

Wayne Zion Lutheran Church

15531 County Road E-17, Monticello, IA 52310

(319) 465-4834 www.waynezion.org

Like us on Facebook



September 2026 Newsletter

He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." (Genesis 18:3-5)

In this reading from Genesis 18, Abraham was visited by the Lord as God came to him in the form of three men. They went to Abraham and Abraham offered hospitality. Although Abraham may not have known the men were God, he invited them to cool themselves resting under a tree. Abraham had water brought so their feet could be washed from the dust and the heat of their journey. Abraham ordered that food would be prepared that the men could enjoy a meal. Abraham is our example of how to welcome one another and welcome God. Abraham did everything he could to make his visitors welcome. He provided hospitality to those that were strangers. They may have been strangers, but Abraham treated them with respect, providing anything that might make them comfortable. For Abraham, this was the most important thing he could do. He may not have known these three were God visiting him, but he treated them as if they were special.

Our relationship with God includes sharing hospitality. What is this hospitality? It includes something as simple as helping our guests feel welcome and comfortable among us. Hospitality means we listen to those that we have interactions with even if their ideas are not our ideas. Hospitality is about receiving others into our midst and caring enough to get to know them. Perhaps the hardest part of hospitality is leaving the "me" behind and listening to and enjoying those that are with us.

There are many ways we can share hospitality. It might be that we make phone calls when others are not physically present and have not been for a while. We might take a meal to those that can not get out because of their various vulnerabilities. We might offer a hand or voice of support for those that are alone. These simple but important actions are like sharing cold water with someone who is thirsty like Abraham did. It is sharing hospitality when we welcome others into our midst.

The church is in the business of caring for those that are not necessarily part of us but need to experience God's blessings. You and I are called to share hospitality as Abraham did. We are called by God to share love and kindness in all that we say and do.

In Christian love

Pastor Phil

Pastor Phil Jorgensen contact number 319-329-7900

July 28, 2026

Choosing Reconciliation Over Division in a Multifaith America

Dear church,

From its earliest days, the United States has been shaped by religious diversity. Indigenous peoples sustained diverse spiritual and religious traditions long before the nation's founding, and successive waves of settlers, including Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and others, brought a variety of beliefs that helped define the nation's unique and vital religious landscape.

Throughout the church today, many are struggling with debates regarding the religious identity of our nation. While religious diversity did not begin with the Constitution, the Constitution's framers recognized an important truth: the future of our nation could not be tied to a single religious identity. By rejecting religious tests for public office, the Founders created space for people of any or no faith tradition to participate in public life together. That commitment continues to be foundational to our nation's vitality, especially at a time when people are tempted to identify love of the nation, or the government itself, with a single religion. No one faith tradition should rule the United States, just as the framers desired.¹

As the apostle Paul writes, God has given us "the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18). Reconciliation involves living in God's future — including through renewed interreligious relationships. Religious diversity is the reality of the world we live in. Recognizing this, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which affirms that mutual understanding with other faith traditions can deepen our own faith. Through encountering neighbors and working side by side in shared commitments to love and compassion and community, our own Christian faith is strengthened. This conviction means that through my call as presiding bishop of the ELCA, our church develops and maintains relationships with Jewish, Muslim and many other faith communities. Like personal friendships we hold, these relationships do not require us to set aside Christian faith. Rather they reaffirm that in a nation as diverse as ours, being a good neighbor across religious differences is not optional. It's a part of the shared American experience. It is an experience we can support as everyday Lutherans in God's call to reconciliation.

"The ELCA will explore and encourage inter-religious friendship, accompaniment, and partnership with all who seek justice, peace, human wholeness, and the well-being of creation (ELCA Constitution, Chapter 4.03.f)." —"A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," p. 10

"The ELCA will defend the full participation of all in our religiously diverse society, 'strengthening public space as a just place for all' regardless of religion or worldview ('The Church in the Public Space: A Statement of The Lutheran World Federation,' 2016)." —"A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," p. 11

The ministry of reconciliation is both local and national. God invites us to love one another across differences. Trusting in God's grace, we boldly form relationships with neighbors of all faiths who share a commitment to justice, peace and the flourishing of all creation. I encourage you to engage in this essential ministry, which offers a powerful opportunity to heal divisions, deepen respect across differences and strengthen the bonds of our common life.

