

OCTOBER

2026

Zion Reformed Church -- Floodlight



PASTOR'S POSTS

Teach Your Children the Scriptures

Dear Zion Reformed Church Family,

Over the past weeks, I have reminded us of one of the greatest responsibilities God has entrusted to parents: **teach your children the Scriptures.**

In our message from **Deuteronomy 6**, we heard God's command to teach His Word diligently to our children—at home, along the way, when we lie down, and when we rise. Faith cannot be something we practice only on Sunday morning.

In our recent sermon about **Artificial Intelligence**, we were reminded again: if our children do not know the Scriptures, they will struggle to recognize what is true when countless other voices—including AI—offer them answers.

Parents, talk about God's Word at home. Read the Bible together. Pray together. Bring your children into Christian fellowship. Grandparents, you have a vital role too. Teach your grandchildren the Scriptures. Tell them what God has done. Share your faith with them. **The greatest inheritance we can leave the next generation is a faith firmly rooted in God's Word.**

With Love,
Pastor Petri

Zion Over 60's

Wed., Sept. 30
@ 11am

Oct. 4

**MEN'S
STUDY
GROUP**

8:30am

**World
Communion Sunday**

Oct. 4



Consistory Highlights

*Next consistory meeting: Thursday, Oct. 8, 7pm. If anyone would like to come before the Elders to inquire about membership or baptism, please do so.

FINANCIAL BUDGET

All Financial reports are due to the office by Nov. 15 to prepare for the end of the fiscal year. (Sewing Group, Sunday School, WOZ, RCYF) More information will be placed in your mailbox soon.





NOMINATION
letters for
1 Elder and
2 Deacons will
be available in
church
mailboxes
soon.



October is
Pastor
Appreciation!
Zion is
blessed with
Pastor Petri
and family.

WOZ SPIRITUAL LIFE

LESSONS FROM THE AUTUMN SEASON

THERE IS SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT AUTUMN. THE LEAVES BEGIN TO CHANGE FROM GREEN TO BEAUTIFUL SHADES OF RED, ORANGE, AND GOLD. THE AIR BECOMES COOLER, THE DAYS GROW SHORTER, AND NATURE SEEMS TO INVITE US TO SLOW DOWN AND NOTICE THE BEAUTY AROUND US.

AS WOMEN OF FAITH, AUTUMN CAN REMIND US OF THE SEASONS OF OUR OWN LIVES. WE, TOO, EXPERIENCE TIMES OF CHANGE. THERE ARE SEASONS OF GROWTH, SEASONS OF BUSINESS, SEASONS OF LETTING GO, AND SEASONS OF REST. THROUGH EVERY SEASON, GOD IS WITH US.

THE TREES TEACH US A BEAUTIFUL LESSON ABOUT LETTING GO. WHEN AUTUMN COMES, THE LEAVES RELEASE THEIR HOLD ON THE BRANCHES. THEY FALL TO THE GROUND, MAKING ROOM FOR NEW GROWTH IN THE SEASON AHEAD. PERHAPS THERE ARE THINGS WE NEED TO PLACE IN GOD'S

HANDS—WORRIES, DISAPPOINTMENTS, REGRETS, OR THINGS WE CAN NO LONGER CONTROL. LETTING GO IS NOT ALWAYS EASY. BUT WHEN WE SURRENDER THESE THINGS TO GOD, WE MAKE ROOM IN OUR HEARTS FOR HIS PEACE.

