

## Open and Affirming Declaration

We, the members of Zion United Church of Christ in Steubenville, Ohio, seek to continue the faithful presence and witness to God's love that has been maintained by our denominational predecessors for more than 150 years. Our ultimate goal is to have the Message of Jesus Christ permeate all that we profess, through our words and by our actions. To that end, we join together on this day of the celebration of the Feast of Transfiguration, February 10, 2013, to joyously proclaim:

**We believe we are all created in God's image, female and male, and are called to proclaim and show our love for God by loving our neighbors as God loves us. We believe that we are many members, but one body in Jesus the Christ, called to unite all people in God's enduring love. We therefore offer our Open and Affirming pledge of Radical Hospitality to all God's created, with a commitment to extend God's Extravagant Welcome to persons of every gender, age, race, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, social and economic status, faith background, political and theological beliefs, marital standing and family structure. Remembering the time frame in which our church was founded, we particularly affirm President Abraham Lincoln's call that all of our words and actions must reflect "malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right....".**

The People of Zion United Church of Christ



# Joyful Noiz

May 11- June 2018 Newsletter



Zion United Church of Christ

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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### May 13 11:00am

USHER Howard Ross  
FLOWERS In memory of all deceased mothers of Zion from John Diekmann & Jeff Knauff  
LAY READER Missy Breddin

### May 20 11:00am

USHER Robert Vargo  
FLOWERS Flower Fund  
LAY READER Joe Lemasters

### May 27 11:00am

USHER Tom Kaufmann  
FLOWERS In memory of Thomas A. Maffett from brother, Charles Maffett  
LAY READER Peggy Lohr

### June 3 11:00am

USHER Dave Hunt  
FLOWERS In memory of Thelma Kaufmann from son, Tom Kaufmann  
LAY READER John Diekmann

### June 10 11:00am

USHER Howard Ross  
FLOWERS Flower Fund  
LAY READER Jeff Knauff

### June 17 11:00am

USHER Robert Vargo  
FLOWERS Flower Fund  
LAY READER Renea Starkey- Hunt

## PARENTS AND PALS DINNER

This annual dinner to help parents and children to celebrate Mother's and Father's Day will be held here at the church on **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** following Morning Worship in the church social hall. Please take a minute to fill out the reservation form and return it with your payment. Deadline for reservations will be **May 27**.

## OUTDOOR PLANTING

We are accepting memorial donations for the outdoor planting. If you would like to contribute, please fill out the attached slip exactly the way you would like it to read in the bulletin and newsletter. Then, send in donation with form to the church office or place in offering plate.

## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH UCC OFFERING

The Strengthen the Church offering is a special offering within the UCC denomination. It supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. This offering will be taken **May 20**, Pentecost Sunday.

## FREEZER IN WORKROOM

The freezer in the social hall workroom has been replaced with a 20 cubic feet Frigidaire upright freezer. There is plenty of room for anything the church would need. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the freezer is fully paid for! **Thank you!**

*Forget* THE DAY'S  
*Troubles*  
*Remember*  
*the DAY'S*  
*Blessings*

### KITCHEN RENOVATION

Panhandle Cleaning and Restoration began the kitchen renovation, **April 9**. We are now waiting for the counter tops to be completed and the water to be hooked up. They are expecting to be finished in **2-3 weeks**. Thank you all for your patience during this process!

### COFFEE HOUR

Because of the kitchen renovation project, we will not be having coffee hour in the social hall. **We will still have a fellowship time in the narthex but we will not have coffee or snacks.** Thank you for your understanding.

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Council met **May 2, 2018**. Minutes from the meeting are in the back of the sanctuary. The next church council meeting will be **June 6, 5:00 PM, at the Church.**

### GRADUATION PARTY

Miracle Hunt, daughter of David and Renea Hunt, will graduate from Indian Creek High School, June 3, 2018. The Hunt family will be having a graduation party in the social hall **June 9 from 2-4:30 pm**. All are welcome to stop by, have a bite to eat, and congratulate the graduate. Miracle is a Gold Key Scholar, three year Academic Letter recipient, and will graduate with an honors diploma. Miracle has received a scholarship from Case Western Reserve University, where she plans on majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

### SUMMER SCHEDULE

Beginning **June 3**, we will suspend Sunday school until **September 9**.

