

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nonprofit Org.
402 Main Street
P.O. Box 339
Lowden, IA 52255-0339
Rev. Stephen Stepp, Pastor

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July/August 2019

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UP COMING HAPPENINGS

- July 4 Independence Day Office Closed
- July 30 Movie Night
- July 21 Worship in the Park 10:00 am with Potluck Picnic to Follow
- July 21 Vacation Bible School begins at 5:00 pm
- July 25 Vacation Bible School Finale at 7:00 pm
- August 18 Rev. Katherine Mulhem will lead our worship service
- August 27 Movie Night

Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it.....[Sunday, July 21 - 25th](#).....We are again looking for some items to help us with our crafts and supper 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!

- Craft Glue (a few bottles)
- Sidewalk chalk (a few boxes)
- Permanent Markers – black and other colors
- Scotch tape (4 rolls)
- Wikki Sticks
- Bubbles (2 big containers and a pack of small ones)
- Heavy Duty paper plates
- Napkins
- Bottle of Ketchup
- Bottle of Ranch
- Small bags of Doritos (need around 50)
- Can of black olives
- Jar of salsa (mild)
- Crystal light packets (lemonade of any flavor preferred)
- Container of Country Time Lemonade
- Plastic cups (12 oz.)
- Volunteers to make desserts for supper each night (brownies, Rice Krispy Treats, Blonde Brownies, Cookies) – No nuts please as we have some nut/tree nut allergies

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Daily routines can be part of the basis of a good life. Waking each day to an alarm, radio, or a hot cup of coffee brought to us by someone we love may sound appealing or revolting to us. Why? Some people do not like alarms and say, "I would never use one!" Others might say, "I like to wake to silence, music would interrupt my early morning quiet time!" Still others could say, "I don't drink coffee! That sounds like a terrible way to wake up...except for the someone I love." That last one was a mix of sweet and sour. No coffee—just love.

Now what we do after we get out of bed is another step in our routine evolution. As children, we may have had chores, then breakfast, or maybe it was breakfast and chores. And maybe today as an adult it is the same or maybe we have added something to that like shave and shower, or walk a few miles then breakfast, shave and shower. Or maybe we read, shave, shower, eat and then off to work. You get where I am going? There is an infinite number of possible combinations for our morning routine. And don't get me started on the rest of the day or we will be here all day!

Now, there is of course something I intentionally left out of this conversation on routines...God. I did this because I have a question to present, "Where is God in our routines of life?" For example, when we wake in the morning, is it our routine to first say to God, "Thank you God for this day!?" Is it in our routine to offer a prayer of thanks before we eat our breakfast? It is part of our routine to think about God as we drive to our favorite coffee spot to join in a robust conversation about how to fix all the ills of the world. And is it part of our routine to include God in those robust conversations as we enjoy a coffee with friends?

But now I wonder if you are thinking what I am thinking, "Is God's church still a part of my Sunday morning routine?" That question must be asked for many reasons in our world today not withstanding this one, "Why do I receive the Zion Herald?" The obvious answer is, you belong to the church or you are a friend of the church because you are a Christian, and you are a Christian because this church or another church in your life taught you about Jesus Christ and you BELIEVED! Therefore, you are a Christian because God gave you faith through the Holy Spirit and a community of BELIEVERS called the church baptized you and taught you about Jesus Christ so your faith could withstand the challenges of this life. Those BELIEVERS had a *routine* of coming to the church building on Sunday to teach you about God and Jesus Christ so that you might be saved forever.

So now I am here as the pastor of these BELIEVERS to remind you that God has made you a part of God's *routine* and you are to make God part of your *routine*. See you in Church!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Steve

If you still believe...
"I can be a Christian without going to church..."
please read 1 Corinthians 12
and see if God agrees with you?

