

The United Methodist Church

Attica – Pershing, Zion

South Attica St.

Knoxville Iowa 50138

(641-943-2324)

July, August, September, 2026



Celebrating 250+ Years of Methodists in the USA

Our roots as Methodists in the United States go back to before the signing of the Declaration of Independence. John and Charles Wesley made their first journey to the American colonies in 1736 to the colony of Georgia. Although this first mission was not overly successful, it was the introduction of the Methodist Movement to the Americas. In the 1760's, lay preachers and leaders began making strides with the Methodist Movement, and in 1773 the first conference of Methodist preachers in the colonies was held in Philadelphia.

Methodism impacted the United States as we were becoming a nation of our own, and the American Revolution impacted Methodism in the U.S. Wesley ordained Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey, who accompanied Thomas Coke, who was assigned as a superintendent, to America and would work with Francis Asbury. This ultimately led to the Methodist church in America separating from the Methodist church in England. In 1784, the famous Christmas Conference of preachers was held in Baltimore, and at this gathering the Methodist Movement officially became The Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

Our history as Methodists is just as rich as our history as Americans, and in many places they go hand in hand. As we celebrate the country's 250th birthday this summer, let us also celebrate our long and rich heritage as Methodists who, following John Wesley's lead, have not been afraid to step out of social norms, stand up for the downtrodden, fight for equal rights for all people, and stand against violence. May our hearts be once again strangely warmed as Wesley's was, and the fire of the Spirit reignited into a roaring flame that will give us courage and passion to follow God's lead and work towards making America, and the world, a place where peace, kindness, and the Kingdom of God reign supreme.

Let us all join in the movement of co-creating with God the world God designed from the beginning of time. May we be brave enough to stand up for what is right. May we see the disgrace in the lines that are drawn to separate people from others and from God and work to bring down those barriers. And may we fight fiercely for those who cannot fight for themselves, working to end violence and injustice and bring peace, God's peace, to all people. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor Lauren

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

Attica United Women of Faith –The Attica Women of Faith met May 7, 2026. Present were Lou Ann, Bobbi and Frances. The Purpose was read and Bible verse of the month given, Romans 8:28. Minutes were read and treasurers report given. Lou Ann gave the lesson “looking like a fool for Christ,” using I Corinthians 4:10. “We are fools for Christ’s sake, but ye are wise in Christ.” Love others, Love God and neighbors, as for yourself, don’t worry about looking a fool, don’t be timid but help fill each other’s cup in life. A district guest will be at our June 4 meeting.

The Attica Women of Faith met June 4, 2026. Present were Lou Ann, Debbie, Bobbi, Sue, Marlys, Frances and Lori Haight, Secretary of the District United Women of Faith. Our meeting opened with prayer by Lou Ann. The Purpose was read and Bible verse of the month read; I Peter 3:15 “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” Lori Haight, gave us some information for our meetings. Lou Ann closed with a reading “Women of God.” Our next meeting will be September 3 at 1:00 pm.

Zion United Women of Faith - Zion UWF met on April 2, 2026 in the church basement. Wanita Banks had the program which included crafts & refreshments were served by Jo Heigele. Business was finalizing plans for our annual Easter breakfast before the Worship Service.

The May 4 meeting of the Zion UWF was held at 1 pm at the church basement with 9 present. Pat Blom had the program and gave a reading about "Mothers". She then shared some clippings that her mother had saved. Refreshments were served by Gina Ryan. Business included plans for the Pershing community garage sale.

Zion UWF met on June 3, 2026 at 1 pm at the church. 9 members were present. Linda Kizer had the program entitled "Exploring Emanuel thru Holy Resistance". Pat Blom had the refreshments. Business included finalizing plans for the community garage sales and planning our Fellowship Day for October. We do not have meetings in July or August. Our next meeting will be September 2, 2026.

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

ZION RUMMAGE SALE

Zion will be assisting Pershing for their community wide rummage sales again this year. They will be held on Friday, June 26 from 8-4 and Saturday, June 27 from 8-2. We will put advertisements in the local papers. Everyone is invited to have a sale in the parking lot or you can bring your items to our basement to sell. If you have items to donate you can bring them either Thursday before the sale or Friday. Zion will also be having a bake sale with all proceeds going to the Twin Cedars delinquent lunch fund.

