



For You

Zion Lutheran Church, Wausau + Advent 1 + December 2 and 3, 2017

PRAYING

In Our Prayers This Week

Persecuted Christians in:

North Korea

Somalia

Afghanistan

Sister Congregation

Lehurutshe Parish, South Africa

Missionaries

~ **Elliot and Serena Derricks,**
Lutheran Bible Translators

Studying at Seminary

~ **Vicar Joe Pinzl**

Comfort, Healing, Recovery

If you know someone who is ill or grieved, please submit their names for prayers of comfort, healing and recovery. They will be held in prayer for three weeks unless a longer time is requested.

Those who need our on-going prayers

~ **Les Brolliar**

~ **Bill Deneen**

~ **Carol Edelburg**

~ **Barbara Ellen**

~ **Rita Falk**

~ **Ben Fiedler**

~ **Maggie Gengler**

~ **Barry Gilbert**

~ **LouAnn Gille**

~ **Rick Jones**

~ **Avery Kluck**

~ **June Mueller**

~ **Tina Parker**

~ **Mary Plautz**

~ **Barb Ramker**

~ **Krista Salas**

~ **Laurie Schmidt**

~ **Renee Shorey**

~ **David Skola**

~ **Nancy, godmother of Sue Hafemeister**

~ **The island and the people of Dominica**

~ **Zion's homebound members**

FUNERAL

Junior Ricci fell asleep in the Lord on November 22 and now awaits the return of Christ and the resurrection of all flesh. Junior was given Christian burial from Zion on November 30. May God comfort Junior's family and friends in their mourning.

Please submit your prayer requests to the church office (715-848-7286). We can print prayer requests that you make for yourself or immediate family members.

WORSHIPING

The Liturgy This Month

Midweek Advent Worship

“The Anointed One”

Why do we call Jesus “the Christ?”

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

(Chapel)

Please note that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. Our schedule that weekend will be as follows:

December 23, Saturday

5:15: *Advent: Holy Communion*

December 24, Sunday

9 a.m.: *Advent: Holy Communion*

11 a.m.: NO SERVICE

5 p.m.: *Christmas Eve: Lessons and Carols*

8 p.m.: *Christmas Eve: Holy Communion*

December 25, Monday

10 a.m.: *Christmas Day: Holy Communion*

Worship Notes

The preludes in Advent will be played on Zion’s campanile, or chimes. A prelude played with chimes alone sounds a different note for us this season: simple, quiet, and plain, the sounds of a patient heart that beats in the joyful yet still confidence of the Lord’s promise to come soon.

Next Sunday:

Advent 2: *Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14;*

Mark 1:1-8; Psalm 85

LEARNING

Nourished by God’s Word

Sundays, 10:15 AM: Romans

St. Paul’s letter to the Romans, the longest epistle in the Bible, is considered one of the clearest proclamations of salvation by faith in Christ alone. This book inspired Luther and the Lutheran Reformation, and it continues to create and sustain our faith today. *Continuing at Romans 5:12*

Tuesdays at 9 AM: First Clement

In Philippians 4:3, the apostle Paul mentions a man named Clement. Shortly after Paul’s death, and even before the apostle John died, this man either wrote or helped write the letter that bears his name, “First Clement,” sent to the Corinthians from the Christians in Rome. We will study this insightful letter from Christianity’s earliest days. *Continuing at 1 Clement 40:1*

Thursday Men’s Breakfast at 6:30 AM: The Gospel according to Matthew

Most of our gospel readings this year will come from the gospel according to Matthew. The tax collector called by Christ, Matthew writes a gospel that some have called a “catechism of the Christian life.” He tells us the story of Jesus in a way that teaches how the followers of Jesus live by Jesus’ life alone. Come and let Matthew renew your own living of the Life. *Continuing at Matthew 15:10*

REMEMBERING

Heroes of the Faith in December

Saint John of Damascus

December 4

Once a high servant in the Islamic court, John entered a Christian monastery in 716 A.D. and was ordained a priest. He is remembered for defending the use of images in worship and writing such hymns as the Easter hymn, "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain." An insightful thinker, John is often called "the last of the Church fathers," and dedicated his life to the true and orthodox faith of Christ.

Saint Nicholas of Myra

December 6

Saint Nicholas, from whom the "Santa Claus" legend is derived, was a real person in history. He was a Christian bishop in Asia Minor (present day Turkey) and was renowned for his care and compassion. In particular, he is remembered for helping children in need, including young girls who needed dowries to be married. He thus reflects the compassion of God for us, who loves us as a father loves his children.

Free cards commemorating these holy brethren and others are available in the narthex.

