

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2024

10:15 a.m.

(* Indicates: all who are able to please stand.)

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP *There's a Quiet Understanding*

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD

OPENING SENTENCES

L: This week has been filled with joys and sorrows.

P: We have come here this day with burdens on our hearts.

L: God, who hears your cries, will offer you healing love.

P: Thanks be to God for such generous compassion.

L: Open your hearts to God's infinite mercy.

P: We open our spirits to receive God's love for us.

*HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

*PRAYER **Gracious Lord, how shall we do your will today? Will it be in acts of praise, in gifts shared, in prayers lifted? Who will you lead us to serve? Help us trust you. Help us listen. Bless this community as we come together in worship. Encourage us, comfort us, unite us, make our joy complete. This we pray through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

ANTHEM *Teach Us to Pray*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MOMENTS

GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 9:38-50

MESSAGE *Do Ya Wanna Fight?*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Family of Carol Harris, Family of Ben Vowels, Sr., Mary Jo Nelson, Jim Brown, Cathy's family & friends, Dick & Alice Tostovarsnik, Alan, Kathy Radke, Eric, Jean Mikus, Disaster victims, Jocie, Audrey, Bobby, Kim, Steve, unspoken, Priscilla Dean, Doug Jakse Family, Karen, Tom & Gretchen Kaszynski, Lindenmier family, Rusty & Mary Thies, Kevin & Anne Orval, Jim, Evie Coulter, Family of Devin, Mary Leone Family, Karen Kradle, The Smith Family, Art Ramey Family, Cliff Smith, Arnie Watkins, Cheryl Grosenbach, Jean Spayer, Emily, Deb Cooper, renewal Team, Melissa, Marissa, Cindy Harzheim, Dixie Tonozzi, Marilyn Haslam, Paul Lewis, Ron Narczewski, Bob & Holly Antkowiak, Bill Vlastnik.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

PRAYER RESPONSE *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*RESPONSE *Give Thanks*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION **Receive our lives, O God, which we offer in token to you through the offering of these gifts. May we, and may they, be used for the purposes to which you have called them, and to which you call your whole church, in the works of love and healing and justice shown in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN *Go Forth for God*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Announcements

New Prayer Requests

- Dick Tostovarsnik, for health
- Mary Jo Nelson, for health
- Jim Brown, for health
- Alan, for health
- Family of Cathy, Pastor Kay's friend
- Family of Carol Harris
- Family of Ben Vowels, Sr.
- Hurricane Disaster Victims

Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of Carol Harris, Rhonda Essl's mother. Carol passed away September 25, 2024. Services will be held Monday, September 30th at Mueller Funeral Home in Peru. Visitation will begin at 9:00am until the service at 11:00am, with Karen Karczewski officiating.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of Ben Vowels, Sr. Ben passed away September 25, 2024. Services will be held Monday, September 30th at First Baptist Church of LaSalle. Visitation will begin at 10:00am until the service at 11:00am.

*If you would like to make an announcement during worship, please request a microphone. Thank you!

CROP Walk Against Hunger

Zion had 11 walkers who raised \$1700! The four churches combined raised \$5200 to help feed the hungry in our community and around the world. Thanks to walkers and sponsors!

Please join us for fellowship refreshments after worship today.

The Women's Guild will meet this Thursday, October 3rd at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Choir practice has begun! We meet Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We need new members! If you like to sing and have fun, please contact the church office or Jim Greening (815/223-1858) with questions, or come to practice.

Listen to Pastor Alex at 8:25 every Sunday morning on 103.9 **WLPO**. Tell your friends!

Zion Diners met September 19th at Tony's Butt Shack for a fun time. Bill & Phyllis Bender hosted. The next Diners event will be Thursday, October 17th at 6:00pm with Candis Zelenak hosting. The restaurant will be The Blue Margarita in Oglesby. Plan to join us to see what we talk about when we say we have such a good time. I will be making out next year's program. If you have a particular month that you'd like to host, let Phyllis know. All are welcome!

The Illinois Valley Flute Ensemble will present a Halloween concert on October 24th at 7:00PM in the sanctuary of Zion UCC. Please come and join us and enjoy a "flutey" Halloween with HAUNTINGLY beautiful music. It will be open to the public with a free will donation.

Memorial Sunday, when we will remember members of our family of faith who have died during the past year, will take place on October 27th.

Sunday morning worship at Pilgrim Park on November 3rd Anyone who would like to carpool can meet at the church at 10:00. **Our service will begin at 11:15am.** If you need a ride, please let Pastor Alex know. We'll have lunch after the service. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex, or contact the church office. Please sign up so that we can let Pilgrim Park staff know how many are coming and how much food to prepare. If you haven't worshipped at Pilgrim Park with us before, please join us. It's an amazing place to enjoy nature.

Harvest Home Sunday will take place on November 24th this year. If you would like Jim Greening to do your shopping for you, please contact him during October! Zion will serve a **Community Thanksgiving Dinner** this year. Details to come!

SAVE THE DATE: COOKIE SALE WILL BE DEC. 13

Cookie Sale News Flash #2

We managed to have a Cookie Sale during the pandemic by having people preorder cookies which we packaged for them to pick up. To accomplish this we needed to offer a limited variety of cookies, and no other baked goods. Last year's sale many more varieties of cookies were sold, but still just cookies. However, before the pandemic we also sold **bread, pies, coffee cakes and candies** – whatever people wanted to make. We're bringing those back. So, it's the Cookie and More Sale. If you would like to make some things from the "and more" category for the sale, we'd love to have them.

