

The Spirit of Zion

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri



March 2026

No. 3

Lenten Labyrinth that Feeds

Bring in canned goods and toiletries from February 22 through March 29 to help us build the 'Lenten Labyrinth that Feeds'. Items will be given to the Union Food Pantry and the Little Free Pantry.

2026 Camp MoVal Schedule Registration is Open!

Registration is OPEN for those interested in attending Camp MoVal! See page 6 for dates and costs.



Save the Date

Camp MoVal Trivia Night Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for the Camp MoVal Trivia Night Fundraiser presented by the Grape Cluster of UCC Churches:

- Friday, March 6th, 2026 at St. Peter's UCC, 20 E 5th St., Washington, MO
- Doors open at 6:00 PM, and the first question is at 7:00 PM
- \$25 per person/table of 8

Theme: *Get Your Kicks on Route 66* (Centennial Celebration of Route 66 1926-2026)

Sign up to be on a Zion team at the lower commons bulletin board.

Silent Auction Items are Needed! Contact Alysha apetry@zionunion.org to donate items.

Lenten Book Study

During Lent, Rev Nick will be focusing on the days of Holy Week. Each week, we will explore a different day of the week leading up to Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. For those who wish to go deeper, there will be a weekly book study on Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the Lower Commons. It is a book study on "*The Last Week: A Day by day account of Jesus' Final Week in Jerusalem*" by John D. Corssan and Marcus Borg. If you are interested but the time doesn't work, please email Rev Nick, and we can set up a Zoom meeting in the evenings. The book study will continue through April 2nd.

Serving Christ In March

Ushers:

(*designates Head Usher)

March 1 & 8

Donna Bocklage*,
John Crane

March 15, 22 & 29

Jeff, Denise & Connor
Muller*

Greeters:

March 1 – Jeff & Denise
Muller

March 8 – Carl & Jane
Ridder

March 29 – Bill & Fern
Dewert

Sound System Tech:

Jason Dewert

Camera Techs: Jason,
Blake & Camden Dewert

Daylight Savings Time Begins! March 9th

'Spring' forward one hour! Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 8th! Set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

Camp Sunday – March 8th

Camp Sunday will be on March 8th. Wear your favorite camp t-shirt and/or camp pajamas!

**One Great
HOUR**
OF SHARING

**One Great Hour
of Sharing
Offering:
Our Love Offering
to the World**

For over 75 years, the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (OGHS) has been helping Christians bring God's hope and healing to hurting people both in the US and around the world.

We hope that by reading this very short story about Maria, who lives in Haiti, you might know how important your gift is to One Great Hour of Sharing. She was only 8 years old when she was taken from her tiny village and sent to the large city of Port-au-Prince where she was forced to labor as a child worker in a restaurant with hardly any rest. She could not play, she could not go to school, just work, work, work. After a long time, she gave up hope of ever finding anyone to help. Then one day, she was discovered by a community leader who was connected with our UCC Global Ministries. He found out what was going on and connected her to a mission of our Global Ministries. Finally, Maria could get care and nourishing food and go to school. Global Ministries was there to help. All of the OGHS money goes to the mission of helping people. Thank you for caring! Offering envelopes are included in this edition of the newsletter and extra envelopes will be available by the offering plate on Sunday mornings in March.

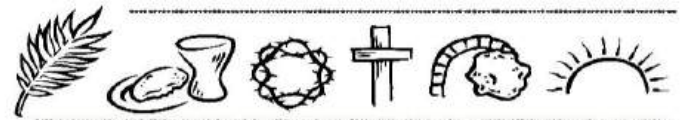
New Home for Aluminum Can House - Highway 50 Car Wash

When Habitat for Humanity dissolved in 2021, Zion Green Team asked if we could have the House, in which to collect aluminum cans to recycle and give the proceeds to local charities. The community has responded very well. Since 2021 we have given almost \$800 to local charities, from all our recycling sources. We

thank Bruce Templer and Dennis Tucker for all their work to rehab the house, and to relocate it when it had to be moved. And we thank Gary Stafford who used his artistry on it several times, including now. We invite you to see it, and spread the word to family and friends to bring their cans to it. We continue to collect cans (aluminum and tin cans) at church (please place them by the garage overhead door), also batteries and plastic bottles. So please continue that. Thank you for your great efforts to recycle, and your effort to cut down the use of plastic. - Zion Green Team

Zion Cemetery Clean Up

Spring clean-up at the Zion Cemetery will be from March 1st to March 10th. Please remove any items you may want to keep before these dates and they may be placed back after March 31st. Thank you!