In Christ, The Rev. Yehiel Curry Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

BIRTHDAYS

 SEPTEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

1st Mabel Behrends
 Beth Cox, Mike Dooley
 Duane E.H. Harms
 2nd Jani Telleen
 3rd Marty Scharff
 5th Paul Siebels
 7th Jeanne Heeren
 Nancy Rickels
 8th Quinn Behrends
 Wade Reddy, Cindy Weber
 10th Keith Hagen
 Ashley Rohdy, Pete Temple
 11th Lisa Farley
 Brandon Kraus
 12th Shirley Borkgren
 Chris Herren, Janeece Lasley
 13th Mark Hein
 14th Chad Rohdy
 15th Whitney Hein
 Blakelyn Meyer
 16th Landon Iben
 17th Gentry McCormick
 18th Ryker Hein
 Andy Jamison, Derek Owen, Tim Schultz
 19th Gary Bohlken
 Ajay Jamison
 20th Jeanine Dirks
 Kurt Gunther, Teresa Reyner
 Dan Stadtmueller
 21st Rollin Banderob
 Leah Lloyd, Mason Lloyd, Dionne Prull
 Grayson Weers
 23rd Mason Newhard
 24th Jackie Stadtmueller
 26th Addison Bodeker
 29th Heidi Roller
 Natalie Roller
 30th Sandy Taylor

1st Charlie and Kelsey Roller
 5th Kurt and Robin Andreesen
 8th Gerald and Diane Clements
 9th Mike and Brandy Nietert
 13th Todd and Lisa Rickels
 14th Andy and Becky Jamison
 19th Quinn and Margaret Behrends
 Jeff and Kris Weers
 22nd Rod and Beth Toenjes
 27th Curt and Gwen Edwards



**American
Red Cross**

Tuesday, September 1st, 2026

Monticello Community

Blood Drive

Berndes Center

766 N Maple Street

11:00 am to 5:00 pm

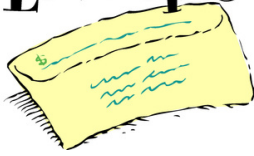
Appointments are encouraged,
walk-in's welcome!

Accurate Church Records

Please notify the church office if you have moved to a new address, changed phone number(s) and/or email address.

Thanks from the Wayne Zion office staff

Offering Envelopes



Please contact the office if you need a box of Offering Envelopes

OR

Easy Electronic Offering Option

contact the church office

319 465-4834

or waynezionlutheranchurch@gmail.com

Proverbs 19:17

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed"

Wayne Zion Lutheran Church has the option to receive your weekly, biweekly or monthly offerings (contributions) electronically.



ONE

radio spot left for
November 29
in 2026.

Please sign up or call the office, staff will add to the board in the entryway.

COST \$45.00

Office Manager working hours
have changed
Monday - Friday
8:00 am to 2:00 pm

"Table Talk Thursday"
is back!!

Where: Lubben's Winery 13504 Hwy 151, Anamosa

When: Thursday, September 10th @ 6:30 pm

Casual gathering for conversation and building community and faith.

TRANSITION PRAYER GROUP/TEAM

All members are invited to join the Transition Prayer Group/Team following worship every Sunday morning in the sanctuary.....praying for the council, staff and call committee also Pastor Phil Jorgensen as he provides pulpit supply.



FOR SEPTEMBER

- canned vegetables - *no green beans*
- sugar
- pasta sauce

monetary donations accepted always

Useful Hands (Quilter's Group)



Requesting donations of plain
flat bed sheets
of any color

(without holes or stains)

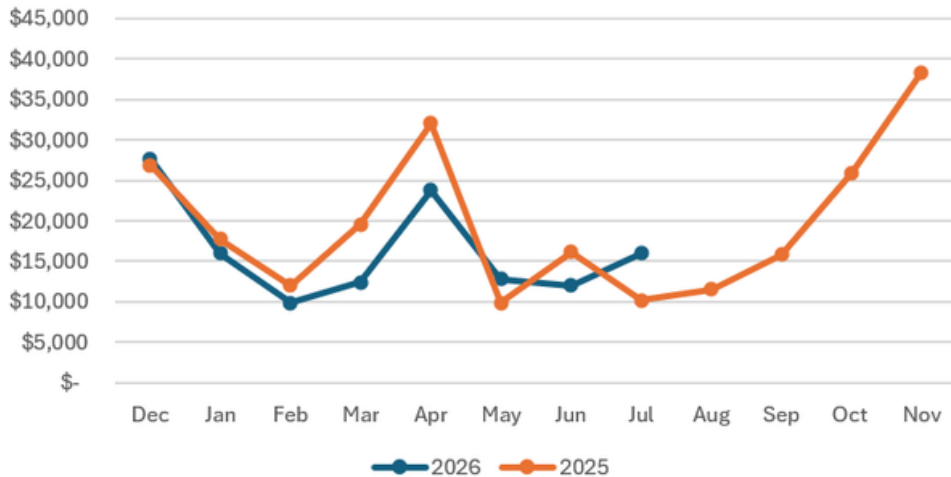
Please drop off in the sewing room.

Thank you very much!

