

OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



President's Message

Laura Cullison

Hello everyone,

Fall is here! I love this time of year in our community—from farmers in the fields and Friday night football to homecoming, caramel apples, pumpkin spice, and all the fun fall activities. There's just something special about fall in Mt. Zion!

Last month, our Chamber showed our appreciation for Mt. Zion teachers and school staff by delivering 214 gift bags throughout our schools. A huge thank you to our sponsors and volunteers who helped make this possible. It was a fun way to say "thank you" to those who do so much for our kids every day.

Coming up in October is our annual Community Prayer Breakfast, a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together, reflect, and be inspired. Dr. Kelly Clark will share about his missionary work and experiences serving others outside the United States, offering a meaningful perspective on the impact we can have when we choose to serve others—both near and

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2026 Prayer Breakfast

Information about this year's 14th Annual Mt. Zion Community Prayer Breakfast on October 21, 2026 at the Mt. Zion Convention Center is on [page 5](#). Dr. Kelly Clark will be the speaker. Order or buy your tickets or Table of Six by October 16, 2026.

Tickets are \$15 per person and can be purchased from a Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce Board member, Ambassador, ticket outlet, <https://www.mtzionchamber.org/prayer-breakfast>, calling 217.864.2526, or by emailing ExecDir@mtzionchamber.org. A Table for Six is \$75.

UPCOMING

OCTOBER 14

Luncheon
12:00-1:00

Program

Marketing Panel

Location

Antioch Christian Church

Member cost \$15
RSVP by noon Tues., 10/13/26

OCTOBER 9

Ribbon Cutting &
Free Notorious Pig Lunch
Key Cannabis 11:30-1

OCTOBER 16

Prayer Breakfast Tickets
or Table Orders Due

OCTOBER 21

Prayer Breakfast
Mt. Zion Convention Center

OCTOBER 26

Directory Ads Due

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Breakfast
Antioch Christian Church

NOVEMBER 11

LUNCHEON

Mt. Zion Fletcher Park
Recreation Center
Mike Berkes



2026-2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce



Ashley Batchelder
Outgoing Officer Advisor
Mt. Zion District Library



October 2026 Luncheon

Marketing Panel

The October 14, 2026 luncheon will be at the Antioch Christian Church. The cost of our luncheon is \$15. Registration is from 11:30 - 12 noon. The luncheon buffet opens at 11:45. The luncheon starts at 12 noon.

We will have a Marketing Panel presenting marketing tips. The panelists are: Emily Phillips, Central Illinois Multimedia Group; Carolyn Ridenour, Creative Media Services; Scott Bowers, DynaGraphics; Karalee Misner, The Solvr Group; and Jay Woodrum, Three Link Media.

Enjoy our speaker and the delicious food prepared by the Antioch Christian Church. Bring your business cards and network. If you have any information flyers you want to put on the luncheon tables before the luncheon begins, please do so and be sure to pick up any remaining flyers at the end of the luncheon.

Please send your RSVP to mtzionchamber@gmail.com by Tuesday, October 13th or submit your reservation on our website at <https://www.mtzionchamber.org/meetings>. Be sure to send me your RSVP information with all the names of those attending from your business or organization so they can be included on the Attendee List. You can pay in advance at [Event Registration - Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce \(chamberorganizer.com\)](#); or optionally, you can still be invoiced or pay at the door.

President's Message continued from [page 1](#)

far. Join us Wednesday, October 21, at 7:00 a.m. at the Mt. Zion Convention Center. Tickets are \$15 per person and can be purchased through the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce.

As always, your Chamber is here for you! Please take advantage of everything that comes with your membership, and let us know if there's anything we can do to help. I hope you'll get out and enjoy all that fall has to offer, support our local businesses, and enjoy the people and places that make Mt. Zion such a special community.

Happy Fall!

Laura Cullison, President
Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce

Welcome New Member



Josh Adam is the Mt. Zion Location Manager of 121 Coffee Run located at 1347 IL-121. It is a coffee shop with delicious coffee, tasty drinks, pastries, wraps, salads, and more. They have seating inside and a drive-through window. 121 Coffee Run also offers catering. Check out their October drink and food specials at <https://www.121coffeerun.com/menu>. They have a mobile ordering app or call 217.571.0058.