ZION STATE FAIR COMPETITION COFFEE TIME

Zion will be holding their 3rd annual Zion State Fair competition coffee time on Thursday, July 2, 2026 at 9 am. Everyone is invited. Bring your grandchildren to compete in some childrens games also. In previous years we have had the chicken toss, bubblegum blowing, our version of the butter cow with what you can carve with a stick of butter and a big hit, the husband calling contest! What will we do this year? Join us for our hour long (maybe 1 1/2 hr.). Bring a friend & introduce them to our weekly coffee time. FYI - Zion would like you to know that anyone and everyone is invited to our weekly Thursday morning coffee time from 9-10. Not just church members, men, women, community neighbors, family, friends, coworkers & grandchildren. We always have coffee, tea and some kind of sweets to snack on. We Do Not discuss church business. We have a few good laughs. Recently we have been starting to play cards from 10 until noon. Currently we are playing Canasta but can play other card games, dominoes or board games. If you or someone you know enjoys games and is looking for others to play during the day, we'd love to have you join us

ATTICA ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Attica's annual Ice Cream Social will be held August 30 inside the church. The Loynachans will be performing with ice cream served following their performance.

PUZZLE PALOOZA

Our next Puzzle & Pie Palooza will be in September. We take a break during the summer. Thanks to all who join us. Everyone is welcome. We pick our teams after we get here. Thank you to Robbie Johnson for the nice gifts she selects for the winning group & thanks to those who have brought pies to share. We hope to see you in the fall.

ZION FELLOWSHIP DAY

Mark your calendar! Save the date! Zion Fellowship Day will be October 10, 2026 at Noon. A light lunch followed by a short program, games and our tradition of Jo Esther's Auction.

IMPROVEMENTS TO ATTICA AND ZION CHURCHES

NEW SEPTIC SYSTEM

Zion is very happy to announce the completion of their long awaited and much needed septic system. We were not sure when the original septic was installed or where it was for sure. The DNR along with Marion County Public Health is in charge of guidance on this issue and a complaint had been filed about a possible leakage. . We are happy to report that there was no leak in our tank, We went with a holding tank due to our limited space and we are up to code with the county and state. We want to apologize if you attended one of our events when we had issues.

LANDSCAPING STARTED AT ATTICA

The first phase of the landscaping project at Attica has been completed. Creative Landscaping adjusted the dirt around the east side of the church to fall away from the building, removed the flowers in front and added rock and edging to the front and east sides of the church.

REACHING OUT TO OUR SHUT-INS - It was decided to add a list of our shut-ins to each Challenger if you would like to reach out to someone. A friendly note or a visit is always welcomed.

Connie Baily, 2246 Hwy 5, Hamilton, Iowa 50116
Rachel Hoehns, 1557 Hwy G76, Knoxville, IA 50138
Marilyn Rice, Homestead Memory Care, 2102 S. Market St., Oskaloosa, IA 52577
Germaine Whitlatch, 1523 Hwy G76, Knoxville, IA 50138
Patty Fudge, 2042 Orange St., Knoxville, IA 50138
Carol Bruce, 1805 178th Place, Knoxville, IA 50138
Eloise Snow, West Ridge & Care Nursing Home, 904 W. Howard, Knoxville, IA 50138
Dick Rowland, 705 E. Robinson, Knoxville, IA 50138
Ruth Little, Homestead Assisted Living 908 S. Park Ln Dr., Knoxville, IA 50138

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY SERVICE AND LEADERS FOR JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

All services will be held at **10:30 am**.

