

# ZIONBeacon

Shining GOD's Light and Love



– SEPTEMBER 2023 –

Sharing God's love  
in tangible ways.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

*Matthew 5:16*

## A BRIEF WORD FROM THE PASTOR:

"Hello everyone! I want to thank you all for the warm welcome you gave me. I look forward to getting to know each of you better.

I grew up on my family's dairy farm in rural Western Pennsylvania. I was raised in the Church of God in Clarion, PA. I have two younger brothers who are both married and have children of their own. As a result, I have a total of six nephews and nieces. At the age of nine, I prayed to receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior in Children's Church. Also that summer, after my first experience at church camp, I was baptized outdoors at Whitehall Camp. Following the Lord's direction, I worked as a high school substitute teacher in PA and as a missionary in Spain. After this I served as a chaplain in a hospital for two years. Then, I was the pastor of a Church of God congregation in rural Western PA for five years. Most recently, I have worked as a wheelchair van driver for Community Ambulance Service in PA from 2020-2023.

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Work day at "Whatever You Do" Women & Children's Shelter in Ottumwa, August 2023



Did someone  
say DONUTS?



The following is the message that I believe God wants me to share with you. **“Taste and see that the LORD is good”** (Ps. 34:8). Read the Bible. By reading God’s Word, the Bible, we grow in our relationship with Jesus and nourish our soul. We come to know the heart of God, God’s will for our life, and the mind of Christ. God loves us and has a perfect plan for your life and mine. But how will we ever fully discover it, if we are not daily reading the Scriptures and applying them? The Word of God is living and active, and, if we let it, the Bible will transform us to make us more like Jesus. It starts with us getting into the habit of daily reading the Bible.

If you have never read the Bible from cover to cover, I encourage you to first read each book in the New Testament of the Bible. After finishing every book in the New Testament, then start reading every book in the Old Testament. If this feels like an impossible task, just read one chapter a day and let it soak in. Every book in the Bible is a love letter from God to you and direction for your life. Get a Bible that is easy to read and understand. If you have never read the Bible before, I recommend reading the New Living Translation of the Bible (NLT). Whether it is pages in a book or on your smartphone, start reading a chapter a day, and you will be blessed by the living God. Read your Bible.

I want to thank God for his Word, the Holy Spirit, and my Christian family and friends, whom God has used to make me the Christ-follower I am today. I also thank God for all of you and look forward to everything Jesus will do through us, as we work together in the Body of Christ. May God bless you!

*Pastor John Mark Henry*

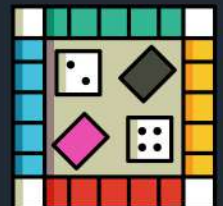
## More WYD work day pictures



*Game Night*

### Come join us for some fun...

*We have a monthly fellowship time on the second Friday of every month at 6:30 pm where we gather to share in food, fellowship and games! Bring your family! Invite your friends! Bring a game or two to play!*





# YOUTH CONVENTION



*"The Iowa Church of God Youth Convention will be October 6th-8th. It will begin on Friday evening of the first weekend in October and end on the Sunday of that weekend. This event will be **at the Burundi Church of God in Cedar Rapids, IA.** The **speaker** for the youth will be the engaging **Pastor Jason Knoll** from Minnesota, who was formerly a youth pastor. Although a cross-cultural event (African-Burundi and American), the youth convention will be in English. The Iowa Church of God Assembly stated that they will pay the hotel lodging for all youth and adult chaperones who are attending the event. This Christian youth retreat is open for anyone in **grades 6-12.** If you have any questions, please contact Pastor John Mark Henry or Doug Cain. More information will be forthcoming."*



# Summer Bash



**A big thank you to all who helped!**

**FREE EVENT!**

*live in concert*



*Renewed Quartet...*

AT ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2023**

**7:00PM**

*in conjunction with*

**ZION'S  
ANNUAL  
HOMECOMING  
& HOGROAST**

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 9  
5:30 PM**

**MEAT PROVIDED  
BRING A SIDE, DESSERT OR DRINK**



**Dates to be aware of:**

- Sept 5 - CWC 4:30 pm at Millie's
- Sept 7 - Board of Trustees 4:30 pm
- Sept 8 - Fun 'n Fellowship 6:30 pm
- Sept 9 - Annual Homecoming/Hog Roast 5:30 pm
- Oct 3 - CWC 4:30 pm at Millie's
- Oct 5 - Board of Trustees 4:30 pm
- Oct 13 - Fun 'n Fellowship 6:30 pm

**September Birthdays:**

- 2- Samantha Cain
- 3- Vicki Baum & Brenda Holley
- 10- Allen Yates
- 14- Emily Kitterman
- 17- Charlie Newton
- 19- Danny Trimble
- 20- Frank Holley
- 22- Doug Cain
- 29- Baylor Baum

**September Anniversaries:**

- 4- Tom & Jan Williamson
- 5- Dave & Millie Strong; John & Shirley Waite
- 9- Craig & Marlene Poncy
- 10- Mike & Annette Farrell
- 20- Phillip & Ashley Baum
- 23- Bryan & McKenzie Baum

**October Birthdays:**

- 2- Pat Harter
- 13- Nita O'Laughlin
- 16- Barrett Baum; Teresa Yates
- 18- Margaret Kirby
- 21- Dennis Speer
- 22- Annette Farrell
- 24- DeAnne Reiley

**October Anniversaries:**

- 11- Denny & Vicki Baum
- 14- Clint & Emily Kitterman
- 20- Delbert & Sandy Cormeny
- 20- Jim & Shelby Fenton



**Shirley Waite**

**FEATURED LEADER OF THE MONTH**

Shirley and her late husband, Duane Howk, began attending Zion 42 years ago when their son, Roy, was about 2 years old. Over the years Shirley has served in many areas of the church: Children's Church, VBS, Youth Leader, Church Council Member, Sunday School Supt., Sunday School Teacher, Choir, Worship Team, Women's Group, and most recently Communications Leader and Beacon Editor. She loves the Lord and desires to see others come to know Him and His Love.