

The Spirit of Zion

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri



May 2025

No. 5



Bread for the World Offering of Letters

FOR THE WORLD Each year, Bread for the World organizes churches, community organizations, and people of faith from across the country to write letters and emails to their members of Congress who have the power to impact the policies and programs that can end hunger.

This year, the letters sent will be specifically asking Congress to protect, restore, and secure robust funding for global nutrition programs to reach millions of children with lifesaving assistance. And also to fully fund and strengthen the domestic Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) so that more families in the U.S. are able to enroll and stay enrolled.

Stop by the table in the lower commons on Sundays, May 11th and 18th to sign a letter to send to our representatives in congress. - Zion's Outreach Team

Church World Service Blanket Sundays - May 11 & 18 2025

For over 75 years, Church World Service has been helping people of faith bring God's hope and healing to people in the U.S. and around the world. When difficult times happen, a kind and loving response can make all the difference. When you support the **CWS Blankets program**, you offer more than just warmth—you provide hope and love to those facing challenging times. 27,275 CWS Blankets were shared with people in need in 2024, thanks to generous donors like you.

We will again have our annual Church World Service Blanket Sundays on May 11th and 18th. Each blanket is \$10 each and can be given in memory or honor of a loved one. Stop by the table in the lower commons to make your generous donation. - Zion's Outreach Team



It's Graduation Time!

In June we will be celebrating our high school graduates. A short bio will appear in the June edition of 'The Spirit of Zion'. We also want to hear about college graduates, technical school graduates, military graduates – anyone

Serving Christ in May

Ushers:

May 4 & 11

Ron & Pam Griffin*

May 18 & 25

Mary German, Sue Leicht*
(*designates Head Usher)

Greeters:

May 4 – Carl & Jane Ridder

Sound System Tech: Matt
Herring

Camera Techs:

May 4 & 25 – David Bean

May 11 & 18 – Gil Bisjak



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
(kstafford1985@gmail.com)

Brenda Herring, Church Organist
Joy Bradley, Church Custodian

who has graduated this past year or will be graduating and their future plans. Please send the information about your graduate to cthompson@zionunion.org or dropping the information off to the church office so we can put a short bio in our June newsletter. Thank you!



Celebrating 100 Years! Happy Birthday Armin Klemme

The family of Armin Klemme is inviting everyone to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Armin Klemme on Sunday, May 25, 2025, with an Open House from 1-3 p.m. in the Zion Fellowship Hall. The family asks for no gifts but a note or card are most welcome. Anyone wishing to express thanks to God can contribute to the growing Armin & Norma Klemme Scholarship Fund at Eden Seminary. For more information please check the bulletin board in the lower commons.

Zion Fellowship – May 2025

On Sunday, April 6, we had 12 people attend the 2 p.m. performance of the Community Passion Play held at the New Melle Sports and Recreation Center, in New Melle, MO. Everyone enjoyed the live performance. After the play, we went to Miller's Grill in Washington for dinner.

There is no activity planned for May.

Saturday, June 7th – Plan to attend the Dinner and Show Night, with live entertainment (comedy, magic), at St. Paul's UCC, 103 S. Second St., Marthasville, MO. The dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., and if you want to carpool, meet at the back parking lot at church by 4:30. **Reservations need to be made to Fern Dewert by May 11.** Dinner options are Steak \$50, or Chicken \$45 per person, which includes homemade desserts. There will also be a silent auction. A signup sheet is posted on the lower commons bulletin board.

Once again, please let us know if you have an idea for future events/activities.



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

Memorial Day Work Weekend At Shannondale - May 23-26

Come spend Memorial Day in the beautiful Missouri Ozarks — and help Shannondale at the same time! Come for the day or stay for a long weekend — plan a weekend that fits your family and your schedule. We will work on Saturday (approximately 9am-4pm) on different projects around Shannondale or perhaps for homeowners in the area.

There are several options for housing: Timber Lodge at \$30/night (bunks and shared bathrooms), cabins \$100/night (can sleep 5-9 people, so great for families), or Peaceful Point Campground. RV sites with full hookups are \$22/night; tent sites are \$13/night. Four meals will be provided (three on Saturday and brunch following 10am worship on Sunday) for \$60/person.