AUTUMN ALSO REMINDS US TO BE THANKFUL. THE CHANGING LEAVES, THE HARVEST, WARM GATHERINGS WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY, AND THE SIMPLE BLESSINGS OF EVERYDAY LIFE ARE GIFTS FROM GOD. SOMETIMES WE NEED ONLY PAUSE, LOOK AROUND, AND SAY, "THANK YOU, LORD." PSALM 92:14 TELLS US, "THEY SHALL STILL BRING FORTH FRUIT IN OLD AGE; THEY SHALL BE FAT AND FLOURISHING." WHAT A BEAUTIFUL REMINDER THAT EVERY SEASON OF LIFE HAS PURPOSE. NO MATTER OUR AGE OR CIRCUMSTANCES, GOD CAN CONTINUE TO USE US, BLESS US, AND MAKE OUR LIVES FRUITFUL. SO AS WE ENJOY THE BEAUTY OF FALL, MAY WE ALSO TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON OUR OWN SPIRITUAL LIVES. WHAT MIGHT GOD BE ASKING US TO LET GO OF? WHAT BLESSINGS SHOULD WE GIVE THANKS FOR? AND WHERE MIGHT HE BE CALLING US TO GROW? MAY WE ENTER THIS AUTUMN SEASON WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS, TRUSTING GOD WITH WHAT LIES BEHIND US AND LOOKING FORWARD WITH FAITH TO WHAT LIES AHEAD. LIKE THE TREES THAT CHANGE WITH THE SEASONS, MAY WE REMAIN FIRMLY ROOTED IN GOD, TRUSTING HIM THROUGH EVERY SEASON OF OUR LIVES.

SPIRITUAL COMMITTEE,
 JUDY CROM

2027 WOZ PROGRAM BOOKS -
All forms are due Oct. 11.

2027 WOZ PLANNING COMMITTEE:
Oct. 22, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall
 We will need all 2027 officers and Circle Chairmen to participate to make plans for the coming year.



Many Hands, One Purpose

As we enter the fall season, things at home and church are beginning to get busy. There are events to prepare for, meals to plan, projects to complete, and many details that need to come together. With all that activity comes a need for something very important: people willing to help.

Sometimes we may look at a list of things that need to be done and think, "Surely someone else will take care of that." But the truth is, the work of the church has always been carried out by many hands, each person contributing what they can.

In 1 Peter 4:10, we are reminded:

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." What a wonderful reminder that God doesn't ask all of us to do the same thing. Some may have time to volunteer. Some may be able to provide food or supplies. Some may be good at organizing, cooking, decorating, cleaning, setting up, or simply being willing to show up and lend a hand. Others may not be able to do much physically but can pray for the people who are working and for the ministries taking place. Every contribution matters.

As we prepare for the busy months ahead, I encourage each of us to ask, "What can I do?" Maybe it is signing up to work an event. Maybe it is donating an item that is needed. Maybe it is bringing a dish, helping clean up, or offering an hour of your time. Whatever it may be, our church ministries are strengthened when we all do our part.

It is easy to see a finished event and enjoy the fellowship, but behind every successful church gathering are many people who quietly gave their time, talents, resources, and energy to make it happen. So, as the calendar fills up, let's remember that we aren't simply checking items off a list. We are serving together. We are supporting one another. And we are helping make our church a place where people can gather, worship, serve, and feel welcomed.

Many hands can accomplish a lot—but when those hands are working together for God's purposes, they can accomplish even more. May we enter this busy season with willing hearts, generous spirits, and a readiness to serve wherever we are needed.

Blessings,
Tonya Halsne
WOZ President



Hosts for the meal are needed!



HOPE CIRCLE - OCT 1 @ 10 am

Devotions/Lesson: Jean Host: Ardith

Joy Circle - Oct. 11 @ 7pm

Devotions/Lesson/Host: Carma

Vesper Circle - Oct. 12 @ 1:30pm

Devotions/Lesson: Molly Host: Linda

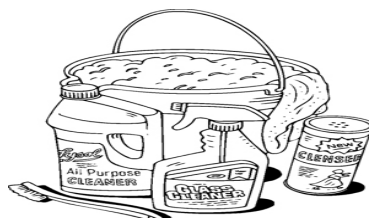
Faith Circle - Oct. 29 @ 7pm

Conversation: What is Your Favorite Dessert?

WOZ: Latimer Over 60's @ 11:30am

Oct. 6: Molly Allen and Ardith Parks

Oct. 20: Linda Brass and Rose Markwardt



ANNUAL CHURCH CLEAN UP

Information will be coming soon. NOTE: Church clean up will take place following fall bazaar up to Thanksgiving. Check your mailboxes.



