



THE JOURNEY

NOVEMBER 2018



Dear Zion,

One of the teachers at Abilene High School told her class on our first day together that she would offer a choice regarding how students take notes and complete assignments in her class. The students were offered the choice of employing a blue or black pen. There are hundreds of colors of pens, countless other methods of recording information, and countless ways a student might complete an assignment. Yet, the students in this class, can choose either blue or black; not much of a difference, not much of a choice. The teacher's intent was not to imply that she was offering some wonderful liberating opportunity for the students to exercise their agency concerning how they took notes, but the wording evoked something in me concerning our country's current political climate.

At some point in our history, our choices concerning how we care for each other and the communities in which we live and work have been narrowed. Blue/black has become democrat/republican or liberal/conservative or progressive/conventional, etc.: not much of a difference, not much of a choice. The public arena has become so narrowly defined that the only way one is to be taken seriously is to align with the blue pens or the black pens. Institutional Christianity has fallen in line with all other institutions in the U.S. seeking relevance in this way.

Followers of the risen Christ have access to a very different kind of freedom than those delineated in blue and black pen. We are not limited in how we care for one another, how we understand one another, and how we live with one another. We are to seek the very mind of Christ in silence and in prayer. From there, we can see the limitless ways in which we can inject His love, His presence, His justice in to a deeply divided and ailing society.

Of course we vote, of course we take part in the political discourse in our communities, but followers of the risen Christ can see more possibilities than blue or black.

Love

Erik

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ZION
United Church of Christ

1811 McFarland Rd
Junction City, KS 66441

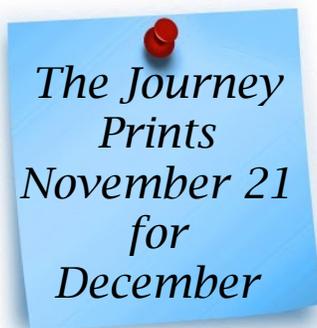
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
zionuccj@yahoo.com



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.

November Lectionary

<p>November 1 <i>All Saints' Day</i> Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalms 24 Revelation 21:1-6 John 11:32-44</p>	<p>November 4 Ruth 1:1-8 Psalms 146 Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 12:28-34 <i>The Way of Love</i></p>	<p>November 11 Ruth 3:2-5; 4:13-17 Psalms 127 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44 <i>The Way of Giving & Receiving</i></p>
<p>November 18 1 Samuel 1:4-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25 Mark 13:1-18 <i>The Way of Faithfulness</i></p>	<p>November 22 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> Joel 2:21-27 Psalms 126 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Matthew 6:25-33</p>	<p>November 25 2 Samuel 23:1-7 Psalms 132:1-12, (13-18) Revelation 1:4-8 John 18:33-37 <i>Reign of Christ</i></p>



The Journey
 Prints
 November 21
 for
 December



Attendance
2018 YTD
2935
2017—2830

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

Women's Fellowship

October 5, 2018

Women's Guild met on October 5 with 10 ladies in attendance. Hostess, Judy Gardner, serve a delicious meal and crafted wonderful Halloween favors for all in attendance. No one want to follow Judy hosting, as she makes such elaborate decorations!

Judy led devotions, "Things to Ponder or Make You Smile".

Janette presided over the business meeting. The secretary's minutes were read and approved. Lane, treasure, reported a balance of \$835.96.

Communications: A thank you note was received from Every Child's Hope thanking for the quarterly giving. Cards: Gerry reported sending several cards during the month and noted the Facklam's would be celebrating their "68" anniversary on October 8.

Old business: Leona reported on the 10 clean-up buckets that the adult Sunday School class sponsored and that the youth would assist in packing.

New business: The motion was made to try a new money making project this winter in place of the chili-soup dinner. Motion carried and final plans will be announced next month.

The next meeting will be held on Nov. 2 with Jill hosting.

The meeting concluded by praying The Lord's Prayer.

Ruth Gfeller, secretary

Consistory Highlights

Consistory Minutes– Sept 5, 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, Ray Kruse, Deniece Carlson, Keith Henry and Pastor Erik Graefe. Lyn Green and Tau Osa were unable to attend.

Erik opened the meeting with a prayer.

Memorial Fund:

The balance is \$17,546.00 as of Aug., 2018.

Secretary:

A correction to the minutes of Aug. Vern Steffens was not able to attend. Correction and minutes were approved by Keith and seconded by Vern.

Communication:

A thank you card from the choir for the help on the all church party.

Also a check for the Ruth Schultz memorial.

Treasurer:

Total income for Aug. \$6685.24. Expenses were \$6921.24.

Pastor Report: Weekly visitations Sunday mornings. Met with the formation committee> discussion included a possibility of a prayer group study, and or book club study.

Several ideas were discussed to help with the UCC Disasters Minister Program. Clean-up buckets was one idea. Another idea is send money. More information is needed before any decision is made.

