

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

402 Main Street

P.O. Box 339

Lowden, IA 52255-0339

Rev. Stephen Stepp, Pastor

Nonprofit Org.

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Lowden, IA

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NOVEMBER 2018

ZION HERALD November 2018 Volume 90 Volume 10

Christmas Dinner 2018

Senior High Fellowship would like to invite everyone come and enjoy the annual Christmas Dinner in our fellowship hall on Sunday, December 2nd, following the worship service. Be ready to enjoy great food, wonderful people, intriguing conversation, fun games, and prizes.

Come give thanks on Wednesday, November 21 at 7:00 p.m. as give thanks to God for all the gifts we have received during this past year at our Thanksgiving Eve Service which will be led by our Confirmation Class.

Our upcoming worship services at Zion United Church of Christ

[Sunday, November 4th](#) Totenfest will honor members who passed from this world and now shine in glory.

****We will honor and remember our Savior Jesus Christ by gathering at His table for Communion****

[Wednesday November 21](#) Thanksgiving Eve Service

[Sunday, November 25^h](#) We celebrate the Reign of Christ on the last Sunday of the church year.

[Sunday, December 2nd](#) The Season of Advent begins.

****The Zion Christmas Dinner following the worship service.**

****We will honor and remember our Savior Jesus Christ by gathering at His table for Communion****

[Sunday, December 9th](#) Second Sunday of Advent Christmas Bell gifts are returned this Sunday.

[Sunday, December 16th](#) Third Sunday of Advent.

Congregational meeting will follow the worship service.

[Sunday, December 23th](#) Fourth Sunday of Advent

[Monday, December 24th](#) The Zion Christmas Eve Worship Service which includes our Christian Education Christmas Program and Our Traditional Candlelit Closing.

****We will honor and remember our Savior Jesus Christ by gathering at His table for Communion****

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“Come for all things are prepared,” is the sentence of our communion liturgy just before we distribute the bread and the cup. It is a warm and inviting sentence that reminds us that all are welcome to come to Christ's table; all are welcome at God's great banquet. God invites us and all we need to do is accept, put on the robe of Christ, and come. So, with our invitation through the grace of God and our robe given to us by Christ as the true way to live in faith, we come to the banquet by living our lives in that robe and accepting God's way and Christ's life as our own.

Now sisters and brothers, because we live Christ's life, we know the difficulty of crossing the threshold. That is why we reach out and invite members, neighbors, and strangers to join us. We pray that they too will reach out and join us as we unite in worship and service to God. It is what Jesus did for the disciples when anxiety and uneasiness prevented them from crossing the threshold to go out and make disciples. And when there was still one whose faith was tested, Jesus returned and said, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side” (John 20:27). Jesus came to Thomas. Jesus reached out to him. Jesus invited him to touch and believe. That is why we need to make every effort by reaching out with God's invitation to the banquet. We need to invite all to learn about the beautiful robe of life in Christ. Then we all will rejoice as we enter God's great banquet. Praise God!

As we begin the month of November, we once again prepare ourselves for the winter ahead. Now I have always seen winter in two parts.

- The first part is the exciting part. The first snow fall. The first snowman. The first snowball fight. But more importantly, the First Christmas. “What?” you may say, “First Christmas?” and I would say yes, our

celebration of Christmas should always be centered on the First Christmas when Jesus Christ was born.

- The second part is the long, long cold winter part when we long for Spring to come.

But let us not get ahead of ourselves, let us first relish November as our time of preparation and excitement as we wait for the first “real” snow and the beginning of Advent. November is a great month for our regular worship services. We begin with our annual memorial service, “Totenfest” when we remember those in this past year who have gone on before us and now shine in glory with God. Our next three Sundays in November will center on the end of our church year and how we as Christians continue the cycle of life in Christ through our community in the world.

Finally, let me say thank you to everyone at Zion as I approach the end of my sixth year. SIX YEARS! No Way!...Yes Way!... I know really; it's been six years since God called me to this loving community to serve you. I thank you for your continuing love and support as we continue to move forward in faith on our journey of life together. May God continue to generously bless us so that we may generously bless others with our faith in Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Steve

“May every man, woman and child realize that God created us to be a blessing to others so that they may know God by the way we live our lives.”

Rev. Stephen Stepp

USHERS



Nov. 4, 2018`	Church Council
Nov. 11, 2018	Joby & Kyle Proesch, Donavon & Linda Freese
Nov.18, 2018	Barry & Julie Hoffmeier, Jay Hein Jodie Snowbarger
Nov. 21, 2018	Church Council
Nov. 26, 2018	Senior High Fellowship
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Dec. 2, 2018	Senior High Fellowship
Dec.9, 2018	Donna Luepker, Lori Dittmer, Marcine Miller
Dec. 16, 2018	Wilbert & Millie Muhs Duane & Terry Lasack
Dec. 23, 2018	Scott & Carmen Fields, Robert & Joni Fields
Dec. 24, 2018	Church Council
Dec. 30, 2018	Wes & Ladon Griesbach, Danny & Gail Hamdorf