THIS MONTH USHERS

July 7 Church Council
 July 14 Gene & Jaynice Hamdorf, Joshua Hamdorf
 July 21 Mike & Pam Jensen, Janine & Todd Fadale
 July 29 Senior High Fellowship
 August 4 Church Council
 August 11 Bob & Mary Campbell, Dean & Lisa Hamdorf
 August 18 Wes & Ladon Griesbach, Lori Dittmer
 August 25 Senior High Fellowship
 Sept. 1 Church Council
 Sept. 8 Tim & Jane Drewelow, Annette Behrens
 Sept. 15 Dennis & Cheryl Boedeker
 Sept. 22 Wilbert Muhs & Mary Huffman
 Sept. 29 Senior High Fellowship

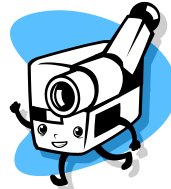
VIDEOGRAPHERS FOR JULY

July 7 Cheryl Boedeker
 July 14 Jean Stepp
 July 21 Aaron Horman
 July 28 Jane Drewelow



VIDEOGRAPHERS FOR AUGUST

August 4 Jean Stepp
 August 11 Jody Yutesler
 August 18 Aaron Horman
 August 25 David Niermeyer



JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 2 Gaylon Esbaum
 July 3 Lou Krafock
 July 7 Stacie Luepker
 July 9 Nathan Nabb
 July 11 Darrell Yutesler,
 July 12 Donna Luepker
 July 16 Nick Combs
 July 17 Leroy Luepker
 July 18 Beth Kahl
 July 19 Ian Fox,
 July 20 Sue Monson,
 July 22 Dalton Yutesler
 July 23 Gene Hamdorf, Diane Esbaum
 July 25 Mike Jensen
 July 26 Carmen Fields, Jamian Horman
 July 27 Mary Louise Horman,
 July 28 Janis Krafock, Shandon Hoffmeier, Kelli Esbaum
 July 31 *Christy Combs



Card Shower

- July 2 Gaylon Esbaum, P.O. Box 433. 87 1st Street., Apt C
Lowden, Iowa 52255
- July 3 Lou Krafock. 95 Main Street. Lowden, Iowa 52255
- July 27 Mary Louise Horman, P.O. Box 448, Lowden, Iowa 52255



Happy Anniversary!

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|----------|
| July 6 | *Jacob & Heidi Neill | 15 yrs. |
| July 12 | Jennifer & *Patrick Glover | 10 years |
| July 16 | Nick & *Christy Combs | 13 years |
| July 19 | Dave & Rose Horman | |
| July 27 | Aaron & Megan Horman | 16 yrs. |
| July 27 | Brian & Carolee Lohman | 22 yrs. |
| July 30 | Al & Vicki Mohr | 42 yrs. |



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| August 3 | Mary Huffman, Londyn Rose Kahl |
| August 4 | Heather Easterly |
| August 7 | Judy Proesch |
| August 11 | Sharon Kruckenberg, Jennifer Frederick |
| August 14 | Marilyn Klahn, Allen Koch |
| August 15 | *Brian Armstrong, Robert O'Howell |
| August 18 | Bill Elijah |
| August 20 | Brad Norton, Kim Klahn, Joby Proesch |
| August 21 | Leon Kohlhoff |
| August 23 | Adam Horman, Mariah Behrens |
| August 25 | Bob Fields III |
| August 26 | Dennis Boedeker |
| August 28 | *Jason Hayton |
| August 29 | Sandra Horman, Janine Fadale |
| August 30 | Brynn Kahl |
| August 31 | Madelynn Sherrill |



- August 14 Allen Koch, 66 Hoover Highway
PO Box 147, Lowden, Iowa 52255



August 1	Duane & Terry Lasack	48 Years
	Lonnie & Stacie Luepker	26Years
August 14	Wilbert & Millie Muhs	48 Years
August 19	Mike & Pam Jensen	35 Years
August 26	Leroy & Donna Luepker	57 Years
August 30	Kevin & Beth Kahl	43 Years



**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 11, 2019**

Zion United Church of Christ Council met April 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. President Joy Combs called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve opened with a prayer and then had to leave on a call. Those in attendance were Duane Lasack, Aaron Horman, Joy Combs, Sharon Elijah and Jon Mansfield. Rick Balke was absent. Linda Behrens was present through the treasurer’s reports.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved on a motion by Aaron, 2nd by Duane. Motion carried. The treasurer's reports that were available were approved on a motion by Aaron, 2nd by Duane. Motion carried.

