planted in front of the church by Chris McCutchan, a dead holly bush in front of the Sunday school hall needs to be removed.

The garage gutter needs to be repaired and some formica in the basement needs replacing. The transmitter is missing from the outside pedestal of the handicap door, Russell is looking to see if one can be bought that matches our current receiver.

Estimated installation for the new playground is in mid to late July, some items have already been delivered.

The following document was originally approved as a faithful manner of ministry for Zion Lippe United Church of Christ by the Church Council at the scheduled monthly meeting:

February 9, 2016.

The covenant will allow us to address issues and concerns within our church family in a healthy, positive manner. If you have any questions please contact the church Council President or the Pastor.

COVENANT OF CONDUCT - Affirmed: February 26, 2022

In order for the congregation and the Church Council to deal effectively with various church issues, the following guidelines are to be followed:

- 1. All members affirm their right to express their opinions about the life and ministry of the congregation.
- The congregation operates with a direct democracy form of government that allows members to share their opinions directly with the pastors, church council, boards and committees, and at congregational meetings.
- 3. When members of the congregation express an opinion to a member of the council or staff, the council or staff person shall ask, "What would you like me to do with this information?"
- 4. If the member desires to have the information transmitted to the council or staff, the member shall be invited to bring the information/opinion to the next council meeting. The time and date shall be provided.
- 5. If the member *does not* wish to appear in person, the council and staff members shall ask the member for permission to use their name in reporting. If permission is not given, the council or staff member shall respond by saying, "I'm sorry, but I will not be able to report this to the council or staff since we do not deal with anonymous letters or comments."
- 6. If permission is given, the council or staff person shall report the information/opinion to the council and use the members name.
- 7. At his/her discretion, a council or staff member may ask that the member refer this issue to another council or a staff member for a presentation.
- 8. Each issue shall be placed on the agenda if presented at a church council meeting and written in the minutes along with the action taken by the council. Action may include: "Received as information," "Pastor and/or president to visit member(s) and report at the next meeting," etc.
- 9. Opinions may be shared in writing with the council and staff and shall be handled in the above mentioned manner if the letter or statement is signed.

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The Women of Zíon are planning an evening of "Painting with a Twist" on Thursday, May 12 at 6 pm. Any and all ladies are welcome to join us for this evening of fun and fellowship!

Be sure to sign up by May 7. There is a \$35 fee for the cost of the canvas – fee is due by May 7 – pay in cash or by check payable to <u>Brush Mileage LLC.</u> Turn your payment in to Rosie Bogard and check with her if any questions.



Posey County Relay for Life will be held June 11 at Murphy Park in New Harmony. Zion will again have a Relay Team. Sign-ups will be forthcoming. Contact Hans Schmitz or Nancy Dougan.

May collection items for **Operation Christmas Child** are: Small balls, Marbles, Dice and Cards Contact Ashley Lashley for questions.



Bereavement and What to Say?

Imagine you send your best friend your normal goofy, snarky text as you're starting your day. Instead of their usual emoji-laden reply, you get this: "Hey. I can't. I – okay, my dad just died. Can you call me?"

Here's the deal – NO ONE knows what to say in this situation. You can't make this better if you just say the perfect thing because the perfect thing does. not. exist.

You can't do it right because there is no "right." I hope that's a relief. The thing is, it's not your job to make your friend feel better, or even to take away their pain. It's not a surprise that you don't know how to do any of this, or that you suddenly become someone who weirdly shouts "everything happens for a reason." Because we don't talk about this stuff, most people don't know what to do.

The trick is to lean into your helplessness in the face of your friend's pain. Your job is to feel awkward and stay there anyway. Just hang right out with their pain.

There's one more thing we should talk about: your good intentions.

When I talk about the unintentionally awful things people say – like "he's in a better place" or "at least you had her for as long as you did" – I always get at least one person informing me that people have good intentions and I should lay off the complaints.

Most people don't know what to say. But the answer isn't that grieving people should suck it up, pretend those platitudes are okay, and not get what they need. The answer is SKILL BUILDING.

Bearing witness to someone's pain without jumping in to fix it or make it better is a skill. And skills can be learned.

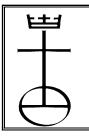
When pain exists, let it exist. Make it safer for the other to say, "This hurts," without rushing in to clean it up. Make space for each other.

Show up. Listen. Don't fix.

How do you feel in the face of someone's grief? The way we get better at this stuff is by talking about it – and building skills. If you're grieving, what are some of the best things friends or family did for you?

To find more information like was provided in the article visit: https://refugeingrief.com

ZION BEREAVEMENT GROUPS MEET ON MONDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS @ 7:00 P.M. Contact Pastor Jeff for more information.



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



Memorial Day May 30, 2022



Zion Nursery Center Graduation Sunday, May 1, at 1 pm AND Congratulations to the ZNC staff, past and present, for 50 years of teaching pre-schoolers!! – and to Zion Church for encouraging this community educational outreach!