

**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

402 Main Street

P.O. Box 339

Lowden, IA 52255-0339

Rev. Stephen Stepp, Pastor

*Nonprofit Org.*

*U.S. Postage Paid*

*Lowden, IA*

*Permit No. 3*

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**MAY & JUNE 2018**



Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

I recently attended a conference in Dubuque about the future of youth and young adult ministries. One aspect of concentration was intergenerational church. During one section, the focus was on how well different generations interact, accept and teach one another and how previous generations have influenced the next generations and vice versa. A few days later I ran across this poem about mothers and it reminded me of how much influence adults, particularly parents, but especially mothers have on the next generation. Since Mother's Day is just around the corner, I thought I would share a few of these "teachings."

**My Mother taught me LOGIC.**

She asked: "If everyone else jumped off the cliff would you do it too?"

**My Mother taught me MEDICINE.**

She said: "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they're going to freeze that way."

**My Mother taught me how to BECOME AN ADULT.**

She said: "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

**My Mother taught me about GENETICS.**

She constantly said: "You are just like your father!"

**My Mother taught me about my ANCESTRY.**

She said: "Do you think you were born in a barn?"

**My Mother taught me about the WISDOM OF AGE.**

She said: "When you get to be my age, you will understand."

**My Mother taught me about ANTICIPATION.**

She said: "Just wait until your father gets home."

**My Mother taught me about JUSTICE.**

She said: "When you have kids, I hope they turn out just like you.

**My Mother taught me about is REASONING:**

She would say: "Just because I said so that's all the reason you need."

**My mother taught me FORESIGHT:**

"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."

**My mother taught me IRONY:**

"Keep laughing and I'll 'give' you something to cry about."

**My mother taught me about WEATHER:**

"It looks as if a tornado swept through your room."

**My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY:**

"If I've told you once, I've told you a million times - Don't exaggerate!!!"

**My mother taught me about ENVY:**

"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do!"

**My mother taught me RELIGION:**

"You better pray that will come out of the carpet."

There is a great deal of humor in this poem and it does raise the question, "What are we teaching our children today in this ever-changing world?" or more importantly, "Are we all teaching the love of Jesus, so our generations can stay connected to the future generations?" If the answer is yes, then we will pass along the knowledge and wisdom found in the love of Jesus Christ.

Sisters and Brothers, let us remember that our Loving, Teacher and Shepherd, Jesus Christ knows us all by name. *“The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out”* (John 10:2-3).

So here is the challenge I believe Jesus puts before us, learn the names of every child in your church and teach them your names. You see, if they know us, they will listen when we teach them about the most important name in all the world, Jesus Christ, and they will come to know him like he knows us. *“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep”* (John 10:14-15). If those we teach come to know Jesus like Jesus knows them, then we will all listen when the gate is opened, and we will all enter it with certainty and joy.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Steve

**“The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.”**

***Jesus Christ* (Luke 6:40)**

“No one should ever need to ask us, ‘Are you a Christian?’ because they should know we are by the way we live our lives.”

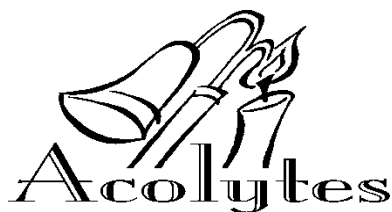
“Perhaps the older saints in our faith communities—whose primary roles are not training, feeding, transporting, clothing or financially supporting the young—are uniquely suited for bringing the souls of the young to term; they have the time and the wisdom to wait and listen.”

Holly Catterton Allen

*Intergenerational Christian Formation*

# THIS MONTH USHERS

May 6	Church Council
May 13	Tanya & Keith Stewart, Royce & Lisa Gottschalk
May 20	Kevin & Beth Kahl, Tim Kahl, Kip Esbaum
May 27	Senior High Fellowship
June 3	Church Council
June 10	Tessa Holst, Ann Harms, Annette Behrens Callie Tjaden
June 17	Robert & Sharon Johnson, Jim & Jan Olsen
June 24	Senior High Fellowship
July 1	Church Council
July 8	Brenda Esbaum, Mary Huffman, Sharon Kruckenberg,
July 15	Dennis & Cheryl Boedeker
July 22	Laettner Esbaum, Kip Esbaum, Bob & Mary Campbell
July 29	Senior High Fellowship



May 6	Jacob Gottschalk & Abby Balke
May 15	Taylor Lohman & Leighton Tjaden
May 22	Koby Stewart & Milo Easterly
May 29	

There are no acolytes during the summer months their job will begin again in September.

