

The Spirit of Zion

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri



April 2024

No. 4



Earth Day Celebration at Camp MoVal Sponsored by the Grape Country Cluster of UCC Churches

Description: Celebrate Earth Day & Spend a day at Camp MoVal with other members of UCC churches within the Missouri Mid-South Conference.

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Date: Saturday, April 20, 2024

Cost: \$12.00 per person

(if eating lunch at camp, children age four and under are free)

Schedule:

9:00 a.m. to Noon: Service Projects at Camp

Bring gloves, work boots or water boots, clippers, and/or pruners (camp has some available to use)

12:00-12:45 p.m. Lunch

12:45-2:45 p.m. Special Interest Time Camp Activities

Options: Hay Ride, Hike, Boating, Green Burial discussion, Green Show & Tell (what congregations are doing “Green.”)

2:45 p.m. Closing Worship

Registration Link: <https://tinyurl.com/mw9te38s>

ECC Earth Day 2024

Mark your calendars for a unique celebration of Earth Day 2024 at East Central College! ECC’s annual Earth Day Event, held on **Saturday, April 13th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**, promises a one-of-a-kind experience. The event is not to be missed at East Central’s Main campus in Union, in the Donald Shook Student Center. Join Zion’s Green Team members who are hosting one of the engaging booths.

Booths at the event will include:

- *Get ready for a day of interactive learning and fun! Our booths will feature hands-on environmental science and technology demonstrations and activities, ensuring an engaging experience for all.*
- *Local industry and government partners to share their knowledge about the environment and/or environmental efforts undertaken at their organization and possible education opportunities for the community*

Serving Christ in April

Ushers:

April 7 & 14

Sandy Stierberger,
Jim Vemmer*

April 21 & 28

Brad Parker,
Connie Thompson*

(*designates Head Usher)

Greeters:

April 7 – Verlyn Yarbrough

April 14 – Kevin

Vorderbruegge

April 28 – Maxine Harrison

& Susan Merlino

Sound System Tech: Wayne
Bean

Camera Tech:

April 7 & 14 – Dan Mossoney

Zion United Church of Christ
115 S. Washington Ave.
Union, MO 63084
636-583-2814

www.zionunion.org

9:00 a.m. Worship
(No Childcare)

Rev. Nicholas Knoblauch, Pastor
(knoblauchnicholas@gmail.com)

Fern Dewert, Church Council
President

Connie Thompson, Adm. Assistant
(cthompson@zionunion.org)

Alysha Petry, Minister to
Youth & Families

(apetry@zionunion.org)

Mandy Frick, Coordinator of
Elementary Youth

Karen Stafford, Music Director
(kstafford@zionunion.org)

Brenda Herring, Church Organist
Joy Bradley, Church Custodian

- East Central College students, student clubs & academic divisions, and other community partners.

Eco Tones Concert at Zion

Zion will be hosting a fundraising concert for Eco Tones Musicians on Sunday, April 14th at 2:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Free will donations will be accepted which will help pay for musicians for the Eco Tones Concert. More information at www.ecotonesconcerts.org.

Following the concert there will be light refreshments of cookies served in the fellowship hall. If you would like to donate a small plate of cookies please bring them to the church office by Friday, April 12th. If you would like to help with the reception please contact Ann Hartley at 636-346-5921. Thank you.



Recycling Opportunity

Green Team will be collecting used ink jet and toner cartridges on April 21 & April 28. Bring your cartridges to our table and learn how and what to recycle. The Green Team will take the collected cartridges to Earthbound Recycling. Thank you for participating!

- Marie Kuenzel, on behalf of the Green Team

UCC Women's Retreat

Join us for the Missouri Mid-South Conference

Women's Retreat May 3-5, 2024 at Camp MoVal. The theme for the weekend is *God's World, Handle with Care*. We will focus on caring for God's world while presenting hope for the future of the Earth and everything in it. Join us for engaging speakers focused on earth-friendly living and climate change and its impact on the environment and diversity. Engage in eco-friendly interest groups such as gardening for pollinators, soap making, upcycling crafts, "green" Bible studies, service projects, camp activities, and many more. We will explore God's creation and



work together to recognize THERE IS SOMETHING EACH OF US CAN DO to care for God's world. Join us for the full weekend or the day-only option. Full Weekend Cost: \$150, Day Only Cost: \$75. Camp Scholarships are available by request—email Alysha.apetry@zionunion.org



Zion Fellowship – April 2024

March – No activity was planned.

