

THE JOURNEY

OCTOBER 2018



Dear Zion,

In the gospel of Mark, Jesus says, *"Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."*

I'm convinced we need silence, we need to intentionally seek time and space where we are not engaging our "calculating mind." We are nurtured spiritually by silence in a way we cannot be by learning more theories, accomplishing more tasks, or even reading the Bible more often. In September, we celebrated God's creation together, noting how God pronounced our world *Good*. A world so created by a loving Creator ought not find us wallowing in anxiety, anger, and disconnection from one another. Finding a way to see differently in silence, to draw from the *Good* rather than be constantly driven to achieve something or will ourselves to be better is not some kind of New Age concept, but rests at the foundation of our faith tradition. Jesus's ministry began after 40 days of silence in the Judean wilderness. In the desert, there are no distractions, especially from one's self, and Jesus chose to begin from this place, this silence to ensure all He did and said on earth would be drawn only from God's goodness.

It is not an easy practice to begin, especially in a culture where production and business have become our masters. There is nothing to gain from simply being still and breathing, we believe. It feels awkward, and one might be taken by a sense of guilt because nothing is being attained: no degree, no knowledge, no certificate, nothing. This, of course, is how contemplative prayer/silence/meditation appears to the calculating mind.

I would like to offer a time where we could meet for a contemplative prayer class at Zion. It would be an extension and deepening of our 60 seconds before our service together on Sundays. I believe with all of my heart that this is a way to make our faith communities "salty" again.

Over the last thirty years, I've been a part of more groups as a student and teacher than I can recall, so doing it at Zion would be simple enough. I realize we are all busy and another obligation is not appealing, so let's talk with one another over the next few weeks and see if we cannot find an easy way to make a contemplative prayer class a reality at Zion.

Love,

Erik

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We welcome all people on a lifelong journey of faith with a still-speaking God.
We are many minds in spiritual beliefs, but one body in loving service to our community.

ZION
United Church of Christ

1811 McFarland Rd
Junction City, KS 66441

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
zionuccjc@yahoo.com

October Lectionary

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| October 7 Job 1:1-2; 10:1-10 Psalms 26 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16 <i>Enfolding Love</i> | October 14 Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Psalms 22:1-15 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31 <i>What Must I Do?</i> | October 21 Job 38:1-7, (34-41) Psalms 104:1-9, 24, 35 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45 <i>Great Service</i> |
| October 28 Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Psalms 34:1-8 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52 <i>Take Heart</i> |  | |

**The Journey
Prints
October 26
for
November**

**Attendance
2018 YTD
2603
2017—2586**

**Be sure to get
your Zion car
decal.
They can be
purchase each
Sunday.
\$3.00 for one or 2
for \$5.00**

Women's Fellowship

September 7, 2018

Women's Guild met on September 7 with seven ladies in attendance. Leona hosted the noon luncheon.

Judy led devotions, "Real Life", a poem written by her mother, Ruth Schultz.

The secretary's minutes were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read by Ruth with the absence of Lane. The balance as of Sept. 6 is \$881.23.

There were no communications.

Committee Reports: Outreach: Judy reported that we are assisting Gary through Every Child's Hope. Cards: Jerry reported sending out several cards. She submitted a bill for postage and cards. Fellowship Coffee has been signed up for each Sunday for Sept.

There was no old business.

New Business: Janette handed out the new books for the year. Corrections were made. The December meeting was changed to Dec. 4 subject to approval of host, Lane. Discussion of possibly doing a new fund raiser instead of the chili-soup dinner was introduced to think about and will wait until next month when more are in attendance for further discussion. Leona reported information for outreach projects through KS-OK Conference and Church World Service. She ask that everyone read the Wednesday reports from the K-O Conference. She expressed her displeasure in lack of interest of taking on projects rather than just donating money.

Under announcements: Janette reminded everyone of Sept 9 when Pastor Erik would present his trial sermon and a vote will follow immediately after the service. That evening will kick off the Sunday School picnic with hot dogs provided by the Heiman Family and everyone bringing a side dish. Lots of games and fellowship is planned.