Financial Secretary:

approved as presented

Old business: none

New Business:

On Sept 9 the congregation will be voting on Erik Graefe as our new pastor Ballots will be inserted into bulletins.

The open door has requested a donation box be placed in the narthex. Deniece will call for more information.

Sina has submitted a breakdown of the expenses from the all church party.

Wayne will call a plumber for estimates on plumbing issues in the ladies restroom. Also will check with Jim Murrison on repairing the outside sign.

Next meeting Oct. 3, 2018

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Deniece Carlson, Secretary

Clean-up Buckets

The Adult Sunday School Class was made aware of the UCC Disaster Ministries and K-O Conference support of Church World Services Clean-Up Buckets used to help families recover following a domestic or international disaster. Thanks first of all go to Jill for submitting Zion's information in order to receive a matching \$250 grant for this project. A Walmart associate generously provided her time in collecting the items needed at a reduced rate. Vern, Doris, some of the Youth Class (including several parents) and Pastor Eric and Shari provided the Adult class with help in assembling the items in the buckets and sealing them. Keith donated a yummy lunch that was enjoyed by all.

This activity was accomplished in just one hour with the buckets later taken to the K-O Conference annual meeting by Keith and Pastor Eric. This is one way to Be The Church!

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.

News from the United Church of Christ

United Church of Christ Board formalizes leadership structure change, 2019 budget, elections

Meeting in Cleveland last week, the United Church of Christ Board formally ratified the streamlined structure of the denomination's national leadership, approved a budget for 2019, and worked toward the next election of national executives to be held at General Synod 32 in Milwaukee, Wisc., in June.

On Friday, October 19, Board members formally acknowledged ratification of the changes to the denomination's Constitution which realign the national leadership structure of the UCC. The amendments, first passed by General Synod 2017 and fully ratified by two-thirds of the 38 Conferences earlier this month, restructures the UCC National Setting under the leadership of the General Minister and President called by the General Synod. The other Officers of the Church, Associate General Ministers, are also called by General Synod, with a scope of work decided by and accountable to the General Minister and President.

On Saturday afternoon, the United Church of Christ Board approved a 2019 combined balanced budget for the national setting of \$21 million, which shows an increase of \$325,000 in revenues from 2018. 2019 projected expenses, up \$443,000 from 2018, note increases in salaries and benefits, and anticipated General Synod travel.

Acting upon a recommendation by the General Minister & President Renomination Committee, Board members voted to nominate the Rev. John C. Dorhauer to a second term. The election of General Minister & President will go before delegates of General Synod 2019 in June. The Renomination Committee sought input on Rev. Dorhauer's role from a number of different constituencies of the church, per the United Church of Christ Board Standing Rules, and provided a website inviting all interested persons to comment on his work and leadership. The Committee heard from members of the United Church of Christ Board, Dorhauer's fellow Officers of the United Church of Christ, the Cabinet of the Council of Conference Ministers, leaders of the Historically Underrepresented Groups, seminaries of the United Church of Christ, and Conference moderators.

The search for the Church's next Associate General Minister to replace the Rev. James Moos, who is not seeking a third term, continues. The [position posted in late August](#) and the Associate General Minister Search Committee plans to take applications through November. In late December, those applications will be reviewed, with virtual interviews for the top five to eight candidates taking place in mid-January. After in-person interviews with the top candidates in February, the Committee will bring a candidate recommendation to the Board at its March meeting.

Poinsettias For Christmas

If you would like to give a poinsettia to remember or honor a loved one or as a gift to the church to display in our Sanctuary this holiday season, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office.

The cost for each poinsettia is \$10.
(Checks may be payable to: Zion Women's Guild)

Deadline for ordering poinsettias is Nov. 23

() In honor of () In memory of

If not specified above, we'll list it as "To the Glory of God" from you.

Given by _____

Number of poinsettias ordered _____

Poinsettias will be delivered to Zion



Don't forget to set your clocks back Saturday Night, November 3.

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

Revelation 21: 3-5

Separating Church and Work

Written by Edith Guffey, Conference Minister

I didn't go to any of the engagement conversations at annual meeting. But if I had gone to one, I probably should have gone to "*Determined but Battle Weary*". My guess is that no one is surprised that "self-care" is not my strongest point. While I love my work and I always hope (and pray) that the annual meeting and any other times of gatherings are times of renewal for those who attend, when I am responsible for the planning or for making sure things go well, these important times of gatherings aren't times of "renewal" for me. My husband reminds me that's why they are called "work"! So pastors, I know I am doing a little "projection" here, if you have to preach every Sunday morning, do you actually feel as if you are in worship? Is preaching, in some ways, work? If so, when is church not work for you?