Sunday, April 21 – Sunday Brunch in the Fellowship Hall after the church service. Bring a food item to share, and also bring ideas for possible future events we can do as a group. There will be a sign up sheet on the Bulletin Board in the lower commons.

Check the monthly Newsletters, also the weekly Bulletins, for any change of event dates/times that might occur. **Anyone** is welcome to join us for these events. If you have any questions, please contact Fern Dewert (President), Carl or Jane Ridder (Vice Presidents), Ruth Parker or Bruce Templer (Treasurers), or myself. - Sharon TenEyck, secretary

Did You Know?

Would you like to be able to give electronically to Zion Church and know that your donation is secure? Besides online banking the other option is on Zion's website - www.zionunion.org at the top left corner of the page a red "click here for Online Giving" button. Just follow the easy to navigate instructions!

Up to Date Info?

Does the church have your **updated contact and household information** (change of address, college students moving out, etc.)? If you are not sure, give the church office a call at 636-583-2814 or email cthompson@zionunion.org. Thanks for keeping us up to date!





Beloved Zion,

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Seasons greetings this beautiful Eastertide. I have always enjoyed Eastertide; the 7 weeks of Easter between Lent and Pentecost is one of the longest seasons of the Christian calendar. Most years it is the second-longest season. While Ordinary Time will always be the longest, most years, Easter is second. Depending on when Easter falls, Epiphany has between 4-9 weeks and can be longer. Eastertide is longer than both Advent and Lent. While the first Easter Sunday is never overlooked, the same cannot be said for the rest of Eastertide. I point this out, by the way, not to shame anyone. I don't think it's a bad thing. But find it curious. The anticipation of Advent, the dedication of Lent, or even the openness of Epiphany, can all outweigh the joy of Eastertide. Perhaps it's because congregations go from the height of fanfare on Easter morning, to a much more casual service in the weeks following. And yet, these are some of my favorite weeks of the year.

As Spring arrives, and the season fills with flowers, baseball games, and end-of-school banquets, Sunday mornings serve as a steady and steadfast place of calm. As the seasons pick up and activities fill the calendar, the Sundays in Easter remind me to slow down and pay attention. They remind me that each day is a good day to have a good day. The season of Easter is our reminder that this life is a gift to be enjoyed. While there are certainly problems in this world, and troubles we need to work on, Easter reminds us of our starting point. We are beloved children of the divine, nothing in creation is beyond redeeming, and this world is filled with grace, love, joy, peace, laughter, growth, and possibility. The season of Easter helps us center our spirits in this truth before moving into the world. So as this season may you find your grounding in the steadfast love of God which formed your inmost being, and may you find rest knowing God delights in you.

Blessings,
Rev. Nicholas Knoblauch

Pastor Drop In Hours:
Monday & Wednesday mornings
Email: knoblauchnicholas@gmail.com
Appointments upon request:
Church Office (636) 583-2814
or sending an email

Worship Opportunities In April

9:00 a.m. Worship

Sunday, April 7
*The 2nd Sunday
of Easter*

Sacrament of Communion

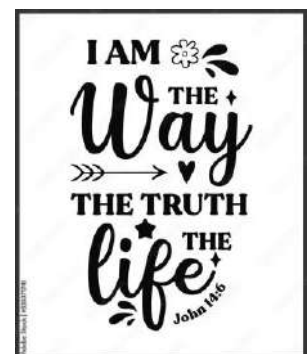
Sunday, April 14
*The 3rd Sunday
of Easter*

Sunday, April 21
*The 4th Sunday
of Easter*

Sunday, April 28
*The 5th Sunday
of Easter*

Zion Quilters Request

The Zion Quilters will soon need to acquire some quilts so we can continue our quilting work. If you or someone you know needs quilting done we would appreciate doing that for you. Inform any quilter of the help needed. Contact Ruth Parker (636-583-5231 or 314-330-3343).





Welcome New Members!

We welcomed these new members in our Zion Church family on Sunday, March 17th. Welcome Lee & Susan!

Lee & Susan Newman

303 East North St.
Marthasville, MO 63357

Lee & Susan joined by Letter of Transfer from St. Peter's UCC in Washington, Missouri. Lee is a Personal Assistant and Susan is retired.

Zion and the Union Food Pantry

Over the years Zion has been a faithful supporter of the Union Food Pantry. Receipts from special offerings, monetary and food donations from individual members and numerous Zion volunteers at the Food Pantry have contributed to its successful operation.

The Union Food Pantry's focus is to provide grocery essentials and personal care items to those in need to within in the Union School District. However, individuals from other areas are served and then directed to their local food pantries. The Food Pantry also provides service to the homeless. On a monthly basis over 20% of the families served are using the pantry for the very first time.