Calendar review:

- April 14 Palm Sunday
- April 18 Maundy Thursday services at Wheatland
- April 19 Good Friday services at Clarence
- April 21 Easter Sunday with Sunrise service and breakfast
- April 28 Spring Dinner
- May 2-11 Pastor's vacation
- May 15 Baccalaureate at Clarence

Pastor's report was read. Pastor's expense report was approved on a motion by Jon, 2nd by Duane. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Aaron purchased 10 smoke alarms with a 10-year battery life and 3 CO detectors for the church. The bill for these will be paid by the Improvement Fund. Aaron and Jon will install the alarms.

New business:

Duane moved, 2nd by Aaron to offer the contract for lawn mowing to Kip and Sandy Esbaum with the same terms as last year. Motion carried.

It was moved by Aaron, 2nd by Jon that we purchase a Lowden Booster card in the amount of \$100 to give to Marvin Mooney in appreciation for the snow removal that was done this winter.

The next council meeting will be May 16.

Duane moved, 2nd by Jon, that meeting be adjourned. Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Elijah, secretary



**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 16, 2019**

Zion United Church of Christ Council met May 16, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. President Joy Combs called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve opened with a prayer and a reading. Those in attendance were Duane Lasack,

Joy Combs, Sharon Elijah and Rick Balke. Aaron Horman and Jon Mansfield were absent. Linda Behrens was present through the treasurer's reports.

Joys and concerns were shared.

The minutes of the last meeting were declared approved as printed. The treasurer's reports were approved on a motion by Rick, 2nd by Duane.

Pastor Steve reported that his vacation days will be July 8-15 and August 9-24. Rev. Pamela Star will be our pulpit supply pastor on June 16, July 14 and August 11 and Rev. Mulhern will be our pulpit supply pastor on August 18. Pastor will be attending the Tri-Conference on June 14-16 in Omaha, Neb. Since Mary Campbell, conference delegate, has resigned, Jean Stepp has volunteered to take her place. On a motion by Duane, 2nd by Rick, council approved Jean Stepp to take her place until the end of Mary's term. Pastor suggested that our church obtain a defibrillator. Joy will check with the memorial committee to see if there would be donations there that we could use to pay for it. Pastor's expense report was approved on a motion by Rick, 2nd by Duane. Carried.

Calendar review:

- May 28 New member class
- June 2 Church services begin at 9:00; followed by a brunch served by the Mission Committee
- June 11 Movie night
- June 14-16 Tri-Conference meeting in Omaha
- June 16 Father's Day; pie auction during fellowship hour following worship
- July 21 Outdoor worship at the park

Old business:

Kip and Sandy Esbaum have signed the contract for mowing the church lawns. Mr. Mooney was given a gift card in appreciation for shoveling the sidewalks this past winter.

New business:

President Combs read a letter from Dana Jurgens Moran asking that her membership from Zion be removed. Duane moved, 2nd by Rick to remove Mrs. Moran's membership from Zion. Motion carried.

Three bushes on the east side of the church are dead and should be removed. Rick will talk with Janice Strackbein and Terry Lasack about removing and replacing them.

The next council meeting will be June 20.

Duane moved, 2nd by Rick to adjourn. Pastor closed with a prayer. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Sharon Elijah, Secretary

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
VBS WEEK
SUNDAY, JULY 21 - THURSDAY JULY 25**



ZION EVENING CIRCLE
MAY 20, 2019

Zion Evening Circle met May 20th with Julie Hoffmeier leading the project which was starting to make felt lion pillows for VBS. Some drew dots while others cut circles or snipped circles. Thanks to Julie and Barry for getting the project started for us. 120 circles were done in record time!