The next meeting will be on Oct. 5 with Judy Gardner hosting.

The meeting concluded praying The Lord's Prayer.

Outreach



Heifer International

The second Sunday of the month we collect quarters for Heifer International. The Children of Zion collected \$57.73 in October YTD \$549.30

October 9th is Heifer International Sunday.

THIS IS NO ORDINARY GIFT.

Gift of a Heifer

Change a family's life forever by purchasing a heifer in honor of your loved ones! By giving a family a heifer and training in its care, you're giving them health and hope. A good dairy cow can produce up to four gallons of milk a day. That's plenty for a family to drink and share with their neighbors-as well as sell at market! Protein-rich milk can improve the health of sick malnourished children. And selling extra milk provides much-needed income for food, medicine, schooling and more. And since a healthy cow can produce a calf every year, families can Pass on the Gift to help their neighbors lift themselves out of poverty.

Gift of A Heifer \$500 Share of a Heifer \$50

Fill the Hunger Cart

On the first Sunday of October the Hunger Grocery cart was filled with **132.00 lbs.** of food for the Food Pantry. **YTD 1,008lbs of food**

The need is great. The shelves are being emptied at the Food Pantry as fast as they can fill them and they some times run out of food having to turn people away.



Please add a few items to your weekly shopping list. cereals, canned goods, macaroni and cheese, canned meat.

Remember the cart is always available to deposit your items.

Zion at Work in the World: October Giving Opportunities

Zion participates in several mission opportunities throughout each month. Here are the ways you can make a difference during the upcoming weeks.

October 7: Food donations for the Food Pantry

October 14: Quarter collection for Heifer International

Consistory Highlights

Consistory Minutes– Aug 8, 2018

The monthly meeting was called to order by President Wayne Gfeller at 7:00 p.m.

Members present:

Wayne Gfeller, Vern Steffens, Jill Schmutz, Tau Osa , Ray Kruse, Lyn Green, Deniece Carlson and Pastor Erik Graefe. Keith Henry was unable to attend.

Erik opened the meeting with a prayer.

Memorial Fund:

The balance is \$17,297.20 as of July, 2018.

Secretary:

The minutes were approved as read by Lyn and seconded by Jill.

Treasurer:

Total income for July \$8339.73. Expenses were \$5550.51.

Pastor Report:

Weekly visitations Sunday mornings.

The annual meeting is Oct 12,13. Keith and Erik will be attending. Registration deadline is Sept 24.

More members of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

Information concerning church grants were discussed. Keith will communicate with Edith on some questions we have.

Financial Secretary:

approved as presented

Old business:

Several locations were discussed for outside cameras.

New Business:

The new directory is almost done.

A calling tree was discussed, further discussion later.

Keith moved to give the choir a donation of \$300.00 for the all church party. Jill seconded, motion carried.

Sept 9- Sunday school resumes. A picnic at 5:30 at the church for the Sunday school kickoff.

Jill will be gone Sept 6-10.

Next meeting Sept 5, 2018

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Deniece Carlson

Secretary



White Sunday Comes to Zion

Join the Zion family on October 14 for a new faith tradition as we observe White Sunday. The children of our congregation will lead our worship service. All members of the church can participate by wearing white. We will also celebrate with a pot-luck lunch after the service.

- Wear white to church on October 14.
- Bring a dish to share at the after-church pot-luck lunch.

Learning about White Sunday

White Sunday is a Samoan holiday that is celebrated in almost every Samoan community around the world. This memorable day is referred to as Lotu Tamaiti, Aso Sa Pa'epa'e or Children's Service. Traditionally, children wear formal white clothes for the occasion. White Sunday falls on the second Sunday in October. It consists of two services, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The morning service is the Sunday school and youth program. The afternoon service is for the entire family. The general practice is that children are given the responsibility of planning the church service. The children practice for several months before the big day, often putting on skits from Bible stories, singing songs, and often the older children will be responsible for the day's sermon or message, reading the scripture and the prayer. The service begins with the children's parade. After the morning service is a family feast where the children are served first. In many families the children are excused from chores.

