

HELLO *may* 2026
Zion Reformed Church



PASTOR'S
P O S T S

Dear Zion Family,

What is the main reason for coming to church on a Sunday?

In the Reformed tradition, we gather not out of routine, but out of resurrection joy. The first day of the week holds deep significance because it is the day our Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead. The empty tomb transformed history, and it continues to shape our worship.

From the earliest days of the church, believers met on this day to break bread, worship, and proclaim the risen Christ (Acts 20:7). Sunday became the Lord's Day—a weekly reminder that death has been defeated and new life has begun.

We do not come together merely to fulfill a duty, but to celebrate a victory. Each Sunday is a "mini-Easter"—a proclamation that Christ is alive, reigning, and gathering His people.

When we gather, we remember that we are here because He lives. Our worship is rooted in resurrection hope, and our unity is formed in the risen Christ. As it says in Luke 24:5–6: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!"

In Christ,

Pastor Petri



Consistory Highlights

* The next consistory meeting will be held on May 14



* MAY 1 *

A **May Day** tradition is marking the return of spring and the renewed gift of life. Neighbors may leave baskets of flowers on each other's doorsteps or doorknobs. Children may share treat baskets.

Let's always celebrate and thank God for the gift of life that He gave us.



Brotherhood Ministry:
1st Sunday of each month at 8:30am;
Zion's basement
May 3



First Sunday of each month



May 7



WOZ MAY PROGRAM

Saturday, May 9 – 10:30 am
Lunch will be provided

PROGRAM

Carma, Janette, Teresa S, Linda W, Shelly B.

HOSTS

Linda W, Janette V, Shelly B, Judy C.

TITLE

“For the Birds in the Bible”



Happy Mother's Day

** May 10 is Mother's Day **



Family
Ministry
May 13

6:30pm Meal
7pm Ministry

Hosts are needed for Family Ministry



ZION'S VBS: Snowball Mountain Challenge
(Age 4-Grade 6)

JUNE 22-26

M-TH: 8:45AM – 12:15PM;

F: 8:45AM-1:00PM WITH LUNCH PROVIDED

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, VBS PROGRAM DURING SERVICE

AND A FREEWILL OFFERING MEAL FOLLOWING:

BEEFBURGERS AND ICE CREAM HOSTED BY RCYF

ALL Teachers/Helpers/Workers:

**There will be a meeting on Sunday,
May 17, following service.**

It's that time of year to prepare for VBS! There is a VBS volunteer sheet posted on the bulletin board! Please help where you can. We are asking for monetary donations instead of snacks being brought in. We are making snacks to go with each day's lessons so it will be easier for one person to purchase the required food. **Money can be placed in the catch all box before May 17.** There will be a Friday meal so donations are being sought for the meal as well.

VBS Q: See Wendy or Bev. Thank You!!



Rooted and Growing

Spring is a season that quietly teaches us about faith. After months of frozen ground and bare trees, life begins to emerge again – slowly, steadily, and often unseen at first. Beneath the surface, roots are strengthening long before we notice new growth above.

Our faith can look much the same. There are seasons when we feel vibrant and full, and others when growth seems slow or even stalled. Yet God is always at work beneath the surface, deepening our roots, strengthening our trust, and preparing us for what comes next.

In Colossians 2:6-7, we are reminded to be “rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith.” Roots aren’t visible, but they are essential. They anchor us when life feels uncertain and nourish us when we feel spiritually dry.

As we move through the season, may we not be discouraged by what we don’t yet see. Instead, let us remain rooted in Christ – through prayer, Scripture, and fellowship – trusting that He is faithful to bring growth in His perfect time.

And when the new growth does appear, may it reflect His goodness, His grace, and His love working within us.

We look forward to having you join us for our May Program, “For the Birds in the Bible,” put on by the Education Committee as we gather for a time of fellowship and encouragement.

In Christ,

Tonya Halsne, WOZ President



WOZ SPIRITUAL LIFE

Devotional: When Envy Blinds the Heart

Scripture:

“Love does not envy...” — 1 Corinthians 13:4

Envy is subtle. It rarely announces itself loudly; instead, it creeps in quietly—disguised as comparison, dissatisfaction, or even “just noticing” what others have. But as Dorothy Sayers insightfully suggested, envy does something deeper than stir discomfort—it blinds us. It makes it nearly impossible to genuinely see, let alone celebrate, the happiness of others.

When envy takes root, another person’s joy can feel like our loss. Their success feels like evidence of our lack. And in that distortion, we begin to miss what God is doing—not only in their life, but in our own.