In 2023 a total of 1,409 families used the Food Pantry. The total number of people served was 3,000 of which 2,167 were adults and 833 children.

Congratulations to Zion for the tremendous support it has given to this vital community service.

- Ken Rohrbach on behalf
of the Union Food Pantry

Help Thyself

The Help Thyself committee is always the happiest when we see the prepared meals and desserts disappear from the freezer in the Lower Commons freezer. Please



continue to Help Thyself and continue to enjoy the prepared meals from the Zion's participating great cooks. Thank you so much to those cooks. Any suggestions are always welcome - pass them on to any of the committee members. Kathy Young (314-580-3105), Carol Rohrbach (636-583-3659), Ann Hartley (636-346-5921), Dorothy Mitana (636-239-1296), Jane Ridder (314-520-7090), or Maxine Harrison (636-583-2159)

- Dorothy Mitana

Did You Know?

Did you know that Zion is a '5 for 5' church? The success and sustainability of the United Church of Christ's national ministries relies on our church's contribution along with many other UCC churches nationwide to basic operating support and mission. Being 5 for 5 means that we are leaders in providing support to Our Church's Wider Mission and the Special Mission Offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen The Church, Neighbors In Need and The Christmas Fund.



Little Free Pantry and Union Food Pantry

Thank you for the great support in keeping the Little Free Pantry going! A list of the most needed items is posted on the bulletin board in the lower commons. Monetary donations can also be given – contact the church office.

Likewise, there is also a list of items most needed for the Union Food Pantry posted on the bulletin board in the lower commons with a barrel for your donations. Or you may also give a monetary donation to support the Union Food Pantry.



Kid & Youth

APRIL 2024

News

YOUTH Ministry

7th-12th grade youth

Meet in the High School room every Sunday
from 10 AM to 11 AM.

CAMP MOVAL REGISTRATION Is NOW OPEN

for Summer 2024 Camps

Register for camp at the
Ultracamp website.

Click on the REGISTER TODAY button
at www.missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval to
be directed to the Ultracamp website.

REGIONAL YOUTH EVENT FOR 6th – 12th GRADE YOUTH July 17-20, 2024

Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois

Join hundreds of United Church of Christ Middle
and High School youth from across the Midwest at
Augustana as we come together in the Quad Cities
for our first regional event since 2018.

*Collective worship, service,
learning, advocacy, music, fellowship
and FUN.*

Register from April 1 to May 15 - \$250.00
Late Registration May 16 to June 15 - \$300.00 Contact
Alysha for Registration Link

Cost Includes: Programming, t-shirt, 9 meals, double
occupancy housing for 3 nights, sheets and towels

FAITH QUEST

Every Sunday from 10 AM to 11 AM

First Grade - 6th Grade
(Meet in BIBLE MAX THEATRE)

Pre-School – Kindergarten
(Meet in the preschool room, formerly the Nursery)

LESSONS on the Good Samaritan
April 7, 14, 21 and 28



Join us the
**FIRST TWO WEDNESDAYS of
EACH MONTH**

for an

OUT OF THIS WORLD

evening full of Games, Bible
Story, Dinner and Lots of FUN!

5 PM to 7:30 PM

This month's theme:

God's out-of-this-world-love
helps us believe in Jesus.

FAMILY STYLE DINNER at 6 PM

A minimum of \$5 donation suggested to help
support Zion's LOGOS dinners.

Everyone is invited!

SAVE the DATE for...



**VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL**

June 17-20 from 6:00-8:00 PM

POOL PARTY

Saturday, June 22 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
at the Camp MoVal Pool.

2024 Camp MoVal Schedule

Registration is open!

Register at ultracamp via link at www.missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval

<u>Camp Description</u>	<u>Camp Date</u>	<u>Price with</u>	
		<u>Camp Scholarship Discount</u>	<u>Full Price</u>
Young Adult Camp (ages 18-30)	May 29-June 2	\$ 80.00	\$199.00
Mini Camp Session (ages 7-9)	June 9-12	\$ 132.00	\$329.00
Leadership Camp (ages 14-17)	June 9-14	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
All Ages Camp (ages 8-15)	June 16-21	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
All Ages Camp (ages 8-15)	June 23-28	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
PRIDE – Summer Camp (ages 8-17)	June 23-28	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
Family Camp (all ages)	June 30-July 4	\$ 80.00	\$199.00
All Ages Camp (ages 8-15)	July 7-12	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
M.A.D.D. Camp (ages 8-17)	July 7-12	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
All Ages Camp (ages 8-15)*	July 14-19	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
S.T.E.M. – Summer Camp (ages 8-17)*	July 14-19	\$ 240.00	\$599.00
Adventures in Community (ages 18+)	August 4-9	\$ 240.00	\$599.00

*Alysha Petry will be a shepherd at these two camps.

