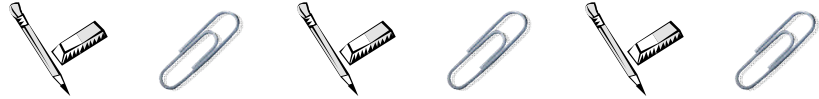


ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PASTOR SUSAN P. SICKELKA
715 E. WAYNE STREET
SOUTH BEND, IN 46617-3093
OFFICE: (574) 233-5446
FAX: (574) 233-9684
E-MAIL: ZIONSB@MICHIANA.ORG
WEBSITE: HTTP://
WWW.ZIONSB.ORG

THE VISITOR

Zion United Church of Christ



Our Mission: Connecting People With God

Volume XX Issue 9 Sept 2010

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY...

Writing my newsletter article this time seems so very odd. In some ways I have been at Zion for years. But as your Interim Pastor I have just arrived. So my mind is whirling with the need to say my goodbyes, while at the same time I have all sorts of things I want to say about the spiritual work that is still ahead.

It is clear that God is leading the Sickelka family into new places. Right now our ministries will be in Iowa. But I am torn about this leave-taking because it is just as clear to me that Zion is on the cusp of a spiritual breakthrough, and I don't want to miss it! I have this sense that everything about this congregation is poised for an amazing awakening. It is as if we are riding a roller coaster, and we have just about reached the top of that big climb. We have been listening to the clank-clank-clank of the machinery. The speed of the car has slowed to a crawl. And knowing that something big is about to happen, we have all taken a deep breath. We are not at all sure what is on the other side of that pinnacle, but we know it's going to be great! We're also more that a little frightened about what will happen when we see the other side.

Now, of course, we all know that on a roller coaster there is a great deal of screaming when we pass the peak. In a split second we are questioning our sanity for having committed to this. But what happens when we get down to the bottom? There is lots of laughing, story telling, and the clamor of people asking, "Can we do it again?!" All the waiting, working, and prayer has been worth it. We have been energized by it all. And we want more!

Zion is a great church. I love it here. And so do you. And so will others who come here. Yep, this is a great place to climb on board.

And so, I know that after I leave God is going to take you on an amazing ride.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Susan

**Thank you for your service, Pastor Susan.
Best wishes to you and your family.**



PROGRESS REPORT:
ZION'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN & PROJECTS

A listing of capital projects is on display in our Fellowship Hall. Feel free to check the list from time to time, to see the progress we are making in repairing and improving the church building. Here is an update of the progress made by Zion's Building Committee:

1. Roof - Ventilation, Gutters, and Downspouts - Work was completed: 5/14/2010
2. Furnaces - Estimates were collected. Work has been ordered.
3. Electrical Inspection/update - Work was completed: 7/8/2010
4. Plumbing Inspection/update - Work was completed: 7/16/2010
5. Organ Repairs - Work began on 7/15/2010. Work on organ continues.
6. Doors - Red Entry Doors, White Side Door. Work has been ordered.
7. Stained Glass Windows - Estimates are being collected.
8. Brick and tuck Pointing - Estimates are being collected.
9. Perimeter Drainage - To be addressed.
10. Plastering - Estimates are being collected.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Searching for Zion's New Pastor

Pastor Susan Sickelka's Interim assignment with Zion ended in August. We wish her well in her move to Iowa and future endeavors. The Search Committee has been reviewing the "Leadership Expectations" surveys that were completed by our congregation. The Committee has been in contact with Rev. Krueger, who will assist us in finding Interim or supply pastors, as needed, and in finding a full-time pastor whose qualifications meet the needs of Zion UCC.

ALL CHURCH BRUNCH

Come and welcome our visitors from Germany!

Sunday, September 19 - 11:30am

Plan to attend this special brunch where we will spend time with visitors from Arzberg, Germany. As many of you know, we have a "sister church" in Germany and have met over the years for fellowship and to share our achievements and hopes with one another. Please RSVP to the church office so that we have a head count for the brunch. If you wish, you may use e-mail — zionsb@michiana.org

Outdoor Worship

OUTDOOR WORSHIP
Sunday, September 12, 2010
Bring a Friend!

Do you have friends or relatives you have been meaning to invite to church? Here is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy worship and fellowship together at Zion. Outdoor worship is planned for Sunday, September 12. So invite your friends of all ages to come with you or meet you at church.

YOUNG AT HEART
Field Trip to Center for History
and Lunch at Tippecanoe Place Restaurant
Thursday, September 9 - 9:45am
Everyone is welcome to join us!

On Thursday, September 9, the Young at Heart (YAH) group will visit the Center for History's feature display "Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes." The five Great Lakes are the largest lakes in the United States, and together they hold 22% of the world's fresh water. They are also among the most treacherous bodies of water on earth. The danger lies in the vastly uneven topography of the water's bottom, as well as the wild and unpredictable weather fronts that can engulf the lakes. Over 25 stories and pictures of ships that met their demise on the Great Lakes can be seen in the exhibit. Also some items that have been salvaged are on display.

