

THE JOURNEY

April 2020



Dear Zion,

During a recent interview about the corona virus pandemic, Dr. Gabor Maté shared the story of a Buddhist monk. The monk shared that in times of crisis in the western world it is not uncommon to hear “panic, panic, everything is out of control.” This he contrasted with a Buddhist reaction; “relax, rest, everything is out of control.”

We live most of our lives under the illusion that we *can* control reality. Our economy keeps us fed and housed, at least most of us. Our military keeps us safe. Our toys keep us entertained/distracted. Our accomplishments grant us a sense of worthiness. All of this, we’ve come to believe, we have at least a semblance of control over. So when a virus “dis-illusions” us of this notion of control, a sense of panic can easily follow. Economies, militaries, inventions, and accomplishments can appear impressive, and justifiably so in some cases. Recall for a moment in Mark 13 when the disciples call Jesus’ attention to the great Temple before them, speaking of the great buildings and massive stones with a sense of awe. Jesus reminds them of the fleeting nature of the world of “things,” no matter how mighty they appear.

It is a sense of impermanence that characterizes all of our lives and binds us all to one another. The American poet, Jason Isbell, writes that if it weren’t for this impermanence, “I wouldn’t feel the need to hold your hand.” What makes our lives sacred and what makes our lives so precious is the fleeting nature of our time together. The corona virus has revealed to us not only the illusion of our control, but the sacredness of each second of our lives. When we no longer spend our energy trying to convince ourselves that we can control every aspect of our lives, there is finally time to be present in this holy moment. Here, we recognize what is real, what transcends the superficial world of economies, politics, and power. Here, we recognize love, mercy, relationship, community. Here, we recognize the living God.

It is not only the Buddhist who can rest in the truth that everything is out of our control, but every person of faith.

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

February Lectionary

April 5 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Psalms 118:1-2, 19-20 Matthew 21:1-11 <i>Conversations Before the Cross</i>	April 9 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> Ex 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14 Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Cor 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31-35 <i>Passover Begins</i>	April 10 <i>Good Friday</i> Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalms 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1-19:42	April 11 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Job 14:1-14 Psalms 31:1-4, 15-16 1 Peter 4:1-8 John 19:38-42 <i>Easter Vigil</i>
April 12 <i>Easter Sunday</i> Acts 10:34-43 Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18 <i>Bearing Witness to God</i>	April 19 <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 2:12, 22-32 Psalms 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31 <i>Trust & Rejoice</i>	April 26 <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 2:14, 36-41 Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35 <i>Breaking Bread</i>	 <p>Attendance 2020 YTD 604</p> <p>2019—677</p>

The Journey Prints
April 24

"so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

1 Peter 1:7-9

Womens' Guild

March 6, 2020

Women's Guild met on March 6 in Fellowship Hall. Sally hosted a delicious luncheon with a St. Patrick's theme. Sally gifted each of us with a St. Patrick's hand towel.

Judy read a devotion, "Why We're Here".

The secretary's minutes were read and approved.

Lane, treasure, reported a balance as of March 1 of \$2,912.31. The fund raiser dinner had a net profit of \$1,709.63.

There were no communications.

Committee Reports: Judy reported receiving a thank you for our quarterly giving to Every Child's Hope. Clarification of our monetary gifts was reported. There are 470 children that live on the main campus and 1,000 others are also assisted.

Old Business: It was decided to have a guest luncheon next year.

New Business: It was moved and seconded to donate \$300 to the Emmaus Home. There was discussion on a Lent project that the congregation will participate in weekly.

Announcements: 255 pounds was collected for the food pantry. There will be no Sunday School on March 8 due to Spring Break. Palm Sunday is April 5 with communion and half of an Easter cantata. Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 11 at 11:00am. Maundy Thursday will be held on April 9 at 7:00pm. Easter will be celebrated on April 12 with communion. The Choir will present the remainder of their cantata. Special thanks to the choir for their many hours of preparing this special event. Happy Birthday was sung to Janette, Karen, and Ruth. The next meeting will be held on April 3 with Rosemary and Karen hosting.

The meeting concluded by 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 \$52.72.

April 19 is Heifer International Sunday.

THIS IS NO ORDINARY GIFT.

It Takes a Village

Are you a proud member of a sorority? A civic group? A Sunday school class? What better way to celebrate your special “village” than by making a gift in their name that will provide unique, community-based approaches that help many people leave poverty behind?

Your gift of It Takes a Village builds upon what we all know—no solution to hunger and poverty can ever take root unless we engage communities to come together to propel their families toward prosperity. Through education, training and encouragement, Heifer is helping farmers find their voices by showing them there is strength in numbers. That's why your gift will connect many hardworking families together.

For example, your gift may help a group of small dairy farmers negotiate better pricing for their milk, as well as set up critical infrastructure that enables families to pool key resources and share expenses so there are greater profits for everyone.

Not only that, but your gift will foster an even greater sense of community as Heifer helps local farmers develop groups and meetings where they can each share the lessons they've learned. This means families have even more support and resources—and experience even greater success.

With your help, a large number of families will break free from hunger and poverty by partnering together —ensuring entire villages flourish.

It Takes a Village: \$10,000 Share of a Village: \$100

Fill the Hunger Cart

On the first Sunday of the month the Hunger Grocery cart was filled with **255lbs** of food for the Food Pantry. **YTD 523 lbs** **We are 18lbs over last year.**



We have exceed last years donations!!! Let's set a goal of 2020 lbs for 2020.

These are tough times, store shelves are getting bare. The Food Pantry shelves are most likely just as bare so if you can pick up that extra 1 to 2 items to help meet the need .