---

## VIDEOGRAPHERS FOR MAY



May 6	Jane Drewelow
May 13	Jean Stepp
May 20	David Niermeyer
May 27	Aaron Horman

## VIDEOGRAPHERS FOR JUNE

June 3	Aaron Horman
June 10	Cheryl Boedeker
June 17	Jody Yutesler
June 24	Donna Luepker



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 2	Jessica Coppess
May 5	Andrew Fields
May 7	Merlin Conrad
May 9	Chelsea Ehls, Brandon Horman
May 12	*Beryl Esbaum
May 14	Bob Hamdorf, Nadine Lafrenz
May 21	Barb Martin, Carter Horman
May 22	Jodie Fields
May 23	Donavon Freese, Marilyn Lafrenz, *Rodney Port
May 24	Rick Bentrrott
May 28	Spencer Armstrong
May 29	Cole Hamilton, Beckham Horman
May 30	Josh Horman, Skyler Horman



**MAY BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER**

- May 14 Bob Hamdorf, 1015 Wesley Drive, Maquoketa, Iowa 52060-2637
- May 14 Nadine Lafrenz, 1888, 190<sup>th</sup> Street, Lowden, Iowa 52255
- May 21 Barb Martin, Wheatland Nursing Home, PO Box 369. Wheatland, Iowa 52777



*Happy Anniversary!*

**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

- May 5 Rev. Steve & Jean Stepp 34 yrs.
- May 10 Andrew & \*Amanda Kahl 10 yrs.
- May 13 Dean & Lisa Hamdorf 28 yrs.
- May 16 Kip & \*Sandy Esbaum 26 yrs.
- May 19 \*Ryan & Angie William 10 yrs.



**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- June 2 Marge Norton
- June 3 Lori Dittmer, Kelly Nabb
- June 5 Sharon Johnson, Tim Drewelow, Caylee Curley
- June 6 Marvella Fehling, Cheryl Boedeker
- June 8 Donna Breneman
- June 11 Cadence Horman
- June 12 Rev. Steve Stepp
- June 13 Grace Proesch
- June 17 Kyle Gottschalk, Shae Mohr
- June 20 Alden Klahn
- June 23 Rodney Port

June 24 Carol Boedeker, Don Breneman  
 June 26 Emogene Ford  
 June 28 Dorothy Pingel, Steve Poppe, Tessa Fields  
 June 30 Kalab Klahn



**CARD SHOWER:**

June 2 Marge Norton, 408 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
 Apartment 17 Clarence, Iowa 52216-0017  
 June 6 Marvella Fehling, Wheatland Nursing Home  
 PO Box 369, Wheatland, Iowa 52777  
 June 24 Carol Boedeker, 507 Hall Ave. PO Box 177,  
 Lowden, Iowa 52255-0177  
 June 26 Emogene Ford, 408 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Apt. #7,  
 Clarence, Iowa 52216  
 June 28 Dorothy Pingel, 404 McKinley Ave.,  
 PO Box 402, Lowden, Iowa.



*Happy Anniversary!*

June 1	Bill & Sharon Elijah	55 years
June 3	Bob & Jonie Fields	18 years
June 5	Harlan & Florence Deerberg	63 years
June 7	Beryl & Diane Esbaum	38 years
June 9	Dana & *Paul Moran	11 years
June 16	Rick & Karen Bentrrott	39 years
June 20	Dean & Mandi Behrens	20 years
June 24	Wes & Ladon Griesbach	46 years
June 28	Adam & Lisa Horman	15 years
June 29	Chuck & Donna Breneman	55 years
June 30	Lou & Janis Krafock	56 years





**Sunday, May 6th,**

**we will be having a potluck after church.**

**Please bring a covered dish or two to share,  
along with own table service. (plate and silverware)  
The Church Council will be providing the beverages.  
We hope to see everyone there for a time of good  
fellowship.**



**SPRING DINNER 2018**



The Spring Dinner Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make the 2018 Zion Spring Dinner a success. Whether you cooked, served, cleaned, donated, consumed or prayed, we thank you for your contribution. Without **ALL** of us working together the dinner would not have been a success.

Your 2018 Spring Dinner Committee  
Cheryl Boedeker, Jody Yutesler, Jean Stepp,  
Diane Esbaum, Sue Monson, Julie Hoffmeier



Zion Evening Circle wishes to thank those who gave flowers for Palm Sunday and Easter.

Our sanctuary was alive with flowers in tribute to the risen Lord. Thank you very kindly.

The Flower Committee,  
Julie Hoffmeier, Donna Luepker, & Linda Freese

**ZION CHURCH OF CHRIST  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 22, 2018**

Zion United Church of Christ Council met at 7:00 p.m. on March 22, 2018. President Joy Combs called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve opened with a reading and a prayer. Those in attendance were Bonnie Kintzel, Joy Combs, Sharon Elijah, Alan Mohr, Jamie Nabb and Rick Balke. Linda Behrens was present through the treasurer's reports.

Joys and concerns were shared. News and happenings were announced.

