



September

Ushers:

East door: Aithen Shaffer

West door: Scott Strickler

Liturgist:

Sept. 7: Barb Engle

Sept. 14: Maggie Bolinger

Sept. 21: Lisa Krueckeberg

Sept. 28: Justin Shaffer

Greeters:

East-West: Scott Strickler

NE Front: Brenda Strickler

Fellowship Hour:

Jann Miller

Kacie Shaffer

Wanda Miller

Count Offering:

Karen Heller

Mowing Schedule:

Aug 31-Sept. 6: Aithen Shaffer

Sept. 7-13: Scott Strickler

Sept. 14-20: Tony Roop

Sept. 21-27: Dave Gaunt

Sept. 28-Oct. 4: Scott Heller

Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline for submitting items for the October newsletter is September 22.

Please email to office@zionuccdecatur.org.
or call the church office at 724-3502.

Operation Help:

Our Operation Help product for September will be **cereal**. Please place your donations in the tubs in the dining room and West vestibule.

Lunch Bunch:

The Lunch Bunch will gather for lunch at Millie's Restaurant in Bluffton on Wednesday, September 17th at 11:30 a.m. The address is 1070 North Main Street. Please see Karen Heller or Russ Augsburgers if you plan to attend. Everyone is invited for a time of good food and fellowship.

Adopt-A-Road

We will meet on Saturday, September 27th for our road cleanup project. Please meet at 9 a.m. at the church to carpool.

Condolences:

We offer our condolences to the family of Brenda Osterman, who passed away July 23rd, with services conducted by Pastor Allen on July 31st. Please keep Roger, Travis, and all her family in your prayers.

Choir Practices:

Practices for both the Heavenly Ringers and Chancel Choir will begin on Wednesday, September 3rd. Handbells meet at 6 p.m., with Chancel Choir to follow at 7 p.m. New members are always needed and encouraged!



Rally Sunday:

Our Rally Day celebration will be held on September 21st. There will be attendance awards given during the worship service. Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a carry-in luncheon following the service. Sloppy Joes, Coney Dogs, drinks and table service will be provided, with an ice cream sundae bar for dessert. Please bring a covered dish to share. After lunch, we will have a White Elephant auction to benefit missions. Please bring a wrapped gift to be auctioned off.

Congratulations:

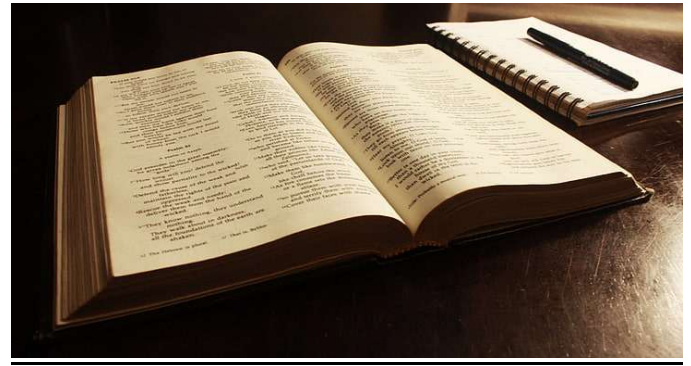
Congratulations to RJ Smith and Makayla Free on their marriage here at Zion on July 26th. Their address is:

Mr. & Mrs. RJ Smith
778 N 100 W
Monroe, In 46772



UNICEF:

Donations for UNICEF will be collected throughout the month of October. UNICEF benefits children all over the world and donations may be placed in the plastic pumpkins located in the vestibules.



Bible Study:

Our Bible Study of the Book of Acts will continue Thursday mornings for the next six weeks. Everyone is invited to share this time of study and sharing. Please meet in the lounge at 10:30 a.m.



Ken Uhrick, Carl Stevens, Tim Bolinger, Bruce Reidenbach, Tony Roop

Legion Color Guard:

The American Legion Color Guard was honored for their service at the summer concert series on July 24th. There are 5 members of our congregation who dedicate their time to honor other veterans and our country at various events.

Clothe A Child:

Thank you to all who donated to the United Way "Clothe A Child" project. We were able to help 28 children with clothing and shoes for the upcoming school year. Thanks to Jan Miller and Kacie Shaffer for their shopping efforts.

Boxes of Blessings:

The response to the Boxes of Blessings appeal was overwhelming! We were able to fill two 6-person boxes, as well as two additional boxes of various food items for the migrant workers in Geneva. We were also able to donate \$481 to help serve those apartments that had not been adopted. Your help is much appreciated.

Annual Gathering:

We recently attended the 61st Annual Meeting of the Indiana Kentucky Conference of the UCC which was held at Plymouth Congregation UCC in Fort Wayne. The theme this year was "Curiosity, Courage and Christ". There was worship, celebrations of milestones, workshops and fellowship with old and new friends. The keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Patrick E. Duggan, Executive Director of the UCC Building and Loan Fund. He gave a very powerful message and challenged us on "how deep is your love". Our scripture in both Friday night opening service and closing worship on Saturday, of which he was a part of, was based on scriptures from Mark 5: 25-34, on the woman who was healed by her faith. We attended workshops on Rural Small-Town and Part-Time Church, Church Growth and Evangelism, Best Practices for Pastoral Relations and Stewarding Space Wisely. We have shared some of this material and would be glad to share more and answer any questions you may have. It is a pleasure serving as you delegates.

Bruce and Jeanne Reidenbach

Pastoral Retreat:

Pastor Allen will be attending the Clergy Convocation and Retreat in Morgantown, Indiana September 16-18th. The theme is Claiming our Courage as Clergy - Professional, Personal and Prophetic.

Pastoral Search Update:

On behalf of the Search Committee, I regret to announce that the trial sermon scheduled for September 14th has been cancelled. I received word on this week that our candidate has asked to be withdrawn from consideration due to unforeseen personal circumstances. He plans to pursue a doctoral degree that will require a fulltime commitment and relocating to another area to complete the program. He did not feel it was fair to us to accept a position, knowing that he will not be able to fulfill his ministry long-term. We will resume our search with God's guidance and ask you all to continue to pray for our church as we move forward.
Maggie Bolinger

Looking Ahead:

October 5: Worldwide Communion
Neighbors In Need Offering

October 19: Rev. Monica Ouelette, IKC Conference Minister, will be our guest speaker.

October 31: Trunk Or Treat