VIDEOGRAPHERS

November

November 4	Tessa Holst
November 11	Jody Yutesler
November 18,	Donna Lupeker
November 25,	Aaron Horman

December

December 2	Jane Drewelow
December 9	Cheryl Boedeker
December 16	Tessa Holst
December 23	Jody Yutesler
December 24	Donna Luepker
December 30	Jean Stepp



For November

November 4	Carter Horman & Jaydon Nabb
November 11	Johny Amina & Sophie Poppe
November 18	Sophie Poppe & Josellyn Easterly
November 21	Thanksgiving Eve Johny Amina & Sophie Poppe
November 26	Drew Behrens & Matthew Bramlett

Birthdays



of the Month BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

November 3	Amy Mohr
November 4	Duane Deerberg
November 5	Florence Deerberg, Jamie O'Howell, Brian Lohman
November 6	Cody Poppe
November 10	Kylee Kahl, Hannah Combs. Rick Balke
November 11	Jean Stepp
November 18	Karen Bentrrott
November 19	Mark Freese, Ryan Hamilton
November 23	Harold Horman
November 26	Butch Schluter
November 28	Alan Mohr, Callie Tjaden
November 30	Terry Lasack

Card... ...shower

November 5	Florence Deerberg, 107 Augusta Drive, #1, Lowden, Iowa 52255
November 23	Harold Horman, P.O. Box 448. Lowden, Iowa 52255

Happy Anniversary

November 10, 1973	Dennis & Cheryl Boedeker 45 yrs.
November 13, 1999	Dean & Jennifer Fredrick 19 yrs.
November 15, 2003	Tanya & Keith Stewart 15 yrs.
November 16, 1968	Al & Linda Behrens 50 yrs.
November 16, 2013	Dan & Amy Mohr 5 yrs.
November 18, 2006	Noah & Jessica Coppess 12 yrs.
November 21, 1986	Doug & Cindy Wiedenhoff 32 yrs.
November 23, 1996	Dan & Gail Hamdorf 22 yrs.
November 24, 1978	Barry & Julie Hoffmeier 40 yrs.
November 24, 1980	Rod & Renate Port 38 yrs.
November 28, 1977	Bob & Mary Campbell 41 yrs.
November 30, 1991	Joby & Kyle Proesch 27 yrs.

Zion United Church of Christ and Lowden Community

CROP WALK/RIDE

On Sunday, October 21st we had 10 walkers and

We raised \$465.00

and hunger in the world. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed
treats served in the Zion Fellowship Hall.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO

CONTRIBUTED TO THIS GREAT MISSION



Christmas Decorating Committee



One of the most fun things to do every year is decorate the church for Christmas. It is a big job, but when lots of Zion members and friends get together and join in the fun, it makes the big job quick and easy. So, this is our call to you, please come Saturday, December 1 at 9:00 a.m. and join in the fun this year as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.



ZION EVENING CIRCLE MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 15, 2018

Twelve Evening Circle members met on October 15, 2018, beginning at 5:30 to clean church. A lot of dusting, vacuuming and scrubbing was accomplished. After working for 1 ½ to 2 hours, a delicious supper was served by Marlene F. and Marilyn.

President Terry called the meeting to order after supper. The secretary's report was read and approved. A thank you note from Mary Beth of the Committee on Ministry was read complimenting Janis and Marilyn on the meal they served in September. The treasurer's report was read and approved. Julie moved, 2nd by Millie that bills be paid. Motion carried.

Terry thanked Julie for washing the acolyte gowns; Jody and Marlene for taking care of flowers in September; Janis and Marilyn for serving the Committee on Ministry; and Marlene F. and Marilyn for serving supper.

Terry announced that the CROP walk will be held Sunday, Oct. 21st beginning at 2:00. Janice moved, 2nd by Donna, to donate \$200 to CROP which will be the donation for Circle members who walk. Terry will serve the refreshments after the walk with bars donated by Julie and Janis. Totenfest will be celebrated on November 4th. Marlene F. and Julie will be in charge of getting the flowers and candles. The Lowden Christmas celebration was discussed. We will need ideas for having a float in the lighted parade, also the community choir will be singing. Our Christmas party will be on the regular Evening Circle night at church with a meal catered by Mill Creek. It was decided that payment for the meal must be paid at the time of reservation.

A notice will be posted in the kitchen saying that if you bring in food, condiments, or drink and use the refrigerator; you must take the leftovers home.

Sharon will be in charge of project for November which will be cutting and counting labels for North Cedar schools and to finish cleaning the kitchen cupboards. Jane will have devotions and Jean and Jody refreshments. Joy and Sharon will provide the meal for the Committee on Ministry in November.

Meeting was adjourned.

Sharon Elijah, Secretary

NOTICE:

Evening Circle will again be trimming and counting labels for the North Cedar Schools in November. Labels we need are the bar code from any Our Family brand can or box; Box Tops for Education and the proof of purchase bar codes on the back of Country Hearth and Village Hearth bread wrappers. Labels may be put in the box in the vestibule at church or given to any Evening Circle member.

The money North Cedar raises from these labels is used for play equipment; helps to pay for outings and other needs for the school.