*Grades PreK – 12th Sunday School: Meets every Sunday after service; PreK-5th: Children's choir. Children sing the last Sunday of every month during service. **Sunday school officially begins Oct. 4!!**



Children's Choir will sing on the last Sunday of every month.



Wednesdays @ 7:00pm (YF Room)
Questions? See Pastor Petri or Clayton and Mariah Miller



Please keep our friends in your prayers:
DIANE HUGHES, SHARON OLSEN, JON SUNTKEN, DARWIN BUTSON, BRIAN LUPKES, TED HUGHES, MAYNARD KOENEN.
God Bless Zion, our farmers during harvest season, our world leaders and our nation



Visitation Team: Ann Lupkes and Heather Koenen



Congratulations to Aaron and Laela DeVries! They were married at Zion on September 26. May God bless them both.

Bazaar Happenings: Currently

Go to Zion's website: www.zionreformed.com to order frozen foods and frozen soups; you may pre register for the porch pot making class (be sure to read all details) on the website; auction item information will be available soon. **Deadline for the above: Oct. 18**



Porch Pot Class

11/7 @ 3pm
Cost: \$35.00

Canning Meat

If anyone is interested in helping can meat for the Bazaar, please contact Ann Lupkes. Meat will be canned at 8:30 AM on Saturday, October 3.

Salsa Making

If anyone is interested in helping can salsa for the Bazaar, please contact Megan Oehlert. Salsa will be canned on Saturday, October 17.

New to You ("Trash 'n Treasure")

If you have donations, please drop off on Saturday, Oct. 17, 9am-noon at Zion use East entrance. Please none of the following: books, clothes/bedding/fabric, electronics. Please be sure items are clean/dusted before drop off such as décor, kitchen utensils/items, toys, etc.

"Flannel & Fellowship" Fall Bazaar: Nov. 7, 11am

Shops: 11am-5pm; Meal: 11am-6pm;

Porch Pot Class: 3pm; Live Auction: 6:30pm

***Please refer to the Bazaar information sheet that was placed in your church mailbox** for detailed information.

We are excited for a fun filled day of fellowship.

***DONATIONS** are being sought to help pay for the meat and for the ingredients for frozen meals or to the Bazaar in general. All donations should be given to Sammy Buseman, WOZ Treasurer by Oct. 18.

We hope to make this a bazaar for all of our church members to work together —men, women, teens, children and all! We really appreciate your help making this a fun, fabulous bazaar that will be welcoming to all our visitors. It is our big fundraiser for WOZ, but it is so much more than that. It's part of our mission to welcome others to Zion. So THANK YOU for helping where you can—working, donating goods or money, praying for us and all who come... whatever you do is appreciated.

In Christ, Marsha, Janeen, Carol, Tonya, Janette, Heather, Rose, Cheryl and Teresa S.

New Donation Collection Spot!!

The Women of Zion have long supported various missions in a variety of ways. We continue to support the Ronald McDonald House, Alliance Stamp Ministry and Lions International Sight Program. The donation collection spot once located in the corner of the kitchen is now located underneath the coat rack near the upstairs restroom.

Your continued support for missions, both near and far, is greatly appreciated.

Ann Lupkes, WOZ Service

Ronald McDonald House:

Save all aluminum pull tabs from items you use every day. Bring them to church and place them in the donation box located by the coat rack near the upstairs restrooms. Please use plastic bags to

make your donation. Your Support: The funds raised from recycling these tabs go directly to helping us offer comfort, care, and a home-away-from-home to families during their toughest times.

Alliance Stamp Ministry:

Save your stamps! Leave them on the paper and trim ¼" or 1/3" and leave them in the donation box

located by the coat rack near the upstairs restrooms.

Your Support: Since 1972, by processing and selling used stamps to buyers around the world, the

Shellpoint Alliance Stamp Ministry has raised more than \$1.2 million to support the publishing and distribution of Spanish language Sunday School curriculum and evangelical literature in Latin America, Spain and the US.