Contact the church office for your camp scholarship gift certificate.





Notes from the Music Director-April

By the time many of you read this, it will either be Holy Week or the beginning of April. Holy Week includes several different types of music..... from Hosannas to contemplative hymns about the glory of the Lord... from the haunting verse of “Were You There” on Good Friday to joyous Alleluias and bells ringing from our music ensembles on Easter....The music of Holy Week takes us through a range of emotions and contemplations.

Then, Easter is over. In our music ministry, we tend to have a lull as we wind down towards summer. But, we celebrate. Joyful Noise will celebrate a great first year with a party. Zion Ringers will work on one last piece. Chancel Choir will bring us the beauty of spirituals and the joy of an African psalm. The celebration isn’t over!

As I think of summer, I must realize that it is time to plan. Our groups will be taking a hiatus over the summer. We will plan extra hymns and special music. In the past, our congregation has been blessed with offerings from our own church family and former members of our church family. As always, I’m searching for those who are willing to or know of people who will share not only their musical gifts, but even their theatrical or dance gifts.

I remember days in decades past, when liturgical dance and theatrical spoken word were part of our special anthem offerings. So, I am asking... if you know of someone who would like to share these gifts, as well as musical gifts, to our services this summer, please let me know. You can send me an email at kstafford@zionunion.org.

Blessings,
Karen

Called to Care Team Request

The Called to Care Team is asking that if you or someone you know would like a visit from the team or our pastor, please contact the church office. If you or members you know are in nursing homes, homebound, or staying close to

home please contact the church office. Our mission is to minister to and care for the entire community of Zion Church, whether able to be present in worship or not. Thank you!

“These Days” Devotional Books

Every quarter receives “These Days” devotional booklets. The devotionals offer each day a spiritual reading along with a short scripture and prayer. These are free and can be found in the literature rack in the upper commons or if you would like one mailed to you please contact the church office. The booklet is a wonderful resource to use in your daily Christian life.

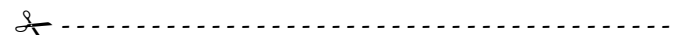


It’s Graduation Time!

In May we will be celebrating our high school graduates. A short bio will appear in the June edition of “The Spirit of Zion” and we will honor them at a morning worship service. We also want to hear about college graduates, technical school graduates, military graduates – anyone who has graduated this past year or will be graduating – and their future plans.



Complete the form and return it to the church office to make sure your graduate is recognized.



Graduate’s Name

Parents/Spouse

Graduating From

Future Plans (if known)

Easter Lilies/Benevolent Gifts

The following provided gifts for an Easter lily or as a benevolent donation to the Little Free Pantry and the Union Food Pantry.

Easter Lilies given:

In memory of loved ones by Linda Kroeter & family.
In memory of Elmer Holtgreve & in honor of Brandon & Lindsey Titter and Katelyn Meyer by Bernice Holtgreve.
In memory of Hugo & Lucille Viehland and my grandparents by Brenda Viehland.
In memory of loved ones by Kirk & Sallie Hancox.
In memory of Herbert Schowe by Margy Schowe & family.
In memory of Greg Stevens and Josh Camden our husbands, daddys and friends by Jean & Adam Stevens and Laurel, Amelia & Archer Camden.
In honor of our parents by Scott, Shanna & Sammi.
In honor of our children by Gary & Karen Stafford.
For love and peace in the world by Susan Merlino.
In honor of our grandchildren Abigail, Blake, Camden, Hannah & Natalie Dewert by Grandpa & Grandma Dewert.
In memory of Fletcher Simons by Colleen Simons & family.
In memory of our parents & honor of our children & grandchildren by Skip & Pat Buehrle.
In memory of Elmer McGowan by Terri & Nora Becker.
Little Free Pantry and Union Food Pantry donations:
In memory of Greg Stevens and Josh Camden our husbands, daddys and friends by Jean & Adam Stevens and Laurel, Amelia & Archer Camden.
In memory of Elmer Holtgreve & in honor of Brandon & Lindsey Titter and Katelyn Meyer by Bernice Holtgreve.
In memory of Hugo & Lucille Viehland and my grandparents by Brenda Viehland.
In memory of loved ones by Kirk & Sallie Hancox.
In memory of Steve Hooper & family by Vicki Hooper.
In memory of loved ones by Joyce Mantels.
In memory of Arline Stahlman and Alan Freiermuth by Keith & Marilyn Stahlman.
In honor of Carl Rosenkoetter and Bill & Fern Dewert by Carl & Jane Ridder.
In memory of Arline Stahlman by Tim, Annette, Travis & Nick.
In memory of our parents and in honor of our children & grandchildren by Dave & Linda Hall.
In memory of Donna Staten by Ken Staten & family.
In memory of Donald & Evelyn Baker and Burnace & Amanda Hagedorn by Norm & Cheryl Hagedorn.