Donna Luepker gave a very interesting devotion called "Aunt Hildy, a Model".

President Terry Lasack called the meeting to order. 14 members answered roll call. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved. Millie moved, 2nd by Jody that bill be paid. Motion carried.

Terry thanked those who helped with the night's meeting; Linda for taking care of flowers and the bulletin board for May and the nominating committee for their work. Terry reminded us of the Conference meeting to be held in Lowden on Sept. 22nd and asked us to put the date on our calendars.

Julie reported that Janice, Julie and Rose served the senior breakfast to 8; the seniors attending were August Harms and Abby Balke.

We discussed the use of the profits from the Lenten supper. It was moved by Joy, 2nd by Millie, that we pay for replacing the bushes that are dead around the church and donate the unspent portion to the purchase of a defibrillator for the church. Motion carried.

Bonnie Kintzel donated a new coffee pot for the church kitchen. Joy purchased a new coffee pot with an automatic shut-off to be used in the library.

Jody and Marilyn gave the nominating report. Officers will be as follows for the 2019-2020 year:

President – Terry Lasack

Vice-President – Marilyn and Jody will share the duties of getting supplies, etc.

Secretary – Sharon Elijah

Treasurer – Jane Drewelow

Historian – Donna Luepker

Jean Stepp will purchase the flowers for the 90th birthdays and baptisms. In lieu of having a courtesy chairman; all members should call Terry if we know of a death, hospitalization, or birthday that needs to be remembered.

There is a sign-up sheet upstairs for the summer coffee hour. On June 7th we will be again serving brownie sundaes and root beer floats at the Lowden garage sale days. A sign-up sheet was passed around for donations.

Janis Krafock told us of plans for the trip to the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City to prepare a meal. Julie, Joy, Jane, Sharon, Janis, Terry and Marlene volunteered to plan, purchase groceries, cook and serve the meal on June 17th. Then on June 19th, we will meet at Mill Creek for our annual breakfast. Payment for the breakfast must be made ahead of time.

Millie and Terry will service the COM on May 21st. Those serving in July are Donna and Terry and in September Julie and Jean. Those in charge of flowers are: June – Terry; July – Jody; August – Terry; September—Jane.

Donna gave a report on the Lenten flowers. Next year we will plan on having the flowers on Easter Sunday only.

Refreshments were served by Jane and Sharon.

Sharon Elijah, Secretary

ZION EVENING CIRCLE

JUNE 17, 2019

Six Evening Circle members left Lowden at 1:30 to travel to Iowa City's Ronald McDonald House to prepare a meal for those living there. Arriving about an hour later, we met Sarah, the volunteer coordinator, who showed us the kitchens and had us sign health and confidentiality papers. Sarah told us that they have room for 31 families and that there is always a waiting list. If there are no volunteer meals, she will do the cooking. We then ventured to the kitchens where she showed us around. We started work with Janis K. and Joy making 3 huge bowls of salad; Marlene F. and Jane 5 pans of Rice Krispy chocolate chips bars while Julie and Sharon made 5 pans of lasagna. It was a fun and interesting time. After cleaning up we ventured to the mall about 3:30, ate a bite, did a tiny bit of shopping and were home at 5:30.

Sharon Elijah
Secretary

ZION EVENING CIRCLE

JUNE 19, 2019

Zion Evening Circle met at Mill Creek for their annual breakfast meeting. Nine members enjoyed a wonderful breakfast with Pastor Steve arriving later. Jane Drewelow gave the treasurer's report and a report on the garage sale day brownie sundae/root beer float stand. Our profit was \$163.50. Jane, Janis K. and Linda were in charge.

Sharon gave a report on the trip to the Ronald McDonald house. We feel it was a worth-while project and could be considered for another year.

Preliminary plans to see a play at the Old Creamery Theater were made for July 24th. More information will be coming.

