Burlington Zion Express

April 2013



Have you heard the phrase "Emerging Church?" The book, Emerging Churches: Creating Christian Community in Postmodern Cultures defines emerging church in this way:

"Emerging churches are communities that practice the way of Jesus within postmodern cultures.... Emerging churches (1) identify with the life of Jesus, (2) transform the secular realm,

and (3) live highly communal lives.... they (4) welcome the stranger, (5) serve with generosity, (6) participate as producers, (7) create as created beings, (8) lead as a body, and (9) take part in spiritual activities." (Baker Academic, 2005)

Sound familiar? It sounds like Zion to me. OK, maybe we are not totally emerging into our postmodern culture. (Do you think of your culture as postmodern? It is.) But we are pretty close to emerging, especially for a group of middle class people in the middle of the country. I would say we are emerging, and we just don't know it.

To be an emerging church, we don't have to give up who we are. Rather, we can visualize ourselves into what we can imagine, because part of the emerging church movement is the idea that you can define yourself outside of strict doctrinal descriptions. So we can be emerging, yet remain loyal to our evangelical roots. We can be emerging, yet remain a part of the institutional church as we celebrate our connection to the United Church of Christ. And we will certainly always be grounded in our own Midwest culture. But as an emerging church, we are free to reshape and re-image those particular aspects of our character while adding in (or taking out) that which doesn't seem like "church" to us.

Here is an example of Zion as emerging church. At Zion, Jesus is our model as we reach out to the poor (Bridging the Gap). We take ourselves and our way of being church into the secular realm (Scripture and Coffee at Noina's). We welcome the stranger (our Welcoming Committee deliberately explores and demonstrates the practice of true hospitality). We serve with generosity (one of many examples is the enthusiasm of the entire church concerning the community meal at Grace United Methodist Church). We lead as a body as we grow into our Open and Affirming identity.

Zion is its own kind of emerging church--one of hope and love and all that is church and all that is holy. A community of faithful who cling to the traditions that give meaning and discard those that don't. We welcome new people and new ideas. We find Divinity in the coffee shop and in the sanctuary.

We are emergent and emerging.

Let's walk this journey together.

Your Pastor, Jane



Earls worst fears were confirmed when he found the first signs of an emerging church in his back yard.

Worship

Sunday, April 7

8:45 am: Adult Sunday School

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church Scripture: Psalm 150; John 20:19-31

11:00 am: Coffee Hour

Sunday, April 14

8:45 am: Adult Sunday School

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church

Scripture: Psalm 30; John 21:1-19

11:00 am: Coffee Hour

Sunday, April 21

8:45 am: Adult Sunday School

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church Scripture: Psalm 23; John 10:22-30

11:00 am: Coffee Hour

Sunday, April 28

8:45 am: Adult Sunday School

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church Scripture: Psalm 148; John 13:31-35

11:00 am: Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour



Here is our **April schedule**:

April 7:	
April 14:	Deanna and Diane
April 21:	
April 28:	

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to be a host/ sponsor sometime. Thank you!

Everyone is invited to join us downstairs in the fellowship hall each Sunday morning immediately following the worship service for refreshments and fellowship. Hope to see you there!

Worship Helpers

April Church Closers: Dennis & Dyan Dietzman

Sunday, April 7

Communion preparers: Bill Daws and Jim

Ritters

Greeters: Joanne Mauer, Judy Nesius, Rod Reeves, Marlis Robberts and Jakob

Reader: Carol Goddard Tower Bell: Caleb Mehaffy

Valet: Rich Goble

Sunday, April 14

Greeters: Janet McCannon, Jim and Deb Ritters,

Deb Ruble Reader: Lela Neely

Tower Bell: Marvin Fraise

Valet: Jim Ritters

Sunday, April 21

Greeters: Bill and Ann Hummel, Jim Levins,

Kathy Morrish Reader: Pam Daws Tower Bell: Will Neises

Valet: Bill Daws

Sunday, April 28

Greeters: Lyle Gibson, Don and Vivian Kellar,

Judy Taylor Reader: Deb Goble Tower Bell: Milt Paule Valet: Tom Ralston



Please notice that we need Coffee Hour volunteers for the month of April. Remember, it can be simple --- coffee (provided by the church) and a few plates of cookies.

Thank you to everyone who has served so far!

~~Pastor Jane

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

by Janice Gibson

NOIZ Nites Takes a Hike!! Wednesday, April 10 5:30 p.m.

The April NOIZ Nites for Families will take place on Wednesday, April 10, at the Starr's Cave Nature Center Shelter House. We'll roast hot dogs and have hot chocolate at 5:30 p.m.