In honor of my daughters and their families – Paula & Mitch Forck and Kristin & Devin Lause by Jim Doehring.

In honor of our family by Alan & Sharon TenEyck.

In memory/honor of our parents & families by Brad & Louise Parker.

In honor & memory of past & present family by Armin & Norma Klemme.

In memory of loved ones by Gary & Karen Stafford.

In memory of loved ones by Carol & Ken Rohrbach.

In honor of loved ones by Dennis & Maxine Harrison.

In memory of our parents by William & Fern Dewert.

In memory of Don & Kurt Puls by Melva Puls.

In honor of my family by Delores Musket.

In honor of my family by Ronnie & Pam Griffin.

In honor of Zion's Care Team, cooks who prepare Help Thyself Meals and all who keep our church running smoothly by Hettie Becker.

In honor of family by Donna Bocklage.

In memory of Fletcher Simons by Colleen Simons & family.

In memory of loved ones by Dan & Lanora Mossoney.

Thank You to March Volunteers

Zion Church acknowledges and appreciates the work done by the following volunteers for the month of March:

Liturgists: Karen Tucker, Jeanne Lischer, Ken Rohrbach, Karen Stafford, Alysha Petry,

Special Music for Worship: Chancel Choir, Karen Stafford, Kirk Hancox

Ushers: Donna Bocklage, Delores Musket, Ken & Carol Rohrbach

Communion Stewards: Skip & Pat Buehrle, Carl & Jane Ridder, Alysha Petry

Greeters: Sandy Bailey, Dave & Linda Hall, Vicki Hooper, Ron & Pam Griffin, John Crane

Sound System Tech: Jason Dewert

Worship Service Recorders: Dan Mossoney, Blake & Camden Dewert

Newsletter Helpers: Karen Tucker, Donna Bocklage, Carol Rohrbach, Ken Rohrbach, Kirk Hancox

Fresh Flowers from March

March 17 – Fresh flowers were placed on the altar in memory of Virginia Henderson and Elizabeth Hancox by Kirk & Sallie Hancox.



Prayers Requested

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson
Carolyn Donoho	Frank Fazzari
Charlotte Ellison	Sondra Jackson
Kim Yenser	Kevin Vorderbruegge
Norma Kern	Carol Bean
Keith Stahlman	Virginia Maune

Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)
Roger McDaniel (brother-in-law of Larry & Betty Clark)
Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)
Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Tammy Wettling (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Mike Matthews (friend of Carolyn George)
Linda Barnhart (sister of Fern Dewert)
David Borgmann (brother of Fern Dewert)
Shirley Brand (friend of Gerry Hoelscher)
Eric Heitman (nephew of Jim Doehring)
Heather Gooch (great niece of Charlotte Ellison)
S (Karen Stafford's CASA buddy)
Myrt Dunigan
Carol Mossoney (mother of Dan Mossoney)
Bob Truel (husband of Shirley Truel)
Josh & Tricia Pardee-Jacka (friends of Charlotte Ellison)
Cindy Roach (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Liz Klemme (daughter/sister of Armin, Norma & Phil Klemme)
Glenda Foster (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Vanessa Dobsch (niece of Charlotte Ellison)
Mary Dobsch (sister of Charlotte Ellison)
Aubrey Reed (granddaughter of Charlotte Ellison)
Wayne Herring (father of Matt Herring)
Beverly Elliott (mother of Mike Elliott)
Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)
Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)
The Henle family (family of Susan Merlino)
Shirley Thompson (mother-in-law of Connie Thompson)
Nick Cain (grandson of Verlyn Yarbrough)
Randy Gortney (son-in-law of Hettie Becker)
Mike Bailey (husband of Leslie Bailey & son-in-law of Sondra Jackson)



With Sympathy

We join in the sorrow of the family and friends of our fellowship who are experiencing the grief that death brings.