## *From the Pastor*



In just a few short weeks summer will well and truly be upon us. Already in the last few weeks, as the temperature has been going up and the days have been getting longer many of us are beginning to get itchy for the months to come. We are getting our summer toys out of the garage, we are making sure our bikes are in good shape, that the lawn mower is running smoothly. We might be looking at our summer calendars, trying to see if there is a time that will work best to get away for a day or two, perhaps a week or so. Summer is a great time for many of us to relax, for many of us to “get away from it all.”

Getting away from the chaos of our lives, getting ‘unplugged’ is something that we all hunger for. We like to have those moments when we can sit on the front porch and just watch the world go by as we sip on our lemonade. Many of us long for those mornings when we can just lie in bed while someone else takes care of the kids, or the dog, or the laundry. Moms (and dads) can all relate to the phrase, “Calgon, take me away!” For some people getting away from it all can truly be as simple as locking the bathroom door and slipping into a bubble bath. For others, there needs to be greater space.

As Christians, though, we are not called to “get away” from the world. We are called to be in the world, just not of it. As Christians we are to be about the work of God in the world. It might not be easy, but you can engage the world without being a part of it. An astronaut can go into space, live in space, but not be a part of space. An astronaut puts on a spacesuit, and can work in space,

do the things that need to be done. The spacesuit gives the astronaut the ability to be in space, but not of space.

As Christians, we are called to put on Christ; that is our spacesuit. Because of Jesus we are protected from the atmosphere of the world around us, we can safely breathe in the Spirit. But just because we have a spacesuit, just because we have been found by Jesus, does not mean we can just safely hang out in our little space station of faith and watch the world go by. No, we have been given our spacesuit, our Armor of God that we might go out into the world. Putting on Christ is not just about allowing ourselves to live, but equipping us to live out; to live out our faith, to live out our calling.

We have been set apart, we have been chosen for a reason, for a mission, for a calling. We have come to know the truth that God is love, that God's love for us is beyond our understanding. We have been set apart so that we might bring the good news of that love to the world. We have been set apart, so that we might in our own awkward stumbling ways seek to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, seeking to live our lives in a reflection of how he lived. We have been set apart from the ways of the world so we can fight against the ways of the world; so we can fight against the many 'isms' that we encounter in our daily lives. We have been set apart so that we may have life, live that life to its fullest, and help others to live their lives to their fullest.

We cannot do that by escaping from the world, we can only do that when we enter into the world. Put on your spacesuit, put on the Armor of God, claim your identity, claim your calling, and live!

With the Greatest of Hope!

**Erik**

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

If you haven't checked out our website, take a look!

**www.zionuccsteubenville.com**



### **IN OUR CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

Mary Hoover, Bill Thompson, Bill Bertram, Janet Davis, Thelma Cook, Barb Irvin, John Rhueff, Nancy Tingler, Marie Brobston, Dakota Miller, Patricia Loyszczyk, Marlene Rhueff, Jim Mottice, Barb Mottice, Opal Kleineke, Al Panyi, Alan Hunt, Robbie Mottice, BethAnn Postlewait

\*If you would like to be remembered in prayer or know of someone who would appreciate being included in this list, please contact the church office.

### **VETS IN THE VILLE**

Vets in the Ville is going wonderfully! We have now visited four veterans. All have been humble and appreciative. We are also now able to give our veterans an American flag, donated by **T-Mobile**. We are still collecting nominations on Facebook. If you have a nomination, please contact the **Vets In the Ville** Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/peggylohrr/>) with the name of the veteran and the address. We will not contact the veteran but we will work with the nominator to find the best time for delivery. **If anyone would like to donate cookies or baked goods to be delivered with the pizza, please contact Jeff Knauff or Peggy Lohr. Big thanks to Dominos & T-Mobile for their help and support!**

## Outdoor Planting 2018

Please complete this form and place it in offering plate, or give to Jeff Knauff along with your donation. If paying by check, please make payable to the church. Any amount of donation is accepted. Remember to mark your "In memory of" or "In honor of" exactly as you wish it to appear on the memorial list.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

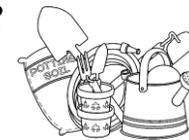
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parents and Pals

Entrée: Baked Steak

June 3, 2018

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Adult \$8.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Children 12/under \$4.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP by May 27, 2018



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