

# SEPTEMBER 2024

## 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](http://zionlippe.org)

Secretary email: [zionlippesecretary@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:zionlippepastor@gmail.com)

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

### Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
7/28	154	33 devices
8/4	172	15 devices
8/11	145	38 devices
8/18	137	50 devices
8/25	121	46 devices

### Sunday School Average Attendance

August: Adult = 12

No Children or Youth Classes during  
Summer

### **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](http://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:**

Sept 1 – Council  
Sept 8 – Brian & Arin Commens  
Sept 15 – Brian & Channa Crase  
Sept 22 – Travis & Robin Crowe  
Sept 29 – Janie Cummings

Oct 6 – Ryan & Miranda Daugherty  
Oct 13 – Emiley & Darryl Chamberlain  
Oct 20 – Elwood & Laverne Deal  
Oct 27 – Steve & Nancy de-Claisse Walford

*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 don't fret!*

*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, Linda Messel
- 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)
- 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)
- 30 Zach & Kari (Hoenert) Green (2023)

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!



**Women of Zion**  
*will meet Thursday,*  
*September 12 at*  
*6:30 pm.*

*Program will be*  
*“School Days” and all Women of Zion*  
*are invited!*  
*Items needed for the display table are: your*  
*school name, school colors, yearbooks, class*  
*jacket or sweater, graduation cap and/or*  
*tassel and **most importantly** your 2x3 senior*  
*picture. Please get any of the items to Rosie*  
*Bogard by August 29<sup>th</sup>.*  
*We look forward to seeing you for an*  
*awesome evening!*



## Our Nursing Home & Retirement Center Residents

### West River Health Campus

- Kathy Duncan
- Charlotte Green (Legacy unit)
- Jim Droege (Legacy unit)

### Charles Ford Retirement Community

- Aletha Meeks & Eleanor McRae

### Independence Village (was Willow Park)

- Ron McClaren (in Rm 100)

### Solarbron Apartments

- Lee Ann Hoenert
- 1445 McDowell Rd, Evansville IN 47712



The narrator of the Good News of Jesus, Mark, certainly knew how not to mess around with words! He tells the story of Jesus in such a concise way that much of the meaning passes us by if we are not present and paying attention to the story.

Take Mark 4. 35-41 for instance. Jesus announced to his disciples, “Let us go across to the other side.” All we know from the beginning of chapter 4 is that Jesus and his disciples were “beside the sea.” So, where is “the other side?”

Is “the other side” only geographical, or did Jesus have in mind that something will change for them? I suspect Mark had both in mind when he told this story. I wonder if the disciples voluntarily followed Jesus into the boat, or was there some grumbling going on? Mark didn’t tell us, just that later, with the storm raging, they kind of objected, accusing Jesus of not caring about what happened to them.

So, when Jesus told the sea, “Peace! Be still!” can it also be that it was directed at the disciples? It is interesting that people interpreted the boat on the sea as an image of the church in the storms of this world. In the boat is safety (well, sometimes discontent, but mostly...) Once the disciples were alone in the boat, and Jesus came walking on the water, telling Peter to get out of the boat onto the waters to walk to him and Peter sank when he looked at the waves instead of at Jesus. (Matthew 14.22-33).

Stormy seas are busy surrounding the boat. How would YOU respond? Do we leave the boat? Ride out the storm? Trust that all will be o.k? Remind ourselves of Jesus’ words, “Peace! Be still!”

Whatever the storms of your life may be, remember those words, “Peace! Be Still.” Count the ways in which you are blessed... even the little blessings like those phone calls, cards, text messages, and unexpected moments.

Peace! Be Still! Have Faith!

May God bless each of you as we move into September. *Pastor Jeff*



**NEW MEMBER  
WELCOME**

***Welcome to Chris & Joy Wolsiefer, who became members of Zion in August 2024!***

*Here’s a little about Chris & Joy & family . . .*

*We have been married 3 years and have a blended family of 6 wonderful children, Amelia Wolsiefer, Ryan Englebright, Jack Wolsiefer, Rowen Englebright, Sam Englebright and Sydney Englebright. We live in Wadesville and when we’re not at cross country, softball, baseball, wrestling, track or dance events we love being at home or enjoying the outdoors such as camping, hiking, walking and bike riding. We would love to give a huge thank you to our church family for being so welcoming and gracious toward our family.*

*Love and blessings in Christ, Chris, Joy and Family*

**FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGINNING -**

**SEPTEMBER 8th @ 9:00 A.M.**



We are excited to announce that we will begin Sunday School Classes for all ages on Sunday, September 8th beginning at 9:00 a.m. There will be classes for children that will meet downstairs, Steve and Nancy deClaise Walford will continue to teach classes in the upstairs Sunday School area and we will have a Jr. and Sr. High class available for our youth in their youth room as well as confirmation for both 7th and 8th grades.

We hope that these Christian educational opportunities will meet the many and varied topics, perspectives, and provide spiritual growth in a number of ways. We hope that you will find time to join us for any of these great Sunday morning opportunities beginning **Sunday, September 8th.**



**Adult Sunday School Class—9:00 am Sundays—September and October, 2024**

***Religion, Spirituality, and World Religions***

Why do human beings appear to be “hard wired” for spirituality and the practice of religion? What is religion? What is the difference between “spirituality” and “religion”? Did you know that an ancient religion called Aryanism was parent to multiple world religions such as Zoroastrianism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism? Or that Zoroastrianism influenced Judaism and Christianity? Or that the Old Testament and New Testament are almost as important in Islam as their Holy Book, the Koran? Did you know that Hindus really think that cows are sacred?