Holy Week

Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026
9:00 a.m. Worship

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026
6:30 p.m. Worship/Communion/Foot Washing
Glow in the Dark Easter Egg Hunt for children following the worship service.
(See page 5 for more information.)

Good Friday

April 3, 2026
6:30 p.m. Worship

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026
9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
“Living Cross” Easter video presentation will be part of the morning worship service.



Beloved Zion

I emptied my garden shed yesterday. Don't worry, I haven't given up gardening. It needs a refresh. The lattice is falling apart, the paint is chipping everywhere, and I have finally told my kids one too many times not to go into the shed. So, I am adding a gate and replacing the lattice. We have a nice week of warm weather that I will be able to paint and get things set up nicely for the spring. A week of warm weather in February always gets me excited. If I am not careful, I will start seeds too early, get ahead of myself, and before I know it, mess up my timing for a good planting season.

Sometimes Transfiguration Sunday is like a 70-degree day in February. The sun is dazzling in the sky, and a warm breeze, you expect flowers to pop out any moment. But in reality, the soil is just waking up. There are still more days of winter ahead, and while we might not get any snow or terribly cold days, spring is not quite here just yet. We may want to rush to Easter Sunday, bask in the warmth of the risen Christ, but we mustn't skip ahead. Lent is upon us, and there is work to be done.

This year, we will follow Jesus' last week, day by day. Starting Lent with his arrival in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, we will take a slow walk through Jesus' last week. Each week of Lent will recount a day of Holy Week, as we slowly watch the passion story unfold. By taking it slow, we get to witness the fullness of Jesus' last week for all the glory, tragedy, lessons, and hope it contains. Like cleaning out a garden shed before you can start planting, taking your time meditating on Holy Week, all of Lent will prepare us for that most triumphal Sunday.

Blessings on your Lenten Journey,
Rev. Nicholas Knoblauch

Thank You Bylaws Committee!

I would like to formally thank the members of the Bylaws Committee for their work reviewing and revising the content and language of our church bylaws. The members are: Carol Rohrbach, Kathy Reed, Sandy Stierberger, and Ann Hartley. Pastor Nick and I may have gotten the ball rolling by talking with various committees and ministry teams, but it was the careful consideration of this committee to be sure the language and revisions were clear and concise. I apologize for not recognizing each of you during the February Congregational Meeting.

Thank You!
Fern Dewert, Church Council President

Pastor Drop In Hours:
Monday & Wednesday mornings
from 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Thursday mornings
From 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon
Email: knoblauchnicholas@gmail.com
Appointments upon request:
Church Office (636) 583-2814
or sending an email.

Worship Opportunities In March

9:00 a.m. Worship

Sunday, March 1 The 2nd Sunday in Lent

Sacrament of Communion

Sunday, March 8 The 3rd Sunday in Lent

Intergenerational Sunday
School (10:00 a.m.)

Sunday, March 15 The 4th Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 22 The 5th Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 29 Palm/Passion Sunday

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!





Pastor Nick's Five-Year Anniversary

Five years ago, an article was written in the *Spirit of Zion* introducing our new pastor to the members of Zion. It was a difficult time for our congregation dealing with a pandemic, virtual church services and wearing of masks to prevent the spread of the COVID virus. One bright spot that came out of the disastrous 2020 for Zion was the securing of our new pastor Nicholas Knoblauch.

Skipping ahead five years, Pastor Nick has purchased a home in the community, has two beautiful children, Nora and Owen and wife Caeligh who is taking coursework focusing on Occupational Therapy. Pastor Nick has become a member of the community and a well-liked pastor of Zion.

During his tenure Zion has undergone many physical improvements. Gutters have been replaced, the chancel cross was backlit, an exterior flagpole area with sculpture and bench were installed, a new back entryway was added, tuckpointing and waterproofing were done, Fellowship Hall renovations begun and even new Christmas decorations purchased.

