

The Spirit of Zion

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri



August 2025

No. 8



Round Table Discussion in August

Zion UCC received the \$1.6 million gift from the Hansen Trust to be used for “general charitable purposes.” To begin the process of determining how this gift would be used the Finance Committee and Church Council decided on having round table discussions to hear the congregation’s ideas. The second Round Table discussion will be on **Sunday, August 24, 2025** in the Fellowship Hall following the morning worship service. Coffee and sweets will be provided.

General Synod Highlights

The United Church of Christ's 35th General Synod was held July 11-15, in Kansas City, Missouri. The theme was “Into the Deep,” based on Luke 5:4.



740 delegates, representing their conferences, gathered with visitors, exhibitors, special guests, and national staff, bringing close to 2000 individuals together to dive into deep conversations about what it means to be the UCC in 2025. The church is diverse, allowing individuals from various perspectives to find voices of familiarity and differences. There are large and small churches, conservative and progressive churches, urban and rural churches, and everything in between. We worshipped, conducted business, shared ideas, networked, enjoyed shopping, and explored the free Swag provided by the many exhibitors. **I want to thank our amazing Zion knitting group for donating many beautiful prayer shawls and lap blankets. They were lovingly received by individuals at Synod. Thank you for blessing Synod with your gifts!**

The General Synod is the National decision-making body for our denomination that speaks **to** the church and not **for** the church. The decisions made at Synod are shared with local congregations, and each congregation decides what to do with the recommendations. This year, we voted on 11 witness resolutions and one bylaw change. Delegates began their week with an educational intensive to learn more about the resolution they were assigned. They vote to recommend the resolution as presented, recommend the resolution with changes, or recommend that the resolution not move forward to vote. All 11 resolutions moved forward to a vote and passed. The

Serving Christ in August

Ushers:

August 3 & 10

Dave & Linda Hall*

August 17, 24 & 31

Rudy & Darlene Ahmann*
(*designates Head Usher)

Greeters:

August 3 – Linda Kinworthy

August 10 – Jane Pinnell

August 17 – Colleen Simons

August 24 – Lee & Susan
Newman

August 31 – Kevin

Vorderbruegge

Sound System Tech: Harvey
Mefford

Camera Techs:

August 3 – Gil Bisjak

August 10 & 17 – David Bean

August 24 & 31 – Dan
Mossoney



bylaws change did not pass. We also voted Rev. Shari Prestemon for Associate General Minister and Co-Executive of Global Ministries.

I was excited to be one of the twenty delegates representing the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ. The daily schedule of a delegate is exhausting but also exhilarating, and I have way too much information to share in one newsletter article. Zion sent three delegates: Skyler Grimm Hardin, Karen Stafford, and me. We are all excited to share more information about our experiences at Synod. **We invite you to join us for a Synod Discussion Session on Sunday, August 17th, after worship in the fellowship hall.** We also encourage you to check out the website Generalsynod.org/news for highlights on worship, keynotes, plenary, and resolutions. Each delegate was assigned to one committee resolution, so we will have the most information on the following resolutions:

1. Skyler, Committee #2: Resolution on Full Communion Relationship Between the United Church of Christ and Iglesia Evangélica Unida de Puerto Rico
 2. Karen, Committee #5: Faithful Stewardship of Our Whole Lives and Advocacy for Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Faith Communities Through Interfaith Collaboration
 3. Alysha, Committee # 11: Declaration for an End to Genocide in Palestine
- Please join us on August 17th, where we will share what inspired us, what frustrated us, and what we learned about being a part of the UCC in 2025. Bring your questions and curiosities as we dive deeper together.

- Alysha Petry

Zion Book Club

Zion Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, August 19th at 1:30 p.m. in the lower commons library area. The book they will be discussing is *"The Secret Life of Bees"* by Sue Monk Kidd. All are invited to join the group!

Autumn Branson Get-Away!

Plans have been made for an unforgettable blend of entertainment, relaxation, and scenic charm in Branson, Missouri, Tuesday, October 21st through Friday, October 25th. The group will be staying at the Best Western Music Capital Inn on Shepherd of the Hills Expressway.

