

JANUARY 2026

VOICE OF ZION

A Monthly Publication of
Zion Lippe United Church of Christ
9000 Copperline Rd E
Mt Vernon IN 47620
812 985-2437
website: zionlippe.org

Secretary email:
zionlippesecretary@gmail.com

Secretary Hours:
Tues, Wed and Thurs 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Rev. Jeff Long, Pastor
Pastor cell: 812 306-4675
Pastor email: zionlippepastor@gmail.com

Sunday Family Worship at 10 am
Sunday School at 9 am

the "Watch Live" tab and you will be able to view the worship service when it goes live.
For later viewing of recorded services, go to YouTube and search for Zion Lippe.



With snow, ice, &/or other inclement weather... Should questions arise concerning if Worship/Sunday School will be held on a given Sunday, cancellations will be announced on WFIE, Facebook, and the church's website.



Greeter Schedule for upcoming Sundays:

Jan 4, 2026 – Bill Meyer
Jan 11 – Sue Scherry
Jan 18 – Sandy Schmitt
Jan 25 – Delene Schmitz

Feb 1 – Hans & Cindy Schmitz
Feb 8 – Patrick & Emily Schroeder
Feb 15 – Gabe & Amy Schroeder
Feb 22 – Steve & Cathy Schroeder

We will have magnetic name tags available for our greeters, and hand-shaking is optional. Please try to be here about 9:30 am or so. If you know ahead of time that you can't greet the Sunday you are scheduled, you can let Rosie Bogard know – but if something comes up and you can't make it don't fret!

Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Virtual (est.)
11/30	134	56 devices
12/7	98	46 devices
12/14	122	85 devices
12/14 Blue Xmas	40	n/a
12/21	194	70 devices
12/24 Xmas Eve	242	103 devices

Sunday School Average Attendance

December: Adult = 17
Children = 14
Youth (grade 6-12) = 2
Confirmation = 4

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE STREAMED and RECORDED FOR LATER VIEWING ON YOUTUBE !

You can always join us for Sunday worship wherever you might be. To easily view the live worship service simply go to our church webpage... www.zionlippe.org... and click on



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY

In order to share in the joys and celebrations of our lives as a congregation we publish a monthly list of birthdays and anniversaries of members and friends of Zion. Numbers in () represent year.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 1 Carla Breiner
- 3 Marvin Redman, Jonathan Schmitt
- 4 Bonnie Walker
- 6 Debbie Schorr
- 7 Steve Schroeder
- 8 Marilyn Frank
- 12 Christy Watson
- 14 Eugene Herrenbruck, Suzanne Schroeder, Chase Will
- 15 Kyle Wallace
- 16 Clayton Hargett, Mitchell Hargett
- 17 Michael Schorr, Rhiannon Anderson, Eliza Schroeder
- 18 Darlene Bosse, Claire Lensing
- 19 Geraldine Schweikhart, Janelle Seitz
- 21 Makenzie Perry, Jim Campbell
- 22 Terry Schroeder, Lindsey Johnson
- 23 Rick LeGrange
- 24 Kari Green, Rosemary Schroeder
- 26 Olivia Parker, Alva Long
- 28 Darlene Breiner, Katy Lang
- 29 Matthew Donner, Sally Noelle
- 30 Henry Warner, Nate Axton
- 31 Lori Davenport, Jennifer Elless

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 6 Bill and Sandy (Schenk) Esche (1978)
- 8 Keith and Connie (Donner) McCutchan (1977)
- 20 Eugene and Sharon Herrenbruck (1962)
- 28 Patrick and Emily Schroeder (2012)

If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect, or not listed, please call the office at 985-2437 so we may update our records. Thanks!



January Special Offering Church World Service Blankets+

Through CWS, blankets and other relief are sent immediately to people who have suffered disasters. More info at cwsblankets.org and foyer bulletin board. You may contribute by using Blanket Fund envelopes found at foyer bulletin board or go to cwsblankets.org

Giving Statements

In most cases we will send 2025 giving statements by email. If we do not have your email address and you need us to print a giving statement for you, please contact Council Treasurer or the church office. You should receive your email by the end of January. If a printed statement is needed please allow a few days after your request to receive the information.



A big Thank You to Pastor Jeff for a very inspiring Blue Christmas service with his message, Communion, lighting of memory candles and singing carols. Many thanks also to Chris's family, Ruth, Darlene, Mary, Linda, Carol, Kay and all our youth and their parents that served our guests. It was great having our youth involved and helping with cleanup too . . . awesome bunch of kids!