Secretary's minutes from the February meeting were read and made official on a motion by Jamie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bonnie. Motion carried.

The treasurer's reports were read and approved pending review on a motion by Al and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bonnie. Motion carried.

<b><u>Calendar Review:</u></b>	March 25	Palm Sunday
	March 30	Good Friday
	April 1	Easter
	April 3	Movie night
	April 8	Spring dinner
	April 11	Council meeting w/ alutet insurance agent
	April 19	Council meeting
	April 22	New members join

Pastor's report was reviewed. Jamie moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick, to approve Pastor's expense report. Pastor reminded us of the Regional Youth Event and that students from our church could attend free if they stay the entire 3 days. He also presented his vacation schedule. Pastor talked to our insurance agent and a meeting with him and the council is planned for April 11<sup>th</sup>. Pastor reported that the hospitality team is working and getting new ideas.

Jamie reported that the eave spouts were repaired by him and Rick. Rick also removed the small hand railing on the

east side of the church. Al volunteered to caulk the kitchen north window to prevent air leaks.

Council reviewed memberships to be removed by request. President Joy reported that Evening Circle has decided to pay for a square of shingles for the parsonage roof and to buy new Advent candles. Jamie said he had received some more donations for the shingles and that Jason Conrad had been paid in full; however more donations are needed and will be gratefully accepted.

Bonnie moved to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick. Meeting adjourned. Pastor closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Elijah, secretary



Music and Worship Committee met Sunday, April 15, 2018. Kelly Nabb, Marcine Miller, Janice Strackbein, Sandra Horman, Vicki Mohr, Bonnie Kintzel and Pastor Steve attending.

Minutes of meetings should be mailed to Linda for inclusion in the Herald. Comments from past services included a suggestion that a light be use for the speakers coming down the steps on Good Friday. Pulpit supply for Pastor Steve's vacation was discussed. Committee feels that a Lay person should be used. Upcoming services: Movie night will be May 1. Senior Recognition will be on Sunday, May 20 – Evening Circle in charge of breakfast. Pastor will be preaching for Baccalaureate on Wednesday, May 16 at 7:30. Church services will change to 9 AM on June 3 with cookie time following, sign-up sheets will be up soon. Mission committee will hold a Brunch on June 10. Music and Worship will oversee the outdoor service on July 22. Sandra Horman will look for persons to provide special music during services. Next meeting is July 1, 2018 after service.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vicki Mohr  
Secretary



## **Missions Committee Meeting**

March 25, 2018

Present: Linda Behrens, Megan Horman, Mary Campbell, Pastor Steve, Carmen Fields

Absent: Rick Balke, Jessica Coppess, Jan Olson

The Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Linda Behrens. A prayer was offered by Pastor Steve.

Approval of Minutes:

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on January 7, 2018 were available. Mary moved for approval of the Minutes, the motion was seconded by Megan and the Minutes were approved by the Vote.

Financial Report:

The checking account balance as of 02/28/2018 is \$ 7,581.08. As requested at the January meeting, Linda clarified the \$10.70 was a fee charged by the financial institution for maintenance and low balance charges incurred. Megan moved for approval of the Financial Report, the motion was seconded by Carmen and the Financial Report was approved by the Vote.

Old Business:

None to discuss

New Business:

A request was made by the Christian Education group for the Mission Committee to match funds in the amount of \$298 they had raised through the group's Bake Sale and a donation collection of \$121 towards an animal shelter. Funds from the Bake Sale will be given to the Ronald McDonald House and the animal shelter funds will go to the Friends of the Animals group. Megan moved to match both the \$298 and the \$121 funds, the motion was seconded by Carmen and approved by the Vote.

A request was made by Pastor Steve, on behalf of the Church Council, for the Mission Committee to match the funds received at the Lenten Services held on 03/07/2018 in the amount of \$187.25. The funds will go to the ACAP Food

Truck. Megan moved to match these funds, the motion was seconded by Carmen and was approved by the Vote. Pastor Steve requested financial assistance from the Mission Committee for the Zion UCC youth wishing to attend the West Central Youth Event. The Event will be held June 19th through the 22<sup>nd</sup> on the Grinnell College campus in Grinnell, IA. The Event is for youth in grades 6 thru 12. The attendees will stay in the Campus Dormitories. The individual attendee's cost to participate is \$325. This fee must be paid in advance by May 15<sup>th</sup> by online registration and credit card payment only. After a group discussion, it was determined the Mission Committee would reimburse up to \$75 of the cost for those youth who attended the full Event. Megan moved to participate under these terms, Carmen seconded the motion and it was approved by the Vote. Some discussion was held to sponsor a Mission Breakfast Brunch on June 10<sup>th</sup> after regular church services. Plans will be discussed further at the May Mission Committee meeting.