Pastor Nick's comfort level with technology has also been a blessing. Work with audio-visual updating, enhanced sound systems, WIFI improvements and an upgraded security system has led to better worship services at Zion.

But Pastor Nick is also involved beyond the local church. His efforts in the Missouri Mid-South Conference include participating in the writing of a new manual for the church and meeting with the Grape Cluster of local UCC churches. His past experiences with church camps have led to an interest in camp MoVal.

Under Pastor Nick's direction the focus of Zion is now "What are we going to do rather than what did we used to do."

Zion has 298 active members and 42 inactive. Pastor Nick has brought in new members. He has restructured Lenten services. Committees are more engaged. More members are stepping out of their comfort zones by serving on various

committees by becoming part of the service - ushers, greeters, communion stewards - all helping Pastor Nick make the church stronger. The church has accepted his leadership and supports his ministry.

HAPPY 5TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY, PASTOR NICK!



Zion Fellowship – March 2026

No event was planned for February.

Friday, March 6 – We plan to attend the Camp MoVal Trivia Night Fundraiser at St. Peter's UCC, 20 E. 5th St., Washington. Doors open at 6 p.m., and questions start at 7 p.m. Reservations need to be made, and the cost is \$25 per person/table of 8. Sign up to be on a Zion team on the bulletin board. Check the Newsletter for more details.

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

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

MARCH 2026

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



MARCH 4 & 11

Theme this month is on
HOLY WEEK

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

5 PM to 7:30 PM

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!



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

(For Youth Confirmed and Not Confirmed)

Intergenerational Sunday School

2nd SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Faith Quest, Middle School/High School and all of our Zion families and friends meet in the fellowship hall for a Intergenerational lesson.



Maundy Thursday Egg Hunt:

April 2nd, after 6:30 PM Worship

VBS & Pool Party:

Save the date for a **1-day VBS experience**
at **Camp MoVal on July 18th** that will end
with our whole church pool party.

Watch for more details to come.

CAMP Sunday

March 8th

Dress down in your
pajamas or favorite
camp t-shirt.



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported the Souper Bowl of Caring and to the youth who helped collect donations! **\$1080.00 and 35 items** were collected for the Little Free Pantry and Union Food Pantry.

Lenten Labyrinth that Feeds



Help build our Lenten Labyrinth that feeds by bringing in Items for the Little Free Pantry and Union Food Pantry.

**Bring in canned goods and toiletries from
February 22 – March 29**



UCC Climate Hope Contest

The 2026 Climate Hope Poster Contest theme is...

“A Future with Hope.”

The theme comes from Jeremiah 29:11, which says,

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

**Kids and youth can submit their art from
February 6 to March 20th.**

Pick up the art form from the church office

There will be winners from each age category, and an overall winner will receive an all-expense paid trip to visit Washington, DC, with a parent or guardian.

The winning art will additionally serve as the logo for UCC Climate Hope advocacy work through the end of the year.



2026 Camp MoVal Schedule REGISTRATION IS OPEN

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

The grades listed are the grades the camper completed in May 2026

<u>Camp Description</u>	<u>Camp Date</u>	<u>Price with Camp Scholarship</u>	
		<u>Discount</u>	<u>Full Price</u>
High School Camp (completed 8 th -12 th grade)	June 21-26	\$ 270.00	\$682.00
Family Camp (All Ages)	June 29-July 3	\$ 190.00	\$318.00 (pp)
All Ages Camp #1 (grades 3-9)	July 5-10	\$ 270.00	\$682.00
All Ages Camp #2 (grades 3-9)	July 12-17	\$ 270.00	\$682.00
Adventures in Community (ages 18+)	July 19-23	\$ 270.00	\$682.00

Contact the church office for your Zion camp scholarship discount code.



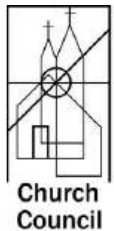
A Note from the Music Director

Lent is a time when our music activities might seem quiet and almost hidden. It's a moment of preparation for

transition, as we look ahead to Easter, the last few LOGOS nights, and think about music for the summer. My mind must run about 2-3 months ahead of time to make sure our music ministry provides offerings that enrich the souls of our regular musicians, friends who participate for fun and fulfillment, and those who listen to these offerings.