At about 6:00 p.m. LaVon Worley will present a nature program for us and take us on a short hike.

Please plan to meet at the Nature Center on Starr's Cave Road. But if anyone needs a ride or directions, please call the church office at 752-2305 and we will make arrangements for you.

Remember -- we'll be outside for the entire evening, so dress accordingly. This will be our last NOIZ Nites event until fall, so don't miss out!!





Children's Church Activities

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Lenten Mission Market that was hosted by our Children's Church. Close to \$200 was donated to Zion's Love Fund!

After Easter, students will continue the theme of *Character Counts* and a series on *Peer Pressure*, beginning with the story of Peter's denial of Jesus. Of course, peer pressure is a contemporary issue, too. Help your child along on their faith journey by making sure they can attend Children's Church regularly!



Sunday, April 28, 12-2 pm

We will be going to Fun City to go bowling. Meet at King Pins at noon. We'll have pizza and then bowl for an hour. The pick-up time will be 2:00 pm.

If anyone needs a ride or if you have any questions, please call Lisa at 759-6737 or Craig at 759-6732.

Hope to see you there!!

Adult Sunday School

Sunday School on April 14 will have a guest speaker, the Reverend Jerry Rigdon. Jerry is a United Methodist minister actively serving Asbury United Methodist Church here in Burlington. Jerry, about to retire from parish ministry, will share with us the story of his long and exciting experience of ministry. Be sure not to miss "Faith, Doubt and Everything in Between" with Reverend Jerry Rigdon.

8:45 a.m. on April 14 in the church library.

"My Mind Was Changed" (or how to talk about the UCC understanding of LGBTQ with people who don't agree)

There are many Christians who remain conflicted about the place of LGBT people in their churches and in society. They want to embrace fairness and inclusion, yet also worry about what they have been taught, especially in church, about LGBTQ people. This class taught by Scott Wood and Pastor Jane will help us find a meaningful way to talk with conflicted Christians—a way that helps to open their hearts and minds to the welcome and inclusion of gay and lesbian people.

The class will have two sessions: April 21 and April 28.

Prospective Members Gathering

If you have an interest in becoming a member of Zion Church or just want to learn more about us, you are invited to Pastor Jane and Don's house on **Tuesday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m.** They live at 2404 Florence Avenue in Burlington. Join us for food and conversation!





"Coffee and Scripture" at 7:30 am on Tuesdays at Diggers Rest is welcome to all and is always looking for new members. We are presently reading Marcus Borg's The Evolution of the Word. You can just jump right in on Tuesday morning without having read the book! Stop by and join us!



Wise Women's Bible Study will meet at 11:00 a.m. each Thursday morning at the church beginning on **April 11**. Bring your-ideas on what you would

like to study. All are welcome!

Sing-Along at Rosebush Garden

Sunday, April 14, 2:00 pm

Several volunteers will go to Rosebush Garden on Sunday, April 14, at 2:00 p.m. for a sing-along with the residents there. Please try to join them!

Thank you to all the March volunteers who sang at the Burlington Care Center: Sandy Deal, Janice Gibson, Debbie Gottschalk, Cari Kraft, Martha Landstrom, Donna Norris, Milt and Laurie Paule, and Janet Sorenson.





Phone Tree

We are starting a "phone tree" at Zion. If you do not wish to be contacted by email, or do not have email, please let the church office know. Or you may also put your name and phone number on the signup sheet on the bulletin board.

We will put your name on our phone tree list and someone will contact you by phone when the need for immediate notifications arises, such as cancellations of church services or meetings.

If you are fine with being contacted by email or on Facebook, you don't need to do anything.

Thank you!

All-Church Progressive Dinner

Sunday, April 21, 4:30 pm

Zion's Fellowship Committee is planning an All-Church Progressive Dinner for Sunday, April 21, at four different homes.

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you'd like to attend. We also need four hosts to sign up. There will be a house for the appetizers, the salad, the main course, and the dessert.

Attendees will start out at the house with the appetizers and then drive to the next home for the salad, and so on. Don't forget to sign up so the hosts know how much food to prepare. Contact Pam Daws if you have any questions. Don't miss out on this time of good fellowship and good food!



Over-the-Hill Gang April 24 9:45 a.m.

A trip to the Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse in Rock Island is planned for the Over-the-Hill Gang --- PLUS anyone else who would like to come along.

The "Church Basement Ladies" are back! In their latest installment, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our Basement," the year is 1960 and a reformation is underway. The Church Basement Ladies are once again required to face change head-on. With more crazy antics, more great new songs, and more lessons reluctantly learned, your favorite ladies are at it again with an all-new musical!

