

OCTOBER 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

Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
8/30	152	67 devices
9/6	85	43 devices
9/13	181	61 devices
9/20	142	75 devices
9/27	206	63 devices

Sunday School Average Attendance

Sept: Adult = 18
Children (5th grade & younger) = 11
Youth (6-12th grade) = 3
Confirmation (7th & 8th grade) = 6

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.
YouTube and search for Zion Lippe.

For later viewing of recorded services, go to



Greeter Schedule for upcoming Sundays:

October 4 – Carol Jo Droege
October 11 – Brian & Channa Crase
October 18 – Larry & Jan Droege
October 25 – Mark & Stephanie Duncan

November 1 – Carol Embrey
November 8 – Laura Droege
November 15 – Josh & Maggie Dye
November 22 – Gene & Kelley Esche
November 29 – Keith & Marilyn Frank

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.



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, Bentley Moore
- 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 deClaise-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
- 25 Robin Crowe
- 26 Ashley Lashley
- 27 Lily Elless, Anderson Voelker
- 28 Carlie Johnson, 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)
- 18 Austin and Whitney O'Risky (2025)
- 21 Austin & Breanna (Johnson) Phelps (2017)
- 22 Travis and Amanda Reese (2016)
- 25 Ron and Sandy (Schroeder) Willett (1975)
Caleb and Haley Voegel (2025)
- 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)
Tyler and Carolyn Price (2009)

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 15 11 am

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With Sympathy

We extend heartfelt sympathy to the family of John L Breiner, Sr. John passed away September 5, 2026 at the age of 89. Funeral services were held September 11 at Denning Family Funeral home, with Rev. Jeff Long officiating, and burial following at Zion Lippe.

We cherish good memories of John.

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Ellie James Brown, daughter of Cameron & Shelbi Brown, was baptized at Zion on September 27, 2026.



The Shepherd Who Walks With Us

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." —Psalm 23. 1

There is something special about October. The leaves begin to change, the mornings become cooler, and the rhythm of life shifts once again. It is a beautiful reminder that we are always moving through different seasons of life. Psalm 23 speaks to us in each of those seasons. David reminds us that we have a Shepherd who provides for us, leads us, restores us, and walks beside us. Sometimes God leads us beside still waters and gives us the rest our souls desperately need. At other times, we find ourselves walking through difficult valleys filled with uncertainty, grief, or fear.

I especially appreciate the words, *"Even though I walk through the darkest valley."* David doesn't say we will never experience dark valleys. Instead, he reminds us that the valley is not where our journey ends—and we do not walk through it alone.

As a church family, we experience many seasons together. We celebrate new beginnings, share in one another's joys, and offer comfort when life becomes difficult. Through it all, we are reminded that God's presence remains faithful.

As we enjoy the beauty of October, may we take time to notice God's goodness, and give thanks for the people who walk beside us. And when life feels uncertain, may we remember that our Shepherd is still leading, still restoring, and still caring for us.

Whatever this season may hold, we can move forward with confidence in this promise:

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

May God's peace fill your hearts and your homes this October. I look forward to sharing the blessings and opportunities of this season with you.

Blessings on the journey friends... **PJ**

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On **Sunday, October 31st at 2-4:00 P.M.** We invite you to be a part of another wonderful Trunk-or-Treat experience in the Zion Church parking lot! Anyone who would like to participate is welcome to decorate a trunk, donate candy to be distributed, help set up and tear down or even help serve, you are invited.

Everyone is invited to join in all the fun... families, members, friends of the congregation, the community. Everyone!! 🍎 We would love to see you on the afternoon of October 31st. If you would like to sign up to decorate a trunk, please let Julie Klenck, Chris Wolsiefer, or Pastor Jeff a text message, email, or use the sign up sheet in the church foyer. This has been such a great event for our church and community. We hope you will come and join us.



**Pick a Pumpkin & Support Our Youth!** Fall is here, and that means the Zion Lippe Youth Pumpkin Patch is back!

Come support our Youth Group and find the perfect pumpkin for your family. Our Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser will be open through October, or until the pumpkins are all gone, on the front lawn of the church.

Looking for a little adventure? You can even pick your own pumpkin! Just let one of our youth know, and they'll be happy to accompany you to our pumpkin patch near the softball diamond and solar panels.

We'll have pumpkins of all shapes and sizes—perfect for carving, decorating, baking, or simply adding a little fall spirit to your front porch. And every pumpkin helps make a difference! Proceeds will support our youth mission trips, camps, and service projects, helping our young people grow in faith while serving and making a difference in our community and beyond. So bring the family, invite your friends, and stop by the patch! Pick a pumpkin. Support our youth. Celebrate fall. We can't wait to see you at the Zion Lippe Pumpkin Patch!

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OUR LITTLE COUNTRY CHURCH SUPPORTS GOD'S STOREHOUSE!

October Harvest Home — Let's work together to fill a truckbed or two. There's something special about a little country church. We may not be the biggest church in the community, but we have **big hearts, generous hands, and a whole lot of love to share!**

Throughout the month of **October**, Zion Lippe United Church of Christ will be collecting **canned goods, non-perishable food items, and paper products** to support **God's Storehouse**, a local food pantry helping provide food and essential items to families and individuals in our area.