Zion UCC is once again providing a delicious hot meal delivered to the **Peru PADS homeless shelter** each month. As the summer winds down, the shelter reopened earlier this year due to a greater need than ever. Please open your hearts and wallets to support this important cause. Every little bit helps us provide a nutritious meal each month through May. Write a check to the church and note "**PADS Meals.**" Or go online and donate through the Giving page on our website. Together we can make a difference for the less fortunate in our community! Your donation helps provide a healthy, hearty meal to those who need it most. Thank you for your generosity and support in feeding the hungry!

Food Pantry Seeks Donations for Expansion

The Illinois Valley Food Pantry is in need of financial support as it searches for a larger facility. The expanded space will allow the pantry to store more perishable and non-perishable foods, enabling them to better serve our community's needs.

Your monetary contributions can make a significant impact.

To donate, please send checks to:

Illinois Valley Food Pantry 122 Wright St. LaSalle, IL 61301
Together, we can help ensure no one in our community goes hungry. Thank you for your generosity.

Hope House Donations-Savanna Rietgraf is interning at a halfway house called Hope House that supports men transitioning from jail and prison. Many arrive with few belongings and need clothing as they work to rejoin the community. Savanna is asking for donations of gently used men's clothing - any sizes and styles, from casual to professional. Bring items to the church office or contact Jim Greening. Your support can make a big difference. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

HELP WANTED! Ushers: We are building a new Ushers List. If you previously served as usher and would like to serve again, we would like to add you to the new ushers list. Previously ushers served for an entire month. Ushers now will serve when they are available to serve even for a single Sunday. You can let Larry Grosenbach know you will serve as usher or email ushers@zionperu.org to be added to the ushers list.

Evangelism: We are updating our visitor information about Zion church and will be creating a visitor packet that will contain our new updated information about Zion Church and a thank you gift or two for them visiting. If you would like to help the Evangelism Team with the visitor project you can let Pastor Alex, Jerry Koehler or email evangelism@zionperu.org.

Live Life (Pre and Post Transplant Support Group) meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm at Zion UCC.

The Compassionate Friends Group meets at Zion every fourth Thursday at 6:30pm. This meeting is open to any parent who has lost a child. Please contact the church office for information.

Weight Watchers is meeting every Saturday morning at 8:00 here at Zion. We're happy to provide space for this worthwhile service to our community.

Tonica Church is collecting personal hygiene products to give away. Items needed include: *Bar soap *Shower gel *Shampoo Razors *Deodorant *Toothbrushes *Toothpaste *Combs or Brushes *Also- they are collecting men's pants. Contact Diane Gebhardt with any questions.

You can now donate to Zion by Text to (815)393-1954

Enter the amount you want to give to Zion in the Text box and send. If it the first time you are giving by text you will be prompted to set up your giving method (credit card or bank account).

Copies of "These Days" Devotions are available in fellowship hall.
Copies of the hymns & large print copies of the bulletin are available in the Narthex.

Copies of September 23rd Council Meeting minutes available in fellowship hall.

Zion United Church of Christ 6 th & Grant Streets, Peru, IL Follow us on Facebook: Zion UCC, Peru, IL office@zionperu.org 1-815-223-2671 www.zionperu.org	
Ministers	Members of the Congregation
Pastor	Pastor Alex Garncarz
Organist	Jim Greening
Secretary	Erin Lewis
Liturgist	Shelly Garncarz
Audio Technician	Jerry Koehler
Video Technician	Rhonda Essl
Song Leader	Dave Jacobson
Fellowship	Diane Gebhardt & Phyllis Bender

Attendance: Morning Worship September 22nd:
In Person: 39 + 6 children On YouTube: 6

This week:

Wednesday, October 2nd

6:30pm Choir practice

Thursday, October 3rd

1:00pm Women's Guild meeting

Saturday, October 5th

8:00am Weight Watchers meeting

Sunday, October 6th

8:25am Pastor Alex on WLPO

9:00am CREW

9:30am Choir practice

10:15am Worship in person, also available on YouTube

Followed by fellowship refreshments

Office Hours-The secretary is in the office on Fridays

Monday: Closed

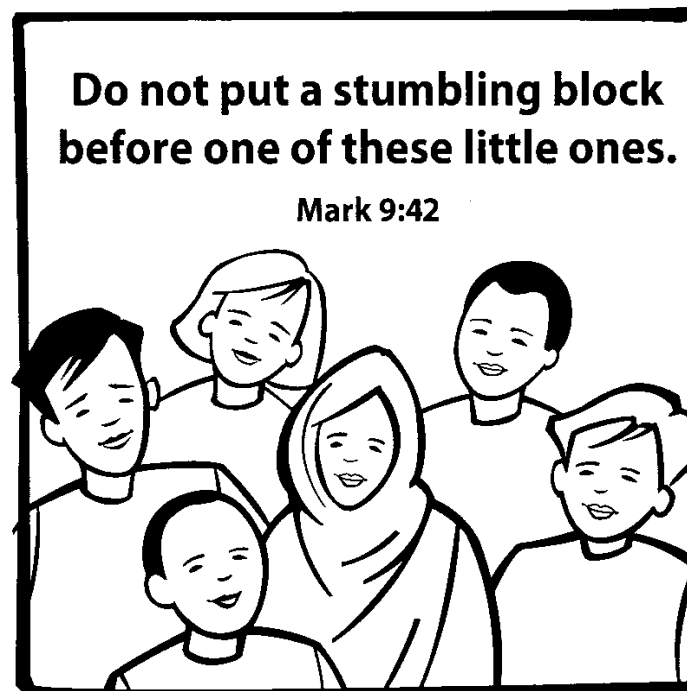
Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: Closed

Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

Zion United Church of Christ



Handicapped Accessible

www.zionperu.org

Follow us on Facebook: Zion UCC, Peru, IL

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