Iowa Lions Eyeglass Recycling

Getting new eyeglasses? Bring your old ones and drop them in the donation box located by the coat rack near the upstairs restrooms. Your Support: For more than 100 years, Lions across Iowa have continued to change lives through their global cause of supporting healthy vision by collecting donated eyeglasses. This valued service project is helping people around the world see clearly again one pair of glasses at a time.

ADDITIONAL local missions we support with donations. Please consider a donation!

Franklin County and West Fork Food Pantries (1 st Sunday of each month)

Orphan Grain Train (Tote located underneath the bulletin board in the foyer)

Men and Women's Shelters in Mason City (Tote located underneath the bulletin board in the foyer)

Tithes Attendance

	General	Benevolent	Attendance
SEP 06	\$3,532.00	\$945.00	126
SEP 13	\$3,138.00	\$880.00	115
SEP 20	\$2,190.00	\$325.00	135
SEP 27			162

Audio / Video Schedule

OCT 04	Nick	Tonya
OCT 11	Jerry	Molly
OCT 18	Dave	Duane
OCT 25	Jesse	Carma



Children's Time during church service

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Oct 4	Dave Harms
Oct 11	Ann Lupkes
Oct 18	Molly Allen
Oct 25	Megan Mollenbeck



DAYCARE PROVIDERS

After Children's Time !

* If your Sunday does not work, please find a replacement. Your efforts are very much appreciated.*

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Oct 4	Kirsten - Edrich
Oct 11	Sammy - Tenley
Oct 18	Marli - Morgan
Oct 25	Molly - Tatum

GREETERS

Oct 4	Shane & Leann Braun
Oct 11	Nick & Beth Bretz
Oct 18	Tanner B. & Addie B.
Oct 25	Paul & Jackie Sandersfeld



FELLOWSHIP

Oct. 4	Hosts needed
Oct. 11	Good time gang
Oct. 18	Crom's
Oct. 25	Al & Marsha



Sydney Buseman
2840 K. Ave. (Apt. 1)
Toledo, IA 52342

Silas Buseman
136 University Village Dr.
(Apt. B)
Central, SC 29630



The challenge is on!! Zion's goal is to send off 100+ shoeboxes to children across the globe so their Christmas is brighter. Begin your shopping or perhaps you have been gathering throughout the year. Shoeboxes will be set out after bazaar. There is a \$10 shipping fee per box. You may also donate money to support this worthy cause. Zion's RCYF will help in the distribution. **Boxes will be available in the church foyer starting October 28. Deadline is Nov. 15.**



Earp & Koenen Families: Thank you for your prayers, cards and those who showed concern during Marla's death. It was very important to us and helpful.

Butson: Thank you, Pastor and Elders, for allowing my transfer to become a member of Zion as that was one of Dale's last wishes. (It only took me 24 years!) I feel like I belong here. I look forward to serving with open hands with all of you. In love and faith – Janeen

Butson: There is not enough words to say thank you to all of you for your prayers, hugs, food, cards, help when Dale was sick with cancer. He enjoyed all of it even when he did not feel good. Dale had a strong faith. He was raised in Zion and all of you mean a lot through many trials and triumphs. When he went home to be with Jesus on May 10 he was ready. As he prayed that morning before the pain meds worked he recited Bible verses and told the devil, "You aren't going to get me. You are not going to win." Pastor, I cannot tell you what your visits have meant to both of us. The service was Dale. You knew him. Our hearts are sad at times but we have many memories to hold on to. He is celebrating with Jesus everyday. I can only imagine!! Love to all of you, -Butson, Stember and Powers families



NEW: "In the Spotlight"

By: M. L. Dickson

Can material abundance sometimes reduce our felt dependence upon God? Scripture warns us that it can. Revelation 3:17 speaks of those who said, "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing."

Consider two people facing tomorrow. One has very little. There may not be enough food in the house, no reliable transportation, and little money to meet an unexpected need. Their prayer may be, "Lord, please provide food for my family. Please help us get through tomorrow." Prayer becomes woven into the fabric of everyday life because their dependence upon God is impossible to ignore.