The day before White Sunday, women of the congregation gather together to set up the church. They bring fresh flowers such as plumerias and white gingers, as well as ferns. The flowers are woven together to make long strands to decorate the church. At the same time, they prepare the "pales" or head bands for the children. Afterwards, they will start baking pies and cakes for the special day. Meanwhile, the men of the congregation are either at the plantation getting the biggest taros and bananas, preparing the underground stove or "Umu", or fishing. There is always a size 2 pig for the feast. The main menu is usually taro, bananas, "Palusami", taro leaves with coconut milk and onions, fish, pig, ham, fruit salad, potato salad, pies, cakes, Jello and of course ice cream.

From where and when does White Sunday originate? The most believable version of its origins is that it started from the aftermath of the 1919 influenza epidemic in which 20% of the Samoan population in Western Samoa died from the flu. Every Samoan family was visited with multiple tragedies and many of those who died were children. It is believed that White Sunday was both a way of bringing families together to remember those who had died and to celebrate the lives of the children who had lived.

Happenings at Zion

Make sure you are in the know. Check out the Zion Website <https://zionuccjc.org/calendar/> for the monthly calendar as to what is happening. If you have something for the calendar please let the office know as soon as possible so that it can be listed. Email is the easiest: zionuccjc@yahoo.com. There will be additional people that will have access to the calendar to add events also here in the near future and it will be announced.

'Cultivating Generous Congregations' draws a crowd to Cleveland

September 22, 2018

Written by **Connie Larkman**

To build a culture of generosity through collaboration and cooperation to continue the mission and ministry of the United Church of Christ, representatives of 35 of the denomination's 38 Conferences gathered at the Church House in Cleveland this week, participating in an event aimed at building the fund development capacity of UCC Conferences, Associations, and local Congregations.

Twenty-five Conference Ministers participated in the event which began Tuesday evening, September 18, and adjourned Friday morning, September 21.

"Our time together will deepen the partnership necessary for the National and Conference Settings of the UCC to work together to raise the funds necessary to carry out our mission at every level — local Church, Conference, and National," said the Rev. Andy DeBraber, a major gift officer in the UCC Office of Philanthropy, Technology, Identity and Communication (OPTIC).

A new approach to fundraising became necessary when the UCC General Synod retired the Pattern of Giving in 2017 and adopted a New Ecology of Generosity. The National Setting of the UCC, specifically the Philanthropy and Stewardship team, now part of OPTIC, was charged with its development.

This week's gathering, 'Cultivating Generous Congregations,' is an interactive seminar that changes the way churches and congregations approach giving and generosity. It was developed and co-facilitated by the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving at the Lilly School of Philanthropy at Indiana University. The UCC has contracted with the Lake Institute to host six to eight Cultivating Generous Congregations seminars around the country from 2017-2020. Cleveland is hosting the third event, with others previously held in Wichita, Kan., and Wenatchee, Wash.

"The world of fund development has shifted significantly over the last 30 years while fundraising in the church largely stayed the same," said DeBraber, one of the seminar's facilitators. "Now we are playing catch up and taking this opportunity to develop best practices in every setting of the UCC."



OPTIC has been working to do that, in workshops around the country during the past year. With Giving & Stewardship workshops at conference annual meetings, in Money & Ministry Workshops in partnership with the other UCC-affiliated financial ministries, and during individual consultations with conferences, associations, churches, and pastors, all settings of the Church continue to work out new protocols as they work together around stewardship and fundraising.

Based on comments from participants, the Cleveland event was very well received. "This has been a terrific event," said the Rev. Franz Rigert, Conference minister, Wisconsin Conference UCC. "It's a great gift from the National Setting to the Conferences."

The seminar specifically focused on the needs of Conferences around stewardship and raising money. It's hoped that participants are now better equipped in two primary ways: first, with significant and cutting-edge learning and materials to grow stewardship in the churches of their conference; second, will new skills and capacity at the Conference level to improve their own fund development through training in developing a case statement, the spirituality of fundraising, creating a development plan, learning compelling story-telling, and asking for major gifts.