We'll leave from church via carpool at 9:45 a.m. on Wednesday, April 24, and return about 5 p.m. Doors open at 11:45 a.m., with the meal at noon, the pre-show at 1 p.m. and curtain at 1:30 p.m.

Please sign up on the bulletin board. Your payment (check made out to Zion UCC) is <u>due by April 7</u>. The cost of \$40.50 per person covers the meal, tax, gratuity, and the performance.

Thursday April 25 7:00 pm



The book for April is <u>The Beginner's Goodbye</u> written by Anne Tyler. All the books we ordered have already been purchased. Please contact Deb Ruble right away if you'd like us to order another one for you. The meeting will take place on Thursday, April 25, at 7:00 p.m., at the home of Judy Tomkins, 628 S. Leebrick Street. Please join us!



Our committee for this year includes: Carol Goddard (Chair), Pam Daws, Sandy Deal, Janet McCannon, Darlene Pruett, Connie Ralston, Cathy Schnicker, and Judy Tomkins. Thank you for volunteering to help.

A list of who supervises the kitchen for which month for 2013 and early 2014 is now posted on the refrigerator. Please check this for your months. A revised list of items to check, etc. will be posted soon. Please switch with someone if you are unavailable for your month. Paper goods will be restocked by Carol, Pam, or Jane from Costco; let us know what is needed.



We want to thank **Webelos Scout Pack 85** for the nearly 600 items of food they collected for Zion's **food pantry** last week! **Will Neises** is one of the six scouts in this pack and his parents, **Craig and Lisa**, are the leaders.

A big thanks also to **Donna Norris** who spent several hours on Monday organizing all the food and putting it on the shelves. Donna comes down each week to see that the food pantry is stocked, organized, and food is sacked up and ready to be handed out. Thank you, Donna!

The food pantry is an extremely vital ministry here at Zion. Many people make use of this resource we offer, which wouldn't be possible without the donations and help of so many of you!

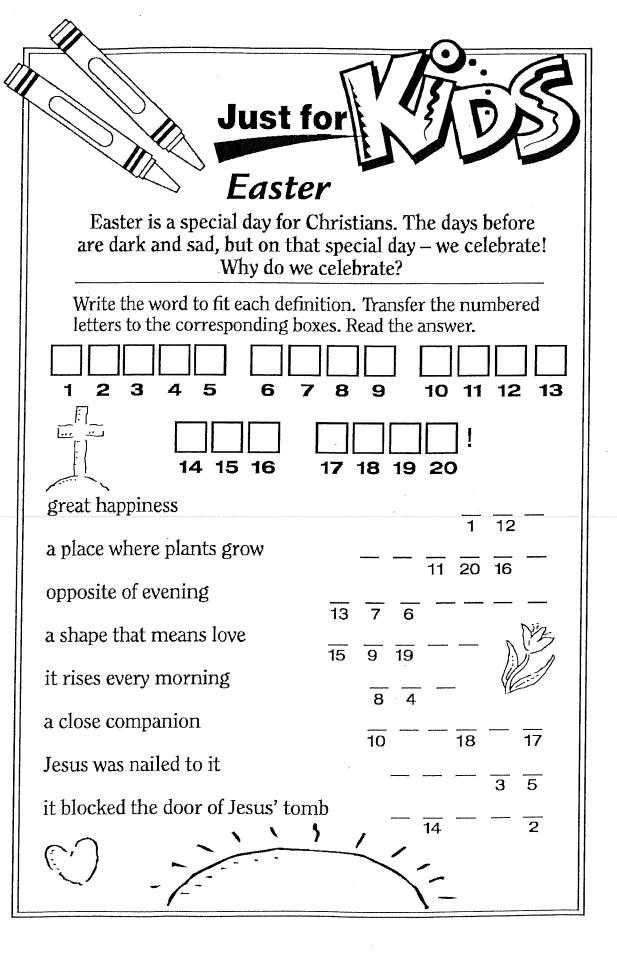


- Marvin and Marcia Fraise in the loss of Marvin's brother, Keith Fraise, 82, of Donnellson, Iowa, who passed away on March 1, 2013, at Ft. Madison Community Hospital.
- Darrell and Sue Eden in the loss of their son, Zachary "Zac" James Eden, 32, who passed away on March 6, 2013. We also extend our sympathies to his brother, Ben, and his family.
- The family of Cleo Hassell, 88, who passed away on March 9, 2013, at Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, Iowa. Her funeral was held here at Zion Church on March 14, 2013.
- Audrey Klein in the loss of her son-in-law Larry Adams, 71, of Burlington, who passed away on March 17, 2013. We also extend our sympathies to his wife, Audrey's daughter, Becky, and her family.



Thank you for all the cards and kind words of support I received after the loss of my brother.

