

OCTOBER 2023

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.)
9/3	105	60 devices
9/10	130	74 devices
9/17	134	66 devices
9/24	128	46 devices

Sunday School Average Attendance

Sept: Adult (18+) = 16

Children (downstairs) = 9

Youth (grades 6-12, includes Conf.) = 12

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:

Thank you to the many folks who have volunteered! Please continue to look for the monthly schedules in the next Voice of Zion newsletters.

Oct 1 – Justin & Nikaya Long

Oct 8 – Missy Ludwig

Oct 15 – Melanie Mann

Oct 22 – Steve & Pam Martin

Oct 29 – Chris & Beth McCutchan

Nov 5 – Keith & Connie McCutchan

Nov 12 – Phil & April McCutchan

Nov 19 – Linda Messel & Stacy Wagner

Nov 26 – Bill Meyer

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 that's ok!

If you haven't already talked with Rosie Bogard about greeting, but would like to be added to the schedule, please contact Rosie or the church office.



OCTOBER

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 married.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 1 Ryan Steinhart, Robert Hast
- 2 John Spears
- 3 Mary Ann Fuelling
- 5 Bryan Lingafelter, Julie Peterson,
Chase Byerly, Eliza Long
- 6 David Strupp
- 7 Mary Beth Reese, MaggiLynn Droege
- 9 Carol Embrey, Deborah Muntzer
- 10 Doris Smith
- 12 Laverne Deal
- 13 Katelynn Heneisen
- 14 Ron Willett, Steve deClaisse-Walford
- 16 Jennifer Heim, Jeff Droege, Tyler Roedel,
Steve Fuelling
- 17 Baylee Crase, Warren Hildebrand
- 18 Mary Jane Schroeder, Hannah Lang,
Martha Schroeder, Beckett Lingafelter
- 20 Channa Crase, Emily Schmitt
- 23 Amber Barrow, Steve Lodwick
- 24 Bob Reutter, Verna Hudson
- 25 Robin Crowe
- 26 Ashley Lashley
- 27 Lily Elless, Anderson Voelker
- 28 Carlie VanVoorst, Evelyn Dye

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 1 Vince and Tammy Frazier (1983)
- 5 Jacob and Chellsie Parker (2019)
- 10 Mike and Debbie Schorr (1992)
- 12 Robert and Julie (Howard) Klenck (1996)
- 14 Larry and Jan (Blaylock) Droege (1978)
- 15 J.J. and Kelli Mohr (2016)
- 17 Gary and Ashley (Rhodes) Lashley (2015)
- 21 Austin & Breanna (Johnson) Phelps (2017)
- 22 Travis and Amanda Reese (2016)
- 25 Ron and Sandy (Schroeder) Willett (1975)
- 26 Lucas & Katelyn (Esche) Heidenreich (2019)
- 27 Tyler and Becky Schroeder (2018)
- 28 Nathan & Makenzie (Stewart) Perry (2017)

- 30 Nick & Kendra (Schorr) Gries (2021)
- 31 Hans and Cindy (Madden) Schmitz (2015)

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!

October UCC Special Offering "Neighbors In Need"

See ucc.org/nin for more info
Special offering envelopes are available at
foyer bulletin board

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Senior Citizens Dinner Thursday, October 12 11 am

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With Sympathy

We extend heartfelt sympathy to the family of Diane Burkhart. Diane passed away September 10, 2023 at the age of 70. Funeral services were held September 16 at Pierre Funeral Home, with entombment at Memorial Park Cemetery. We cherish good memories of Diane.

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Endowment Notice for Year-End Requests

If you are planning on turning in a "Request Form" to the Endowment Committee and need the funds by year end, please have it turned in by Saturday October 7th, 2023. The Endowment Committee's last meeting for 2023 is Sunday October 15th and Council will not vote on it until Tuesday November 14th. If the request is approved, then processing of the distribution check from Fifth Third Bank generally takes an additional 1-2 weeks.



This is my favorite time of year – no, not because of the increase of political commercials and mailings... but because we are experiencing the fall, harvest-time, and moving closer and closer to the holidays. What a wonderful time of both busyness and celebration! In the midst of our continued busy-ness... let's not lose sight of the importance of our faith and each other.