Burrell 'Fletcher' Simons, 79, died on March 2nd. The funeral service for Fletcher was on March 8th at Zion Church by Rev. Nick with burial in Zion Cemetery.

Memorial Gifts Given

In loving memory of **Fletcher Simons** by:

For Zion Building & Property Fund: Mary German, Dorothy Mitana, Carl & Jane Ridder, Matt & Brenda Herring, Sandy Stierberger, Rudy & Darlene Ahmann, Bernice Holtgreve, Renee Gerding & family, Delores Musket, Mr. & Mrs. Alan TenEyck, Sharon Martindill, Sue Leicht, Ron & Pam Griffin, Ruth Parker, Dave & Linda Hall, Skip & Pat Buehrle, Harvey & Gail Mefford, Armin & Norma Klemme, Bruce & Carol Crane, Ken & Carol Rohrbach, Dennis & Maxine Harrison, Barb Cox, Ardis Briggs, Jane & John Redhage, Jeannette & Gene Kruse, Linda & Orland Welke, Dianne Wildhaber, The Sterling Family, Peggy Meyer, Donna & Bob Himmelberg, Leroy & Elizabeth Nadler, Dean & Jeen Stieger, Mary Hanneken, Ryan Lause, David & Marcia Coulter, Ross & Doris Malone, Harvey & Melba Straatmann, Dave & Cindy Massmann, Lynne Rinne, David & Mary Aholt, Richard & Nancy Ulsas, Ron & Cheryl Simons, Stacey & Keith Ellis, Roger & Susan Miesner,
(continued)

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Colleen & Andy Simons & Christy Kahn on the death of their husband & father, Fletcher

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland
Jake McNiell (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Ronald Dobsch (nephew of Charlotte Ellison)

Morgan Jones (friend of Connie Thompson & Amy Eads)
 Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)
 Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)
 Kim Gallagher (friend of Chris & Dawn Robinson)
 Trish Kennedy (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
 Allen Coffman (friend of David & Shawn Pehle)
 Marissa Schollenberger (friend of Tom & Gayle Williams)
 Donna Eime (friend of Jim Doehring)
 Aaron Dixon (nephew of Dan Mossoney)
 Mike Meyer (friend of Mandy Frick)
 Brenda (friend of Hettie Becker)
 Leland Stahlman (brother of Keith Stahlman)
 Bill Diestelkamp (cousin of Liz Short & friend of Mandy Frick)

Various Concerns:

Prayer for our country and those actively serving: Aviation Structural
 Mechanic 3rd Class Hunter Grafrath (currently deployed) (son of Lindsay
 & Greg Traffas, grandson of Mike & Lynne Elliott)

Called to Care Team Request

The Called to Care Team is asking that if you or someone you know would like a visit from the team or our pastor, please contact the church office. If you or members you know are in nursing homes, homebound, or staying close to home please contact the church office. Our mission is to minister to and care for the entire community of Zion Church, whether able to be present in worship or not. Thank you!



Green Month!

Yes, we won't concentrate on just one day!

With all the activities taking place, it seems the whole month is Green Month. As you see, the Green Team is having two Sundays where we will Show and Tell, April 21 and 28, and then all the activities at ECC and MoVal will be

important.

So, in light of all the new, we have some things to do that we have been doing for a long time. We lift them up, so that you know you can still bring used batteries to the church to recycle. We also always collect aluminum and metal cans which produced \$400 for charities here in 2023, and already in 2024 we have sent \$75 to three charities. SO THANK YOU! and keep them coming! Also keep the Best Choice labels coming (6,000 in 23)! All this little "stuff" makes for bigger "stuff".

- Norma Klemme, on behalf of the Green Team

Springtime, new life, resurrection, hope.

God, help me hold onto an Easter focus all season long.

Fletcher Simons Memorials
 (continued)

Shirley Brautigam, Union City Slickers Club, Frank & Terry Jenny, Jerene Kicker, Carol & William Schmidt, Michael & Kathy Graham, Pauline & Errol King, Vicki Hooper, Ray & Georgianne McClanahan, Tom & Gayle Williams, Dan & Lanora Mossoney, Wayne & Carol Bean, Jim Doehring, Donna Bocklage, Richard & Kathy Young, Duane & Elaine Bierwirth, Diane Ellis, Keith & Marilyn Stahlman (for Good Samaritan Fund)

In loving memory of **Del Rinne** and **Doris Feth** for Zion Building & Property Fund by:
 Jim Doehring & family

Notes to Zion

We want to thank everyone who sent cards, called or visited during Ray's illness. Your prayers and heartfelt concern was a blessing to both of us. May God bless each of you and thanks again.