~~Kaye Hanna





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Spring	Aug Aug Aug	8:45 am: Adult 7	Sunday School 10:00 am: Worship	and Children's Church 11:00 am: Coffee Hour	8:45 am: Adult 14	Sunday School	10am: Worship & C.C.	11:00 am: Coffee Hour	2:00 pm: Sing-along	@ Rosebush Garden	8:45 am: Adult S.921	10:00 am: Worship	and Children's Church	11:00 am: Coffee Hour	4:30 pm:	Progressive Dinner	8:45 am: Adult 28	Sunday School	10:00 am: Worship	and Children's Church	11:00 am: Coffee Hour	







April Birthdays

- 2 ---- Joanne Oetken, 2608 Subilbe Ave.
- 4 ---- Don Lutz, 2404 Florence Ave.
- 6 ---- Janice Gibson, 204 Crestview Dr.
- 7 ---- Jim Ritters, 209 Curran St.Sharon Thye, 10240 155th St.
- 9 ---- **Bill Daws**, 10971 Wildlife Lakes Dr. West Burlington IA 52655
- 10 --- JoAnn Oetken, PO Box 513
- 12 --- Rachel Wachter, 1028 Short Ave.
- 17 --- **Jon Hedges**, 11774 Greenwood Drive **Kayla Elmore** (15), 900 Canterbury Dr.
- 20 --- Rita Hartman, 2405 Madison Ave.
- 21 --- Genevieve Thie, 14048 155th St. Crystal Oetken (10), P.O. Box 513
- 23 --- Alexis Long (10), 1805 S. 10th St.
- 25 --- Kay Jacobs, 1024 Hagemann Ave.
- 28 --- Chuck Landstrom, 1206 Madison Ave.

April Anniversaries

- 2 --- Chris Cowles & Mike Collentine (30) 5254 Ferres Lane
- 5 ---- Pat & Bob Parmeter (33) 2636 Northwood Ave.
- 12 --- Marcia & Marvin Fraise (51) 1002 W. Mt. Pleasant St., West Burlington, IA 52655
- 15 --- **Emily Roane & Keith Schulz** (28) 922 N. 3rd St.
- 22 --- **Debbie & Glen Gottschalk** (41) 829 N. 5th St.
- 27 --- **Sheri & Brian Landstrom** (22) 2105 S. 10th St.



Early May Birthdays

- 1 --- Brian Landstrom, 2105 S. 10th St.
- 3 ---- Marie Paulus, 1326 Gnahn St.

"... Whereas the aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and sincere faith"

I Timothy 1:5

Journey to India

The Rev. Dr. Valerie Carter, Rev. Freda Wilkins and I, left for Bengaluru, India on August 16. We traveled there to teach as guest instructors for two weeks at the Indian Institute of Theology and Mission (IITM). The classes were part of a mission conference held at the school. The students and instructors of IITM had never met or known about the experience of African Americans, specifically African American women. They were excited to hear us share about Black African and African American experiences in America and God's actions in our history. We taught every day for two hours. Rev. Carter's topic was on mission, Rev. Wilkins topic was on prayer and my topic was multicultural religious education.

On the last day of class, we asked the students to share their faith stories with us as we had shared our faith stories with them. This was the first time visiting instructors had given them an opportunity to share their stories. They appreciated that and felt connected to people that struggle to survive all over the world.

Being received, embraced and affirmed as an instructor and a sister in the family of faith in a male dominated conservative Christian theological society was astounding. While experiencing another perspective of Christian education in an environment of poverty in India at IITM, I realized in some ways it is similar to that in Haiti. I will always hold a place in my heart for India and such respect and admiration for each student and the instructors who shared with us their narratives of becoming a Christian.

Jeanette Salley, a Global Ministries missionary is a member of St. John's United Church of Christ, Richmond, Virginia. She serves with the National Spiritual Council of Churches in Haiti (CONASPEH) as an assistant for disaster preparation and response, as well as a teacher at St. Andrew Seminary.



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The BZ Express April 2013

Zion United Church of Christ

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Church email: <u>ucczionbur@aol.com</u>

Pastor's email: pastorjane@zionuccburlington.org

Website: www.zionuccburlington.org

Staff

Rev. Jane A. Willan, Pastor
Janice Gibson, Organist, Choir Director, and Christian Education Director
Marilyn Stein, Office Administrator
Kay Jacobs, Treasurer's Assistant
Renita Jarrett, Choir Accompanist and Wedding Coordinator
Megan Agnew, Nursery Supervisor
Earnest Turner, Custodian and Buildings & Grounds Coordinator

Deb Ruble, Director of Bridging the Gap **Judy Taylor**, Heritage People Coordinator