You can come just for Saturday, or you can stay through the weekend and enjoy all the area has to offer: floating the Current River, visiting Alley Springs Mill, Echo Bluff State Park, or several other springs in the area, or even doing more work at Shannondale. If you do stay longer, no meals will be provided.

If you're interested but have questions, contact Jeanne Lischer. We may also try to carpool.

If you're ready to register, please call Theresa Enloe, Hospitality Lead, at 573/858-3284, 573/247-0299, or theresa@mmsucc.org. She'll be able to register you based on your plans.

The Grape Cluster of the Eastern Association is sponsoring this event, but it's open to everyone. **Please register by May 16!**



Beloved Zion,

The sun has been waking me up earlier and earlier. Well, maybe that isn't quite right. The sun has been waking my kids up earlier and earlier, and therefore I have been waking up earlier and earlier. And so most mornings, Owen or Nora or both of them climb all over me, while I try not to spill my coffee before I get ready for work. The longer I am a parent, the more I realize there is no such thing as "quality time." All time is equal. Certainly, there are different seasons of our lives where time appears to move more slowly or quicker, more scarce or abundant. And I know that time is "relative" based on the observer's frame of reference, and the movie "Interstellar" can give a great example of how that works. But for all of us here on Earth, not working in astrophysics, time is equal.

Psalm 90 opens, "Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. ² Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. ³ You turn us back to dust and say, "Turn back, you mortals." ⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past or like a watch in the night." This Psalm of Moses reminds us of the fleeting nature of life. The inevitable slipping of sand through the hourglass.

The time you spend cooking or scrolling, watching the news, or going for a walk, playing with your kids, or going to work, the time is all the same. You might think that time moves too fast, you don't have enough time to do what you want, or that you can make up for lost time with "quality time." We try to cram time into time, with vacations or special experiences. Now don't get me wrong, I believe those "times" to be valuable. They can create new experiences, deepen relationships, and bond people in wonderful ways.

The Psalm turns in verse 12. "So, teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart." Or, as my seminary professor, Clint McCann, liked to translate it, teach us to make each day count and so become wise. As someone who lives hundreds of miles away from so many of my friends and family, what I have come to appreciate is the time I have with those I love. Whether quality or garbage time, I do my best to love the time I am given. So, friends, in good times or bad, when it's moving too fast or too slow, feels scarce or abundant, may you learn to make each day, each moment filled with love. Or as verse 14 prays, satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. And may it be so for 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 May

9:00 a.m. Worship

Sunday, May 4 The 3rd Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Communion

Sunday, May 11 The 4th Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

Blanket Sunday/

Offering of Letters

10:00 a.m.

Intergenerational Sunday School

Sunday, May 18 The 5th Sunday of Easter

Blanket Sunday/

Offering of Letters

Sunday, May 25 The 6th Sunday of Easter

Celebrations in the Church Family

Baptisms

Tabitha Grimm Nolting

Skyler Grimm Hardin

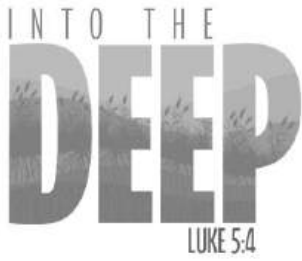
April 27



Memorial Day
☆ Day ☆

May 26, 2025

Remember those who have served our country (Church Offices will be closed.)



General Synod 35

The Kansas-Oklahoma and Missouri Mid-South Conferences of The United Church of Christ are thrilled to announce that General Synod 35 will take place in the vibrant and welcoming city of Kansas City, Missouri, July 11 – July 15, 2025. For information on General Synod, go to generalsynod.org. Volunteers receive a discount, but must register at the volunteer hub before registering for Synod.

General Synod Volunteers Still Needed - Register Today!

The time is now to sign up to volunteer at General Synod! There are plenty of ways you can help—both with hospitality and behind-the-scenes tasks—to make this event a success. We need YOU to make General Synod 35 possible! There is a two-step registration process for volunteers: All volunteers must register with the sign-up platform FIRST before registering as a visitor for General Synod. When you complete your volunteer registration, you will be sent a discount code for your Synod registration. Please go to missourimidsouth.org/general-synod-35 to register to volunteer.