Chancel Choir will be singing on March 1 and March 15. We will have special music on the 8th, 15th, and 29th. Please come join the meditative drum circle activities on March 18 and March 25, where we will find how drumming touches our inner soul and provides for prayer when words won't work. LOGOS kids will be using a variety of instruments and singing on March 4 and 11. Thinking ahead to summer: we would like to incorporate more performing arts in our services, which also includes drama and dance. If you know of someone who would be willing to offer any of the following, please let the office know: liturgical dance, short dramatic readings or readers' theater, or interactive drama offerings.

- Karen



Zion UCC Church Council Minutes – January 2026

Zion UCC Church Council met on Monday, January 19, 2026, with the following in attendance: Barb Cox, Alvera Heeger, Paul Brinker, Jim

Vemmer, Colleen Simons, BJ Cooper, Bruce Templer, Pastor Nick and Connie Thompson. Fern Dewert and Susan Newman were unable to attend the meeting due to illness.

Connie opened the meeting with prayer and Vice President BJ Cooper called the meeting to order.

Those present recited A Covenant Leadership in unison.

Committee Assignments for 2026 are as follows: Audit – Barb; Finance – Alvera; By-Law Review – Jim; Leadership Development – Bruce; Personnel – Colleen; Properties – Paul; Safety – Susan; Membership Review – BJ.

Consensus Agenda

- Minutes of December 2025 Council meeting – approved as presented.
- Pastor's Report – approved as presented.
- Minister to Youth & Families – approved as presented.
- Financial Reports for December – Question was asked about Minister to Youth & Families Pension and the Administrative Assistant Pension. The year to date totals are above the amount that was budgeted. This will be reviewed and reported back at the February meeting.
- Time/Date for next Council Meeting – February 16, 2026.

Discussion Agenda

Draft of the changes to the current ByLaws from the ByLaw Revision Committee were passed out for the council to review. The changes that are being proposed were explained by Pastor Nick. Motion was made and approved to present the proposed changes to the congregation at the February 2026 Congregational Meeting.

A draft of the 2026 February Congregational Meeting Agenda was reviewed. There being no changes or additions, motion was made and approved to accept the draft of the agenda.

New chairs are needed for the conference room/offices (15 total). Most of the current chairs have broken mechanisms. Motion was made and approved to spend up to \$5,000 on new chairs with the expense being taken from the undesignated Memorial Fund.

A donation from St. Jordan's United Church of Christ was received for Zion's Good Samaritan Fund. A thank you note will be sent to them for their generous gift.

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

- Connie Thompson, Recording Secretary (approved by the Church Council on February 16, 2026.)

From the Historical Team... 125th Anniversary Emmaus Home, St. Charles

2026 marks the 125th anniversary of Emmaus Home, St. Charles, MO. You will recall that the Evangelical Church of North America had its first seminary at Marthasville, MO (1850-1883). Then it re-located to the Normandy area. The Emmaus Home at Marthasville began at the former seminary location east of Marthasville in 1893. In 1901 Pastor Gustav Niebuhr, Pastor at Wright City was asked to consider establishing an Emmaus Home at St Charles, MO to serve women with epilepsy and developmental disabilities.

Everything was in German. A monthly magazine began in English in 1936. "Emmaus was rooted in the belief that every person is created in the image of God, and deserving of dignity and love." (Gen. 1:27; Ps. 139; 13,14)

In 1938 a new entrance was constructed in St. Charles, and a chapel erected in 1954. The first group homes were opened at both locations in 1970. Men were welcomed in 1984. In the early 2010's, the state and the church embraced a new expression of its mission, supporting individuals to move from the campus setting into homes within the community. This transformation reflected the Biblical vision of abundant life, and affirmed the right that each person has the God given right to belong and participation (Jn 10:10; Micah 6:8)" Today its headquarters are in St. Charles, 3731 Mueller Rd., St. Charles, MO 63301

The 2025 annual report shares this information for St. Charles and Marthasville residential services, 220 served (140 from St. Charles Co., 36 from St. Louis, 26 Warren Co., 19 from Franklin Co., and 1 each from Lincoln and Boone Co. The number of homes per county: 45 St. Charles, 13 St. Louis, 6 Franklin Co., 8 Warren Co., and 1 each in Lincoln and Boone counties.