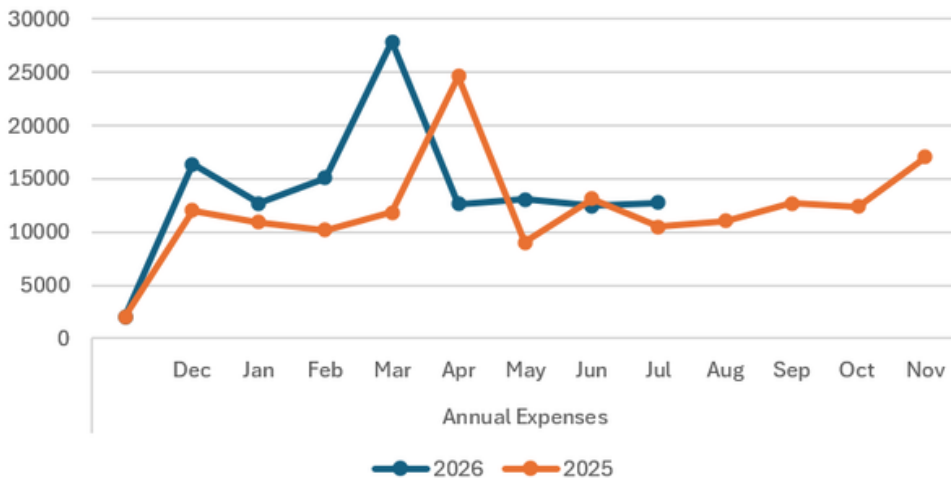
Call the church office 319-465-4834
if you need Pastoral care or would
like to speak with a Pastor.



Wayne Zion Monthly Revenue 2026 vs 2025



Wayne Zion Monthly Expenses 2026 vs 2025



CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kurt Andreesen	Pauline Antons
Dorrea Bohlken	Mark Dirks
Cammie Greif	Darrick Hall
Ashley Kray	Rick Meyer
Mikinzie Smith	Amie Stadtmueller
Garry Zumbach	

Mark
your
calendar

Harvest Festival
Wednesday
October 21st, 2026



Items Needed
for the
Harvest Festival



COUNCIL CORNER

The graph on the left is provided by our council treasurer.

Note: July income increased over last year after being below last year for most of the year. Expenses are tracking higher than last year.

Year to date \$7,875 (2026) compared to \$42,238 (2025)

- Council looked at the church basement and discussed possible future electronic notifications for sump pump



Backpack Blessing by
Isabella Shepherd,
Sunday School
and Youth Director
August 23, 2026

EWALU
QUILT RAFFLE
 Online Auction
 September 14-20
 Live Auction
 September 19



**Are you caring for
 someone with Dementia?**

If you or someone you know could
 benefit from this volunteer-based
 respite care program . . .
 see the flyer on the bulletin board
 in the Social Hall



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Seeking members to engage with
 our children the second Sunday of
 the month for 5 to 10 minutes
 sharing God's message. Please let
 Pastor Phil know. The office staff
 will provide that Sunday's
 scripture readings.



CHOIR REHEARSALS

Children's Choir - Sundays at 10:15 am
 Adult Choir - Sundays at 10:30 am
 Handbell Choir - Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



Grandparents Day

Sunday, September 13th, 2026

WAYNE ZION SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The council has approved a new Social Media Policy for Wayne Zion. As part of the new Social Media Policy, there are several important reminders all members who may post pictures and videos from church services:

1. Our children are our most precious members, and before we post a picture or video of a child, we must have written consent from a parent or guardian.
2. We need to make sure we have a license to any music that is part of a video that is posted. Our Music Director includes the license # in the bulletin for every song that is licensed. Please do not include any videos of music that are not licensed.
3. If you have something you wish to post to the Wayne Zion Facebook or website, you can send your post to Isabella Shepherd for approval and posting.



Wayne Zion's volunteers with Isabella Shepherd
 VBS Leader 2026





Bring a friend
for food
and
fun

Youth Group meets each Wednesday
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Fall 2026 Schedule

class begins

September 2, 2026

6:00 pm

Library

September 7th, 23rd and 30th

High School

Sunday School

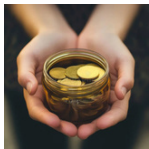
begins

September 13th, 2026

10:30 am

CHILDREN'S
Sunday School

NO CLASS September 16th
Monticello Homecoming



CHILDREN

Remember to bring your coins
for the Sunday School
Offering/Collection
your coins help
Ashly in Ecuador



September 13th, 2026
BEGINS

Music 10:15 am
Class 10:30 am

Child/Youth Safety Policy

please complete the
policy
form if you are
volunteering
for infant/child/youth
activities
and events the church
office
has paper copies
of this required form.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL
August 23, 2026