We'll be seeing *"The Haygoods"* Show on Tuesday after dinner. This family group is one of the most sought-after tickets.

Wednesday will be the absolute highlight of seeing *"David"* at the Sight and Sound Theater. The show is live with actors, music, and animals!

Thursday's treat will be a delicious meal as we glide along Tablerock Lake aboard the Branson Belle. There will be entertainment and a live show for our midday escape.

Friday activities will be your own choice from the many, many things to do in Branson.

You can expect a mix of inspiration, laughter, and a touch of grandeur on our trip to Branson. Don't miss it! For more information contact Kathy Young, Fern Dewert or Suzanne Barreth.



Zion Fellowship – August 2025

August - At this time, there are no events planned, but if you have an idea for any events/activities during this time, please contact one of the officers listed below.

Sunday, September 21 – Plan to attend our ALL Congregation, Ice Cream Social at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall. Ice cream and soda for root beer floats, along with toppings, will be furnished. If you want to bring other goodies to go along with a float, feel free to do so, but not necessary.

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



Beloved Zion,

I don't pay much attention to golf, but this weekend, Scottie Scheffler shocked the world of golf. He won his fourth major at the British Open. The 29-year-old, the world's number 1-ranked golfer, won the tournament in a demanding fashion. It was not surprising that he won. What shocked the gold world was a rhetorical question he proposed at the beginning of the week, during the interview. "What's the point?" He asked. What's the point of winning, or striving to be the best? He told the reporter there is more to life than playing golf. This put the golf world through an existential crisis.

Clarifying after the win, Scottie spoke about how he feels great joy and gratitude to be able to play golf, earning a tremendous amount of money while living out his dreams. He talked about how it's amazing to win the tournament and have the success he has had over his career. He takes pride in his dedication and hard work that have brought about this success, and even acknowledges a little bit of luck along the way. But those things don't fulfill the deepest desires of his heart. His identity isn't dependent on winning golf tournaments.

In a world of clickbait and rage reporting, his comments as the top golfer in the world saying golf doesn't matter might seem entitled, or flippant, or short-sighted. But the nuance of Scottie's words is much more complicated than can fit in a headline. This is a great reminder that we are at our best when we can listen for understanding, give space for complexity, and avoid quick judgements.

Scottie also speaks a great word of truth. Whether he wins or loses, it's always on to the next week. Sure, there are things he can do, skills he can hone, to play better. But either way, there is always the next week. There is a lot of wisdom in learning that there is no arrival. He doesn't seem to have the mindset of "if I accomplish _____, then I will be happy, filled, I will have arrived." When we let go of this fallacy, we can focus on what we can control on this journey we call life. Effort. That's it. The journey of life, faith, golf, or anything else, is all about the effort we put into it. The effort we put into our relationships, our communities, or skills, how we help, how we have fun, and relax, determines how much we get out of it. So, my friends seek nuance and put in the effort, and may you all find fulfillment on along the way.

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 August

9:00 a.m. Worship

Sunday, August 3

The 8th Sunday

after Pentecost

Sacrament of
Communion

Sunday, August 10

The 9th Sunday

after Pentecost

Sunday, August 17

The 10th Sunday

after Pentecost

Sunday, August 24

The 11th Sunday

after Pentecost

Sunday, August 31

The 12th Sunday

after Pentecost

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!



Welcome!

We welcomed this new member into our Zion Church family on Sunday, July 13th. Welcome Matt!

Matthew Wilson, 301 Park Hill Dr., Union, MO 63084

Matt joined by Confession of Faith and Baptism. He and his son Kyle live in Union. Matt is employed by Grey Eagle Distributors.

Green Team Update

Hello everybody! We need an update, right?

First of all, a great big thank you to all of you who help with collecting Best Choice UPC Labels! Keep bringing them to church! (Put in container in each kitchen.) You are doing a good job! We have 3,300 labels right now waiting to take to Festival of Sharing in October. We hope to have at least 5,000 by that time. The Festival gets \$30 or \$60 for each 1000 labels. The money goes to help hungry people in MO (pantries, etc.) Just think what that tiny label does!