There is an ancient fable about three merchants crossing the Arabian Desert. Traveling in darkness to avoid the intense heat one starless night, they were passing over a dry creek bed when a voice from the blackness commanded them to halt. They were then ordered to stoop, pick up pebbles from the creek bed, and put them in their pockets. After obeying the strange command, they were told to leave that place, camping nowhere near. The mysterious voice then told them that in the morning they would be both happy and sad.

Shaken and confused, and obeying the mysterious intruder, they traveled through the night. When morning came, the men anxiously looked into their pockets, and rather than finding the pebbles as expected, there were precious jewels. They, indeed, were happy and sad. They were happy they had picked up the jewels, but sad because while they had the opportunity they had not picked up many more.

Every day is a gift. We all have challenges and heartaches. Still, perspective and attitude are critical. God can be found in small ways and events every day. The life we have and the loved ones we cherish will not always be here with us. Thank you for your Life and Love shared here – I am deeply appreciative. And if a day seems particularly tough, check the pockets in your hearts. I'm sure you'll find you gained something precious!

Blessings to each of you, *Pastor Jeff*



World Communion Sunday, October 1, focuses attention on the universal and inclusive nature of the church, challenged but standing strong. Each year, several denominations celebrate World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday in October. For us in the United Church of Christ we fix our focus and attention on the universal and inclusive nature of the church.

We hope you, and a guest or two, can join us on **Sunday, October 1st** for World Communion Sunday.



Group: Zion Nursery Center
 Date: Thursday, November 2nd
 Location: West Side, Pearl Dr.

You must receive this token from your organization prior to your event. Distribution of this token on Hacienda property will disqualify the organization from receiving any proceeds.

Don't have time to eat out? Pick up a Hacienda gift card or Fiesta-To-Go order. They count towards the fundraiser.

Restaurant Phone Number 812-422-2055

GIFT CARDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED TO MAKE PAYMENT FOR YOUR PURCHASE WITH THIS TOKEN



Save the Date!

**November 2, 2023 at Hacienda West Side
Fundraiser for Zion Nursery Center**



Sunday, October 29 at 4 pm, we will hold our annual Trunk or Treat in the Zion Church parking lot! Bring your friends, neighbors and relatives for a great afternoon of fun! If you would like to sign up to decorate a trunk, please send Pastor Jeff a text message, or email, or use the sign up sheet in the church foyer. We need everyone's help again this year! This has been such a fun event for our church and community. We hope you will come and join us.



Christmas Gifts for State Hospital Patients

Usually around the first part of October, we will receive a list of patients we can help with gifts for Christmas. Irma Donner heads this up for Zion and will announce when she receives the info. This is such an awesome way to help those in need, so keep this in mind and let Irma know if you would like to take part!



Congratulations to Casey & Megan Voelker at the birth of their son, Parker Redman Voelker, on August 25, 2023. Proud grandparents are Jerry & Pam Redman and great-grandparents Marvin & Ruth Redman.

Council Meeting Highlights – 9/12/23

In Attendance– Michelle Heneisen, Nancy Lewis, Russ Roehr, Rosie Bogard, Carl Barchet, Patrick Schroeder, Stacy Wagner, Pastor Jeff, Brian Crase, Bob Juncker

8/31 YTD Regular Offering: \$137,939.10

8/31 YTD General Fund Income: \$143,222.51

8/31 YTD General Fund Expense: \$133,211.38

- Creation of Solar Committee. Council voted to have Pat Schroeder and Stacy Wagner as the council representatives on the Solar Committee. They will move forward on obtaining additional details and quotes on projects, then once we have more information will reach out to request additional volunteers from the congregation to join the committee. Additional quotes will be obtained from more companies on both the roof-mounted panels, ground-mounted panels, and solar panels covering the parking lot. Stacy and Pat to reach out to companies to provide informational sessions open to the congregation at later dates.
- Rosie reported that Worldwide communion Sunday is October the 1st. In addition, the church will soon being decorated to get it ready for Harvest Home. Will be collecting canned goods for God's Storehouse the next 4 Sundays.
- Carl has received various quotes for repaving the parking lot and is still working through the details to come up with the best option. He recommended having the basketball court paving done separately from the parking lot to move that project forward since the parking lot project is more complicated.
- Bob brought up the proposal provided by Terry Schroeder regarding the fencing quotes for the Old Cemetery. Total cost was anticipated to be \$3,052. Council reviewed the proposed project and funds, and Brian noted that there are a decent amount of funds available from Memorial Funds that have been specifically designated for projects similar to this and recommended we reach out to the families to confirm their use for the project. Council approved moving forward on this approach.
- Nancy reported that 10 kids came to the first Sunday School after the kids' classes were re-opened and each got a new book funded by the Sunday School.
- Designation of Lenten Funds - \$2,434 of Lenten funds had been taken in during Lenten season but not yet allocated. Pat proposed giving \$1,250 of the funds to VOICES, Inc. and \$1,250 to Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Pat to donate the balance of the funds to make the total \$2,500. Council approved this use of the Lenten funds.