Prayer Shawls & Lap Blankets Needed for General Synod

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is seeking donations for General Synod 35. Zion's Knitters have graciously offered to make lap blankets. If you would like to support our knitters, donations of yarn will be gratefully received. Drop off your donations at the church office. Shawls will be placed in the Community Care Space at General Synod and will be distributed by volunteers staffing the space. Drop off your completed shawls or blankets to Alysha at the church office by July 6th.

Help Thyself Meals

Just a short reminder of the meals and desserts in the Lower Commons freezer for the Help Thyself recipients - they are waiting for you. Our cooks do enjoy preparing these meals for you for sure. We want to give you a helping hand when we can. Please be sure to mark the "Donate and Receive" chart on the front of the freezer when preparing the meals or taking them for your use. A friend can pick them up for you as well if that will help you out. 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), Maxine Harrison (636-583-2159) and Donna Bocklage, (636-584-4888). - Dorothy Mitana

Electronic Giving

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 right corner of the page a "Donate" button. Just follow the easy to navigate instructions!

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

News

May 2025

YOUTH *at* GENERAL SYNOD

July 11-15, 2025

In Kansas City
For youth entering 6th grade
to graduating 12th graders

The theme for Synod is "Into the Deep," and youth will focus on leadership development, mission, and water/climate justice issues.

To register and/or get more information, go to
generalsynod.org



Saturday, June 21

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

at Camp MoVal

2659 Camp Mo Val Rd, Union, MO 63084

Swimming - Games and a splashing good time with family & friends!

Please bring a snack or side dish to share.
Hotdogs and drinks will be provided.

5

Sunday School

10 AM – 11 AM



Pre-School

Ages 3 to 5

Meet in the Pre-School Room

Faith Quest

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

Meet in Bible Max Theatre

Confirm NOT Conform

6th – 12th grade

Meet in the High School Room

Intergenerational Sunday School

2nd Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall

May 4 – Movie

May 11 - Intergenerational Experience

May 18 – Last day of Sunday School
for the program year

&

the BIBLE BUCK STORE will be OPEN!

The children will get to spend their Bible bucks they earned throughout the Sunday School year.

THANK YOU

to everyone who donated items to the Lenten Labyrinth that Feeds. We collected over 600 items for the Union Food Pantry and Zion's Little Free Pantry.





2025 Camp MoVal Schedule

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Register at www.missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval or <https://tinyurl.com/nhzv7yc9>

The grades listed are the grade the camper completed in May 2025

<u>Camp Description</u>	<u>Camp Date</u>	<u>Price with</u>	
		<u>Camp Scholarship Discount</u>	<u>Full Price</u>
All Ages Camp1 # (grades 3-9)	June 22-27	\$ 250.00	\$625.00
High School Camp (grades 9-12)	June 22-27	\$ 250.00	\$625.00
Family Camp (All Ages)	June 29-July 3	\$ 83.00	\$208.00 (pp)
All Ages Camp #2 (grades 3-9)	July 6-11	\$ 250.00	\$625.00
All Ages Camp #3 (grades 3-9)	July 13-18	\$ 250.00	\$625.00
S.T.E.A.M Camp (grades 3-9)	June 20-22	\$ 84.00	\$210.00
'And Me' Camp (Adult Guardian & Child)	July 20-July 21	\$ 38.00	\$95.00 (pp)
Adventures in Community (ages 18+)	August 3-8	\$ 240.00	\$625.00

Contact the church office for your camp scholarship certificate to receive the 60% Zion discount.



June 16-19

6:00-8:00 PM

Games - Crafts

Bible Stories - Snacks

Join us for a

WILD good time!

Volunteers are needed to make TRUE NORTH VBS a success.

Register online to volunteer as a crew leader or station leader.



REGISTRATION LINK FOR VOLUNTEERS & PARTICIPANTS:
vbspro.events/p/d1d43a



Notes from the Music Director

Have you ever been with a group of people or an event where you just think, “These are MY people?” I feel that way every Wednesday evening at rehearsals with Chancel Choir. I leave rehearsal feeling like my spirit has been renewed.

That time is coming to a close for this church's activities season. Summer is coming, and with it, new musical gifts. Summer is the time when members and guests provide special music so instruments or vocal solos can spiritually move us. This, too, is where I feel like I’m with “my people.” Music is how I feel closest to God.

