

PASTOR'S POINT



"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

As we enter into December, we are faced with the reality of the greatest gift ever given: Jesus Christ, Immanuel. Literally meaning "God with us," our Immanuel is the perfect gift and sacrifice to bring us back home to God. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our sin and its eternal punishment is completely removed. There is a reason we set aside time where we intentionally get ready for Christmas. The gift of Jesus is of such magnitude that it cannot be taken lightly, nor should it be rushed through. We need to take every opportunity to celebrate the fullness of Christmas and what it means for everyone, everywhere.

During this time of Advent, we will set aside time to read specific scriptures which tell the story of the birth of Jesus. We transform our physical space (thanks to all who helped with this task!), decorating the church for Christmas time. We will also sing special songs, reserved for this exact time in our calendar year as we enter into this advent season. These songs tell the story of God's love poured out on us through the gift of Jesus. Because music is one way in which we can connect with and worship God; music is a powerful tool when getting ourselves ready to celebrate Christmas.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

PASTOR'S POINT CONTINUED

Music in various forms is found all throughout scripture. From the Psalms of David, to the song of Moses and Miriam after God saved the Israelites through the crossing of the Red Sea, to Mary's song in Luke chapter 2, music is everywhere in scripture.

Mary's song is one of the great songs we can read in the Bible. It happened after she witnessed the miracle God had done with Elizabeth becoming pregnant in her old age. In response to Elizabeth's praise, Mary sang a song to the Lord. Known now as the Magnificat, this song of Mary is a beautiful and Spirit-inspired testimony to what God was doing through Mary and through Jesus.

This Advent, we are going to use music (in the form of several specific Christmas hymns) to get our heads and hearts ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. And as we explore these hymns, we will re-tell the story of the events leading up to and around the birth of Jesus. So make the most of this time we've been given in Advent to prepare ourselves for the reality of the coming of Jesus, who is God with us. Let us sing praises to our God together!

In Christ,

Pastor Adam



DEACON'S REPORT

Those in attendance: Pastor Adam Magill, Tim Ambrose, Susan Maguire, Becky Von Weihe, Jane Clausen and Nate Olson

Opening Prayer – Susan Maguire

Review October Minutes

Old Business:

- Went over plans for Membership Sunday on Nov. 5th. Joining the church are Brad and Danielle Studley, Chad and Lindsey Haffke and Leonard Krohn. There will be a reception in the foyer following the service. We will provide cookies.

- Veterans recognition will be Nov. 12th. Jodi provided a reading to be used and in her absence Tim will do the recognition.

- Nominating committee has had a meeting and is beginning the process of recruiting new board members.

New Business:

- December communion – Val & Becky
- Council Meeting was held on October 29. Updates from boards and committees and also some discussion on baptism.
- Christmas decorations will be put up after the service on Nov. 26.

- Thank you to be sent to Tim's son, Zach, for his work on the lovely bench in the foyer. Very nice remodel of the former planter – looks amazing!

- Jeri and Jodi have been working on a revision of the church constitution and asked for our input regarding the number of members on the different boards and length of the terms. We had some good discussion and will report back to Jeri.

- Discussion regarding an appreciation for Norm Collins on his retirement.

- Next meeting will be December 6.

Pastoral Reports

Cards sent for healing, encouragement and sympathy

"Lemonade on the Porch", Parts I & II was distributed to be read before the next meeting.

Closing Prayer by Susan Maguire

PRISCILLA CIRCLE

The meeting opened with prayer by Jnelle. Cynthia gave devotions on Justice, Mercy, and Walking Humbly with God. Verses included Deuteronomy 8, where Moses points to God's provision for all, both physical and spiritual. Also included were Matthew 23, 2 Corinthians 3:4-6, and Micah 6:6-8. Discussion included seeing justice as the bone and mercy as the soft tissue.

Mystery Event covered hosting Thanksgiving, buying turkeys, decorations, and Christmas shopping.

The secretary's report/minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Circle was able to buy 15 Turkey 'N' Fixin's bags with our \$150 donation, plus another \$75 match from First National Bank of Omaha. Thank you for making that happen, Susan! Our previous balance was \$452.02. \$3.76 was deposited from Mystery Event, \$150 was spent on Turkey 'N' Fixin's; our new balance is \$305.78.

Old Business – Some members were able to speak on their action for Lydia House, New Visions, or Micah house.



Although we had agreed to take items to Open Door Mission, that duty will be done by the Mission Board. We will hold our Cookie, Candy, & Soup Sale on December 17th beginning at 9 am. We will sell ½ gallons of soup for \$12, and quarts for \$6. Please label your bags with the type of soup and ingredients, this is best done prior to placing the soup in the freezer bag. Place ½ gallon of soup in a gallon freezer bag, lay it on a cookie sheet in the freezer to freeze flat. Each member should bring a total of 1 gallon of soup.

New Business – we have a date change for the December meeting due to the Billy Ballenger concert. Our meeting will be a potluck on December 14th at 6:00pm. In addition to a food item to share, please bring 50 pieces of candy/granola bars/snacky items to fill the bags for the youth in church for the Christmas program on December 17th. Jnelle will take care of getting the Cuties.

Missions - Our mission project for next month is to provide "Blessing Boxes" for Veterans. Jnelle provided the boxes, as well as a list of items the Veterans could use.