Key Cannabis Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting & Notorious Pig Lunch Friday, October 9, 2026, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



**MOUNT ZION
GRAND
OPENING**

OCTOBER 9TH - 11th
RIBBON CUTTING 10/09 AT 11:30AM

1225 N. State Route 121 | Mount Zion, IL

Located across from Hull's Cabinet Shop

*come by Key for lunch
by Notorious P.I.G. BBQ,
vendor pop-ups, special
offers, and more*

Key House Rules

1. **stock good weed**
2. **shopping should be easy**
Know what you like? Great.
Figuring it out? Also great.
In a hurry? Order online & drive-thru.
3. **ask us about deals!**
4. **regulars get rewards**
Earn points & redeem free product. Learn
more or join free: keycannable.com/rewards
5. **take care of our people**
Get special pricing for veterans, seniors (65+),
first responders, students, & industry folks.

 

14th Annual

MT. ZION COMMUNITY Prayer Breakfast



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Dr. Kelly Clark, DDS

Decatur Dental Care

Through his work with Casa por Cristo, Dr. Clark has served on mission trips to the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Guatemala, experiencing firsthand the lasting impact of service on individuals and families.

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2026

7 a.m. | Doors open 6:30 a.m.

Mt. Zion Convention Center

1400 Village Parkway, Mt. Zion

\$15* | Includes breakfast buffet.

A great opportunity for community members from all denominations to join in a time of fellowship and prayer.

***Advance tickets required.**

Buy your tickets by October 19, 2026, at the Village of Mt. Zion, Del's Popcorn Shop in Mt. Zion, online at mtzionchamber.org or call 217-864-2526.



SPONSORS



Churches of
Mt. Zion



Evergreen Senior Living • Land of Lincoln Credit Union • Synergy HomeCare • Refreshment Services Pepsi

Mt. Zion Chamber Directory

Ad deadline: October 26, 2026

6th Edition

It is time to update our full-color membership directory! All members have an opportunity to promote themselves as active members in our communities. All members in good standing will be included in the membership and category listings at no charge. There is also the opportunity to advertise and those who do will be recognized in the directory. Creative Media Services, Inc. (CMS) will partner with the Chamber and coordinate the advertising and design services.

Distribution — All Members, Chamber Events, and Public Locations

Directory Specs — 5.5" x 8.5" • Full Color

For the Advertiser —

To include your advertisement in the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce Directory - 6th Edition, please **fill out the form below and email the ad to: CMS - cridenour@cmsdecatur.com** Attention: Carolyn Ridenour. The advertising deadline is: Monday, October 26, 2026. Invoices will be sent by the Chamber and are payable upon receipt.

Advertising Sizes/Dimensions/Rates —

1/4 Page • 2.375" x 3.875" • \$295

1/2 Page • 5" x 3.875" • \$395

Full Page • 5" x 8" • \$495

Full Page (Inside Front or Back Cover) • 5.5" x 8.5" w/.125" bleeds (no crop marks) • \$550

Full Page (Back Cover) • 5.5" x 8.5" w/.125" bleeds (no crop marks) • \$650

When supplying a print-ready ad, keep in mind that it should be sized to fit the exact dimensions of the ad size you have purchased. Accepted file types include ai, eps, pdf, jpg, and tif. If it is a raster-based file, please make sure that its resolution is at least 300 ppi at its full dimensions.

If needed, Creative Media Services can design your advertisement at the following rates::

1/4 Page • \$50

1/2 Page • \$80

Full Page (all full-page options) • \$130

If submitted ads do not meet design criteria, Creative Media Services will contact you about required services.