But it doesn’t have to stop there. Our congregation has been blessed with those who have provided interpretive dance, drama, and puppet shows to enhance our understanding of Scripture and the story of God’s love for us.

So, I am putting out a call for people you might know who would like to provide special music or some other type of short performing art for our congregation for summer services. You can call the church office or send me an email at kstafford@zionunion.org during the month of May to pass along information, and I’ll take it from there.

Blessings,
Karen

From the Historical Team... Armin F. Klemme 100th Birthday!

A member of Zion UCC since December, 1990 will be celebrating a milestone very few achieve. Armin F. Klemme will be celebrating his 100th birthday on May 21, 1925!! Armin was born in Troy, MO to Rev. Armin Emil Klemme and his wife, Emma. Armin was baptized in infancy, June 1925 at Old Monroe, MO. He was confirmed April 2, 1939 at the O’Fallon E & R Church in O’Fallon, IL

Armin grew up with two sisters, Elaine and Audrey. During his elementary and high school years, he attended O’Fallon Township in O’Fallon, IL Following in the path of his father, Armin entered Elmhurst College, graduating in 1946. Upon graduation from Elmhurst, Armin entered Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves. He graduated with a Bachelor of Divinity degree in June, 1955, and earned his Master of Divinity degree in June of 1970. Armin was ordained in the O’Fallon, E & R Church, June 18, 1950.

Along the way, he met a charming young lady, Norma Louise Mossmann. Armin and Norma were married June 24, 1955 in the Zion E & R Church, St. Joseph, MO. Their union has been blessed with four children. Dr. Paul Klemme resides in Salem, OR and is Director of Music Ministries at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. Twins, Esther and Elizabeth were the next to join the family. Esther retired from the Union R-XI School District, and Elizabeth retired from UCC Neighborhood Housing in St. Louis. Phil resides in Union and is the owner of Grounds Guys landscaping. All of the children were born in Sedalia, MO

Notes to Zion

Jim Doehring & family would like to thank our Zion UCC family upon the passing of his daughter, Paula, for all the thoughts, prayers, cards, texts, and donations in her memory. Also for your attendance at her visitation, ICD Church Service and luncheon celebrating her life and for Rev. Knoblauch’s consecrating her grave site.

- Jim Doehring &
family

† † † †

Dear Zion UCC,

Thank you so much for your generous support of Loving Hearts Outreach. Without your help, we would not be able to fulfil our mission to take care of families in Franklin County who are experiencing food insecurities as well as meeting their essential needs for survival.

-Michelle Crider, Loving
Hearts Director

† † † †

The Union Food Pantry Volunteers thank you very much for the generous donations of items for our pantry that were collected during Lent. You are helping the Food Pantry assist families in our community. Thank you for your support. God bless you!

- Union Food Pantry



For 75 years, Armin ministered to churches in Missouri.

1950-1953 - St. John's E & R - Amazonia

1953-1964 - Immanuel E & R - Sedalia

1964-1979 - St. Paul E & R - Hermann

1979-1990 - Central UCC - Jefferson City

1991-2015 - Various UCC churches in the Eastern Association Conference

Since moving to Union and joining Zion UCC, Armin has been very active, serving on numerous committees, being involved in church groups as well as community organizations. They include Choir, Green Team, Historical Team, Prayer Group, Food Pantry, Kiwanis Club, and Habitat for Humanity. He and Norma set a great example with their recycling efforts. They were recipients of the Long Haul Award presented by the Chamber of Commerce.

Please join the Historical Team in wishing Armin a Happy 100th Birthday! If you look in the historical cabinet, you will find many interesting photos.

- Linda Hall, on behalf of the Historical Team

Mark Your Calendars! Workday at Zion Church

The Properties Committee has scheduled a Workday on Saturday, May 10th. Details of the time and work projects to be done will be in the Sunday bulletin announcements. If you can volunteer for an hour or two it would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!

Thank You to April Volunteers

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

Liturgists: Carl Ridder, Sallie Hancox, Alysha Petry, Earth Day Participants: Armin Klemme, Jeanne Lischer, Skyler Grimm Hardin, Norma Klemme, Alysha Petry, Lee Parks, Tabitha Grimm Nolting, Bronwen Voss, and Sutton Voss.