Next Subject: Recycling! You are doing so good with this! Keep the cans coming! (steel cans too - separate from the aluminum cans) From junk, we sent in February: \$50 to CASA! From junk, we sent \$50 to Emmaus Homes in July! Just think, we sent \$100 to help people rather than letting it get into the landfill!! Praise God!! Please keep them coming! And please keep bringing the used batteries to church. And please keep doing recycling in your own home - newspaper, magazines, junk mail, cardboard, and Styrofoam.

Please keep up the good work! It seems small doesn't it? But, I know that God multiplies goodness, so keep it going! Adios for now. God bless all of you!

While you are at it, keep in mind making a kit for the Festival of Sharing. We start in September to collect. And then, of course remember the CROP Walk in the beginning of October!

- Norma Klemme, on behalf of
our Green Team



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.

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!

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!

"These Days" Devotional Books

Did you know that Zion 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. Enjoy!



All Sunday School
Classes Resume

**Sunday,
September 7th**

10 AM to 11 AM

REGISTER ONLINE at
www.zionunion.org



For 3rd & 4th Grade Students

Sunday, September 7th

During the 9 AM Worship Service

Please let Alysha know if you would like your child
to receive a bible by emailing her at
apetry@zion.union.org



Classes will begin September 7th
Classes are from 10 AM to 11 AM

Faith Quest

Meet in Bible Max Theatre

Ages 3 to 1st grade

2nd grade – 6th Grade

Middle/High School

Meet in the Senior High/Middle School Room

7th – 12th grade Youth

(Confirmed and Not Confirmed)

Intergenerational Sunday School

2nd SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Faith Quest, Middle School/High School and all our Zion
families and friends meet in the fellowship hall for a
Intergenerational lesson and a fellowship brunch.
FUN LESSONS FOR ALL!

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



SEPTEMBER 3rd

as we learn how to

**Trust Jesus in a
Wild World!**

It's an evening full of Games,
Bible Stories, Music and Dinner.

5 PM to 7:30 PM

REGISTER ONLINE at zionunion.org

Everyone is invited to join us for a

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

November 14-16, 2025

CONFERENCE YOUTH EVENT

STANDING STRONG

for 6th-12th grade youth

at *Shannodale*



BY THE SEASHORE

The sea and its creatures are evidence of God's intention and purpose in creation.

Directions: Unscramble the words. Then copy the circled letters in order below to complete Psalm 104:24-25, NIV.



DASN
LHSELS
USN
ESED AIS
BHECA
LALUBMER
WRTEA
FRUS
VWSEA





How many are your works, LORD!
In wisdom you made them ____;
the earth is full of your creatures.
There is the ____, vast and spacious,
teeming with _____ beyond number —
living things both large and small.

Psalm 104:24-25, NIV



Notes from the Music Director

I had the wonderful privilege of serving as a substitute delegate for the 35th General Synod for the UCC in Kansas City, Missouri. What a wonderful experience of worship, diversity, and music! I was very fortunate to participate in a community sing workshop, where the leaders taught us easy songs by rote. So simple, yet so meaningful. This type of singing allowed us to move away from printed words and add as much or as little as we wanted. And yes, there were people in the workshop who said they didn't read music or were not comfortable singing alone. With this style, they discovered it was OK to "let go" and be led by what they were feeling inside. Without having a hymnal or screen to stare at, we were able to immerse ourselves more fully in the richness and feeling of the songs. This provided a more unified, spiritual feel. I came back feeling refreshed and simply joyful!

But now, July is slipping away and time is almost nigh for our activities season. I want to include a special thank you to Plank Road Brass Quintet for the wonderful music on July 20. Kurt Bauche has been a friend of mine for many years, and it's a bonus that he's a son of Zion. To have friends like that is indeed a blessing. In August, we look forward to special duet music with Liz Pace and John Phillips.