(excerpt from. . .) **What You Really Need to Know About 'Grieving Stages' by Eleanor Haley**

What you really need to know about grieving stages is that, for the most part, they are a myth. It's easiest if we establish that from the get-go. To be specific, grief theories involving grief stages exist. But it is not true that individuals should expect to experience the uniform, categorical, or linear grief they describe.

Though there are common experiences that serve as the basis of grief theories that involve grieving stages, phases, etc., you may or may not relate to these things yourself. Patterns observed among grieving people are, in many ways, random and don't allow us to predict with any degree of certainty what anyone else will experience. There are too many factors involved.

You are grieving a specific loss, and you, yourself, are a very unique person. It's inconceivable that anyone could know exactly what you've been through or tell you exactly what will come next.

Grief and loss professionals have been working to change ideas about grief being patterned, categorical, finite, or linear for decades. Helping individuals recognize that grief is incredibly unique depending on the person, their loss, and the context in which they live trumps any grief theory. But society is slow to adopt these ideas.

Grieving stages in society and the need for a different way of thinking

It seems ironic how hard people work to cram grief into things like grieving stages, phases, tasks, etc, when you consider that grief ranks up there as one of the most complex experiences that almost every human will experience in their lifetime.

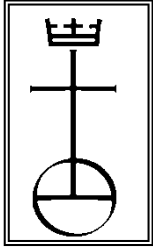
I liken grief to another complex and universal human experience--love. Both are things that most people will experience in their lifetime. Love and grief can both be simple yet also incredibly nuanced and layered. They are both experiences involving many emotions, thoughts, and experiences. And both can feel confusing and mysterious, even though they are intrinsically human, existing within and emanating from us.

Yet, despite their similarities, we as a society treat these experiences quite differently. Love is generally considered net positive, so we celebrate it and are happy to let it exist (as we should). Grief, on the other hand, is considered a negative state. It involves pain, despair, unhappiness, depression, and (gasp!) sometimes a lack of "normal" and productive behavior. It feels terrible, so people treat it like something that should be controlled, corralled, cured, and eliminated.

But when you come to know grief, you start to see that it involves many unexpected thoughts and emotions. Though it may seem entirely negative at face value, it often involves more positive things like warm memories and connections as well.

That said, I will concede grief exists mostly on the painful end of the human-experience continuum, so it makes sense to want to find ways to help ease the pain. However, if we recognize that (1) it's not all bad, (2) significant loss stays with us forever, and (3) we're likely to experience new losses throughout our entire lifetime, doesn't it make sense that we should get better at allowing the experience of grief to ebb, flow, and exist?

<https://whatsyourgrief.com/what-you-really-need-to-know-about-grieving-stage>



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



Harvest Home Sundays October 1, 8, 15 & 22

*“Fill the Truck for
God’s Storehouse Food Pantry”*

*We will decorate on Saturday, Sept 30 at
9 am – Anyone is welcome to help!
Please bring your donations of canned &
non-perishable food items and paper
products to the church during the week
before October 1, or on one of the Harvest
Home Sundays.*

*If possible, place your items at the front of
the sanctuary, or leave them inside the
north foyer double doors.
Contact Irma Donner with questions.*



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Help make bed frames . . .

**Next Work Day is Sat. October 14th
8 am – Noon at 1303 S Green River Rd
- Evansville, IN 47715**

All ages are welcome (children under 12 cannot use power tools but can assist in other ways). Let Pastor Jeff know if you are interested or have any further questions.