

Zion Lutheran Church

*“Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.” (Psalm 125:1)*

November 15, 2020

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Remembering

Examples of the faith in November

November 19: Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

St. Elizabeth was the daughter of King Andrew II of Hungary. Married at 14 to the ruler of Thuringia, she had three children before her husband died when she was 20. Thereafter, she made provisions for her children and devoted the rest of her fortune to the establishment of hospitals and the care of the sick (thus she is often shown with loaves of bread and herbs). She died at the young age of 24, remembered for her compassion.



Pastoral Letter

Jesus said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” ~ Matthew 9:37-38



In the life of the Church the month of November heightens our awareness of the coming Kingdom of God. The Church year ends on what is known as “Fulfillment Sunday” and the new Church year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, a Sunday also marked by the coming King and His Kingdom. What this means for us is we never lose sight of the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Just as surely as He was born in a lowly manger, so too will He come again triumphantly with all the hosts of heaven. What a day that will be!

This means the final harvest is coming. God is collecting for Himself more and more people—thanks be to God! The harvest remains plentiful and so the work of the Church continues unabated. The sick and infirm must be consoled and visited (even if over the phone). Children need to be catechized. The Scriptures need to be read and properly understood. The gifts of Christ must be given that life and salvation may continue to stream forth from the God who’s pleasure it is to serve. To that end, thanks be to God dear Zion for your generous support of the ministry! You know the work of the harvest continues!

With thanksgiving to God, the staff of Zion humbly continues to go about our daily tasks ensuring a bountiful harvest ensues from the ministry to which we are all called. Until the final harvest comes, please hold these items in prayer:

- (1) The ongoing faithfulness and fruitfulness of Zion’s ministry
- (2) The ongoing health and joy of Zion’s people and staff
- (3) The ongoing need for being a faithful witness in our community
- (4) The ongoing need of pastors and Church workers, that the Church would have a great harvest ready for our returning Lord.

In Christ,
Pastor Johnson

Weekend Schedule

Saturday: Holy Communion, 5:15 PM

Sunday: Holy Communion, 9 & 11 AM

Live Radio Broadcast: 9 AM

WSAU 550 AM, 99.9 FM, 95.1 FM, www.wsau.com

Social distancing and extra care will be observed in keeping with the recommendations of the public health department.

Daily Holy Communion

Monday-Friday, 12:15 PM (about 20 minutes long; spoken service)

- These smaller services are open to the public.
- Social distancing and extra care will be observed.
- Calling ahead is not required, but it will help us prepare for you.

Facebook Live Stream

Morning Devotion: 8:30 AM, Monday-Friday

Compline: 8:30 PM, Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday

Vespers: 6:30 PM, Wednesday

Music at Midday: 12:00 Noon, Tuesday and Thursday

Readings for next Sunday, November 22:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Matthew 25:31-46



Children's and Youth Education: In-Person and On-Line

Sundays: **In-Person Sunday School, 10 AM**

Pre-School - Grade 4

In-Person Pre-Confirmation, 10 AM

Grades 5-6

Wednesdays: **Confirmation, 6:30 PM**

For children older than Grade 6 who have worshiped at Zion for a good year.

Online: **Fridays: Parent Sheet Posted (Website)**

Tuesdays: "Picture Time!" (Facebook)

Thursdays (8:30 PM): "Story Time!" (Facebook)

All videos are recorded and available later.

In Person Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesdays: **Bible Study, 9 AM**

"What Sort of People Ought You to Be?"

Ethical Discourses in the New Testament"

Thursdays: **Men's Bible Study, 7 AM**

"Letters from Captivity:

Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon"

Online and In-Home Study

Sundays: **Bible Study, 10:15 AM**

"What's So Good about Being Christian?"

Live-Streamed and Posted to Website

Tuesdays: **Picture Time!**

Artwork for Sunday School (and Everyone!)

Live-Streamed and Posted to Website

Wednesdays: **Word at the Middle of the Week, 8:30 AM**

"What Sort of People Ought We to Be?"