- **Zion at Work in the World: April Opportunities**
- Zion participates in several mission opportunities throughout each month. Here are the ways you can make a difference during the upcoming weeks.
- April 5: Food donations for the Food Pantry
- April 19: Quarter collection for Heifer International

Consistory Highlights

Consistory
January 8, 2020

Members Present: Denise Tabb, Richard Hobaugh, Steve Green, Keith Henry, Deb Heiman and Pastor Erik Graefe, Erik opened the meeting with a prayer.

Denise was elected to serve as President and Keith agreed to serve as both Secretary and Treasurer. Vice President will remain open for further discussion at the March meeting.

The minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting were approved as submitted

The financial reports were approved as submitted.

The Consistory discussed purchasing music for the choir as requested by a member of the choir in the amount of \$250.00 –300.00, with the money to come from the Memorial Fund. Denise will confer with Sina Osa, Choir Director.

Pastor's Report:

- Erik has agreed to serve on the Committee on Ministry of the UCC Conference.
- He discussed how to deal with visitors on Sunday.

There were no committee reports

Old Business:

- Fan for the choir. Keith will contact Aaron Jacobsen to get that work scheduled. The Consistory has already approved the work and the cost estimate for the work.
- Erik will continue to investigate a timer for the bell tower.

New Business

- Deb reported that Zion will work with First Presbyterian for Vacation Bible School, and thanked the Consistory for allocating \$300.00 for Vacation Bible School.
- The national youth event is scheduled July 22-25, 2020 at Purdue University. Erik will explore some of our youth members attending and the church paying the costs. The cost is \$375.00 per person, and there will be travel and related expense to and from the conference.
- On motion and second the Consistory agreed to reimburse Lyn Green \$100.00 for the gifts to the departing Consistory members.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting is Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Keith Henry
Secretary/Treasurer

National Youth Event

Registration

General Information

Registration is now open and will close on Monday, June 1.

COST: The registration for National Youth Event is \$375 per person. This fee includes event registration, housing and on campus meals. Additional items may be purchased at the time of registration and this includes the 2020 NYE t-shirt and/or sweatpants. Other swag items may be available as well.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

As part of our commitment for the safety of all who will attend National Youth Event, The United Church of Christ is requiring a background check on all individuals aged 18 and over who will be attending NYE. During the registration process we will collect email addresses for all individuals age 18+ and send to Praesidium. Praesidium will then reach out directly to those individuals with next steps to complete the process. Individuals are then responsible for completing the follow up steps to complete the background check and be eligible to attend NYE. Failure to complete the back-ground check by May 31, 2020 will result in the cancellation of your, and possibly your youth group's registration if applicable.

<http://www.uccpages.org/nye2020/registration/>

Monthly Financial ReportsFinancial Secretary

2020 Gen. Budget

Needed Weekly

Needed YTD

Gen. Fund YTD

Budget Balance/(shortfall)

Date	Att.	Giving
Feb. 2	61	
Feb. 9	63	
Feb. 16	53	
Feb. 23	63	
Online		
Total		

	Feb.	Cum. YTD
Rent		
BOB		
Building		
Total Specials		
Dillons rebates		

PMM	Income	Expense	Balance
Interest	2/8/20		

Treasurer'sFeb. 2020 Bank Balance

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
1/31/20	2/28/20

Feb. 2020 Profit & Loss

Outreach/Heifer Int. Income

General Fund

Online Deposits

Total IncomeEXPENSES

Bank Service Charge

Benevolence

Christian Ed & Worship

Insurance

Misc.

Payroll Exp.

Repairs & Maintenance

Supplies (all)

Utilities

Total ExpensesNET INCOME

<u>Heifer Int.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2/29/20			

<u>Memorial</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2/29/20			

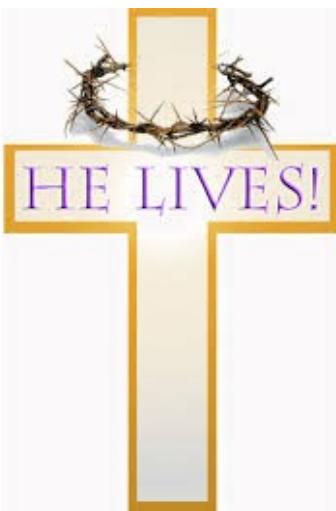


4/2 Leona Garrison
4/15 Chase Altwegg
4/17 Aaron Jacobsen
4/20 Jonathan Beasley
4/21 Lane Bitterlin
4/22 TJ Osa
4/22 Steve Woodard
4/23 Marvin Hornbostel
4/24 Jolynn Henry
4/26 Courtney Gfeller
4/27 Lee Maston



4/19 Steve & Susanne Altwegg

*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.



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!

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Acts 10:34-43

April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Women's Guild 12:00 pm	4
5 <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Holy Communion Sunday</i> <i>Food Pantry Collection</i> Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am	6	7	8 Consistory 7:00 pm	9 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm	10 	11 Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am 
12 <i>Easter Sunday</i> Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am 	13	14	15 Choir 6:00 pm	16	17	19
19 <i>Heifer International Sunday</i> Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am	20	21	22 Choir 6:00 pm	23	24	25
26 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am	27	28 Pilot Club 5:30 pm	29 Choir 6:00 pm	30		

Serving Zion

	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Coffee Fellowship</u>
April 5	Graefe Family	Keith Henry & Doug Vogelsand	Renee Jury
April 12	Mike & Karen Malec	Josh Gfeller & Cody Bitterlin	None
April 19	Jacobsen Family	Emmy Gfeller & Nicole Green	Sally Altwegg
April 26	Russ & Sally Altwegg	Ronnie Gfeller & Kenny Gfeller	Open



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«City», «State» «ZIP Code»