Admission for seniors is \$6.50. There are chairs for resting. We'll lunch at Tippecanoe Place afterwards. Their lunches start at \$6. Please meet at church at 9:45am to carpool. Center for History opens at 10:00am. We will need a count for our lunch reservation at Tippecanoe. Please RSVP to Joyce Goffeney on or before Tuesday, September 7 — Joyce's email is JEGOFFENEY@NETZERO.NET
- **Joyce Goffeney**

Sisters of Faith

SISTERS OF FAITH
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Monday, Sept. 13
6:00pm
Fellowship Hall

Zion Sisters of Faith (SOF), formerly our Women's Guild, will hold its organizational meeting on Monday, September 13, at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Come and help kick-off our plans for this coming Fall and Winter. All women who are members or friends of Zion UCC may participate in SOF planning and activities.

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY
Meets at 6:00pm in Parlor
on designated Mondays

SEPTEMBER 6: (No Bible Study - Holiday)

SEPTEMBER 13: (No Bible Study - S.O.F. Mtg)

SEPTEMBER 20: Bible Study

SEPTEMBER 27: Bible Study

Contact: Judy Waldo
email: judywaldo@att.net



THANK YOU, ZION UCC
FOR DONATIONS GIVEN
IN MEMORY OF
Beverly J. Miller

We are thankful to the following individuals for donations given in memory of Beverly J. Miller:

Alma Bolen, Gary & Tammy Criner, Beth Green, Joyce Goffeney, Roger & Karen Hintz, John & Sharon Kereszturi, Marge Kinney, Lynn Kucela, Tony & Jacob Martin, Carl Waechter & family, Gerald & Mary Ann Waechter, Bill & Donna Wagoner, Zoltan & Ilona Tiser, Don Zutter, and Zion's *Young at Heart Group*.

**CONGRATULATIONS
ZION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!**

Emily Cullar
Indiana University Law School
1st year law student

Matthew Forsythe
Ivy Tech
Freshmen

Aaron Goldstein
Goshen College
Senior

Christopher Griffith
Ball State University
Senior

Erin Niedbalski
The Art Institute of Charlotte
Junior

Meghan Seals
University of Saint Francis
Freshmen

Shannon Sickelka
College of William and Mary
Sophomore

Scott Wagoner
Purdue University
Junior

THANK YOU, ZION CHURCH

Shannon Sickelka writes:
I want to express how thankful I am to all of you for your generous scholarship — and not just for that, but for everything you’ve done for me and meant to me for the past several years. ...
Now God is leading my family to new places. I’m leaving my membership at Zion for a while — because even though I’ll be living somewhere else, when I’m at Zion, I feel like I’m home.

**THANK YOU, ZION CHURCH
FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**

Aaron Goldstein writes:
I would like to thank the Zion Community for the generous scholarship. The scholarship that you have given will be used for books and school supplies for the coming school year. The scholarship provided is one that will go a long way in my completion of College, and I am very grateful for your generosity.

Christopher Griffith writes:
I would like to thank the congregation of Zion for your continued help in furthering my education at Ball State. It is our congregation family who has helped guide me to help others in all that I do. I would also like to thank **the family of Elizabeth Marie Besemer** for creating such a generous scholarship. Thank you all for your support!

Erin Niedbalski sends greetings and writes:
You give so much of yourselves in the kindness you show and the lives you touch. That’s why you deserve a heartfelt “thank you” and a wish that all the goodness you share comes back to you.
Thank you for helping me to achieve my dreams. I love and miss you all.

Meghan Seals writes:
Thank you for my scholarship. It was very helpful!

Scott Wagoner writes:
Thank you very much for the academic achievement scholarship. I am very appreciative of this, and it will help with my book expenses at Purdue.

Emily Cullar and Matt Forsythe also send their greetings and thanks.



SEPT. MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

- Deacons** Ed Dierlam & Matt Forsythe
- Greeters** Bob and Ginny Richardson
- Ushers** Marcie and Tiffany Muhlbeier
- Welcome Host** Karen Malling
- Acolytes** tba
- Liturgists** 5 & 12 - Rick Meece
19 & 26 - Sandy Weides
- Communion Servers** Beth Green
Maxine Harvey
- Audio** Rick Muhlbeier
- Visual** Julie Niedbalski
- Altar Paraments** Michelle Seals
- Coffee Hosts** 5 Rich Cullar & Sandy Weides
12 Brian & Carol Hedman
19 **All Church Brunch**
26 tba

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Becky deBruyn
- 1 Mariska Harbin
- 4 Mark Hildabridle
- 4 Fayette (Nielsen) Flournoy
- 11 James Lorenc
- 11 Wim deBruyn
- 11 Graham Brueseke
- 12 Blake Martindale
- 13 Jane Martindale
- 15 Lindsay Blain
- 16 Sandy Weides
- 16 Melissa Lucido
- 19 David Proctor
- 21 Todd Troeger
- 22 Heather Hedman
- 22 Heidi Knight
- 22 Alice Goglio
- 24 Dennis Thompson
- 24 Marge Kinney
- 24 Keith Forsythe
- 25 John vonLackum
- 27 Judith Hoffacker
- 27 Tom Whipkey
- 27 Jackson Dierlam
- 28 Henry Taylor
- 28 Teresa (Lewis) Crowley
- 29 Jeanne Hipskind
- 29 Dick Trubey
- 29 Steve Nellis
- 29 Christine Holderbaum

COMING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21
FALL SALAD BAR LUNCH
11am to 1pm

Mark your calendar and plan to help out by making salads, selling tickets, and/or working at this important Fall fundraiser.