When asked about takeaways, the Rev. Bill Worley, Conference Minister of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference UCC, said gathering confirmed what he already knew. "We're failing to train church leaders, across the board, on the basics of creating financially healthy congregations. It's not that hard to do."

Said Cynthia Bailie, director of OPTIC, "This is the first of what we hope are many opportunities for leadership and learning as we strengthen our covenantal commitments to working together to create and implement new ways to invite investment in the mission of the United Church of Christ."



Monthly Financial Reports

Financial Secretary

Treasurer's

| Date | Att. | Giving |
|--------------|------|--------|
| 8/5 | 53 | |
| 8/12 | 78 | |
| 8/19 | 64 | |
| 8/26 | 78 | |
| | | |
| Online | | |
| Total | 273 | |



Online Giving at Zion UCC



Members of the congregation have the ability to donate online through a secure portal. Donating online eliminates the need to write a check to the church. Online giving is an easy process to establish, and gifts December be changed as desired. Online giving can be accomplished in single payments or as repeat scheduled payments. Below is the link

<https://smartpay.profitstars.com/express/zionucccpp>

If you have any questions or need the additional instructions, please contact the church office at 785-238-5732.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Zion United Church of Christ!

10/8 HAROLD & VENICE FACKLAM
10/8 RONNIE & LINNIE GFELLER
10/11 JOSH & COURTNEY GFELLER
10/18 JACK & JUDY HEINTZ
10/25 ERIK & SHERI GRAEFE



10/6 Russel Altwegg
10/9 Deb Heiman
10/9 Alex Lee
10/9 Tim Jury
10/10 Renee Jury
10/12 Jack Heintz
10/13 Jill Schmutz
10/18 Cally Bretterlin
10/29 Kevin Heiman

"Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edge sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.


Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Hebrews 4:12-16

**If we have missed a birthday or anniversary we are sorry. The reason for that would be that we do not have that birthday or anniversary in our information. If you would like it included please give the information to the office.*

October

2018

| <i>Sunday</i> | <i>Monday</i> | <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> | <i>Saturday</i> |
|--|---------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| | <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>3</i> Choir 6:00 pm Consistory 7:00 pm | <i>4</i> | <i>5</i> Women's Fellowship 12:00 pm | <i>6</i> |
| <i>7</i> <i>Celebration of Holy Communion</i> <i>Food Pantry Sunday</i> White Sunday practice 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am | <i>8</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>10</i> Choir 6:00 pm | <i>11</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>13</i> |
| <i>14</i> <i>White Sunday</i> <i>Heifer International Sunday</i> Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship & Potluck, 11:30 am | <i>15</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>17</i> Choir 6:00 pm | <i>18</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>20</i> |
| <i>21</i> Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am | <i>22</i> | <i>23</i> | <i>24</i> Formation Team 4:30 pm Choir 6:00 pm | <i>25</i> | <i>26</i> | <i>27</i> |
| <i>28</i> Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am | <i>29</i> | <i>30</i> Pilot Club 5 pm | <i>31</i> Choir 6:00 pm  | | | |

Serving Zion

| | <u><i>Greeters</i></u> | <u><i>Ushers</i></u> | <u><i>Coffee Fellowship</i></u> |
|---------------|---|---|---------------------------------|
| <i>Oct 7</i> | <i>Kenny & Debby Gfeller</i> | <i>Caleb Snider & Kasey Fielder</i> | <i>Open</i> |
| <i>Oct 14</i> | <i>Cleo Jones & Deniece Carlson</i> | <i>Scott Altwegg & Jed Gunns</i> | <i>White Sunday Potluck</i> |
| <i>Oct 21</i> | <i>Josh & Courtney Gfeller</i> | <i>Steve & Nate Green</i> | <i>Tim & Renee Jury</i> |
| <i>Oct 28</i> | <i>Kasey & Lacey Fielder</i> | <i>Denise & Payton Tabb</i> | <i>Open</i> |



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