



Zion United Church of Christ, Fireside, Established 1830

The Chatter 2.0

August / September 2025

*No Matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here*

Pastoral Ponderings

By Pastor Noah McCarn

How I Go to the Woods by Mary Oliver

Ordinarily I go to the woods alone, with not a single friend, for they are all smilers and talkers and therefore unsuitable.

I don't really want to be witnessed talking to the cat-birds or hugging the old black oak tree. I have my way of praying, as you no doubt have yours.

Besides, when I am alone I can become invisible. I can sit on the top of a dune as motionless as an up-rise of weeds, until the foxes run by unconcerned. I can hear the almost unheard sound of the roses singing.

If you have ever gone to the woods with me, I must love you very much.

Like Mary Oliver, I too find the woods to be a special place. No matter how big or small a patch of woods might be, I always find myself transported to another world as birds chirp and the trickle of a stream sends its invitation to go deeper. As I walk through the woods and become more attuned to the natural world around me, I cannot help but perceive a sense of calm and peace. As the hymn suggests, surely the presence of God is in this wooded place.

We all have places that we go that are sacred and holy. Places where our souls feel at home, where we feel God's presence. Perhaps, like Mary Oliver, it is a place you go alone. Perhaps, it is a place you find more sacred with others. As Moses was told when approached by God in the form of a burning bush, take off your shoes, for you are standing on holy ground. Where is your holy ground? The place or places where you connect with your creator? Where your soul feels at home?

MISSION STATEMENT

To be the church, sewing seeds of love, faith and respect through serving one another and serving our

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.

Contact Information

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Office Hours: 9a—Noon Tuesday and Wednesday. Other times by appointment only.



Sutton Jo Lynn Tuner, daughter of Evan and Kelsey Turner was dedicated on July 6, 2025 in the church. Evan and Kelsey declared their intent to raise their daughter in a Christian home, teaching her about God's work and modeling a life of faith with the church community supporting them in this journey of faith.

Sutton is the granddaughter of Bob & Gerri Rine, great granddaughter of Jack & Marsha Rine and great-great niece of Susan Rine.



Brad Rine was Liturgist for his Niece Sutton's Dedication

Baptism of Arron Boley



Aaron is the son of Shannon McDivitt and Great Grandson of Linda Rohrbacher. Aaron was baptized into the church on July, 20, 2025.

We welcome Aaron into our church family and community of faith! May this milestone in your life be a journey filled with faith, hope, and love.



When your Pianist is on a mission trip and you can't find a fill-in in your area, you go out of state. All the way from Kansas State, Cody Rine, Sutton's uncle blessed us with his talents with playing music during our Worship Service.



Our Faith Formation Mission in Action group is focusing on the 9 Fruits of the Spirit this year. The “fruit of the spirit” refers to nine virtues that are developed in Christians as a result of the Holy Spirit’s work in their lives, as described by the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Galatians (Galatians 5:22-23). Each month another fruit of the Spirit is added.

Love—An enduring commitment to act in ways that prioritize the greatest good for others, even choosing to support their well-being regardless of their behavior. It’s a steadfast and unconditional love grounded in God’s character.

Joy—A deep, inner delight rooted in gratitude for God’s blessings and hope in His promises

Peace—Choosing to trust God’s plan. It’s a state of wholeness and extends to living in loving harmony with others.

Patient—Involves “slow to anger”, enduring difficult circumstances without resentment or bitterness, knowing God is in control.

Kindness—Active goodness directed toward others, characterized by compassion, grace and generosity. It involves acting for the good of people regardless of their actions, looking beyond one’s own interest.

Good—Uprightness of heart and life, reflecting moral excellence and a disposition to do good for other’s benefit.



Upcoming Events:

This fall Faith Formation will be making Salsa and different types of Pickles for a fundraising project.

We meet monthly to discuss and plan activities. Watch the weekly announcements for dates.

We welcome everyone who would like to help.

Opportunities of Fireside’s Giving Donations to help others:

Pass It On Clothing
August-Jeans/Pants
September: Coats

Fish & Loaves
August-Spaghetti Sauce
September-Cereal

Cassie’s Comfort
Hygiene Items (alcohol free)
Socks -Underwear -Shirts

All donations may be brought to the church on Tuesday or Wednesday 9a—noon or on Sunday. Monetary donations may be to the church or directly to the organization.



Keeping In Our Prayers

Susan Bishop, Bill Carroll, Shirley Dick, Mike Hamer, Jay Jackson, Dawn Nailor, Etta Meisner, Jack Rine, Sandy Ritenour, John Shumway.

James Good and Jordan Evans who are serving in our military.

Bible Study Group

The Bible Study group will gather on August 31st after Worship. We will studying the Women of the Bible. Monthly study will be on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month after Worship.



Join us on Sunday, September 7th for Summer Camp Inspired worship. After worship we will have a campfire with hot dogs and s'more's.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide Altar flowers in honor of or in memory of, please contact the church at 419-483-6658 or by email: zionunited@gmail.com



August

1st Donna Rachul
2nd Dana Smith
11th Sharon Weller
13th Brittany Weller
14th Stewart Smith
17th Elise Hoover
20th Vickie Smith
22nd David Good
26th Krysti Martinez

September

2nd Yvonne Montoya
9th Chase Eisenhower
13th Steve Buck
16th Jonathon McConnell
23rd Lauren Hamer
26th Jodi Renwand
27th Linda Rohrbacher



August

6th Bryan & Elizabeth Hoover
19th Stew & Dana Smith
21st Kevin & Sylvia Thompson
23rd Patrick & Kris Bentz

September

4th Jerry & Jeanne Nailor

August 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 10 AM Worship New Members	4	5 6:30 PM Pastoral Relations Commit- tee	6	7 6 pm— Fireside Walkers	8	9
10 10 AM Worship	11	12	13	14 6 pm— Fireside Walkers	15	16
17 10 AM Worship	18	19	20	21 6 pm— Fireside Walkers	22	23 Hamer-Profitt Wedding
24 10 AM Worship	25	26	27	28 11:45 Gleaners Luncheon 6 pm— Fireside Walkers	29	30
31 10 AM Worship 11 AM Bible Study						

September 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7 10 AM Worship & Communion 11 AM Summer Campfire with s'more's	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 10 AM Worship 11 AM Consistory Meeting	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 10 Am Worship 11 AM Bible Study	22	23	24	25 11:45 AM Gleaners Luncheon	26	27
28 10 Am Worship	29	30				



Labor Day 2025 will occur on Monday, September 1.

Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September.

It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century during the Industrial Revolution, a period of harsh working conditions, low wages and long hours.

The first Labor Day parade was held in New York City on September 5, 1882 and it officially became a federal holiday in 1894.

Chatter Publication Dates

The chatter will be published bi-monthly. If you would like to submit pictures, articles or upcoming events please submit the information by:

September 7th— October/November Chatter

November 7th—December Chatter

December 7th—January / February Chatter

Our weekly Bulletin / Announcement email will contain any additional events and announcements that miss the Chatter 2.0.

All information may be emailed to: zionunited@gmail.com.