

SEPTEMBER 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: zionlippepastor@gmail.com

Sunday Family Worship at 10 am
Sunday School at 9 am

Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
7/31	103	35 devices
8/7	165	100 devices
8/14	140	50 devices
8/21	150	82 devices
8/28	152	36 devices

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

Sunday School Average Attendance

August: Adult (18+) = 10

Youth = 0

(no downstairs SS being held this summer)

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...

www.zionlippe.org... 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 at approximately 9:55 am. If questions check with Pastor Jeff, Greg or Jonathan Schmitt.

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*Starting September 11, we plan to have Greeters again before the 10 am Sunday worship services. Thank you to the many folks who have volunteered! Here's the greeter schedule for September and October – and please continue to look for the monthly schedules in the next Voice of Zion newsletters.*

**Sept 11 – Darlene Breiner**

**Sept 18 – Elwood & Laverne Deal**

**Sept 25 – Jim & Hilda Donner**

**Oct 2 – Joe & Rhiannon Anderson**

**Oct 9 – Carl & Kathy Barchet**

**Oct 16 – Amber Barrow**

**Oct 23 – Gary & Staci Voegel**

**Oct 30 – Brenda Bean**

*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. 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.*



## SEPTEMBER

We share the celebrations of our lives as a congregation by publishing a monthly list of birthdays and anniversaries of members and friends of Zion. Numbers in ( ) represent year.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 2 Hadley Seitz, Mark Duncan
- 3 Kayla Baird, Doris Strupp
- 4 Devon Hautman, Laura Droege, Kris Long
- 5 Katie Primus, Rodney Schroeder, Richard Schroeder, Claire Chamberlain
- 6 Lora Commens, Isaiah Voelker, Averyn Key
- 7 Arin Commens
- 8 Paul Schorr, Gary Lashley, Kirstin Gibson, Matthew & Sean Pieszchalski
- 9 Ann Proctor
- 10 Jenna Rueger, Katelyn Heidenreich, Jeri Sauve
- 13 Ruby Ostermann
- 14 Johlene Hoenert
- 15 Bill Smith
- 16 Amanda Lashley, Sarah Muntzer, Maddox Voegel
- 17 Pam Redman, Scott Bogard
- 19 Sandy Willett, Ron McClaren
- 20 Megan Voelker
- 22 John Pieszchalski, Taylor Pieszchalski
- 23 Alicia Becker
- 24 Carly Patterson, Noah Hoffman, Adam Kendall
- 26 Brian Crase
- 27 Hilda Donner, Rylee Kern, Matt Kern
- 28 Brad Hollen, Russell Schroeder
- 29 Lee Cullman
- 30 Gary Barnett

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 1 Adam and Jennifer (Juncker) Heim (2007)
- 2 Fred and Terri (Kessler) Freeman (1972)
- Michael and Debbie Droege (2012)
- 5 Jeff & Jenny Droege (2009)
- Bill & Charlotte Green (1987)
- 6 Jared & Kayla (Hoenert) Baird (2020)
- 7 John and Tina (Deal) Spears (1996)
- Brian & Maizee (Sauve) Goebel (2013)
- 15 Ronald and Annette Schroeder (1990)
- 17 Shelby & Jeri (Droege) Sauve (1988)
- 23 Chuck & Susan (Fischer) Schroeder (1978)
- David & Stacey Hyslop (2006)

- 26 Carl and Darlene (Schroeder) Bosse (1987)
- Brian & Channa Crase (1998)
- David & Audrey Key (2015)
- 28 James and Amber (Willett) Barrow (2008)
- Cory & Kelsey Lingafelter (2019)

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed or is not correct, please call the office, so we may update our records. Thanks for your help!

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Women's Fellowship

Women of Zion will start meeting again on Thursday, September 8 at 6:30 pm. We will plan for the coming year. Join us for fellowship and dessert. If any questions contact Nancy Lewis, President.

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## A Word of Thanks . . .

I was very blessed as I recovered from my hip surgery, by my Zion Church family. Thank you for all the many ways you shared God's love and care with me. Cards, calls, flowers, food, visits and prayers were all very much appreciated.

I could not have functioned without my three earth angels, Ruth, Nancy and Donna, who helped me on a daily basis with house chores, on/off sock duty and mobility.

You truly are the "salt of the earth" Pastor Jeff referred to during one of his sermons several weeks ago. I truly needed help and thank all of you so very much for being there for me.

Carol Embrey

A BIG THANK YOU TO CARL BARCHET for helping organize a great event for everyone at Bosse Field on Saturday evening. Thank you to everyone who joined us and participated in this church event. The fireworks, food, and fellowship made for an incredible weekend.

There was once an old monastery tucked away in the middle of a forest. For many years people would make a significant effort required to seek out this monastery. The peaceful spirit of the place was healing for the soul. In recent years, however, fewer and fewer people were making their way to the monastery. The monks had grown jealous and petty in their relationships with one another, and this animosity began to be felt by those who visited.