As the activity season approaches, I would like to invite anyone aged 14 and above to join us in the Chancel Choir. Our first rehearsal will be August 20, with our first Sunday to sing on September 7. On the 20th, I am planning a special event to allow us to spend time together and get to know each other. If you are interested in joining the choir, please don't hesitate to contact the church office or me (my number is listed in the directory) or send me an email. I will provide you with details once I have contacted the rest of the Chancel Choir. My email address is kstafford@zionunion.org.

Alysha and I will also be discussing music opportunities for kids. If you have ideas or

thoughts, don't hesitate to get in touch with Alysha or me.

Blessings,
Karen

From the Historical Team...

Dorothy Mitana - 90th Birthday

August 28, 1935 brought great joy to Erling and Margaret Reetz Hansen. That is the day a baby girl, Dorothy Jean became part of their family. The Hansen family lived in Chicago, Illinois. Dorothy joined an older brother, David, age 2. Five years later a sister, Karen completed their family.

Dorothy was baptized by Rev. Oliver Fjeldstad at St. Timothy Norwegian Lutheran Congregational Church on March 22, 1936. Dorothy was confirmed February 1949 at St Paul Evangelical and Reformed Church in Barrington, Illinois.

In Dorothy's youth, her activities included all sports, especially swimming and horseback riding. Following high school, Dorothy graduated from Moser Business College in Chicago, Illinois.

She and Robert "Bob" Mitana were high school sweethearts. She didn't marry the boy next door, but rather the boy across the highway. Dorothy and Bob were married on December 29, 1956 at St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church, Barrington, Illinois. They had a desire to live somewhere warmer, less populated and more affordable housing. One day, they got in the car and started driving south. They ended up in Warrenton, and from there found their way to the Union/Washington area. Their parents didn't exactly share their vision!

Dorothy and Bob were blessed with three children Susan (Gerard Straatmann), Linda (William Fischer), and Thomas (Victoria). All of her children live in Washington. Dorothy has seven grandchildren, Joel, Courtney, Stacy, Timothy, Scott, Steven, and Caroline. Her dynasty does not end there, she has six great-grand children, Lane, Gabriella, Amelia, Claire, Baylor and Reese. What a glorious celebration when they all gather!

Moving to a new town, not only meant a new school, but also a new church. The family “shopped around” for a church. One of the things she remembers about Zion was the warmth and friendliness of the members as they continued to visit Zion. Elda and Helmuth Barlage came to visit them in their home. Clifford Dewert introduced himself as their mailman! Dorothy joined Zion UCC in 1980.

Dorothy isn’t just a member of Zion, she is a working member, involved in many activities. Dorothy has been involved in many aspects of Zion including the George Washington dinners, Adult Fellowship, she served as treasurer of the Memorial Fund for over 20 years and was chairperson for the sculpture, *Communion*, that is located at the original entrance to the church. During the 1997 addition to the church, Dorothy served as chairperson of the Building and Decorating Committees. Dorothy actively participates in Loops of Love, the Rummage Sale and Help Thy Self Committee.

Dorothy has led an interesting life and is a valued member of Zion. We will have a display in the Historical Cabinet during the month of August. Please join the Historical Team as we celebrate Dorothy’s 90th birthday!

- Gerry Hoelscher and Linda Hall, on Behalf
of the Historical Team

Membership Review Committee

The Membership Review Committee is seeking new members. If you are interested in finding out what the Membership Review Committee is doing, please contact the Church Office.

Thank You to July Volunteers

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

Liturgists: Richard Young, Carla Kilgore, Alysha Petry

Special Music for Worship: Kirk Hancox, Plank Road Brass Quintet (Dr. Kevin White, Caleb Daugherty, Eli Sullivan, Dan Schunks, Kurt Bauche, Doug Rice)

Ushers: Sue Leicht, Lee Parks, Maxine Harrison, Susan Merlino, Karen Tucker
Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Ken & Carol Rohrbach
Greeters: Bill & Fern Dewert, Carl & Jane Ridder, Verlyn Yarbrough, Armin & Norma Klemme
Sound System Techs: David Bean, John Crane
Worship Service Recorders: David Bean, Karen Stafford
Newsletter Helpers: Carol Rohrbach, Ken Rohrbach, Donna Bocklage, Candy Ronsick, Karen Tucker