Thank you... thank you... THANK YOU! Our hearts are full because of your incredible generosity and kindness. From the Christmas cards and thoughtful gifts to the constant support and encouragement, we feel so loved and truly blessed. You have a wonderful way of reminding us how special this church family is. Thank you for all the ways—big and small—you made our Christmas extra meaningful! With grateful hearts, Pastor Jeff and Kris

A New Year, A Fresh Start

A new year always arrives quietly. The calendar changes overnight, and suddenly we're invited—again—into something new. January doesn't demand perfection or instant transformation. It simply offers us a moment to pause, breathe, and ask: *What kind of people do we want to be as we walk forward together?*

Scripture reminds us, “*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?*” (Isaiah 43.19). God has always been in the business of new beginnings. Not the kind that erases the past, but the kind that redeems it—carrying forward wisdom, grace, and hope.

As a church, we step into this year together. Some of us come with excitement and big plans. Others arrive tired, carrying the weight of a hard season. Wherever you find yourself, know this: you belong here. There is room for your joy, your questions, your grief, and your faith—even when it feels small.

January is not necessarily about doing more. It's about paying attention—listening to God's voice, noticing one another, and trusting that God is already at work among us. Small acts of kindness. Honest prayers. Showing up. These are holy things.

As we begin this new year, my prayer is simple: that we would *walk gently, love boldly, and trust deeply*. May we be a people shaped by grace, open to growth, and committed to hope.

I am grateful to begin another year of ministry with you. God is not finished with us yet. Happy New Year Everyone... **PJ**



SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES @ ST. PETER'S CHURCH BEGIN AGAIN ON JANUARY 6TH.

Let's get moving! Join us on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m., starting January 6. Early risers, we've got you covered—the gym will be open for walking from 7:00–10:00 a.m. each morning. Walk a little, learn a little, laugh a little, and start your day on a great note! Got questions? Pastor Jeff is happy to help—email zionlippepastor@gmail.com.



Congratulations to Justin & Nikaya Long at the birth of their son, Henry Dallas Long on November 30, 2025. Proud grandparents are Jeff & Kris Long and great grandpa Jerry Long.

Council Meeting Highlights: Tuesday, December 9, 2025, 6:30pm

Present: Bob, Pastor Jeff, Nancy, Roger, Tim, Lauren, Adam, Pat

Virtual: Andrea Absent: Stacy

Treasurer – Pat

11/30 YTD Regular Offering \$181,519.06
11/30 YTD General Fund Income \$192,926.91
11/30 YTD General Fund Expense \$204,024.98

Education – Lauren

- a. Prepping for Dec. 21st children's Christmas performance
- b. Met with Sandy about final candidates for ZNC Director

Property – Roger

- a. The siding on the west end of Sunday School Hall and fascia have been replaced. Aluminum siding has been replaced on building on north side of Church. All the siding and roofing projects have been completed. The steeple work will start in January weather permitting and painting of louvers will follow afterwards.
- b. A sink hole has appeared on the north side of the Parsonage garage. It appears to be an old brick well. Fixing this issue will start when weather permits.
- c. Gary and Staci Voegel will be paid \$550.00 each for 2025 mowing and care of the ball field.

G. Recreation – Adam

Peppermint Pops – 22 adults, 18 youth – youth attend for free

H. Pastor – Jeff

Report on Brooklawn/Bellwood event

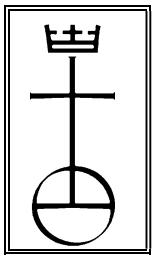
Next Council Meeting January 13, 2026 at 6:30 pm.



Zion Church Annual Congregational Meeting

We would like to invite all Zion members to join us **following worship on January 25th** for our annual meeting. At this meeting we will review the 2025 church year, elect new council members (nominees are Rosie Bogard, Carl Barchet and Brian Crase), approve our operating budget for 2026, and hear special reports from other ministries of the church. The Cemetery Committee will be sharing proposed changes to their constitution. We hope you can join us for this important meeting in the life of Zion Church. We will also work to make the meeting available through our Zoom platform. Watch for more announcements as we get closer to the Annual Meeting date.

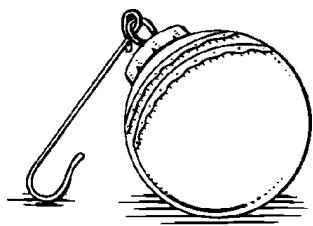
Please submit all written reports to the church office by Mon. January 12.



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

Happy New Year!

**UNHANGING
OF THE GREENS**
After Worship January 4, 2026
Volunteers needed to help!



300+ Coats & 100% Heart
*Thank you to everyone who
donated coats to this year's
Coat-A-Kid drive!*

*Because of your generosity more
than 300 coats were shared with
children in need. That's 300
reminders of warmth, care and
community!*