Now consider someone living in abundance. The refrigerator and freezer are full. There is money in the bank, a job, health insurance, and a credit card for emergencies. And when transportation is needed, there may be a pair of vehicles and a spare sitting in the driveway. Instead of praying, "Lord, please provide a way," we may simply jump into one of them and go. None of these blessings is bad. In fact, they are blessings for which we should thank God. But could they sometimes create an illusion that we have everything under control?

We still face problems that money and possessions cannot fix—broken marriages, children who have wandered away, loneliness, grief, anxiety, addiction, strained relationships, aging, fear, and spiritual emptiness.

The irony is that we may have more resources than ever to solve our daily problems, while also having more reasons than ever to pray. Perhaps the greatest obstacle to prayer isn't always having too little. Sometimes it may be having so much that we forget how much we need God. Prayer begins with a simple recognition: **"God, I need You."**

Meet Gary Bennett



Gary lives in rural Latimer. He has 3 children and 6 wonderful grandchildren. Kelly Bennett is his oldest son, then he has another son, Eric, and daughter, Karianne. He married his wife Diane in 1965, she passed in August 2015.

Gary was a dairy farmer until 1985. He was involved in Research at Latham Seeds for 28 years until he retired in December 2012. His wife, Diane, worked at CAL and drove school bus for 25 years.

He grew up in NE Iowa, Howard county, 4 miles from the Minnesota border and moved to Latimer in 1975. He enjoys being with family on holidays and birthdays. He has restored an old tractor and he has enjoyed several tractor rides around Iowa.

What Gary loves about Zion is the "country" setting and he feels that Communion is more meaningful. He says Pastor Petri and family are the greatest. His favorite Bible verse is his Confirmation verse - 2 Timothy 2:15: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth".



- 03 Judy Crom/ Bev Moore / Kaleb Kloetzer
- 06 Al Muhlenbruch
- 08 Sonna McMahon
- 09 Clayton Miller
- 10 Ty Eberling / Audrey VanHorn
- 11 Janette van Rooyen / Dennis Crom
Kellen Suntken
- 12 Mark Brandon
- 14 Chris Carstens/Stephanie Carstens / Lexis Barkema
- 15 Micayla Lahner
Ted & Diane Hughes
- 17 Teresa Butson
- 18 Dillan Barkema / *Jesse & Megan Mollenbeck*
- 19 Anzel Mans
- 22 Carl Barkema
- 26 Deanna Harms
- 27 Karter Kinseth
- 28 Judy Dannen / Michael Halsne
- 29 Beth Bretz
- 30 Sara Buseman / Ardith Parks

Zion Reformed Church

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Sheffield, IA 50475 (zionchurch2029@gmail.com)
641-579-6186 / www.zionreformed.com
Pastor Petri van Rooyen; 641-231-2361



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
* Every Sunday * 9:15am Worship 10:30am Sunday School / Kids' Choir	Pastor appreciation month!			1 10am Hope Circle	2	3 8:30 am Can Meat
4 World Communion Day! Holy Communion 9:15 am Service 10:30am Kids Choir PreK-HS SS	5	6 WOZ: Latimer Over 60's	7 7pm RCYF	8 6pm Deacons/Elders 7:00pm Consistory	9	10
11 9:15 am Service 10:30am Kids Choir PreK-HS SS 7:00pm Joy Circle	12 1:30pm Vesper Circle	13 2pm WOZ Rehab Center	14 7pm RCYF	15	16	17 Salsa Making: 9am-Noon drop off Treasures
18 9:15 am Service 10:30am Kids Choir PreK-HS SS	19	20 WOZ: Latimer Over 60's	21 6:30pm Family Ministry	22 6:30pm 2027 WOZ planning meeting	23	24
25 9:15 am Service 10:30am Kids Choir PreK-HS SS SS Children Sing during Worship	26	27	28 7pm RCYF	29 Faith Circle	30	31) Nov 7 Zion's Bazaar; 11am-6:00pm Meal; Auction at 6:30pm 11am – 5pm-Shops Preorder Items: 9/21-10/18 www.zionreformed.com