JULY

July 5 – @ Zion
July 12 – Lou Ann Willis @ Attica
July 19 – @ Zion
July 26 – Debbie Phipps @ Attica

AUGUST

August 2 – @ Zion - **Communion**
August 9 – Bobbi Bassett @ Attica
August 16 – @ Zion
August 23 – Tim DeGeest @ Attica
August 30 – @ Zion

SEPTEMBER

September 6 – Marlys Hollingshead @ Attica, **Communion**
September 13 – @ Zion
September 20 – Lou Ann Willis @ Attica
September 27 - @ Zion

ATTENDANCE

ATTICA: March: 29-20 (Palm Sunday) **April** – 2-11 (Maundy Thursday), 5-16 (Easter Sunday), 12-14, 19-11, 26-16 **May:** 3-14, 10-10 (Mother's Day), 17-19, 24-12, 31-17 **June:** 7-9, 14-13, 21-13

ZION: March: 29-12 (Palm Sunday) **April:** 2-5 (Maundy Thursday) 5-21 (Easter Sunday), 12-13, 19-10, 26-8 **May:** 3-9, 10:-12 (Mother's Day), 17-8, 24-11, 31-5 **June:** 7-9, 14-9, June 21-10

Prayer Concerns (including families)

Carole Bruce	Rachel Hoehns	Casey Ryan
Germaine Whitlatch	Mary Pinegar	Eloise Snow
Pastor Bud Lane	Linda Kizer	Carolyn Hoy
Connie Bailey	Dwain Kennedy	Anetta Brown
Jim Pelong	Charlene Stevens	
Sue Pelong	Heather Brown	

July, 2026

Attica UM PARISH Olive Chapel Pershing, Zion

Jul 2026 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Bob & Sue Mallory	29	30	1 Zion UWF- 1pm	2 Zion Coffee Time-	3	4 John Bryson, Jr. (z)
5 Andrew Mallory (a)	6	7	8 Kevin Stittsworth Tom & Joy Smith (z)	9 Zion Coffee Time-	10	11 Danielle Feagins (a)
12 Wanita Banks (z)	13	14	15	16 Aaron & Wanita Michael Bruce, Sr. (z) Zion Coffee Time-	17	18 Jon & Darla
19	20 Aiden Zoutte (z)	21 Jim Pelong (z)	22	23 Zion Coffee Time-	24 Gary Swayne (z)	25 Amy Zoutte (z)
26 Doug & Debbie	27	28	29	30 Zion Coffee Time-	31 Harlan & Janet Petty	1

August, 2026

Attica UM PARISH Olive Chapel Pershing, Zion

Aug 2026 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 Doug & Debbie	27	28	29	30 Zion Coffee Time-	31 Harlan & Janet Petty	1
2	3	4	5 Zion UWF- 1pm	6 Jim & Sue Pelong (z) Tom Smith (z) Zion Coffee Time-	7 Debbie Phipps (a)	8
9	10 Ashkeya Flemming La Marjorie Cannon	11	12	13 Zion Coffee Time-	14	15
16 Benjamin Clark (a)	17	18 Leanna Kennedy	19	20 Zion Coffee Time-	21	22 Bobbi Bassett (a)
23	24	25	26	27 Frank & Robbie Jon Whitlatch (oc) Zion Coffee Time-	28 Dan & Marllys	29 Pastor Lauren
30 Attica Ice Cream	31 Vickie Rumley (z)	1	2 Zion UWF- 1pm	3 Tristan Bakalar (z) Zion Coffee Time- 1pm - Attica UWF	4 Kevin & Sally Clark	5 John Bryson, Sr (z)

September, 2026

Attica UM PARISH Olive Chapel Pershing, Zion

Sep 2026 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 Attica Ice Cream	31 Vickie Rumley (z)	1	2 Zion UWF- 1pm	3 Tristan Bakalar (z) Zion Coffee Time- 1pm - Attica UWF	4 Kevin & Sally Clark	5 John Bryson, Sr (z)
6	7 Jo Heigele (z)	8 Pat Blom (z)	9 Eric & Kristen	10 Jerry Weldon (z) Zion Coffee Time-	11	12
13 Dwain Kennedy	14	15	16	17 Zion Coffee Time-	18	19 Michael & Carole
20	21 Alan & Amy Zoutte	22 Devon Cannon (z) Don Goemaat (a)	23 Tim Milledge (a)	24 Zion Coffee Time-	25	26
27	28	29	30	1 Zion Coffee Time- 1pm - Attica UWF	2	3 Joy McDaniel (a)