Five members then traveled to Anamosa and Monticello with Janice S. providing the transportation. In Anamosa we visited the Reformatory museum and learned many interesting facts. We did some looking around in the shops on main street. From there we traveled to the hula hoop tree and on to the Big Red Barn near Monticello. After purchasing some of their wonderful products we headed to Monticello and had lunch at Baked which we all enjoyed. Thanks to Janice and Janis for planning a wonderful day.

Sharon Elijah
Secretary

MISSION COMMITTEE

June 2, 2019

Present: Linda Behrens Jess Coppess Megan Horman Jan Olsen Carmen Fields
Absent: Pastor Steve Jon Mansfield

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by Linda after the Missions Breakfast on June 2.

Approval of Minutes:

Jess sent the May 5 meeting minutes via e-mail for review. No changes or additions were suggested, so they were approved as distributed.

Financial Report:

No financial report was given.

Old Business:

The Mission Breakfast went well. There were 41 people served and approx. \$150 collected in free-will donations.

- 30 cups of coffee were made and served
- ¾ gallon chocolate milk and ½ gallon white milk used
- ½ gallon apple juice used
- 1 ¼ sausage, 1 bacon and 1 ham egg casserole used (9x13 pan cut in 15 pieces)
- 24 cinnamon rolls, 12-15 muffins, 1 loaf chocolate banana bread and 1 - 8x8 pan of cranberry coffee cake used
- Grapes, clementines, raspberries, watermelon and bananas served

New Business:

Linda stated the Deacon Fund is down to \$400 and asked members to consider transferring some money from Missions into it. Members decided to keep an eye on it and discuss the transfer of funds later.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be scheduled when needed.

Adjournment:

Linda adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Coppess



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Music and worship Committee has chosen Sunday, July 21st for our outdoor worship service and potluck picnic at the Lowden Park.

Bring along your plate & silverware along with your favorite dish.

You won't want to miss this so be sure to mark it down!

SEE YOU IN CHURCH!

ATTENTION! Everyone the Confirmation class would like your help with their Mission project.

Please look over the list and see what you can contribute to help this house.

Let's see if we can fill their house with goodies to take to Rhonda's House.

The members of the Confirmation Class will be grateful with getting help with their project.

Thanks to all of you that have already given.

Rhonda's House in Dewitt needs

Tupperware	Toothbrushes	Toothpaste
Storage	Baggies	Disposable razors
Tin Foil	Plastic Wrap	Shaving cream
Toilet Paper	Glass Cleaner	Shampoo
Napkins	Soap	Conditioner
Laundry detergent	Dish Soap	Deodorant
Toilet Bowl cleaner	Scented candles of candle warmers	

Thank you so much!!!!

Ed Murphy, House Manage

What is the Rhonda's House? Rhonda's House is the first peer-run respite house, located in a rural setting anywhere in the U.S. It's also the first such housing in Iowa. The home is named after **Rhonda Shouse**, an advocate for health care access who died in 2017.

Respite homes offer those struggling with anxiety, a rough home life, or suicidal thoughts a safe place to stay while they seek resources or a place to lay their heads. Rhonda's House has three beds in which patients can stay for a maximum of seven days.

SPRING DINNER UPDATE

The preliminary numbers are in! As of April 21, 2019, the Spring Dinner raised approximately \$4,900.00, and we think that all the bills have been paid, and a few member donations to be received. If you have not had an opportunity to make your financial donation to support the Spring Dinner, it's not too late! The books are still open! Please leave it in the collection plate, or either send it to the church office, or drop it off. Also, Jean Stepp will now rotate off the committee. If you are interested in the opportunity to serve, please let one of the Spring Dinner Committee members or the Nominating Committee know.

Thank you!

Jean Stepp, Diane Esbaum, Julie Hoffmeier, Susan Monson, Merlin Conrad and the Dean Behrens family.



Here is a picture for you to color and we would like to have a lot of you color this and bring it back to church.