Special Music for Worship: Chancel Choir, Karen Stafford, Phil Klemme

Ushers: Sandy Stierberger, Jim Vemmer, Brad Parker, Karen Tucker, Connie Thompson

Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Ken & Carol Rohrbach

Greeters: Kevin Vorderbruegge, Verlyn Yarbrough, Sallie Hancox, Armin & Norma Klemme

Sound System Tech: David Bean

Worship Service Recorders: Dan Mossoney

Newsletter Helpers: Donna Bocklage, Ken & Carol Rohrbach, Karen Tucker

Best Choice Labels

Containers are available in the lower commons kitchen as well as the fellowship hall kitchen for your Best Choice Labels. These labels go into the Missouri Hunger Fund. They are used for hunger relief, nutrition, or food insecurity situations. The Union Food Pantry has also benefitted from the donation of these labels. Thank you for your contributions and continue giving them!

Church Attendance from April

April 6 – 101

April 13 – 112

April 17 (Maundy Thursday) – 66

April 18 (Good Friday) – 39

April 20 (Easter) – 188

April 27 – 106

Faith Quest/Adult Education Attendance from April

April 6 – 5 (youth)

April 13 – 25 (Intergenerational Sunday School)

April 20 – N/A

April 27 – 6 (youth); 6 (adults)



Financial Report for March 2025

	March 2025	Year to Date (YTD)
Income	\$25,869.00	\$96,918.00
Expenses	\$33,822.00	\$101,164.00

Our Church's Wider Mission (given YTD) - \$1,910.00
Chicago, United, Eden Seminaries (given YTD) – \$315.00

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

Prayers Requested

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson
Carolyn Donoho	Frank Fazzari
Myrt Dunigan	Kevin Vorderbruegge
Charlotte Ellison	Kim Yenzen
Carol Bean	
Bruce Crane (at New Haven Care Center)	
Anne Parker (at Willow Brooke in Union)	
Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)	
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)	
Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)	
Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)	
Tammy Wettling (friend of Charlotte Ellison)	
Eric Heitman (nephew of Jim Doehring)	
Heather Gooch (great niece of Charlotte Ellison)	
S (Karen Stafford's CASA buddy)	
Carol Mossoney (mother of Dan Mossoney)	
Bob Truel (husband of Shirley Truel)	
Josh & Tricia Pardee-Jacka (friends of Charlotte Ellison)	
Mike Bailey (husband of Leslie Bailey)	
Cindy Roach (friend of Charlotte Ellison)	
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)	
Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)	
Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)	
Eileen Lischer (mother of Jeanne Lischer)	
Denise Robinson (friend of Gary & Karen Stafford)	
Kevin Niebruegge (cousin of Karen Stafford)	
Pat Pappas (sister of Jim Doehring)	

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Armin & Norma Klemme & family on the death of their brother-in-law Gil Klein.

David Sutton & family on the death of his wife Paula who died on April 4th.
The family of Ken Staten. Ken died on April 4th.

Mike Elliott, Lindsay Traffas & families on the death of their mother & grandmother, Beverly Elliott, who died on April 25th.

Bob Soetebier, Kathy Reed & families on the death of their nephew, Rob Soetebier, who died on April 25th.

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland Skip Buehrle Susie Andell
Jake McNiel (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Ronald Dobsch (nephew of Charlotte Ellison)
Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)



With Sympathy

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

Paula J. Sutton, 75, died on April 4, 2025. A Celebration of Life for Paula was held on April 27th with interment in the Zion Cemetery Columbarium.

Kenneth J. Staten, 87, died on April 4th. Funeral service for Ken was held on April 9th by Rev. Knoblauch with burial in Zion Cemetery.

Zed Harwood, 91, died on April 4th. Funeral service for Zed was held on April 11th by Pastor John Melton with burial in the Union City Cemetery.

Ray C. McClanahan, 85, died on March 21st. A memorial service for Ray was held at Zion Church on April 26th by Rev. Knoblauch.

Robert J. Soetebier, 43, died on April 25th. Funeral service for Rob was held on April 29th by Rev. Knoblauch & Alysha Petry with burial in Zion Cemetery.

