



EXPLORING OUR
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ROOTS AND IDENTITY



Our Mission: United by Christ's loving embrace, a welcoming light in an unsure world, we serve and enrich the community and provide a safe gathering space for fellowship, spiritual growth, and self-exploration.

Our Vision: Transforming and caring for our community through Christ's love.

Pastor: Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan

Organist: Martha Main

Bell Choir Director: Vivian Thomas

Office Manager: Michael Brown

Custodians: Anita and Greg Law

Scripture Reader: Greg Miller

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Sunday, September 28, 2025 – God Is Still Speaking

Prelude

Gathering (*in unison*)—Celebrating our call as the United Church of Christ, we join together in affirming our purpose, vision, and mission as a united church.

- **Our Purpose:** To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbors as ourselves.
- **Our Vision:** United in Christ's love, a just world for all.
- **Our Mission:** United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.

*Gathering Song

When Morning Gilds the Skies, 111

Prayer—God of Life, your memory is longer than time; your love longer still. Your giving nature amazes us. You have given us yourself. You have given us your work. You only ask for love in return, for you and for the world. You put your ministry into our hands, trusting us to be your hands. Bless the work of our hands and the ministries of our hearts, O God, as we seek to do your will.~

The Lord's Prayer (unison)—Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Bell Choir

Exploring Together

Scripture

Micah 6:8 (NRSVUE)—He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

Matthew 22:34-40 (NRSVUE)—³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Reflection

God Is Still Speaking

Hymn

Find Us Faithful, 497 (3x)

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation—We love God and neighbor not just in our thoughts and words but in our actions. May the offerings we bring this day be a sign of our commitment to love.

September Benevolence—Horizon House

Ministry Moment

Becky Osher, Service Team

***Doxology**

We Give Thanks—Gracious God, you have given us mercy. You have given us love. You have been our calling, and you have been our home. Take now our hands and feet, O God, and use them for your purposes. Take now the offering of our hearts, minds, and souls. Transform them into your love, your mercy, and your everlasting grace for all the world. Amen.~

Hymn

They'll Know We Are Christians, 595

Benediction— People of God, go forth into the world. Love God. Love your neighbors. Love yourselves. Go forth as people of love. Amen.~

Postlude

~Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023 (pp. 200-201). Abingdon Press.

PRAYERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT ZION

- Sunday, 9 am – Bell Choir Practice
- Sunday, after worship – Church 101 Class: Local Church, Association, & Conference
- Tuesday, 11 am – 2 Minute Tuesday on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube
- Sunday, October 5 – World Communion Sunday
- Sunday, October 5, after worship – Church 101: UCC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **BELL CHOIR**—Welcome back to our bell choir! We are excited to have them join us in worship this Sunday following their summer break.
- **COUNCIL**—Our next Congregational Meeting is scheduled for October 19 after worship. At this meeting we will have elections for three council positions for the 2026/2027 term. Please prayerfully consider if you are called to serve in this way. See a council member with any questions you may have.
- **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**—Council is creating a Capital Campaign team to raise funds for building maintenance, repairs, and replacements needed in the next 12 – 18 months. Council is looking for 2 volunteers to be on this committee. If you're interested, please contact Terri Bennett or another council member.
- **TREES**—Council shared in worship last Sunday that there are three trees very close to the Community Center that are causing significant issues with our gutters and the air conditioning units that sit below our gutters. Removing these trees will prevent future damage to our buildings and air conditioners. If you have questions about this, please see a council member.

SERVE

- **POPTABS**—Jerry and Jackie Keller are heading to the Ronald McDonald House to drop off poptabs. If you have any poptabs, please bring them to church by the end of the month so they can be delivered.

- **BLOOD DRIVE**—Our 4th Annual Steve Thomas Memorial Blood Drive is set for Thursday, October 9 from 12-6 pm in the gym. Help us make this one special by spreading the word and signing up to donate today. Steve donated blood countless times, and your support of this drive will help carry on that legacy. You can register at www.zionuccindy.net/blooddrive. Donations from our last drive were sent to the following hospitals: Riley, IU Arnett in Lafayette, Mercy in Defiance, Ohio, Northwest in Valparaiso, and Dupont in Fort Wayne.
- **SEPTEMBER BENEVOLENCE**— Horizon House’s mission is to provide support, aid, and care for Central Indiana’s homeless neighbors. They have been providing this service for 37 years. Recently, they expanded their support to include Compass on Washington, an affordable apartment building which not only provides housing but also social services. Zion’s partnership with Horizon House is also long-standing. We have helped to provide meals, socks, clothing, and snack packs. Please consider giving a monetary contribution to Horizon House to continue their mission.

ENRICH

- **CHURCH 101**—In coordination with our September worship series on our UCC roots and identity, we’ll offer two opportunities to learn about how our wider church family works together. Each session will be after worship in the sanctuary and approximately one hour and will be September 28 and October 5.
- **PRAY FOR OUR NEIGHBORS**—Last year, the Faith Formation Team led us in 30 Days of Prayer for Zion. This year, you’re invited to join us for 31 Days of Prayer for Our Neighbors throughout the month of October. We’ll focus on the areas of hunger, health, housing, and other humanitarian concerns. A calendar will be available to help guide your prayer practice. We hope it will be transforming, grow in us compassion for our neighbors, and move us toward action.
- **PET MEMORIAL**—Whether you’ve lost a pet recently or it has been years since you’ve said goodbye, our pets hold a special place in our hearts. Join us on Sunday, October 12 at 3 pm as we remember and honor the love and joy our pets have brought to our lives. You’re invited to bring pictures to place on our memorial table of the pets you’d like to remember. Please invite others you know who are grieving their pets to find comfort in our community.