REACHING

Zion's Monthly Mission Emphases

Greater Wausau Christian Services

Goal \$3,750

Since 1981, GWCS (Greater Wausau Christian Services) has provided a pastoral presence and various programs of support to residents of our community's institutions. There are 13 churches who are members and who support GWCS. Specifically, the efforts of GWCS has centered on local nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and the county jail. In addition to the jail support and nursing homes, GWCS recently has put a greater emphasis on juvenile facilities and refurbishing the jail library. The GWCS worship program has local pastors who are scheduled to lead worship services for the nursing homes on a weekly basis. Pastors Gjerde and Gulhaugen take their turn in the rotation. Residents have come to appreciate the variety of pastoral leadership types, as each week a different pastor shows up. In addition, church services are held each Sunday evening at the county jail. Twelve different pastors lead these services on a rotation basis. The service consists of singing, bible reading, a message and prayer, concluding by saying together "The Lord's Prayer." Zion has been a part of GWCS since its inception. Your special gift of support is greatly appreciated.

SERVING

Embodying the Love and Life of Christ

Midweek Advent Services:

“The Anointed One”

The Baby born at Bethlehem is “Christ” and “Messiah” – but what do these words mean? How is Jesus the “Anointed One” for God and for us? Using Old Testament texts, our midweek services (Matins, 10:00 a.m. and Vespers, 6:30 p.m.) will explore the rich promise that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, anointed to redeem the world.

“The Way of Christ”:

New Member/Seeker/Refresher Class

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Christian, refreshing their practice of the faith, joining the Lutheran Church, or just learning more about the way of Christ, mark your calendars for “The Way of Christ” class in January. This course will cover the basics of the Christian faith, explore Scripture, and survey Christian history. If interested, please contact the church office.

Winter “Cancellation” Policy

In part because our radio broadcast happens “rain or shine,” Zion does not cancel worship services due to weather. Please exercise your personal wisdom in deciding whether or not to venture forth this winter.

Volunteer to Read the Bible

A homebound member of Zion is looking

for someone to come to her home, occasionally, to read Holy Scripture to her. If you are interested, please call the church office, 715-848-7286.

Ride Needed To and From Zion’s Services

Two of Zion’s parishioners who reside at Forest Park Village are in need of transportation to and from Zion’s service on Saturday or Sunday. If you would like to volunteer transportation, please call the church office, 715-848-7286.

Keeping in Touch With College Kids

Do you have a son or daughter going to college this fall? Zion wants to stay in touch! Please advise the church office the student’s name, school, and address. The Zion Elders thank you.

Women of Zion Christmas Potluck

... this Monday, December 4 at 11:00 a.m. in the church hall. \$5 donation required for the meal. Sign up in the church office by November 27.

Altar Guild Christmas Party

... this Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall, with the pastors and staff as guests. The program will feature Christmas games and music. Hostesses are Dianne Ames, Sally Christoffersen, and Julie Sweeney. Please RSVP your attendance to the church office, 715-848-7286.

Crocheters Needed for Homeless Mats

The Women of Zion have tied together a

plethora of plastic bag loops to make 'plarn' (the term for 'plastic yarn') that needs to be crocheted to make the mats. The instructions are provided and the plarn can be crocheted at home. January 9 in the church hall. Please call the church office to volunteer. Thank you.

Please Note

Articles for the weekly bulletin are due at the church office on Wednesdays each week. The bulletins are then printed on Thursdays to ensure that Zion's home-bound members may receive the bulletins in the mail by Saturday. Also, articles for the Newsletter are due to the church office by the third Friday of each month.

Portals of Prayer

... for October through December are available in the narthex and by the church office reception area. Large print copies are also available.

Ushers Needed

Please consider volunteering to help with ushering for Zion's services. Training will be provided. Call the church office if you would be willing to help.

Lectors: Reading Lessons at Worship

Would you like to read the Scripture lessons at worship? A clear voice, good reading skills, and a love of God's Word and liturgy serve this task best! If you are interested, please contact Pastor Gjerde at the church office.

Christmas Decorating Fund

Refer to the insert page in today's announcements. Your response is due by Monday, December 18.

Ideas for Action Teams

Refer to the bulletin board posting at the northwest entrance of Zion for the many ideas from Thrivent Financial's action teams across the country that have accomplished service projects. You can strengthen Zion by organizing a team. You will receive up to \$250 in "seed money." If interested, Thrivent members may call the church office if they are not sure how to get started.

Burden Bears

A project of the Women of Zion is Burden Bears. These small, stuffed toy bears are decorated with each bear holding a quilt and an attached poem with comforting words. These are to be given to someone who is in need of comfort. Call the church office, or stop in if you or someone you know, would like a Burden Bear.

"Zion Reformation" Worship Service

... is telecast on Channel 980 on Charter Cable on Sundays at 11:30 a.m., Fridays at 12:00 noon, and Mondays at 8:00 p.m. It is available on **YouTube**: <https://youtube/5SR0tfCKn0E> and **viebit**: <https://waam.viebit.com/player.php?hash=3jT0usZGsg88>

Calling All Lay Ministers: Past, Present, and Future! Or Anyone Interested in Volunteering!

Greater Wausau Christian Services is in need

of Lay Ministers or those that have recently graduated from Lay School Ministry, OR anyone interested in volunteering, to help with our Nursing and Elder Care Service Rotation. Days, facilities, and times that we need volunteers are: Tuesdays - Mount View at 2 p.m.; Atrium (formerly Kennedy Park) at 3 p.m.; Wednesdays - Benedictine Manor at 9:45 a.m.; Colonial Manor at 10:45 a.m.; Wausau Manor at 2 p.m. If you are able, or know someone that is able, please contact GWCS at 715-842-5635.