The abbot of the monastery was distressed by what was happening and poured out his heart to a wise old Jewish rabbi who came for a week of solitude and prayer in a nearby cottage in the woods. Having heard the abbot's tale of woe, he asked if he could offer a suggestion.

"Please do" responded the abbot. "Anything you can offer."

The rabbi said that he had received a vision while the abbot was pouring out his heart, and the vision was this: "The Messiah is among you."

The abbot was astounded. Someone among his own community was the Messiah! Who could it be? He knew it wasn't him, but who? He hastened back to the monastery and shared the news with his fellow monks. The monks grew silent as they looked at each other. Was this one the Messiah? Or was it that one? Or perhaps it was...?

From that day on, the mood in the monastery changed. They began to treat each other with extraordinary respect. Jacob and Johannes started speaking to each other again, neither wanting to be guilty of slighting the Messiah. Paolo and Matthias left behind their frosty anger and sought out each other's forgiveness.

The monks began looking for little ways of serving each other, opportunities to assist, seeking healing and forgiveness where offense had been given. One traveler, then another began to find their way to the monastery. Word soon spread about the remarkable new spirit of the place. People found themselves renewed and transformed. They sensed a new spirit, the aura of extraordinary respect that now began to surround the old monks, and seemed to radiate out from them and permeate the atmosphere of the abbey. All because those monks knew the Messiah was among them.

Just like in our community. The Messiah is among us. It can be seen in all the extraordinary efforts of so many who have made our playground project a reality. It can be seen in all the efforts to keep our grounds and building in excellent shape. It can be seen in weekly group meetings, Sunday School classes, administrative efforts, fellowship outings at baseball games, bbq events to support the Marines and Sunday morning worship to name a few.

Blessings to all of you who keep bringing the presence of the Messiah to our church and community!!! **PJ**



*Remi Jo Brown, daughter of Cameron and Shelbi Brown, was baptized at Zion on August 7, 2022.*

*Eliza Kay Long, daughter of Justin and Nikaya Long, was baptized at Zion on August 14, 2022.*

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Congratulations to these Newlyweds!

Miranda Johnson and Ryan Daugherty - married at Zion on July 30, 2022.

Claire Schroeder and Austin Lensing – married in Nashville, TN on August 5, 2022.

Tyler Roedel and Tylar Dean renewed their vows and celebrated with family and friends at Kokies on August 27, 2022. Their actual marriage date was June 4, 2021, but with covid concerns they just had a very small ceremony at that time. Tylar is keeping her last name Dean – to help avoid confusion of having 2 Tyler/Tylar Roedels in the same household!

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**The Playground Project is 99% Complete!**

Over the past few weeks all sorts of progress was made on the playground project. All the equipment was installed, cement pads were poured for picnic tables and benches, landscape fabric was put down, and all the rubber mulch was spread. We even had a short dedication celebration following worship on August 28th. This project was made

possible by countless donations, hours of work, planning and prayers. More evidence of the Messiah alive and well in our midst.

The only thing left is to plant new trees just to the West of the playground which will provide shade. If you would like to help purchase those trees you can make a designated donation to the church and those funds will be placed in our Playground fund. Trees will be planted later in the fall.

What a blessing to provide an incredible playground area for our church, the nursery school and community for generations to come. Thank you all so much for helping make this vision a reality. Stop by and take a look... bring your children or grandchildren and enjoy this wonderful addition to our church campus.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

We are excited to announce that **Children's Sunday School Classes will resume on Sunday, September 11th beginning at 9:00 a.m. downstairs.**

**The Adult Sunday School Class with Steve and Nancy de Claisse-Walford will continue** in the upstairs Sunday School area. Here are their upcoming study plans:

*Steve spend the summer teaching about the four gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John – discussing their likenesses and differences. He will conclude the study on Sunday Sept. 4.*

*On September 11, Nancy will begin a 5-6 week study titled "From Abraham to Moses". We will examine the stories in Genesis 12-50 during that time.*

*All are welcome to join this good group of folks. See you there!*

**Starting September 11 we will have another class for adults that will meet downstairs just outside of the kitchen (a great place to meet for parents that have children who will also be attending classes downstairs). Some may remember this gathering which was referred to as "That Class."**

*Our first study will focus on the book **Forgiving What You Can't Forget** by Lysa TerKeurst. We will explore questions such as: Have you ever felt stuck in a cycle of unresolved pain, playing offenses over and over in your mind? Have you ever wondered if forgiveness is really necessary? What is the point of forgiveness anyway? We will take time to wrestle with such questions and discuss the importance of how to begin letting go of bound-up resentment and overcome the resistance to forgiving people who aren't willing to make things right.*

*In addition we will also:*

- 1. Learn how to move on when the other person refuses to change and never says they're sorry.*
- 2. Walk through a step-by-step process to free yourself from the hurt of your past and feel less offended today.*
- 3. Discover what the Bible really says about forgiveness and the peace that comes from living it out right now.*
- 4. Identify what's stealing trust and vulnerability from your relationships so you can believe there is still good ahead.*
- 5. Disempower the triggers hijacking your emotions by embracing the two necessary parts of forgiveness.*

*If you would like to purchase the book prior to class simply purchase: **Forgiving What You Can't Forget** by Lysa TerKeurst. We hope that you can join us on September 11th at 9:00 a.m.*

***Sunday School is an important part of our spiritual growth, and provides an important connection point for everyone in our congregation. We hope that you will find time to join us for any of these great Sunday morning opportunities.***



## Confirmation Meeting September 11th following Worship

Our Confirmation program seeks to nurture and cultivate the faith journey our youth are taking and strives to nurture their faith formation. Our goal is to provide skills that will allow them to follow their spiritual journey as well as offer programs that will broaden their community outreach.