Memorial Gifts Given

In loving memory of **Keith**

Stahlman by:

Virginia Maune (Zion Building Fund), Joyce Mantels (Good Samaritan Fund), Lewis Mantels (Good Samaritan Fund)

In loving memory of **Paula Forck** (daughter of Jim Doehring) by:

Good Samaritan Fund: Alan & Sharon TenEyck, Dorothy Mitana, Colleen Simons, Barb Cox, Brenda Viehland; Zion Building Fund: Jim Doehring & Krista Lause & families

Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)
 Kim Gallagher (friend of Chris & Dawn Robinson)
 Trish Kennedy (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
 Allen Coffman (friend of Shawn Pehle)
 Marissa Schollenberger (friend of Tom & Gayle Williams)
 Aaron Dixon (nephew of Dan Mossoney)
 Mike Meyer (friend of Mandy Frick)
 Brenda (friend of Hettie Becker)
 Britt Fassler (daughter of Nancy Kossmann)
 Willie Beckett (nephew of Vicki Hooper)
 Dasha Musante (granddaughter of Marilyn 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 (son of Lindsay & Greg Traffas, grandson of Mike & Lynne Elliott)
 Ross Groenke (son of Cindy & Dale Groenke)

Memorial Gifts Given

(cont.)

In loving memory of **Paula Sutton** for Zion Good Samaritan Fund by:
 Marilyn Freiemuth,
 Brenda Viehland

In loving memory of **Wayne Henderson** for Zion Building Fund by:
 Jim Doehring & family

In loving memory of **Kenneth J. Staten** for Camp MoVal by:

Jim Doehring, Colleen Simons, Brenda Viehland, Skip & Pat Buehrle, Marilyn Freiermuth, Alan & Sharon TenEyck, Sandy Stierberger, Richard & Kathy Young, Donna Bocklage, Gale Claggett, Ken & Carol Rohrbach, Vicki Hooper, Armin & Norma Klemme, Barb Cox, Carl & Jane Ridder, Sue Leicht, Dorothy Mitana, Ruth Parker, Dan & Lanora Mossoney, Dennis & Maxine Harrison, Bill & Fern Dewert, Bruce Templer, Daniel & Kelley Angell, Patricia Moyers, John Ladas, Angela & Anthony Jenkins, Joan Huntebrinker Kirk & SallieHancox, Douglas & Keyna Klabzuba

In loving memory of **Ray McClanahan** by:

Marilyn Freiermuth (Good Samaritan Fund);
 Armin & Norma Klemme (Little Food Pantry)

PUZZLE

A VALUABLE *command*

God instructs children how to relate to their parents.

Directions: Arrange the words in alphabetical order. Then insert the circled letters in order to complete Exodus 20:12, NIV.

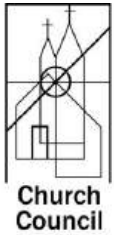
son	mother	father
daughter	honor	home
respect	family	obey
	love	

1. _ _ _ _ _ (o) _ _ _ _ (o)
 2. (o) _ _ _ _ _ (o)
 3. _ _ _ (o) _ _ _ (o) _ _
 4. (o) _ _ _ _ _
 5. _ _ _ _ (o) _ _
 6. (o) _ _ _ (o) _ _
 7. _ _ (o) _ _ (o) _ _ _
 8. (o) _ _ _ (o) _ _
 9. (o) _ _ _ (o) _ _ _ _ _
 10. _ _ _ (o) _ _ _ _

_ _ o _ _ _ your _ _ ather and _ _ our mo _ _ h _ r,
 so t _ at y _ u may _ _ i _ e l _ ng in t _ e land
 the L _ RD _ _ ou _ God i _ givi _ g you.

EXODUS 20:12, NIV

Answer: 1. daughter; 2. family; 3. father; 4. home; 5. honor; 6. love; 7. mother; 8. obey; 9. respect; 10. son; Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.



Zion UCC Church Council Minutes – March 2025

Zion United Church of Christ
Church Council met on Monday
March 24 2025 with the following in

attendance: Paul Brinker, Brad Parker, Bruce Templer, Kathy Reed, BJ Cooper, Norma Kern, Donna Bocklage, Barb Cox, Pastor Nick, Fern Dewert, and Connie Thompson.

Kathy led us in the Opening Prayer and Fern called the meeting to order. Welcome to the council Norma!