TO PLACE YOUR AD CONTACT:

Carolyn Ridenour — (217) 521-3265
Creative Media Services, Inc.
cridenour@cmsdecatur.com

or

Linda Harper — (217) 521-2884
mtzionilchamber@gmail.com

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MT. ZION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 84 • Mt. Zion, IL 62549

(217) 864-2526
mtzionchamber.org

☐ **I'd like to place an ad in the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce Directory - 6th Edition**

I understand that if the ad requires services from CMS, the design work will be added to the total amount due and payable to Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce.

Select Ad Size: ☐ 1/4 Page ☐ 1/2 Page ☐ Full Page ☐ Inside Front/Back Cover ☐ Back Cover ☐ Require CMS Design Services

Company Name

Contact Name

Signature

Date

Contact Email

Address

Contact Phone Number



PRESENTS:



VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST



Honoring All Who Served



TUESDAY

NOV 11, 2026

07:00 AM

DOORS OPEN AT 06:45 AM

ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

5409 E. US ROUTE 36

DECATUR, IL 62521

Program:

Macon County Honor Guard
Mt. Zion High School Acapella Ensemble
Speaker: James Keith
Roll Call of Armed Services



RSVPs Appreciated by Nov. 6th

[RSVP Here](#)

WWW.MTZIONCHAMBER.ORG/EVENTS

OR CALL 217.864.2526



COMPLIMENTARY COFFEE, WATER, BAKED
GOODS, BACON, AND EGGS
FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM

THANK YOU



2026 Mt. Zion Teacher & Staff Appreciation

Diamond Sponsor Sunshine Supplies for Teachers Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsor



VOLUNTEERS



**20
26**

**WSOY COMMUNITY
FOOD DRIVE**

DECATUR, ILLINOIS

OCTOBER 2, 2026

6AM-6PM

KROGER, RT. 36

GIVE NOW

WSOYFOODDRIVE.COM - TEXT WSOY TO 26989

MAKE SURE TO CREDIT YOUR FAVORITE SCHOOL!

**THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS, THE TOP 5 SCHOOLS THAT RAISE THE
MOST IN FOOD AND DONATIONS WILL WIN CASH PRIZES!**



1340AM / 103.3FM
WSOY
CENTRAL ILLINOIS
MULTIMEDIA GROUP

NOW
Decatur
.com

 **UNITED WAY**
Decatur &
Mid-Illinois

 **Kroger**
FRESH FOR EVERYONE™

 **ADM**

 **Decatur**
PARK DISTRICT

THE
Andreas
FOUNDATION



MZCC SHOP LOCAL CONTEST

Shop Local. Make a Big Impact.

Contest Dates: November 2-December 4, 2026

**Win Win
Member Business and Customer**

Partner with the MZCC. Sponsorships help expand the reach of the contest, your brand and support a stronger local economy.

\$300, \$150, or \$100 Sponsorships Due October 23, 2026

Email ExecDir@mtzionchamber.org if you want entry forms at your business and/or want to sponsor.

The Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce campaign to encourage the public to Shop Local to help our member businesses and spur local economies begins November 2, 2026.

We are seeking one \$300 sponsor, two \$150 sponsors, or three \$100 sponsors of the MZCC Shop Local Contest. If you wish to be a sponsor of the Shop Local Contest, please let me know by Friday, October 23, 2026. Here are the sponsorship levels:

\$300 Logo on promotional materials, in newsletter, and on Facebook page

\$150 Logo on promotional materials and logo in newsletter

\$100 Logo in newsletter

Anyone can enter to win the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce Shop Local Contest for a chance to win \$300. This holiday contestants Shop Local from any of our member businesses from November 2, 2026 - December 4, 2026. There will be an entry form for them to fill out at participating member businesses, on our website, or at the Mt. Zion District Library for their purchases of \$25 or more. Entries can be turned in at participating member businesses or the Mt. Zion District Library by December 4, 2026. The random drawing will be held at the Christmas Luncheon on December 9, 2026.

COMING SOON



Mt. Zion Chamber Business Decoration Contest

Decorate your Decatur
or Mt. Zion business
inside or outside in the
most creative and
festive way possible to
show us your festive
spirit!



Entry form and details available Nov. 1st at:
www.mtzionchamber.org