Confirmation classes are held on Sundays and are taught by Donna Hartig, Carol Embry, and Pastor Jeff. **What is a Confirmand?** A confirmand is a person who is receiving instruction in the fundamentals of our Christian faith and who will choose to confirm his/her baptism by joining the church.

**What is Confirmation?** Confirmation is the rite in which individuals declare their commitment to Christ. At baptism, vows were taken for the confirmands by their parents and by the church community. All agreed to be responsible for seeing that the children were raised in the Christian faith. At confirmation, the candidates themselves assume responsibility for living out their baptismal vows. Confirmation marks the moment in which one begins the process of living the Christian life no longer as a child, but as an adult. If you were in 7th grade confirmation classes last year we welcome you for your 8th grade year. If you are a 7th grader or know of someone in 7th grade that might be interested in confirmation, please let us know by contacting Pastor Jeff or by calling the office. Anyone older than 7<sup>th</sup> grade age who has not yet attended confirmation classes, but would like to attend now, please contact Pastor Jeff.

In preparation for upcoming classes, we will have an information meeting following worship on **September 11th**. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jeff.

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## **Zion Lippe UCC Council Highlights 08/09/22**

**Attendance:** Bob Klenck, Michelle Heneisen, Carl Barchet, Nancy Lewis, Russell Roehr, Rosie Bogard, Brian Crase, Dan Hoffman, Laura Droege.

7/31 YTD Regular Offering: \$99,838.15  
7/31 YTD General Fund Income: \$103,553.66  
7/31 YTD General Fund Expense: \$117,028.78  
Difference: -\$13,475.12

The Greeter list is done and starting September 11th, Greeters are covered for September. Plans to have summer communion but have not decided on which Sunday yet.

*(Council Highlights cont'd . . .)*

Thanks to Russell Roehr for his beautiful arrangements every Sunday and to Linda Juncker for the front door wreaths and several floral arrangements.

The Nursery School advisory board meeting will be on 08/14/2022, the first week of classes start on the 22nd, still have 21 for pre k and 18 for nursery.

Donation to St Peter's Methodist Church for Bible School of \$300 from the Bible School fund.

The council approve Endowment request #150 of \$12,790 for the Bunge tuck pointing project. The council approved Endowment request #151 of \$1,600 for the 20 Grief Coach subscriptions.

Bunge began the tuck pointing on August 8th. Coordination with Nursery School pick up/drop off and construction to be worked out when school starts August 20th. Also will talk to Bunge about the chimney.

Boys basement restroom paint has been scraped and sanded. Securing paint, to be completed before preschool starts.

Crosswalk needs to be stripped before school starts, plan to do this ourselves. Whole parking lot could be refreshed at about \$525, recommended not to stripe lot until playground is fully installed.

Received a quote of \$1,910 for spray insulation in the office. Further perception of the office area is that little to no air flow is coming through the vent. An evaluation of the duct/vent needs to be completed to see if restricted conditioned air not getting to the room is the main issue.

Furnace room under sanctuary has dry wall ceiling that is crumbling/falling down. An I beam support shows major rust near the floor. Need to see if the dehumidifier is working properly or if we need a different one.

We have 29 people signed up for the Otter's Outing on Saturday, August 27th. Will continue sign-ups on Sunday, August 14th and Sunday, August 21st.

Dedication Community Gathering for the playground on hold for completion of the playground.

Confirmation and Sunday school classes to begin September 11th.

The council approves an idea Pastor Jeff had called Outreach Sundays. One Sunday out of each month beginning in September we would invite someone from a ministry/social service setting to share with the congregation during worship their goals, purpose, and ways we might be supportive. (UCS, Feed Evansville, Posey/Vanderburgh County Humane Society, Refugee settlement, American Red Cross, etc.) It would last for about 15-20 minutes allowing for questions from the congregation. Following that brief presentation we would move forward with an abbreviated worship service. Around 35-40 minutes. Pastor Jeff had this idea as a way to bring awareness to ways in which members and friends of our congregation could be involved beyond Sunday mornings.

Don Eisenhower has free four sessions focused on grief bereavement. This has been posted on our Facebook pages-please share with those you know might benefit from this opportunity.

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**Operation Christmas Child** collection items for September are School Supplies. Place your items on table by elevator in foyer. OCC Contact is Ashley Lashley.