- Ray & Georgianne
 McClanahan

+ + + +

Zion Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation. This will certainly help with feeding our families who rely on us especially the cost of groceries continues to rise.

- Union Food Pantry

Zion Church Council

Meeting –



February 2024

Zion UCC Council met Monday, February 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The following were in attendance: Fern Dewert, Kathy Reed, Donna Bocklage, Brad Parker, Bruce Templer, Barb Cox, Paul Brinker, Susan Merlino, Connie Thompson, Rev. Nick Knoblauch, and Maxine Harrison. Susan Merlino opened with prayer. Fern Dewert called the meeting to order.

Consensus items were approved as presented.

- January Zion UCC Council meeting minutes
- Pastor's Report
- Minister to Youth and Families Report
- January financial reports were not available
- Time/Date of next meeting -- March 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion Agenda:

Proclamation Brass/Bethel Hills Community Fundraiser -- Zion has received a request for use of the sanctuary for a Proclamation Brass concert to benefit Bethel Hills Community, on a to be determined Saturday afternoon this summer. A free will offering will be received. Motion and second to allow the use of the sanctuary. Motion passed.

EcoTones Concert request -- Sunday April 14 at 2:00 p.m. for a Chamber Music Concert to benefit EcoTones, a non-profit which sponsors music events in nature locations with the help of professional musicians. A free will offering will be received. Daryl and Ann Hartley would be the point people from Zion. Motion and second to allow. Motion passed.

Budget Committee Report -- The Finance Committee met February 12 to discuss investments and budget strategies. They have made the following recommendations to the council:

1. There are several certificates of deposit (CD) coming due in the next 3 months. A subcommittee was formed to look at a laddering plan for Zion's CDs.
2. A General Fund CD is due March 8 for \$50,000. The recommendation is to roll

this over into the money market account at Edward Jones until its next monthly meeting on March 11. Motion and second to roll \$50,000 into the money market account. Motion passed.

3. The general fund checking account at United Bank has a current balance of \$120,000. Motion and second to place \$60,000 in a CD at United Bank for 10 months at 5%. Vote passed.

Standing committees -- Review of handout of members, chair persons and council representatives for each of these committees. Council will revisit.

Safety/Security Committee Report -- Bruce Templer reported the need to finish applying safety film on street level windows. This could be done on a church workday. Delores Musket will have a training session for ushers. Narcan spray is available next to the AED in the upper commons. The committee is looking into placing breaker/panic bars on front doors.

Properties Committee Report -- Brad Parker reported the committee will continue to mow the church property as opposed to hiring a mowing service. There will be some changes to the crew as some no longer will serve, but new members will be added.

Historical Room -- The Historical Team will be moving file cabinets and other items to the extra classroom downstairs. A date will be determined to repaint the room prior to this move. This room will still be available for use by other groups of the church.

QR code -- Discussion on use of a QR code posted outside the church building to share information on Zion. This suggestion by a church member will be considered.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

- Maxine Harrison, Church Council Secretary (approved by the Church Council on March 18, 2024.)

February 2024

Congregational Meeting

The February Congregational meeting was held Sunday February 18, 2024 following the 9:00 service. Pastor Nick Knoblauch opened with prayer. Fern Dewert called the meeting to order.

Minutes of February 2023 Congregational meeting, Minutes of July 2023 Special congregational meeting, and Minutes of October 2023 Special congregational meeting were all approved at the November 2023 Congregational meeting.

Minutes of November 2023 Congregational meeting -- There was no discussion and the minutes were accepted as presented.

Committees, Ministry teams and Organizational reports -- There being no discussion these reports were accepted as presented.

2023 Financial Reports -- Norma Klemme expressed her thankfulness for the giving to OCWM and CUE. The Financial Reports were accepted as presented.

New Business -- None

Announcements:

Back door project update-- Bruce Templer expressed his thanks to Dennis Tucker, Alan TenEyck, and Skip Buehrle for their work on this project and the sharing of their talents. Bruce, on behalf of the Church, presented each with a token of appreciation for their dedication to this project. Dennis Tucker reported the final cost of approximately \$48,000 was less than the original estimate. Dennis thanked the team for their time and skills toward this project.

Hansen Committee Update -- Bruce Templer shared that with the completion of the backdoor project the committee will be moving on to other projects as were recommended by the previous round table discussions. He thanked the other members of this committee for their work.