But Scripture calls us to a different posture. Love does not envy because love trusts. It trusts that God’s goodness is not limited, that His blessings are not scarce, and that His plans for each of us are intentional and personal.

When we surrender envy, something powerful happens: our vision clears. We begin to see others’ joy as a reflection of God’s faithfulness, not a threat to our own. Gratitude grows. Contentment takes root. And community strengthens, because we’re no longer competing—we’re celebrating.

Reflection Questions:

Where might envy be clouding your ability to celebrate someone else?

What blessings in your own life might you be overlooking because of comparison?

How can you actively choose gratitude today?

Prayer:

Lord, search my heart and reveal any envy that has taken hold. Help me to trust in Your goodness and Your timing for my life. Teach me to celebrate others sincerely and to find joy in the blessings You’ve given me. Replace comparison with contentment, and envy with love. Amen.

Megan Mollenbeck, Spiritual Life

Tithes  Attendance

	General	Benevolent	Attendance
APRIL 5	\$3,951.00	\$1,060.00	225
APRIL 12	\$2,145.00	\$650.00	140
APRIL 19	\$4,150.00	\$620.00	172
APRIL 26	\$2,850.00	\$430.00	121



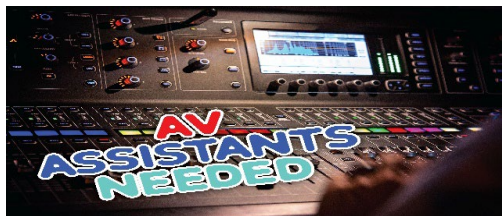
Duane and Lenora Payne / Phyllis Nelson



Please keep the following in prayer:

, Maynard Koenen, Sharon Oleson, Dale Butson, Jon Suntken, Arlene Maifeld, Darwin Butson, Brian Lupkes, Ted Hughes, Sam Butson, Marsha Muhlenbruch, Merrill Meese, Al Muhlenbruch

Prayers for Sarah Vander Schaaf (Brian and Ann's daughter)



New Audio/Video lists will be compiled at the end of May! Please let Marsha know if you are interested in being added or removed by May 10. We need you!!



	AUDIO	VIDEO
MAY 3	Jesse	Carma
MAY 10	Jesse	TONYA
MAY 17	Jerry	Duane
MAY 24	Dave	Molly
MAY 31	Nick	Carma

FELLOWSHIP

MAY 3	Brian & Ann
MAY 10	Kinseth/Miller
MAY 17	SS
MAY 24	Hosts Needed
MAY 31	Russ/Molly



Children's Time during church service

DATE	NAME
May 3	Pastor Petri
May 10	Shelly B
May 17	Dave
May 24	Ann
May 31	Megan M



DAYCARE PROVIDERS! After Children's Time

DATE	NAME/Helper
May 3	Sammy /Edrich
May 10	Kirsten/Marli
May 17	Marli/Morgan
May 24	Molly B/Tatum
May 31	Shelly



WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00pm



Diane H* / Judy C



HOPE CIRCLE - MAY 07 @ 10:00am (Fellowship Hall)
Devotions/Lesson: Diane; *Host:* Judy

SUNRISE CIRCLE – MAY 13 @ 9AM
DEVOTIONS/LESSON: SHARON; *HOST:* LAVONNE

JOY CIRCLE - MAY 10 @ 7:00pm
Devotions/Lesson/Host: Amy E.

Faith Circle – May 28 @ 7pm

What is a good conversation piece in your home?

GREETERS

May 3	Siferts
May 10	Roger and Carol
May 17	Harlyn and Charlane
May 24	Halsnes
May 31	Gary B/Chris S.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Disability Awareness Event for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. A special thanks to the table Host & Hostesses. The extra touches you gave to setting the table was warm and welcoming along with your hospitality to your table guests. The donations of meal ingredients and cakes are greatly appreciated. The success of the evening allowed Zion to make a generous donation to Iowa Hands and Voices.

With sincere gratitude,
Zion Ambassadors (Shelly Buseman, Nadine Goodwin, Heather Koenen, Ann Lupkes, Bev Moore, Kellen Suntken and Pastor Petri)

Janssen: Dear Zion Family
I am thankful for this praying congregation every day! You provided me with more prayers than I could ever imagine. Thank you for being a living example of God's love. I am praying that the love and faith you have shown me

returns to you countless times. May God bless you as abundantly as you have blessed me through your prayers.
Sincerely touched,
Charlane Janssen, Harlyn too!