Help Thyself Meals

The gardens are planted and summer meals are being prepared for you from the Help Thyself group. Please take advantage of this opportunity. Be sure to mark the chart if you are taking meals or if you are donating meals. This is very helpful to the committee. We are here for you. Kathy Young (314-580-3105), Carol Rohrbach (636-583-3659), Ann Hartley (636-346-5911), Dorothy Mitana (636-239-1296), Maxine Harrison (636-583-2159) and Donna Bocklage (636-584-4888).



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

Prayers Requested

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson
Carolyn Donoho	Charlotte Ellison
Kim Yenzer	Kevin Vorderbruegge
Myrt Dunigan	Bruce Crane (at New Haven Care Center)
Anne Parker (at Willow Brooke in Union)	
Dave Hall (bypass surgery) Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)	
Jim Petero (at Veteran's Home in St. James)	
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)	
Jamie Koch (friend of Hettie Becker)	
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)	
Pat Pappas (sister of Jim Doehring)	
Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)	
Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)	
Laurie Becker	
Heather Frederick (niece of Marilyn Freiermuth)	

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland	Linda Kroeter
Jake McNiel (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)	
Skip Buehrle	Susie Andell
Ronald Dobsch (nephew of Charlotte Ellison)	
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 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)	



Memorial Gifts Given

In loving memory of **Carol A. Bean**
by:
JOY Sunday School Class

In loving memory of **Dottie Ackmann & Jerry Parmentier** for
Zion Building & Property Fund by:
Jim Doehring, Krista Lause &
family

Notes to Zion

Dear Friends from Zion UCC,
Thank you for your generous
gift to the Church World Service
Blankets program. As families
and communities around the
world recover from emergencies
and struggle in the face of
unprecedented challenges, you
are standing with them. We are
so grateful for your generous
support. CWS is able to respond
when disaster occur and support
is needed. Thanks to your
compassion we can and will
change lives.

- Rick Santo, President &
CEO, Church World Service
+ + + +

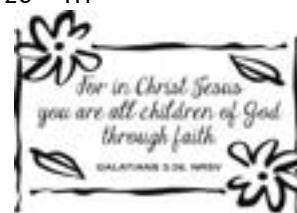
Zion,

Thank you so much for your
recent contribution to Emmaus.
We appreciate any consideration.
Please let us know if there is
anything we can do for you all.
Thank you!

- Cheyenne, Development
for Emmaus

Church Attendance from July

(3 out of 4 Sundays)
July 6 – 90
July 13 – 83
July 20 – 111



Willie Beckett (nephew of Vicki Hooper)
 Dasha Musante (granddaughter of Marilyn Stahlman)
 Erica Sterling (friend of Amy Dewert)

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)



LOGOS Adult Education Wednesday, September 3 at 5:00 pm

The Green Team begins the new year of LOGOS with an adult education opportunity. Mike Saxton from Shaw Nature Reserve will be speaking about habitat restoration at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3. Dinner follows at 6 p.m. If you are planning on coming to the dinner please RSVP Alysha at apetry@zionunion.org or call the church office.

Mike Saxton is the Manager of Ecological Restoration and Land Stewardship at Shaw Nature Reserve, where he has worked since 2016. Mike has a Master of Science degree in Biological Geography from Northern Illinois University and conducted his thesis research on herbaceous plant recovery and seed bank dynamics in oak savanna restorations. At Shaw Nature Reserve, Mike manages a crew of 5 technicians, runs prescribed fire operations, administers the ecological restoration volunteer program, and oversees invasive species control and native seed collection. In recent years, he has been involved in projects such as the Wolf Run Grassland Restoration Project. Prior to his work at the Nature Reserve, Mike worked at the Nachusa Grasslands, a 4,000 acre prairie restoration project in northern Illinois.

