

Zion United Church of Christ

816 Faraon Street
St. Joseph, MO 64501
(816) 232-7009



*Whoever you are,
wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Pastor's Musings

Daniel said:

Blessed be the name of God from age to age,
For wisdom and power are God's.
God changes times and seasons,
Deposes kings and sets up kings,
God gives wisdom to the wises and knowledge to those who have understanding.
God reveals deep and hidden things;
God knows what is in the darkness and light dwells within God.

Daniel 2: 20-22

As we roll from July into August, sometimes the weather shows no discernable change. Sometimes there are unexpected surprises. Here in beautiful St. Joseph, Missouri the lush beauty of summer gardens, beautiful trees, and the rush of the Missouri River bear the markers of a delicious and picturesque midwestern idyll. Yet for many of us, the season of Summer vacations, blue skies, and enjoyable Summer specific activities begin to roll into the responsibilities and concerns of the harbingers of Autumn. We plan last day trips to hike, play, and enjoy outings in the sun. Even the excitement and sometimes terror of a sudden unexpected summer thunderstorm, ever vigilant for tornados, may be greeted with excitement and the blessing of always needed rain.

The book of Daniel bears stories we may think are familiar however, there is much to consider in this story that is surprising and unexpected. Layer upon layer of story, history, and unexpected revelation are carried in this strange tale of Divine Love and interaction. The story read literally as a story bears charm and inspiration. Deeper study reveals the true nature of this book as a revelatory and revolutionary document of hope and revolutionary thought: a call to action at the behest of God, God's own self who makes and unmakes kings. In God alone resides true power and wisdom. God who sees what is hidden and may reveal through wisdom. God who rules and runs time and season. So we, who are ephemeral, in our relationship of love and mutual belonging with the immortal Love Divine are called to faithfulness in the one who holds all and is present in us and in all of Creation

As we see the return of children, students, teachers, and all school and university workers to the beginning of a new school year, and the return of working folks from one last summer get away this month, help us to remember that it is Eternal Immortal God who moves in us, with us and through us into this invisibly changing season. This month, be mindful of the season you are in and the season of life of those around you. Be mindful of how you are called to serve Love Divine in your actions, words, and deeds. Move through actions of kindness and compassion, especially for the children and young people in our community and in our lives and those who work with and for them, supporting them in this new season and new academic year of their lives. Remember that some of them have lives that look a bit like the lives of Daniel and his companions: situations that seem and feel to them like they are impossible, and be kind. Pray this prayer for them; and add your own.

Much love,,
Kimi

Prayer

Holy God,

Love Divine,

Be with the children, students, teachers, workers, and helpers of our children and students as they enter a new academic year with new experiences, challenges, and adventures. Help them to be safe, mindful, and welcoming of new ideas, knowledge, and new ways of experiencing your love and grace. Help everyone in this community to be kind and supportive of them. Help them to be kind.

In your Holy Name, in the Name of Jesus through the Grace and Power of the Holy Spirit,

AMEN



E4E will be hosting a painting party on Aug. 22 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Supplies will be provided. Free feel to bring some snacks and BYOB (bring your own beverage). Email the church office by Aug 17 if you plan on attending.

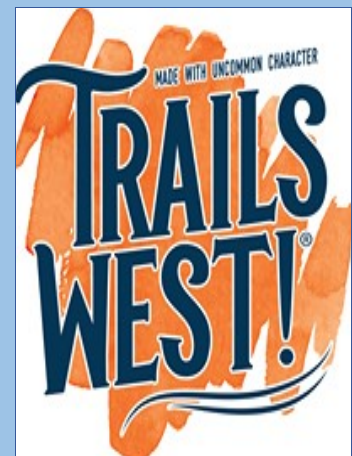
YWCA night at Zion

August 16 will be family night with the YWCA from 5-6:30 pm. We will be having dinner and activity. If you would like to help please contact Shelley or Betty.

TRAILS WEST Aug 17 –19

Trail West weekend is approaching fast. We need volunteers to help with the parking lot for Friday and Saturday.

If you can help, please contact Bill or Betty if you can help..





Thank You



To my new Zion Family!

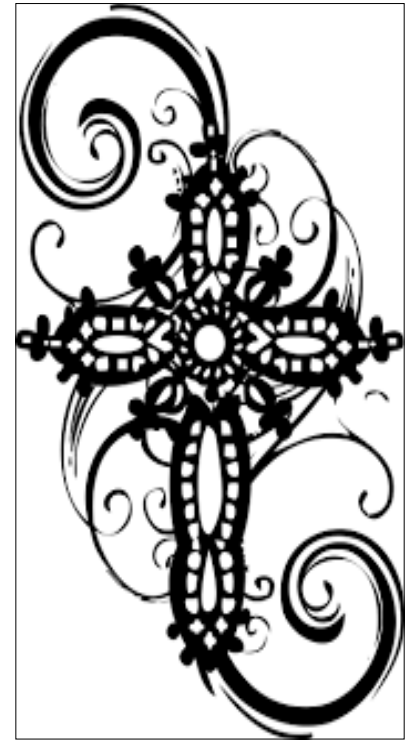
I wanted to say Thank You for inviting me to share worship with you!