Next Meeting:

The next Mission Committee Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 6, 2018 following normal church services.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Linda adjourned the meeting. A closing Prayer was offered by Pastor Steve.

Respectfully submitted by  
Mary Campbell, Secretary Pro Temp

**ZION EVENING CIRCLE  
APRIL 16, 2018**



Our April 16, 2018 meeting began with a power point presentation by Pat Kedley in the sanctuary. Mr. Kedley went with The Sister Water Project to Honduras in 2017. A great talk and pictures about what Honduras is like, what the Sister Water Project is and what he and a group of other lowans did to help with the water there, was enjoyed by all of us. Following a question and answer session, refreshments were served by Jane and Sharon.

Janice S. gave devotions entitled "Power of the Spirit". President Terry then called the meeting to order with roll call being answered with 14 members giving their middle name. Pastor Steve was also in attendance. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved. Julie moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Donna that bills be paid. Motion carried.

Terry thanked members who had taken care of the Easter flowers, the committee that served the Committee on Ministry and the project committee for getting tonight's speaker. The Easter flower committee reported there were 25 plants arranged in the church for Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Palms for Palm Sunday were purchased by Pastor Steve. Discussion was held on whether that should be a Circle project, consensus was that it be a whole church project.

On a motion by Janis K., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Millie, the Senior Breakfast will be held May 13<sup>th</sup> to honor our five graduates. Motion carried. Janis K., Jane and Jody volunteer to serve the breakfast.

Pastor Steve reported there would be a church pot luck on May 6<sup>th</sup>. A sign-up sheet will be circulated in church again for the next two Sundays. Including men in our membership was also discussed as an intergenerational idea.

The project committee announced that in May we will be working on a project to help VBS. On June 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have breakfast at Mill Creek and possibly go somewhere after breakfast.

May devotions – Terry

May refreshments – Linda and Janis K.

Serving COM – Linda and Julie

May flowers – Terry

Winning the "association door prize" was Marilyn. Meeting was adjourned.

Sharon Elijah  
Secretary

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## Sunday, July 22 – Thursday, July 26, 2018

### “VBS REWIND”

This year we plan to step back in time and rewind to 4 of our FAVORITE VBS THEMES – Beach Party – Surfing Through the Scriptures; Sonrise National Park; SonQuest Rainforest; and Son Harvest County Fair. Each day will focus on some of our favorite stories; songs; and activities from each of these VBS themes. This year our final program on Thursday night will take place at 7PM at Fox’s Pond. More details will be forthcoming!

Our ANNUAL VBS PIE AUCTION will be held, **Sunday, June 17** following worship. This is our only fundraiser for our VBS week so your support is greatly appreciated! And it is always a fun event to attend!

Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it.....July 22 – 26<sup>th</sup>.....We are again looking for some items to help us with crafts time. A sign-up sheet and box to put items in will be coming soon to church but please check out the list and see if you can help in any way. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Large mouth funnels - new or used (5)  
 Colored sand - any color  
 Shells – all shapes and sizes  
 Small beach themed figurines - sea animals, small people figurines, etc.  
 Clean clear pint/quart mason jars with lids  
 3” Clay pots - 60 of them  
 Acrylic Paint - various colors  
 Clear Acrylic spray - 4 cans  
 Potting Soil - 1 bag

Empty Toilet Paper tubes,  
 Paper towel rolls tubes , and wrapping rolls tubes  
 Feathers - small - 4 packages  
 Scraps of felt - various colors  
 Straight pins  
 White Rice – 5 bags  
 Popcorn seeds – 5 bags  
 Craft rocks - small - 15 bags  
 Craft glue - 5 bottles  
 Wooden 4x6 frames with or without glass - used is fine  
 Sidewalk chalk  
 Permanent markers/sharpies – various colors

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** – “Sunday School is wrapping up in May!”

Last Sunday School Classes will be **Sunday, May 13** at 9AM. We will recognize and celebrate our students in worship at 10:15AM. Please plan to attend! And its Mother’s Day – we will celebrate all our great female role models as well!!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> is the date for our outdoor worship service and potluck picnic at the Lowden Park.

**You won't want to miss it...so mark it!**

SEE YOU IN CHURCH!

**Movie Night is Tuesday, May 1 @ 6:30 pm**

We will be watching the sequel to last months movie. Call the office to get the title. Then bring your favorite snacks and sit back and enjoy!

**Dates to Keep in Mind**

May13 Mother’s Day

May 13 – Last Day of Christian Ed classes till fall

May 13 9:00 am Seniors Breakfast

May 13 10:15 Senior Appreciation

May16-7:30 Baccalaureate at NC High

June 10 – Mission’s Brunch following worship

June 17 – Father’s Day

**ANNUAL PIE AUCTION**

June 18 8:00 Evening Circle’s Breakfast

At Mill Creek

VBS Dates – July 22 thru July 26