RCYF: Thank you for your tremendous support on Youth Sunday. Our group of young adults along with us as sponsors are very blessed by the love, support and prayers that the congregation provides. -Clayton, Mariah and RCYF Gang

Grounds Clean Up: Again, thank you so much to all of you that took the time to help in the church grounds clean up. Your efforts were appreciated. - Keaton Buseman, Deacon



2026 Lily Tribute

In Memory Of: **Our grandparents and parents** from Markwardt family
John Mollenbeck from Jean, Amber, Garrett, Grace
Paul and Marie Jurgens and Therron Miller
from Marsha & Al family

In Celebration of the Resurrection:
Kellen and Megan Suntken
Flower Committee (X2)



**Children's Choir: (Last one until fall)
Special Music on Sunday, May 3. Please
arrive by 9am in fellowship hall.**



Please put the following dates on your calendar:

*Family Ministry dates for the summer: May 13, June 17, July 8, August 12 (Reminder that this is part of the youth catechism so PLEASE be sure to not take a break from FM)

*Last day of SS for the summer months: May 17;
Fall SS will resume with Promotion Sunday, Sept. 20

*Outside Services: June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 20

Please bring a chair/blanket

*May 31, Sept. 13: Kentucky/Tennessee Ministry

*Rocky Mt. High / RCYF: July 25-29



Flannel and Fellowship BAZAAR 2026

Date: Saturday, Nov. 7

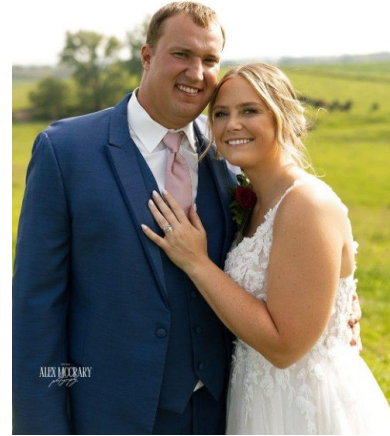
Time: Shops: 11am -

Lunch/Supper: 11am – 6pm

Auction: 6:30pm

Attire: Flannel / Zion T-shirts

Meet the Bennings!



Meet Andrew and Madison Benning

Andrew and Madison met at the Franklin County Fair in 2023 and got married August 2, 2025. Andrew grew up by Hansell and Madison grew up in Hampton but moved away to Center Point until meeting Andrew and moving back to Hampton.

Madison works at Parker Hannifin as an account manager and plans to sell her flowers that she is growing on their farm. Andrew farms on their livestock and crop farm and is also a real estate agent for Mid Iowa Real Estate, Auctions & Appraisals.

They like to hang out with friends and being social. They enjoy going to Iowa State games and trying new restaurants when they can! They traveled to Ireland for their honeymoon and hope to travel more in the future.

They have felt very welcome and comfortable since the first time they came to church at Zion. They see it as a great place where they continue to grow and can see their future family fitting in well. Madison's grandpa Jim Koenen grew up going to church at Zion.

They chose Matthew 19:6 for their wedding ceremony and it feels most important to them right now during this chapter in their life. "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Baptism

Congratulations to Carter and Lexis Barkema on the Holy Baptism of their daughter, Dillan Jerilyn;

Congratulations to Austin and Miranda Neff on the Holy Baptism of their son, Drake Joseph.

Both were baptized on April 19. Roses were left on the altar in their honor.



- 03 Carol Stock
- 04 Caden Sifert, Brian Lupkes
- 05 Jon Klink
- 06 Heather Koenen
- 07 Jen Koenen
- 10 Sammy Buseman
- 11 Adam Bird
- 14 Francis Brass
- 18 Michael Goodwin / Paul Sandersfeld
- 19 Karen Carstens / Lisa Bennett
- 20 Pam Lage
- 21 LeAnn Braun
- 22 Tenley Bird / Duane & Diane Barkema
- 23 Dick & Sara Stevenson
- 24 Jon & Judy Klink
- 27 Lenora Payne/Judy Klink
- 28 Exene Koenen, Emily Stock
- 30 Mark DeVries
- 31 Bev Mason / Eric & Pauline Barkema



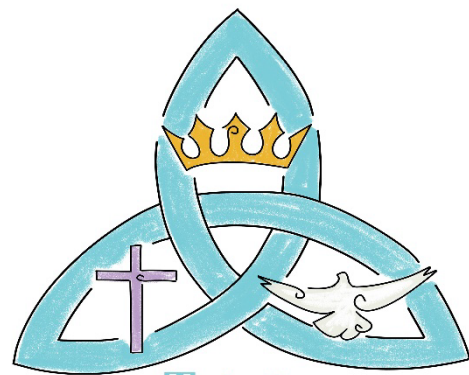
Sunday, May 17

Grateful for Those Who Gave All



We remember, O Lord, the men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country. Help us never to breathe the air of freedom, claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship without deep gratitude for those who gave "the last full measure of devotion" for our sake.