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Those in attendance: Adam Magill, Anica Olson, Aaron Andersen, Teresa Ambrose, Sara McVey, and Norm Collins

Opening in Prayer – Pastor Adam

Old Business:

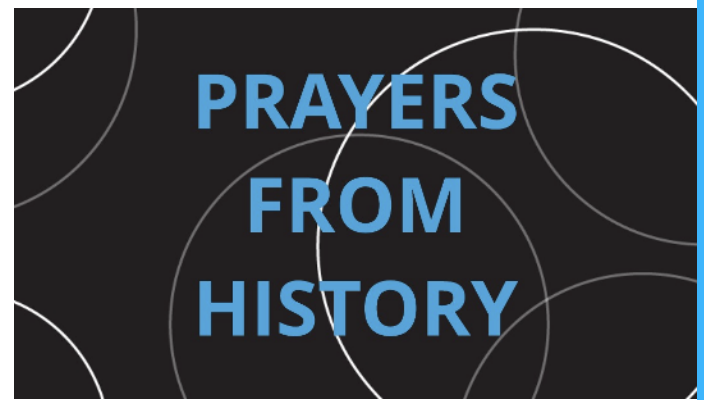
- Started discussions on 2024 budget
- Had discussions on job descriptions and operational duties when Norm retires.
- Wiffleball fence installation is complete, we're discussing advertising and/or fundraising options.
- Removal of the ash trees by the highway is complete.
- Outdoor clean up in front of the church was completed and Aaron A. cleaned out the gutters of the RE Building.

New Business

- Our computers are 10+ years old and we need to start contemplating upgrading them.
- Need to start contemplating planting new trees.
- Discussed scheduling an indoor workday to fix and update things inside the church.

Next meeting is TBD.

Closed in Prayer



From William Temple (1881-1944)

We pray you, Lord, purify our
hearts

that we may be worthy to
become your dwelling-place.

Let us never fail to find room for
you,

but come and abide in us,
that we also may abide in you,
for at this time you were born
into the world for us,

and live and reign, King of kings
and Lord of lords,
now and forever.

Amen.



THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
GIVE SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING
GIVE BLOOD
.....AND.....
HELP *save* LIVES

BLOOD DRIVE

Treynor Community Center

Thursday, December 7th 11:30am-5:30pm

Schedule your blood donation
appointment today

Call 1-800-RED CROSS or
RedCrossBlood.org

DONATE
BLOOD



POINSETTIAS

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or for someone you love, please call the church office at 833-515-3289 or email Jordan at pastorjordancampbell@gmail.com. There is also a sign-up sheet on the credenza in the entryway. Poinsettias are \$15.



COMING SOON! A HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH
AT ZION**

**HOMEMADE SOUP,
COOKIES, & CANDY**

9:30AM-10AM AND 11AM-NOON



SPONSORED BY

Destiny Rescue
RESCUING CHILDREN



JimB Service Inc.
Residential • Commercial

BILLY BALLENGER



WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13 | ZION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM | SHOW STARTS AT 7PM
103 E. MAIN ST. TREYNOR, IA

GENERAL ADMISSION SEATING IS FREE THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS
FOR MORE INFO VISIT ZIONTREYNOR.ORG
FOLLOW ONLINE AT [@BILLYBALLENGERMUSIC](https://www.instagram.com/billyballengermusic)

BREAK THE GREY INC.



BILLY BALLENGER



**Sunday, Dec. 17,
at 10am**

KIDS

Christmas Program

EVERYONE IS INVITED



CELEBRATE
Christmas
WITH US

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, AT 6PM

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship IN PERSON or ONLINE
on Christmas Eve. Come hear the
Christmas story and celebrate that
GOD IS WITH US!

Zion Congregational Church
103 E Main Street
Trey, IA 51575
(833)515-3289
www.ziontrey.org





**Congratulations and
Welcome to our Newest
Church Members!**

Chad and Lindsey Haffke

Leonard Krohn

Brad and Danielle Studley



Upcoming Events/Meetings:

Dec 3: Communion Sunday/Advent Begins/SCRIP orders due

Dec 5: 7pm Trustees Meeting

Dec 6: 6:30pm Deacons Meeting

Dec 10: Thank You Reception for Norm Collins after Church

Dec 13: 7pm Billy Ballenger Christmas Concert at Zion

Dec 14: 6pm Priscilla's Circle Pot-Luck Dinner

Dec 17: 10am Kids' Christmas Program during church, Pricilla's Circle
Cookie and Candy Sale

Dec 24: 10am normal worship, 6pm Christmas Eve Service

Interested in online giving?
Scan the QR code below to get started:



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

October 29th	99
November 5th	102
November 12th	96
November 19th	100
November 26th	145

OFFERING TOTALS

October 29th	\$1,432
November 5th	\$3,546
November 12th	\$1,726
November 19th	\$3,108
November 26th	\$1,919



PRAYER LIST

Bernard Bryant
Jeana Wilhite
Nixon Quick
Doug Klahn
Eli Shephard
Michelle Graham
All Armed Forces & Law
Enforcement

ABOUT US

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

9AM Sunday School

10AM Church Service

SENIOR PASTOR:

Dr. Adam Magill

PASTOR OF YOUTH & IMPACT DIRECTOR:

Jordan Campbell

PIANISTS/ORGANISTS

Jill Davis, Gwen Henke, Shirley
Koehler, Machele Mitchell, Sandy
England

MODERATOR/ASST MODERATOR:

Jeri Schnepel

HEAD DEACONS:

Tim Ambrose & Susan Maguire

HEAD TRUSTEES:

Matt Hughey & Teresa Ambrose