Religion and religious practices are fundamental to cultures around the world, and have often been the cause of wars throughout history – even before Christianity, culture and society in the Ancient Near East (Modern Palestine, Syria, Iran, Iraq) pitted one regional god against another to determine whose faith was “correct” and whose was not. Throughout the Middle Ages, Christians waged Holy War against Islam in the Crusades, and in more recent years Islam, under the personae of Boko Haram, Isis, Taliban and many others have waged war against the “West”. Why? What drives these religions that praise “peace” but practice war?

Find answers to these questions and many more by joining the Adult SS class to learn about the basic beliefs and practices of the various world religions – including Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Confucianism, Daoism, Judaism, and the varieties of our very own Christianity!

Join us in the upstairs SS hall for some wonderful insights and good conversation, 9:00– 9:50 a.m.

**Confirmation Meeting - September 8th @ 9:00 a.m.**

One of the great joys and privileges of ministry is the opportunity to accompany young people on their spiritual journey. We do this in many ways here at Zion Church, but one of the most important is through the Christian rite known as “Confirmation.” In our tradition, we believe a person is joined to the universal church – the Body of Christ – through the Sacrament of Baptism. When an infant or very young child is baptized, the baptismal promises are made by one or more parents and/or sponsors (Godparents). As the child approaches adolescence, the local church offers that person the opportunity to publicly affirm their baptism. That affirmation of baptism is called Confirmation.

This year’s Confirmation Classes will be led by Pastor Jeff as well as Carol Embry and Donna Hartig.

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 church 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 during our Sunday school time beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the church basement on **Sunday, September 8th.** If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jeff. We look forward to seeing you very soon!



**Council Meeting Highlights – 8-13-24**

- 7/31 YTD Regular Offering: \$103,612.75
- 7/31 YTD General Fund Income: \$111,140.48
- 7/31 YTD General Fund Expense: \$122,333.91

**Property**

Parts have been ordered for the automated pedestal handicap door system for the north entry. Installation of the battery system/ switch plate is expected by the end of August.

**Otters Game church outing**

Otters game – 83 attended

**Solar Project**

Congregation approved moving forward, went with bid #1 Morton Solar (ground mount)

Start date for Children & Youth Sunday School classes & Confirmation – 9/8

Next Council meeting September 10, 2024 – in person at 6pm

## Dealing with grief ([www.calm.com](http://www.calm.com))

**We discovered a beautiful analogy on Reddit for living with the heartbreak that arises from losing a loved one.**

I wish I could say you get used to people dying. I never did. I don't want to. It tears a hole through me whenever somebody I love dies, no matter the circumstances. But I don't want it to "not matter". I don't want it to be something that just passes. If you're grieving, we hope that the following words will help you to honor your experience and move through your emotions with compassion and care...

Alright, here goes. I'm old. What that means is that I've survived (so far) and a lot of people I've known and loved did not. I've lost friends, best friends, acquaintances, co-workers, grandparents, mom, relatives, teachers, mentors, students, neighbors, and a host of other folks. I have no children, and I can't imagine the pain it must be to lose a child. But here's my two cents.

My scars are a testament to the love and the relationship that I had for and with that person. And if the scar is deep, so was the love. So be it. Scars are a testament to life. Scars are a testament that I can love deeply and live deeply and be cut, or even gouged, and that I can heal and continue to live and continue to love.

And the scar tissue is stronger than the original flesh ever was. Scars are a testament to life. Scars are only ugly to people who can't see.

As for grief, you'll find it comes in waves. When the ship is first wrecked, you're drowning, with wreckage all around you. Everything floating around you reminds you of the beauty and the magnificence of the ship that was, and is no more. And all you can do is float. You find some piece of the wreckage and you hang on for a while. Maybe it's some physical thing. Maybe it's a happy memory or a photograph. Maybe it's a person who is also floating. For a while, all you can do is float. Stay alive.

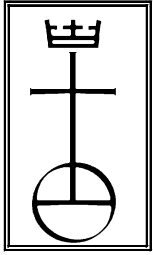
In the beginning, the waves are 100 feet tall and crash over you without mercy. They come 10 seconds apart and don't even give you time to catch your breath. All you can do is hang on and float. After a while, maybe weeks, maybe months, you'll find the waves are still 100 feet tall, but they come further apart. When they come, they still crash all over you and wipe you out. But in between, you can breathe, you can function. You never know what's going to trigger the grief. It might be a song, a picture, a street intersection, the smell of a cup of coffee. It can be just about anything...and the wave comes crashing. But in between waves, **there is life.**

Somewhere down the line, and it's different for everybody, you find that the waves are only 80 feet tall. Or 50 feet tall. And while they still come, they come further apart. You can see them coming. An anniversary, a birthday, or Christmas, or landing at O'Hare. You can see it coming, for the most part, and prepare yourself. And when it washes over you, you know that somehow you will, again, come out the other side. Soaking wet, sputtering, still hanging on to some tiny piece of the wreckage, but you'll come out.

Take it from an old guy. The waves never stop coming, and somehow you don't really want them to. But you learn that you'll survive them. And other waves will come. And you'll survive them too. If you're lucky, you'll have lots of scars from lots of love. And lots of shipwrecks." ~[GSnow](#) from Reddit

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



**SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE**

**Next Work Day is Sat. Sept 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.