I think I sorted that out a bit this past weekend. One would think that if I was going to take a weekend off, I would do something totally NOT connected to church; that I would do something that didn't involve DRIVING. Right? Wrong. I took this past weekend off; sort of. I drove to Eldora, Iowa to attend the 150th Anniversary and celebration of the 20th Ordination Anniversary of a good friend and colleague. Really? Aren't there plenty of anniversary and ordination celebrations here in KO to attend? Did I really need to drive 309 miles to Eldora, Iowa when I could drive less than that to Oklahoma and celebrate with one of our own congregations in their new worship space or hear Matthew Fox speak or any number of things? Need I really HAVE to drive to IOWA?

See, that was it! I DIDN'T HAVE to drive to Iowa. I was just there to be with a pastor whom I have known since he was in seminary. He served as the agenda coordinator for the General Synod for many of the years that I was the Administrator of the General Synod. He is one of those rare "born and bred" UCCers; he went to seminary right out of college. Eldora, Iowa was his first call and he has served the congregation for 20 years; the entire time he has been ordained. So I protected the date on my calendar and set out to drive 309 miles as a time of renewal. And you know what...it worked.

It worked because I had nothing to do there. There were no expectations. I was not in charge (and didn't try to be; I know that's the amazing part). Corey was surprised and delighted to see me. And here's the real gift: Eldora is a very small town (population in 2017 was 2,653) not unlike many in Kansas. And what did I find? A thriving UCC congregation with a membership of around 250 members of diverse ages, with a wonderful music program, a growing youth ministry, and a congregation that decided about 15 years ago to leave behind the standard Sunday morning Christian Education program and start a Wednesday Walking Program (it's not really about walking but more about walking with God) that now has about 60 kids for a meal and classes on Wednesday evenings. The church uses technology, so much so that they took the 150 Anniversary church picture using a drone! The sermon was by a Conference colleague Jonna Jenson who began asking how many people in the congregation had ever had a good idea, a bad idea, and how many had ever had an idea that they were afraid to try because it cost too much money or were afraid it would fail. And she went on from there about how to trust the spirit to move despite our fear or what we think might be bad ideas.

Travelling to Eldora was supposed to be a surprise and a fun thing to do for my friend Corey. But it was a surprise and a gift to myself. It got me out of thinking about church as work and reminded me again about church as a call and ministry. In the midst of the day to day "stuff" that sense of ministry and call can get lost; and a non-mandated drive on a beautiful fall weekend to see a good colleague and experience a vital congregation is a good way to be reminded.

Monthly Financial Reports

Financial Secretary

2018 Gen. Budget

Needed Weekly

Needed YTD

Gen. Fund YTD

Budget Balance/(shortfall)

Date	Att.	Giving
Sept 2	61	
Sept 9	92	
Sept 16	70	
Sept 23	64	
Sept 30	84	
Online		
Total	371	

	Cum. YTD
Rent	
BOB	
Building	
Total Specials	
Dillons rebates	

Treasurer's

Sept. 2018 Profit & Loss

Outreach Heifer Int. Income

General Fund

S.F.

Online Deposits

Total Income

EXPENSES

Bank Service Charge

Benevolence

Insurance

Pastoral Exp.

Payroll Exp.

All Supplies

Utilities

Repairs & Maintenance

Total Expenses

NET INCOME





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/zionuccpp>

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!

- 11/6 Deb & Kevin Heiman
- 11/7 Aaron & Deb Jacobsen
- 11/20 Steve & Angie Roesler
- 11/21 Jim & Renee Jury
- 11/24 Marvin & Janice Hornbostel



- 11/1 Jack Graefe
- 11/2 David Butler
- 11/5 Lacey Fielder
- 11/8 Avery Jacobsen
- 11/12 Kaitlyn Butler
- 11/17 Ray Kruse Jr.
- 11/21 Debby Gfeller
- 11/21 Wayne Gfeller
- 11/21 Judy Heintz
- 11/22 Sheri Graefe
- 11/23 Sina Osa
- 11/28 Olivia Beasley

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved of the truth.

*For there is one God;
there is also one mediator
between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
who gave himself
a ransom for all—*

this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.”

1Timothy 2:1-7

**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.*



November



2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Women's Fellowship 12:00 pm	3 
4 Celebration of Holy Communion Food Pantry Sunday Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am	5	6	7 Choir 6:00 pm Consistory 7:00 pm	8	9 Jill out of office	10
11 Heifer International Sunday Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship & Potluck, 11:30 am	12	13 Pilot Club 5 pm	14 Choir 6:00 pm	15	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am	19	20	21 Choir 6:00 pm	22 Office Closed 	23 Office Closed	24
25 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Decorate the Church 11:30 am	26	27	28 Choir 6:00 pm	29	30	

Serving Zion

	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Coffee Fellowship</u>
Nov 4	Ben & Ruth Ann Graefe	Keith Henry & Richard Hobaugh	Leona Garrison
Nov 11	Condi Osa & Evergreen Osa	Marvin & Janice Hornbostel	Denise & Janette
Nov 18	Caleb & Lindsey Snider	Rod Gfeller & Kevin Heiman	open
Nov 25	Selesa & Panisia Valoaga	Harlan Bitterlin & Ronnie Gfeller	open



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