THANKING

... all who donated food for the Salvation Army food pantry. Your response was very generous. Thanks also to the volunteers who helped to arrange the display of food, and then remove the food from the chancel.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Events around Central Wisconsin

Wausau Lyric Choir Christmas Concerts

"A Portrait of the Nativity" will be performed on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 406 Grant St., Wausau. Tickets are required to attend the concert, but there is no charge for them—instead the Choir will accept a free-will donation at the concert. To obtain no-charge tickets: contact a choir member; contact the Performing Arts

Foundation Ticket Office at (715) 842-0988; obtain at the door.

St. Agnes Sweet Shoppe

... Saturday, December 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Abts Hall, 6101 Zinser St., Weston. Fancy cookies and candy for sale by the pound. Luncheon: homemade chicken soup, sandwiches and pies. Raffle for \$500 cash and other prizes.

Greater Wausau Christian Services is Seeking Donations for Christmas Gifts

If you wish to donate towards the Kids Kount Program, or for the purchase of Bibles that are used in Bible studies at the jail, or for the Juvenile Center, please send your check to: Greater Wausau Christian Services, 319 4th St., Wausau, 54403, indicating which of the three choices you would like your donation to be used.

Faith in Action

Are you age 60 or older? Do you need a little extra help with groceries? Friendly volunteers from Faith in Action of Marathon County are ready to deliver food from the Community Center of Hope food pantry or from The Neighbors' Place to your doorstep. To request assistance, please contact Brenda at 715-848-8783.

Area Mobile Meals AND Meals on Wheels

Both of these meal delivery services need volunteers. Call Curtis Barthel, 715-848-5848, OR contact the Aging and Disability Resource Center at 1-888-486-9545; or www.adrc-cw.com

Coffee and Conversation Support Group

... first Monday of each month, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Hardee's Restaurant, 2609 Stewart Ave., Wausau. First 10 participants get a free meal. Presented by NAMI Northwoods www.naminorthwoods.org and sponsored by a grant from the Aspirus Foundation.

McLit Marathon County Literacy

... and surrounding areas are in need of adult students needing FREE tutoring. Call 715-679-6170; email: McLitofwausau@gmail.com; website: www.mclitofwausau.org.

Hope Life Center Needs Car Seats

Hope Life Center has an urgent need for car seats for babies. Hope's clients have earned enough vouchers to purchase car seats. For legal reasons, all car seats must be NEW and in the box. If you are able to help, bring the car seat to Hope Life Center, 605 S. 24th Ave., Suite 20, Wausau. Or call 715-843-4673.

Volunteer Drivers Needed

The Center for Independent Living needs more drivers due to the increase in ridership needs in our area. They want to provide transportation to frail elderly, persons with disabilities, and veterans who many not have any other transportation choices. Drivers are reimbursed at .535 cents per mile. Call Bobbi Hegna at 1-800-228-3287, ext. 211.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Upcoming events at Zion

- **Saturday, December 9 – 9:00 am to noon:** Decorating Church Nave
- **Saturday, December 16 – 5:15 p.m.:** Sunday School Pageant

Attendance: November 23, 25, 26 & 29:

Thanksgiving Day:

10:00 am	108
<u>Saturday:</u>	
5:15 pm	42
<u>Sunday:</u>	
9:00 am	153
11:00 am	48
<u>Wednesday:</u>	
10:00 am	7
6:30 pm	<u>17</u>
Total:	375

Zion's Financial News

Income last week:	\$ 13,637
Year-to-date income:	\$522,343
Year-to-date expenses:	\$515,237

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday • December 3

- 9:00 am Holy Communion;
WSAU Radio
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:15 am Bible Study
- 10:15 am Pre-Confirmation Class
- 11:00 am Holy Communion

Monday • December 4

- 11:00 am Women of Zion Christmas
Party in church hall
- 6:15 pm Group Home Ministry

Tuesday • December 5

- 9:00 am Bible Class
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm Mount View Devotions
- 3:00 pm Atrium Devotions
- 7:00 pm Altar Guild Christmas Party
in church hall

Wednesday • December 6

- 10:00 am Advent Matins
- 6:30 pm Advent Vespers
- 6:30 pm Confirmation
- 7:10 pm Hand Chime Choir

Thursday • December 7

- 7:00 am Men's Bible Class
- 6:30 pm Kantorei Rehearsal

Saturday • December 9

- 9:00 am to 12:00 noon:
Sanctuary Decorating
- 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm: Sunday School
Pageant Rehearsal in
sanctuary
- 5:15 pm Communion Service

Sunday • December 10

- 9:00 am Holy Communion;
WSAU Radio
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:15 am Bible Study
- 10:15 am Pre-Confirmation Class
- 11:00 am Holy Communion

Next Sunday:

Advent 2: *Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14;*
Mark 1:1-8; Psalm 85