OKTOBERFEST! MEAL
& FALL FESTIVAL
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd
11:30am

Plan to attend for a delicious meal of Pork & Sauerkraut with all the trimmings, following church and Sunday School classes on October 3rd. Tickets available soon. You may RSVP to the church office, as this would help us with set up for the meal.

Worship Attendance

Aug. 1	85
Aug. 8	84
Aug. 15	82
Aug. 22	tba
Aug. 29	tba

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for articles for the October issue of *The Visitor* is Wednesday, Sept. 15. Submitting articles earlier would be even better.

JULY 31, 2010 TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>YTD July '10</u>	<u>YTD July '09</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Offerings for operations	\$ 82,068	\$ 86,762	-5%
Offerings for benevolence	13,778	10,667	29%
<i>Total regular offerings</i>	95,846	97,429	-2%
Mission Possible donations	110,745	1,454	n/a
Other income	10,650	9,997	7%
<i>Total income</i>	<u>217,241</u>	<u>108,880</u>	<u>100%</u>
Personnel expenses	68,025	62,773	8%
Property expenses	24,758	26,075	-5%
Benevolence expenses	20,424	20,518	0%
Mission Possible expenses	74,313	22,010	238%
Other expenses	13,082	6,735	94%
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>200,602</u>	<u>138,111</u>	<u>45%</u>
Surplus (deficit)	16,639	(29,231)	
Less Mission Possible, net	(36,432)	20,556	
Operating surplus (deficit)	<u>\$ (19,793)</u>	<u>\$ (8,675)</u>	
Fund balances:			
Unrestricted	44,784		
Mission Possible	188,811		
Temporarily restricted reserves	105,659		
Permanently restricted reserves	48,342		
Total fund balance	<u>\$ 387,596</u>		
<u>Summary:</u>			
General offerings continue to be down significantly - 10% under budget and 5% under 2009.			

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT ZION UCC — Coffee Hosts: Openings for Sept26 and Sundays in October ... Ministry Volunteers — Ushers and Greeters for Sunday Worship — use sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall or contact Donna Wagoner whose email address is: BWAGDWAG@MICHIANA.ORG ALSO: MANY HELPERS NEEDED FOR OUR FALL SALAD BAR LUNCH — OCTOBER 21 (THURSDAY) — 11am to 1pm — Watch for a sign up form, or contact Karen Hintz, Judy Waldo, or the church office Email Judy at: JUDYWALDO@ATT.NET ... Liturgists for Sunday Worship — please contact Ann Markley, whose email is JANNE906@YAHOO.COM If you are interested in joining our Choir and Music program — contact Misty Grubbs, whose email is: MISTY_GRUBBS@YAHOO.COM

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PASTOR SUSAN P. SICKELKA
715 E. WAYNE STREET
SOUTH BEND, IN 46617-3093
OFFICE: (574) 233-5446
FAX: (574) 233-9684
E-MAIL: ZIONSB@MICHIANA.ORG
WEBSITE: HTTP://WWW.ZIONSB.ORG

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship 9:00 am
Fellowship Time 10:00 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00 am—1:00 pm

Zion UCC Board of Elders

John Bair
Rich Cullar
Beth Green
Sue Goldstein
Rick Muhlbeier
Cheryl Nellis
tba
Nancy Philabaum
Beth Sargent
Diane Tiser
Sandy Weides
Maureen Wildey

We're On The Web!
<http://www.zionsb.org>

“Connecting People With God”



Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
South Bend, IN
Permit No. 202

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19 - ALL CHURCH BRUNCH

COME WELCOME OUR VISITORS FROM GERMANY!

OCT. 21st (Thurs) - SALAD BAR LUNCH

Our Church Community

Ministers	Every Member of the Congregation
Pastor	Rev. Susan Sickelka (Cell Phone: 574-248-0121)
Music Director	Misty Grubbs
Organist	Sarah Schubert
Administrative Assistant	Pauline Mudis
Bookkeeper	Jan Raymond
Custodian	Mark Hildabridle
<u>Board of Elders Officers</u>	
President	Beth Green
Vice President	tba
Secretary	Nancy Philabaum
Treasurer	Rich Cullar



“The Visitor” is a monthly publication of Zion United Church of Christ. News and articles for “The Visitor” must be submitted to the Church Office no later than the second Sunday of each month. Sunday bulletin announcements must be in the Church Office by noon each Wednesday.