May they now know the peace of eternity and the joy of your presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Trinity
Sunday

Sunday, May 31



Sunday, May 3: Zion will celebrate our graduating seniors during the service.
Seniors: PLEASE remember to bring your cap and gown to church.

ZION'S CLASS OF 2026

Toby Linn Braun



Parents: Shane & Leann Braun
High School:
Hampton-Dumont-CAL
Graduation Date: May 17
Activities Involved in at School:
Football, Wrestling, Golf,
Weightlifting
A Favorite Memory Of School:
Fishing with friends
College Plans:
Northwest Iowa Community
College (NWICC) for Powerline
School
Activities involved in at Zion:
RCYF and all activities, Youth
Sunday, Christmas Program
Special Zion Memory:
RCYF and learning about God
with my friends.

Please join me!

My graduation reception is on May 9th
from 1-4 at Harriman Nielsen Barn in
Hampton. Your support has meant so
much. -Toby

Callum Jurgen Sifert



Parents:
John & Melissa Sifert
High School:
Belmond-Klemme
Graduation Date: May 17
**Activities Involved in at
School:** Band, Jazz Band,
Show Choir, Thespians,
National Honor Society,
Student Council, School
Improvement Committee
Awards Received:
Outstanding Performance
Award at the Iowa Jazz
Championships. 4.0 GPA
Academic Award
**A Favorite Memory Of
School:** Winning the Iowa
Jazz Championship 2 yrs
in a row. '25-'26
Future Plans:
Iowa Central to become an
electrician. Major in
Electrical Technologies.
**Activities involved in at
Zion:** RCYF, VBS
Special Zion Memory:
Playing Simon Says with the
kids at VBS.

Clementine Jeanette Sifert

**Parents:**

John & Melissa Sifert

High School:

Belmond-Klemme

Graduation Date: May 17

Activities Involved in at School:

Student Council, National Honor Society, Thespians, Jazz Band, Show Choir, Pep Band, Honor Choir, Small Group Speech, Cross Country, Soccer

Awards Received:

Award of Excellence (4.0 GPA through HS), Student of the Month, Outstanding Soloist Award – Jazz Band, HOCO Hero Award – Responsible Athlete, ISU True Scholar Award, Everett J. & Juen A. Anderson Endowed Scholarship, F. Beckwith Foundation Scholarship, Governor's Award.

A Favorite Memory Of School:

Making memories with my friends

College Plans:

Attend ISU and major in Horticulture

Activities involved in at Zion:

RCYF, Youth Sunday, Bible School, Special Music, Bazaar

Special Zion Memory:

Getting to know everyone in RCYF & Sunday School. I loved learning about God & also the people.



College Graduate: Justin Schulz

Justin graduates from Ellsworth on Friday, May 15th. He will continue his education at Iowa State in the fall as he pursues his degree in Ag Teaching.




Zion's Sunday School recognition will be on Sunday, May 17, during church service. Teachers and students should plan to attend. Fellowship will be in their honor! This will be the last Sunday for Sunday School for the summer. See you all back for Sunday School on Promotion Sunday, September 20!

Zion Reformed Church

2029B Jonquil Avenue
 Sheffield, IA 50475 (zionchurch2029@gmail.com)
 641-579-6186 / www.zionreformed.com
 Pastor Petri van Rooyen



2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
VBS: June 22-26	VBS @ Zion: June 22-26 8:45am - 12:15pm (M-TH) Friday: 8:45am-1:00pm w/lunch provided	Age 4 yr - 6th grade Fee: NO COST Register: zionchurch2029@gmail.com Deadline: May 3			1	2
 3*Food Pantry 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:15am Worship SS Choir – Last Sunday to sing for the summer *Graduate Recognition*	4	5	6 7pm RCYF	7 National Day of Prayer 10 am Hope Circle	8	9 10:30pm WQZ May Program w/lunch "For the Birds in the Bible"
10  Happy Mother's Day! 9:15am Worship Holy Baptisms 7pm Joy Circle	11	12	13 9:00am Sunrise Circle 6:30pm Family Ministry Night	14 Deacons/Elders 7:00pm Consistory	15	16
17 Ascension Sunday 9:15am Worship/ SS Recognition VBS Teacher/Helper meeting after worship	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:15am Worship	25  Memorial DAY	26	27	28 7pm Faith Circle	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday 9:15 am Worship						