The ages of residents: 26 (18-34), 51 (35-54), 49 (55-64), 59 (67-74), 35 (75 above)

Total Revenue for 2025 - \$47,097,000

Total Donors - 679, Volunteers - 389, Hours- 2,052

Some of you may recall that for many years, a Valentine Party was held at Zion for about 25

8

Marthasville residents plus their caretakers. This was planned by Zion's Outreach Committee, led by the late Ken and Donna Staten. There was guitar singing, dancing to records, and refreshments of red Jello, cherry drink, cookies and candy. The Sunday School children made valentines for the residents. In the past, on state teacher meeting days, many pastors and parents took their confirmation classes to these institutions to visit and learn how the church ministers to people with various needs.

-Armin Klemme, on behalf of the Historical Team

(Sources: St. Charles Office, Cathie Schoppenhorst (Marthasville), 2025 Report)

Updated Address Directory

An updated Address Directory will be published soon. If you have any changes that need to be made to either your address and/or phone number, please contact Connie in the church office or you can email those changes to her at cthompson@zionunion.org. Thank you!



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
Brenda Viehland
Kevin Vorderbruegge
Hettie Becker
Bruce Crane (at New Haven Care Center)
Barb Harvey (at Cedarhurst Senior Living in Wentzville)
Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)
Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)
Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)
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)
Bob Truel (husband of Shirley Truel)
Heather Frederick (niece of Marilyn Freiermuth)
Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)
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)
Pat Pappas (sister of Jim Doehring)
Jamie Koch (friend of Hettie Becker)
Hallie Sammett (friend of Brenda Viehland)
Sophia Muller (daughter-in-law of Jeff & Denise Muller)



Kim Yenzer
Myrt Dunigan
Melva Puls

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Linda Kroeter
Jake McNiel (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Susie Andell
Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)
Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)
Don Frankenberg (uncle of Phyliss Fink)
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)

With Sympathy

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

Anne Parker, 87, died on January 27, 2026. As was her request, no service was held.

Memorial Gifts Given

In loving memory of **Heidi Downs & Tom Herbst** for Zion Good Samaritan Fund by:

Jim Doehring & family

In loving memory of **Betty Zumwalt** by:

Jerry & Lana Langhorst, Dave & Debbie Connelly, Mary Ann Feth & Dennis, Joan Kloeppel, Jim & Jenny Straatmann, Natural Healing Center, Theresa Bauer, Pat Voss, Angie Bade, Dennis & Deborah Winters, David & Nancy Clapper, Kenneth & Elaine Laboube, Davlene Huellinghoff, Joe & Patty Bolte

In loving memory of **Anne Parker** by:

Kirk & Sallie Hancox

In loving memory of **Skip Buehrle** for Zion Good Samaritan Fund by:
Sandy Bailey

Notes to Zion

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for all the food, cards and visits. God is good!

- Hettie Becker

+ + + +

Dear Zion Friends,

I want to thank you all for the cards and well wishes while I was in the hospital and on my return home. I am doing well and getting stronger each and every day!

Thank you and God bless!

- Melva Puls

Brenda (friend of Hettie Becker)
 Britt Fassler (daughter of Nancy Kossmann)
 Willie Beckett (nephew of Vicki Hooper)
 Dasha Musante (granddaughter of Marilyn Stahlman)
 Erica Sterling (friend of Amy Dewert)
 Sammie Baker (friend of Brenda Viehland)
 Sharon Birke (sister of Ron Griffin)

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Charlotte Ellison & family on the death of her nephew Ronald Dobsch.
 The family of Betty Zumwalt who died on January 18.
 Ruth & Brad Parker & families on the death of their sister-in-law and aunt Anne Parker who died on January 27.
 Dan Mossoney & family on the death of his mother, Carol Mossoney, who died on February 7.