Shaw Reserve is celebrating its centennial in 2025. The Missouri Botanical Garden originally purchased 1300 acres of abandoned farmland

in Gray Summit in order to protect plants at the Botanical Garden from air pollution. For many years, the land was used to grow plants, trees, and shrubs for the main Garden. A second goal was to establish an arboretum, and so the property was named the Shaw Arboretum. It was renamed Shaw Nature Reserve in 2000 to reflect its expanding mission of restoration, education, and protection of natural habitats. Miles of hiking trails, flower gardens, school programs, concerts, and classes are just a few of the activities offered at Shaw Nature Reserve.

CROP Walk Mark Your Calendars!

SAVE THE DATE! Our annual CROP Walk for Hunger will be held on Sunday, October 12, 2025. We want to have many walkers! It will begin here at Zion at 1:00 p.m. Registration begins at 12:30. Mark your calendars and plan to Walk! See you there! Bring your family and others. It is fun! And it is also important!



All Congregation Ice Cream Social Sunday, September 21st 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the All Congregational Ice Cream Social the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 21 at 6:00 p.m. Ice Cream and soda for Root Beer floats will be furnished, along with toppings. If you want to bring other goodies to go along with the ice cream, please do so. Hope to see you there!

Financial Report for June 2025

	June 2025	Year to Date (YTD)
Income	\$39,781.00	\$197,210.00
Expenses	\$37,045.00	\$193,436.00

Our Church's Wider Mission (given YTD) - \$3,558.00
 Chicago, United, Eden Seminaries (given YTD) – \$918.00

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

August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 The 8th Sunday after Pentecost/ Communion 	4	5	6 12 pm Loops of Love	7 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 6 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	1 8 am-5 pm Rummage Sale 8 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	2 8 am-12 noon Rummage Sale 9
10 The 9th Sunday after Pentecost	11 6:30 pm Finance Committee	12	13 9:30 am Called to Care 12 Loops of Love	14 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 7 pm Lower Commons in Use	15 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	16 
17 The 10th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am General Synod Highlights (fellowship hall)	18	19 1:30 pm Book Club	20 12 Loops of Love Sept newsletter articles due in the church office	21 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 9 am Help Thyself Committee	22 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	23
24 The 11th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Round Table Discussions (fellowship hall)	25 7 pm Church Council	26	27 10 am Sept newsletter assembled 12 Loops of Love	28	29	30
31 The 12th Sunday after Pentecost						



August Birthdays

- 1 - Lily Koch
- 3 - Lori Helms
Linda Kinworthy
- 4 - Joshua Hawkins
- 5 - Krista Copeland
- 8 - Fern Dewert
David Dattilo
- 9 - Emily Young
- 10 - Mark Walker
- 11 - Brandon Titter
Dominic Knott
- 12 - Ken Berghorn
Mike Fink
Ryder Kuenzel
- 14 - Ken Puls
Ken Rohrbach
Jackson Hall
- 15 - Gary Yenzer
Joshua Narup
Louis Meyer
- 17 - Carolyn Dattilo
- 18 - Dennis Koelling
Tim Bauer
Erika Johnson
- 19 - Julia Petry
Maddie Buehrle

- 20 - Paige Hereford
Marlene Young
- 21 - Jim Vemmer
Stacy Mertz
- 22 - Kevin Vorderbruegge
Emily Shelton
- 23 - Pam Klenke
Sean Haberberger
Ryan Moore
- 24 - Alvera Heeger
Vanita Evans
Kevin Schowe
Gavin Pracht
- 26 - Lynne Elliott
Lorraine Griffin
- 27 - Aaron Thompson
Bruce Crane
Shawn Pehle
- 28 - Dorothy Mitana
- 30 - Gil Bisjak
- 31 - Nancy Kossmann
Molly Mertz

September Birthdays

- 1 - Becky Gable
Paul Brinker
- 3 - Arlene Hogan
- 5 - Beau Metcalf
- 6 - Jason Dewert
Natalie Dewert
- 9 - Jerod Koelling
Kirk Hancox
- 10 - Sandy Berkel