New Christmas decorations -- Fern Dewert thanked the other committee members: Pat Buehrle, Kathy Reed, Kirk Hancox, Darlene Ahmann and Pastor Nick Knoblauch for their

work and time.

Vicki Hooper spoke on the need to change the budget process -- President Dewert stated the Finance committee has started a discussion regarding the budget process and will bring recommendations to the Church Council.

Prayer of our Savior. Meeting adjourned.

Attendance -- 55

- Maxine Harrison, Church Council Secretary (approved by the Church Council on March 18, 2024.)

Church Attendance from March

(4 out of 5 Sundays)

March 3 -- 102

March 10 -- 108

March 17 -- 93

March 24 -- 102

Faith Quest/Adult Education Attendance from March

(4 out of 5 Sundays)

March 3 -- 12 (youth); 9 (adults)

March 10 -- 3 (youth); 4 (adults)

March 17 -- 17 (youth); 3 (adults)

March 24 -- 15 (youth); 3 (adults)



Financial Report for January 2024

	January	Year to Date (YTD)
Income	\$18,710.00	\$18,710.00
Expenses	\$36,817.00	\$36,817.00
Our Church's Wider Mission (given YTD) -		\$440.00
Chicago, United, Eden Seminaries (given YTD) --		\$135.00

Financial Report for February 2024

	February	Year to Date (YTD)
Income	\$37,854.00	\$56,564.00
Expenses	\$25,761.00	\$62,578.00
Our Church's Wider Mission (given YTD) -		\$2,746.00
Chicago, United, Eden Seminaries (given YTD) --		\$382.00

Detailed financial reports are available by contacting the church office. Thank you.

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Offices will be CLOSED	2	3 12 Loops of Love 5-7:30p LOGOS 6:30 Zion Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	4 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 6 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	5 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	6 9
7 The 2nd Sunday of Easter/ Communion 	8 6:30 pm Finance	9	10 9:30a Called to Care 12 Loops of Love 5-7:30p LOGOS 6:30 Zion Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	11 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 7 pm Lower Commons in Use	12 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use <i>Be merciful, JUST AS YOUR FATHER is merciful.</i> LUKE 6:36	13 2 pm Fellowship Hall in Use
14 The 3rd Sunday of Easter 2 pm ECC Eco Tone Benefit Concert	15 7 pm Church Council May Newsletter items due	16	17 12 Loops of Love 6 pm Joyful Noise 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	18 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle	19 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	20 am Lower Commons in Use
21 The 4th Sunday of Easter 10 am Zion Fellowship Brunch Green Team Display in lower commons	22 	23	24 10 am May newsletter assembled 12 Loops of Love 6 pm Joyful Noise 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	25 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle	26 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	27
28 The 5th Sunday of Easter Green Team Display in lower commons	29	30				

Happy
Birthday!

April Birthdays

- 1 - Greg Toelke
Caeli Manhart
 - 2 - David Bean
 - 3 - Abby Templer-Rodrigues
Wayne Bean
Matthew Seely
 - 4 - Pam Griffin
 - 5 - David Osterwald
 - 6 - Linda Kroeter
Bob Overschmidt
Reed Petry
 - 7 - Gracie Helms
 - 8 - Sharon Rosenkoetter
 - 9 - Bill Koch
 - 10 - Harvey Mefford
Andrew Koelling
 - 11 - Charles Schuenemeyer
 - 14 - Jean Stevens
BJ Cooper
 - 15 - Rob McDonald
 - 16 - Sallie Hancox
Brandon Harwood
Joshua Birke
 - 17 - Amy Altholz
Christina Altholz
 - 18 - Debbie Puls
- 14

- 19 - Claude Schuenemeyer
- 20 - Bob Soetebier
- 21 - Tiffany Manhart
- 23 - Hunter Grafrath
- 24 - Linda Hall
- 27 - Jon Bocklage
- 28 - Tim Stahlman
Camden Dewert
Danyell Mossoney
- 29 - Tom Beckmann
Wayne Sherfield
- 30 - Lukas Copeland

May Birthdays

- 1 - Ann Hartley
Jane Ridder
- 2 - Maxine Fink
- 3 - Gary Reed
Marie Kuenzel
- 4 - John Metcalf
Jaydalyn Holman
- 6 - Macey Hargrove
Baylor Adams
- 7 - Jon Ridder
Tyson Jones
Alysha Petry
Elsie Saake
Oliver Cooper
Nora Knoblauch
- 8 - Heather Koch
- 9 - Logan Cooper
- 10 - George Gerstner
Tracy Ingle
Dawn Toelke