**CHURCH
COUNCIL
ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

September 13, 2018

Zion United Church of Christ Council met at 7:00 p.m. on September 13, 2018. President Joy Combs called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve opened with a devotion and prayer. Those in attendance were Jamie Nabb, Rick Balke, Joy Combs, Bonnie Kintzel and Sharon Elijah. Duane Lasack was absent. Linda Behrens was present through the treasurer's reports.

Joys and concerns were shared.

The secretary's minutes were read and made official on a motion by Jamie, 2nd by Bonnie. Motion carried. The treasurer's reports were reviewed and approved on a motion by Bonnie, 2nd by Rick. Carried.

Discussion was held about the Kids Night In program. It was decided to put the \$250 grant that was received by Heather Easterly in the general fund to be used as needed.

Pastor reviewed events happening in the next month:

September 16	Sunday School teachers installed
September 19	Confirmation begins
September 28 & 29 Heights	Confirmation retreat at Pilgrim
September 30	Joint worship service in Tipton
October 9-11	Pastor's vacation
October 12-13 in Des Moines	Iowa Conference Annual Meeting
October 14-20	Pastor's vacation

Discussion was held on council's vision of Zion church in the next five years.

It was moved by Jamie, 2nd by Rick to approve Pastor's expense report. Carried

Old business:

The light fixtures in the Educational building were donated and installed by Merlin Conrad.

New business:

All Star Turf did the fall treatment on the church lawns. The donation from the Schoff family is just about gone so we will need to pay for this service in another way next year.

Our next meeting will be October 25th. Bonnie moved, 2nd by Rick that meeting be adjourned. Carried.

Pastor closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon Elijah

Secretary

Christian Education



Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the Lowden Fire Department Waffle Breakfast! Our Sunday School kids donated \$204 to the Fire Department and enjoyed the wonderful waffles! Thanks to all the first responders who help us in our time of need!

We look forward to teaching more of Gods' words and stories!

If you ever have any questions, please contact me! Thank you for your continued support of our Christian Education Program!

Kelly Nabb

Zion United Church of Christ

Christian Education Coordinator

(563) 941-7315 phone

(563) 249-2335 cell

[jknabb@fbcom.net](mailto:jkNabb@fbcom.net)

zionucclowden.org

Senior High Fellowship!

Senior High Fellowship met on Sunday, October 28 following worship. Discussion was held on past activities and future ideas moving forward. We plan to rake leaves for members in our church needing some help in the yard! We also took care of the many cans donated to our group. THANK YOU to all those who donate their empties to SHF!!

Please mark your calendars for the next meeting, Sunday November 25. We would like all students and their parents to join together for the meeting. We will be planning the Christmas Dinner set for Sunday, December 2nd. SHF will also be participating in the Bell Program for Christmas gifts.

Respectfully Submitted, Kelly Nabb, SHF Leader



North Cedar Clergy Christmas Bell Program



CHRISTMAS IS COMING, THE GOOSE IS GETTING FAT
PLEASE DO PUT A PENNY IN THE OLD MAN'S HAT
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A PENNY, A HA'PENNY WILL DO
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A HA'PENNY, GOD BLESS YOU!



There are many families in our area who have very little during the season of Christmas. So, it is up to us to help bring the "Good News of Great Joy" to these families by providing food and gifts for Christmas Day.

We can all understand it's hard to think about the GREAT JOY of Christ's birth on an empty stomach or if we lack the means to give to the ones we love.

THE CHRISTMAS BELLS WILL BE PUT ON THE TREE IN THE LOBBY/NARTHEX BEGINNING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AND THEY NEED TO BE RETURNED BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH.

May we all enjoy the greater gift of giving to those in need this Christmas.



GOD BLESS US EVERYONE!





The Evening Circle will be sponsoring the annual "Make our Sanctuary Beautiful." Joy Combs, Jane Drewelow, and Janis Krafock will be taking orders on Sunday, November 4th thru Sunday, November 18th. The prices for the poinsettias are a small cost \$7.50, a medium cost \$14.00 and a large cost \$22.00. They are available in Red, Pink and White. All poinsettias should be be picked up Christmas Eve or shortly after.

If you prefer giving to a favorite Church program, like Baskets for the Needy, The Christmas Decorating Fund, your favorite Charity, etc. They will also help you with this. Check order form enclosed.

TOTENFEST

On Sunday November 4th, our community will observe Totenfest. We will honor the lives of members and friends of Zion United Church of Christ who passes on into New Life during the past year. They are -----Let's thank God for these special people who have touched our lives.

KIDS Night In PARENTS Night Out

Zion UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
LOWDEN, MISSOURI

Contact Heather: 515-971-8988

Enjoy an evening out while we entertain the kids! 6-10 pm
More information can be found at www.zionucclowden.org Cost: Free

Pre registration is required by the Wednesday before the event. Second Saturday of the Month

On our first KNI/PNO we had 4 youth and on our last event on October 13 we had 14 youth. The night went very well and many of the "Kids" are looking forward to

our next event on Saturday, November 10th at 6:00 pm. If you would like to help or have a youth who would like to join us, please give Heather Easterly a call at 515-971-8988. Thank you for being a part of this great mission in our area!