It was a **Beautiful Day!** I thank God for allowing us to connect on a grand spiritual level.

Continue to extend that extravagant welcome to All God's People!

Much Love,
Pastor D

For more information about Rev. Dionne's ministry, "Whosoever," visit the website <https://teamwhosoever.com>.



Dear Ladies,

Thank you very much for our Quilts. We enjoy using them as we watch T.V. in the evenings. We know they are a lot of work to make. So we are honored you thought of us.

Truly yours,

Andy & Larry



Soles for Christ

Thank you for your donations of shoes and money for the shoe giveaway at AFL-CIO.

These donations will be handed out to school age children for the new school year..



Greetings,

The financial crisis that we have all been aware of is here, now.

At the July council meeting the council learned that over the first six months of 2018 we have withdrawn \$19,000 from the Memorial Fund for routine operation of the church. Presently, there are \$38,000 remaining in the fund.

If we do nothing – the fund will be exhausted in mid-summer 2019.

Your church Council has called a Congregational Meeting for this Sunday, July 29 for discussion and action on what we can do to conserve the Memorial Fund.

I look forward to as many members of the congregation who can participate to join us for this important meeting

Sam Crowley

The Visioning Team is working with the Council in an attempt to deal with the financial problems that the church is facing. We are focused on having the church serve us by finding various ways for people to pay to use our facilities. We have already had the City of St. Joseph host a historical preservation workshop. This one focused on the repair of windows and hopefully there will be others coming in the future. Following a presentation from Ron Gaus, who is active in a St. Louis County UCC church, we have decided to turn our kitchen into a commercial grade facility which will allow us to rent it out to cake decorators, food trucks or anyone who needs the use of a commercial kitchen. We also hope to use our kitchen and fellowship hall jointly to rent out to groups that may need space for events and would like to serve food as well. The St. Joseph Convention Bureau has said they would place Zion on their tour list and that we could give tours of our historic church and accept donations.

Because these things are going to take some time to implement, we are also going to start a capital campaign. Letters will be sent out to current members and friends of Zion asking them to donate to help us save the church.

We are focusing on these items hoping that we can get some cash flowing as soon as possible. We will also be looking in the future at other ways of raising money. We are already planning the Christmas in October event. Andy and Larry from the Cabbage Roll are helping us but we still need everyone's help to make this a success. The Visioning Team is looking for ways of using the gym and parsonage to raise even more money for the church than they currently do. The team hopes that the entire congregation will support these necessary steps to keep our church going.



LITURGIST

Volunteer needed

Usher

Volunteer needed

Communion Prep

Jim Maag

August Birthdays

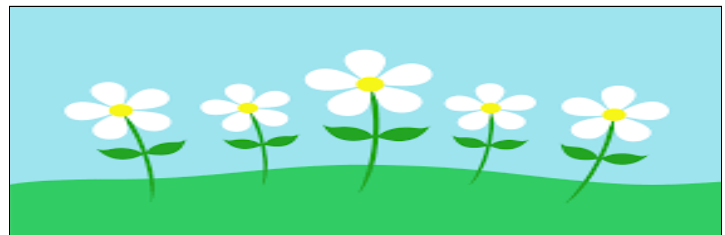
- 5 Katherine McBeth
- 6 Bill Cornelius
- 18 Chrissy Rehm
- 26 Bryceton Bolinger
- 28 Mallori DeShon

Visit our website!
<https://zionuccsaintjoseph.com>

Anniversaries for August

- 7 Tom & Kat Crowley
- 24 Sam & Bev Crowley
- 26 Bill & Sharon Luce

AGAPE DINNER
August 19



Messenger deadline is the 20th of each month. If your item is received after the 20th, it will not be included until the following month.
Submit items electronically to zion-churchoffice@yahoo.com **OR** place items in the basket on the counter in the church office. Thank you.



August 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Quilting 9:00	3 Wedding Rehearsal	4 Wedding
5 Communion Worship 10:30	6	7	8	9 Quilting 9:00	10	11 SUPPER 6:30 pm
12 Worship 10:30 Council Meeting	13	14	15	16 Quilting 9:00 YWCA 5-6:30	17	18
19 Worship 10:30 Agape lunch	20	21	22 E4E 6:30 pm	23 Quilting 9:00	24	25
26 Worship 10:30	27	28	29	30 Quilting 9:00	31	