Consensus Agenda:

- Minutes of February Congregational Meeting – approved
- Minutes of February Church Council Meeting – approved
- Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting – approved
- Pastor's Report
 - The new sound system needs some tweaking done. Listening devices are now working. The wiring needs to be covered. Pastor Nick will contact ModCom regarding the fixes that need to be done before we pay the final bill.
- Minister to Youth & Families Report – approved
- Financial Reports from February – approved
- Time/Date for next Council meeting – changed from April 21 to April 28 due to the church offices being closed the day after Easter.

Discussion Agenda

Membership Review Committee – BJ is reviewing and tabulating the surveys that were done in late 2024. The current by laws for this committee need to be reviewed and possibly updated.

By-laws Review Committee – will meet soon to review possible changes and updates to certain parts of the by-laws. Audit Committee – The Audit Committee's report from the internal audit

of the 2024 financial books was passed out for the council to review. Fern asked the council to think about the importance of having 2 people sign checks over a certain amount. Audit Committee had two questions for the council to review (1) Updated inventory of securities, valuables, equipment and other non-cash assets maintained (2) Are regular reviews made to determine if insurance coverage is adequate. A sub-committee of the council will review the physical inventory and insurance policy. (3) Questioned if two persons secured the offering during the worship service. The council decided that following the Doxology and Prayer of Dedication, the ushers will place the offering in the ushers corner cabinet and an empty offering plate will be left on the usher table. This will be added to the ushers duties sheet that is mailed to each usher prior to the month they serve. Motion was made and approved to accept the Audit Committee report for 2024.

Personnel Committee – All employees have been evaluated. The committee is reviewing the Zion UCC Employee Handbook.

Leadership Development Committee – Brad will be done with his first term in December 2025; he will let the council know if he will be serving an additional term. Kathy & Donna will be finishing their second terms in December 2025. Fern asked council members to think of any people to fill these vacancies and let her know. Fern will also contact the chairperson for Leadership Development.

Building & Property Committee – There was no update on the repairs to be done in the fellowship hall. Fellowship Hall wall color needs to be chosen as soon as work begins on the repairs. Fern will contact Dennis Tucker to see if he has any updates from the company.

Safety Committee – The committee will need to meet soon as many of the security cameras are not working properly. They will need to possibly secure new cameras and discuss getting an outside camera for the front parking lot.

Hansen Committee – The committee is officially dissolved as all monies have been spent.

Finance Committee – An Investment Proposal was presented to the council. Motion was made and approved to accept the proposal. In April the committee will meet with Matt Wagner of United Church Funds about investment policies and procedures.

General Synod Funding – Alysha Petry will be the delegate to General Synod this year. Pastor Nick reported that the MMS-UCC will be giving \$1000 to each delegate for funding. Additional funding will be needed for Alysha for hotel room, meals, etc. Motion was made and approved for up to \$2000. She will submit her bills at the end of the Synod and be reimbursed.

Alysha Camp Week – Pastor Nick reported that Alysha has been taking her vacation to be a counselor at Camp MoVal. Motion was made and approved that she not use her personal vacation and that she be paid while she is at Camp MoVal.

Wooden Table in Chapel – Fern, Kathy and Kirk Hancox have found a table that will be a nice addition for the chapel area to replace the plastic folding table. Motion was made and approved to increase the amount up to \$2000 for a table and pay from undesignated Memorial Funds.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

- Connie Thompson, Zion UCC Church
Council Recording Secretary

(approved by the Church Council on April 28 2025.)

2025 Easter Contributions

The following contributed 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 Kirk & Sallie Hancox.
In memory of Elmer Holtgreve and in honor of Brandon, Lindsey & Katelyn by Bernice Holtgreve.
In memory of Greg Stevens & Josh Camden our husbands, daddy's & friend by Jean & Adam Stevens, Laurel, Amelia & Archer Camden.
In memory of loved ones by Linda Kroeter & family.
In memory of James Ronsick by Candy Ronsick.
In memory of our parents by Gary & Karen Stafford.

In honor of our amazing grandchildren – Abigail, Blake, Camden, Hannah & Natalie by William & Fern Dewert.
In memory of Ed Stierberger by Sandy Stierberger.
In honor of our parents Skip & Pat Buehrle by Scott Buehrle, Shanna Brinker & Sammi Blankenship.
In honor of our children & grandchildren by Skip & Pat Buehrle.
In memory of Hugo & Lucille Viehland by Brenda Viehland.