Live-Streamed and Posted to Website

Weekly: **"The Shepherd's Voice"**

Devotional Guidance, included with this mailing

Monthly Mission Emphases:

- **Lutheran Disaster Response — \$2,500**
- **Christian Radio Stations in Schofield and Milladore, Wisconsin — \$1,000**

Christian Radio Stations

WGNV Radio, 88.5 FM . . . has been a Christian family radio station in Central Wisconsin since 1986, located in Milladore, midway between Stevens Point and Marshfield. They have a sister station, 94.1 FM in Antigo. Who listens to Christian family radio? Unlike TV viewers, radio listeners identify closely with their favorite station. Radio fits well into today's mobile lifestyle, and becomes a personal companion at home, at work, in the car—even out jogging! It is this intimate characteristic that makes radio so appropriate for Christian ministry. Visit their website: www.thefamily.net.

**Praying***in our prayers this week*

Persecuted Christians in: North Korea; Afghanistan; Somalia

Sister Congregation: Lehurutshe Parish, South Africa

Missionaries: Elliot & Serena Derricks, Lutheran Bible Translators

For health and recovery: Sandy Radunz; Dick and Kathleen Zimmerman; Keith Borchardt; Inga Borchardt

Those who need our on-going prayers: Hilmar Baumann, Karen Baumann, Carl Boettcher, Les Broliar, Mary Ellen Bureta, Rich Cornell, Ruth Draeger, Carol Edelburg, Barbara Ellen, Dennis Falk, Rita Falk, Ben Fiedler, Ken Heinzen, Theron “Butch” Jehn, Avery Kluck, Olivia Lang, Debra Mertes, Grace Mueller, Maggie Otto, Tina Parker, Barb Ramker, Krista Salas, Ervin Schepp, David Skola, Richie Thiemer, Mark Wendorff, Nancy, Jim, Richard, Lenette, Zion's homebound members.

This Advent . . .

This Christmas . . .

*How
shall
we follow
our Lord and
let our light shine?*

turn the page

Let Your Light Shine:
Advent

*Let us prepare to welcome the Christ
by welcoming His Word: Outdoor, Indoor, Online.*

Outdoor Service of Light Sundays, 4:30 PM
Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20
(20-25 Minutes)

Luminaries, small fires, and the Word of God will warm hearts and souls on Zion's "green space" (even if it's a white space! On the corner of Franklin and 7th) every Sunday at 4:30 PM starting November 29. Wisconsinites can stand outside for Christmas parades and Packer games – we can do 20-25 minutes to light a candle, hear the good word of an "Advent saint," and thank and praise our Savior.

In-Person Advent Worship Mon-Fri, 12:15 PM
Starting Nov. 30 (20-25 Minutes)

Every daily Holy Communion will feature Advent preaching. Wednesdays will include an Advent hymn.

Online Advent Worship Wednesdays, 6:30 PM

Midweek Vespers will feature Advent preaching and music, live-streamed on Facebook and posted to our website and YouTube channel.

Let Your Light Shine:
Christmas Eve

*Let us praise God for the coming of His Son.
More services help us spread out and gather comfortably.*

December 24

"The Journey to Bethlehem" (3:00 PM)

This service for families and children will take us with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem as they welcome their wondrous, unexpected Son.

"The Angels" (5:00 PM)

This Festival of Lessons and Carols will include traditional choral offerings as we join the angels in praising the newborn King.

"The Shepherds" (8:00 PM)

This liturgy of Holy Communion gives us a time to adore Christ with the shepherds at His manger (also broadcast live on WSAU 550 AM).

"The Wonder of Mary" (11:00 PM)

This "midnight mass" of Holy Communion will lead us into the awe of Mary as she ponders all that the shepherds tell her about Jesus (also broadcast live on WSAU 550 AM). For those who wish to join, a brief outdoor procession of candles and caroling will follow at midnight.