Our Harvest Home celebration begins with decorating this "Little Country Church" on **Saturday, October 3 at 9:00 a.m.** Everyone is invited to come help us get ready! Beginning **Sunday, October 4**, and continuing throughout our October Harvest Home Sundays, bring your donations to church and help us fill those truckbeds.

You can place your donations at **the front of the sanctuary** or **inside the north foyer double doors**. Every can. Every box. Every package. Every gift. **It all adds up.**

And when a little country church comes together, **a little can become a LOT!**

So let's show our community what happens when God's people open their hearts, roll up their sleeves, and share what they have been blessed with. For questions, please contact **Irma Donner**.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We welcome Mike Kendall as a member of Zion . . .

Mike was born in Hayward Wisconsin, the first son in a family of 7 children. He graduated from Hayward High School in 1978, then moved to Gillette Wyoming in fall 1978 to work on oil drilling rigs in Wyoming and Colorado. In 1982 Mike met his wife, Cindy in Gillette, they were married in 1984 and moved to west side Evansville in 1987 with their son Eric & and another son Adam on the way! They became members at St Paul UCC Michigan St. Sadly, Cindy passed away in 2019 from stroke complications.

Mike still lives in Evansville west side, retiring in 2019 from Local 136 Plumbers & Pipefitters after 32 years. Both sons, Eric & Adam, graduated from Reitz HS and played on Reitz football teams. Mike enjoys Packers football, nature, traveling, and his sons and grandchildren. He says "I am blessed to have my special little family and a great big family all over the country and have great in-laws too! I've had a good life – I am blessed!"



The Women of Zion are excited to invite the congregation to take part in a special ministry opportunity this fall called “**Purses with a Purpose.**”

On **Thursday, November 12, at 6:00 p.m.**, the Women of Zion will gather to collect the "Purses with a Purpose". *Ladies, please bring an already-filled purse or purses to the meeting.*

Here's how you can help: Find a gently used purse that you no longer need and fill it with **full-size bath and body products, self-care items, socks, hats, or gloves.** Then bring your filled purse to the November 12 meeting. You are welcome to bring one purse—or several!

These purses will be given to **local women's shelters**, where they can serve as a small but meaningful reminder that someone cares.

There is just one important note: **Please do not include anything containing alcohol**, such as hand sanitizer or mouthwash.

During the month of October, the Women of Zion will have a table in the church foyer with additional information and examples of items that can be included in the purses. We hope this display will give everyone some ideas and make it easy for you to participate.

You don't have to be a member of the Women of Zion to join in this ministry! Anyone in the congregation is invited to fill a purse and help us make a difference in the life of a woman in need. Sometimes ministry comes in the form of a sermon, a prayer, or a meal. And sometimes it comes in the form of a purse filled with a few simple things that say, **“You matter. You are cared for. You are not alone.”**

We hope you'll join the Women of Zion in giving our purses... and our purpose... a little extra meaning this fall! For questions, please see **Ruth Redman, Rosie Bogard, or Sue Scherry.**

Council Highlights September 8th 2026 Meeting

Council President Tim Hoenert called the meeting to order. 7 Council members and Pastor Jeff were present.

August Secretary and Treasurer reports were approved.

8/31 YTD Regular Offering: \$142,038.05

8/31 YTD General Fund Income: \$152,869.40

8/31 YTD General Fund Expense: \$155,174.44

Building Fund balance will be about \$21,000 after we pay for solar batteries in September.

Membership: Nancy would like to have all the material to Portrait Café by October 15th, so we could get the new directory around Christmas.

Property: Roger reported the new window in the church office has been installed.

The older white refrigerator in the basement kitchen was not cooling. A new LG 24 cubic foot refrigerator was installed, the cost was about \$ 900. Council will make a request to Endowment for payment of the refrigerator.

The two pin oak trees near the shelter house are dying. Council decided to remove them once the crops are out.

Pastor: Request for membership from Mike Kendall was approved by the Church Council. Sign up for the pumpkin patch will be soon.

Next meeting October 13th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

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Reminder about the Zion Property Sign-Out Book located in the library. . .

This book lists items that are available for church members to borrow.

Types of items include: Medical Assistance Equipment (i.e. wheelchairs, walkers etc), some Kitchen equipment and items in block storage garage (i.e. tables & chairs).

Please note that the tables and chairs available to borrow are only those located in the storage garage, tables and chairs from the Sunday School should not be removed from the building.

If you wish to borrow any item, be sure to check the Property Sign-Out Book for availability and list your name and dates needed. Medical equipment may be used for as long as needed, other items may be borrowed for a few days.

If any questions, contact the church office, a council member, or Ruth Redman.

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



**October is
Pastor Appreciation
Month**

*Let's honor Pastor Jeff and show
our appreciation!*



**We will celebrate
WORLD COMMUNION
on OCTOBER 4, 2026**
*One Table, One Faith
One Family*