Little Free Pantry and Union Food Pantry donations:

In memory of loved ones by Kirk & Sallie Hancox.
In honor of our children & grandchildren by Skip & Pat Buehrle.
In memory of Greg Stevens & Josh Camden our husbands, daddy's & friend by Jean & Adam Stevens, Laurel, Amelia & Archer Camden.
In memory of Elmer Holtgreve and in honor of Brandon, Lindsey & Katelyn by Bernice Holtgreve.
In honor of family past & present by Armin & Norma Klemme.
In memory of Alan Freiermuth and Keith & Arline Stahlman by Marilyn Freiermuth.
In honor of Stacy, Scott, Molly & Owen Mertz and Ryan, Kara & Jackson Hall by Dave & Linda Hall.
In honor of our family by Carl & Jane Ridder.
In memory of Keith & Arline Stahlman by Tim, Annette, Travis & Nick Stahlman.
In memory of loved ones by Alan & Sharon TenEyck.
In memory of Marland Parker & Al Marquart by Brad & Louise Parker.
In honor of loved ones by Ken & Carol Rohrbach.
In memory of David & Michael Kinworthy by Linda Kinworthy.
In memory of Judy Doehring & Paula Forck by Jim Doehring & the Forck & Lause families.
In memory of Herbert & Margy Schowe by Kevin & Donna Schowe & family and Jane Gulledege & David Meyer & family.
In honor of our children by Gary & Karen Stafford.
In honor of loved ones by Vicki Hooper.
In memory of my parents by Barb Cox.
In memory of Fletcher Simons by Colleen Simons & family.
In memory of Louise & Elaine Borgmann and Clifford & Erna Dewert by William & Fern Dewert.
In memory of my grandparents by Brenda Viehland.



May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 6 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	2 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	3 10 am-3 pm Lower Commons in Use
4 The 3rd Sunday of Easter/ Communion 	5	6	7 12 pm Loops of Love 6:30 pm Green Team 7:30 Chancel Choir	8 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 1 pm Historical Team Workday 7 pm Lower Commons in Use	9 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	10 Workday at Zion
11 The 4th Sunday of Easter MOTHER'S DAY Offering of Letters Blanket Sunday 10 am Intergenerational Sunday School	12 6:30 pm Finance <i>In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust</i> <i>- Psalm 31:1</i>	13	14 9:30 am Called to Care 10 am Personnel Committee 12 Loops of Love 7:30 Chancel Choir	15 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 9:30 am Help Thyself Committee 1 pm Historical Team Workday	16 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	17
18 The 5th Sunday of Easter Offering of Letters Blanket Sunday	19 7 pm Church Council June newsletter articles due	20	21 12 Loops of Love 6-8 pm Eastern Association Mtg. (fellowship hall) 7:30 Chancel Choir	22 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 7 pm Lower Commons in Use	23 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	24
25 The 6th Sunday of Easter 1-3 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	 Memorial Day ☆ ☆ Church Offices closed	27	28 10 am June newsletter assembled 12 Loops of Love 6 pm Drumming Circle 7:30 Chancel Choir	29 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle	30 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	31





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
- 12 - Sarah Buscher
Collin Maune
Alan Klobasa
- 14 - Evelyn Klenke
Kevin Koelling
Dennis Soetebier
- 15 - Sally Lischer
- 19 - Sharon Martindill

- 20 - Mary Smith
Ellie Johnston
Hunter Narup
- 21 - Armin Klemme
- 22 - Thelma Stephens
Aaron Branscum
- 23 - Krista Knott
- 24 - Nancy Brand
- 27 - Clayton Muller
- 29 - Lauryn Overschmidt
- 31 - Darlene Ahmann
Maelee Mossoney
Alex Puls

June Birthdays

- 1 - Megan Isgriggs
- 2 - Krista Lause
Olivia Penton
Ella Oltmann
- 3 - McKenna Gerstner
- 4 - Karen Livengood
- 6 - Carl Ridder
- 7 - Geraldine Hoelscher
- 8 - Allen Heeger
Sarah Penton
- 9 - Taylor Seely
Penny Perriguy
Jeanne Lischer
- 10 - Lester Gardner
Barb Gardner
Barbara Cox