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)

Thank You to February Volunteers

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

Liturgists: Karen Tucker, Karen Stafford, Lee Parks
Special Music for Worship: Chancel Choir; Ann Hartley, Liz Pace & John Phillips, & Kirk Hancox; Chancel Choir

Ushers: Daryl Hartley, Harvey Mefford, Bill Walker, Paul & Shanna Brinker
Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Sue Leicht, Connie Thompson
Greeters: Maxine Harrison, Carl & Jane Ridder, Brad Parker, Marilyn Freiermuth
Sound System Tech: Dan Mossoney
Camera Tech: David Bean
Newsletter Helpers: Kirk Hancox, Carol Rohrbach, Ken Rohrbach, Candy Ronsick, Karen Tucker, Maxine Harrison, Donna Bocklage

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!

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!




Financial Report for January 2026

	Jan. 2026	Year to Date (YTD)
Income	\$20,786.00	\$20,786.00
Expenses	\$40,121.00	\$40,121.00

Our Church’s Wider Mission (given YTD) - \$828.00
 Chicago, United, Eden Seminaries (given YTD) – \$130.00
 Detailed financial reports are available by contacting the church office. Thank you.

**“MAY THE
 SMALL
 SACRIFICES OF
 LENT PREPARE
 YOU FOR THE
 BOUNTY OF
 CHRIST’S
 LOVE.”
 UNKNOWN**

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 The 2nd Sunday In Lent/Communion 	2	3	4 12 Loops of Love 5 pm LOGOS 7:30 Chancel Choir	5 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 1 pm Lenten Book Study 6 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	6 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	7 3-9 pm Fellowship Hall in Use
8 The 3rd Sunday in Lent	9 6:30 pm Finance	10	11 9:30 am Called to Care 12 Loops of Love 5 pm LOGOS 7:30 Chancel Choir April newsletter articles due	12 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 1 pm Lenten Book Study	13 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	14 10 am Fellowship Hall in Use
15 The 4th Sunday in Lent	16 7:00 pm Church Council	17 10 am Grape Cluster Meeting 1:30 pm Book Club 	18 10 am April newsletter assembled 12 Loops of Love 7:30 Chancel Choir	19 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 1 pm Historical 1 pm Lenten Book Study	20 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	21
22 The 5th Sunday in Lent	23	24	25 12 Loops of Love 7:30 Chancel Choir	26 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 6 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	27 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	28
29 Palm/Passion Sunday 	30	31				

HAPPY Birthday

March Birthdays

- 2 - Carol Whisenand
- 3 - Paul Berger
Sandy Breitenbach
- 4 - Jim Doehring
Eddy Koelling
Shirley Truel
Abigail Wilson
Abigail Dewert
- 5 - Susan Newman
- 6 - Jennifer Hawkins
- 7 - Mandy Frick
Ramah Fitzgerald
- 8 - Jenna Klenke Galbreath
Samantha Williams
Owen Mertz
- 10 - Gary Toelke
- 11 - Amy Pecka
Bonnie Vemmer
- 12 - Shelby Puls
- 13 - Bob Williams
Ian Crane
Larry Ingle
- 16 - Danny Thompson
Jessica Oltmann
- 17 - Will Bright
Barrett Short
- 19 - Patsy Pope
Gayle Williams

- 20 - Christopher Griffin
- 21 - Blake Dewert
- 22 - John Crane
Hannah Dewert
- 23 - Vanessa Pehle
Tyler Yoacum
- 24 - Wanda Brooks
Maria Blankenship
- 25 - Amelia Camden
- 26 - Joyce Brown
- 27 - Norma Klemme
Jeff Vemmer
Luke Brinker
- 28 - Lindsay Traffas
Rob Vemmer
Ben Vemmer
- 30 - Chase Manhart
- 31 - Donna Bocklage

April Birthdays

- 1 - Greg Toelke
Caeli Manhart
- 2 - David Bean
- 3 - Abby Templer-Rodrigues
Wayne Bean
Matthew Seely
- 4 - Pam Griffin
Kyle Wilson
- 6 - Linda Kroeter
Bob Overschmidt
Reed Petry
- 7 - Gracie Helms
- 8 - Sharon Rosenkoetter
- 9 - Bill Koch
- 10 - Harvey Mefford
Andrew Koelling