Let Your Light Shine:
Christmas Day

Zion's traditional Christmas Day service provides another time to gather comfortably and welcome God's Son.

December 25

"The Liturgy of the People" (10:00 AM)

Broadcast live on WSAU 550, this liturgy of Holy Communion gives thanks for the mystery of God's birth as a child, our own flesh and blood.

Let Your Light Shine:
Televised Services

Plans are developing for at least one of Zion's Christmas services to be televised and released as a video. Watch future newsletters for further information.

The foregoing schedule has been developed in light of this year's concerns regarding COVID-19 and remembering that Zion is a congregation with a public ministry and outreach. Please share this information with your friends and neighbors.

A “Note” from Kantor



“Jerusalem the Golden.” The title conjures up visions of the glory of heaven. However, the twelfth-century source of this hymn intended to use the various images from the Book of Revelation to emphasize the depravity of earthly life. Events in the world at that time, such as the Muslim forces encroaching upon European communities, the beginning of the Second Crusade, and a papal schism where two popes claimed universal sovereignty over “a corrupt ecclesiastical organization” were clear indications that the world was indeed very evil.



However, the text of the hymn does present glorious visualizations of heaven: an eternal promised land where peace and rest abound, provide a glimpse into something that is beyond human comprehension. Can we even imagine a place where God’s restored people, enjoying His presence, are joined with angelic choirs and sainted martyrs to praise the Lord in His eternal city? Christ sits on His throne as conqueror surrounded by those praising Him, celebrating His victory over sin, death, and the devil. “The final stanza concludes with a petition that Jesus would unite those singing the hymn in an eternal rest with the blessed Trinity.” [Lutheran Service Book Companion to the Hymns vol. 1:883.]

We wait in eager anticipation for that day!

Joy in Jesus, Kantor Beethe

News & Events

Pr. Pinzl, Our “Deployed Chaplain”

At its last quarterly meeting, Zion extended a call to Pr. Pinzl as a “Deployed Chaplain.” The Deployed Chaplain call is an honorary call that involves no monetary or material support, but merely indicates that Zion recognizes and affirms Pr. Pinzl’s service in the Navy as a pastor in good standing. He will give Zion periodic updates on his military service as we hold him in prayer and goodwill.

Green Space Development: “Luther Square”

The value of outdoor ministry for engaging a neighborhood has only increased during this past year of pandemic. Over the past decade or so, Zion’s neighborhood has also witnessed a growing interest in outdoor activities through the development of the 400 Block and downtown events, the River Walk, and other outdoor projects.

In view of this growing value of outdoor engagement, Zion’s council has begun developing design proposals for Zion’s “green space” on the corner of Franklin and 7th (“Luther Square” is a working title for the project). The goal is to curate a space that will accommodate a variety of outdoor ministries: worship, fellowship and festival events, and even Bible study and smaller devotional gatherings. Further information about the proposals will be presented in the future.

Salvation Army Food Fund Donations

In past years in November, Zion has held a food drive for the Salvation Army. Please do not bring food to Zion this year. The Salvation Army prefers to receive cash donations. Here’s how:

- **Regular Offering Envelope.** In the space marked “Other” write “Food Drive” and list the amount you wish to donate.
- **Anonymously.** Anonymous donations may be given, using a plain envelope (marked “Food Drive”) and placing it in clear acrylic boxes located at Zion’s entrances on the weekends of November 13-14 and 20-21, and on Thanksgiving Day.

Your donation of \$16.59 = 7 meals. Let’s have a good response to this local mission and community need. Thank you.

Zion’s Mission Team

News & Events

Serve the Lord: A Call for Volunteers

As Zion continues to steward its mission and ministry during a challenging year, there are several opportunities for you to help with the Lord's work:

- **Altar Guild:** this group helps prepare the Lord's Supper in a safe and fitting way. Altar Guild teams rotate to share the schedule of tasks throughout the year;
- **Adult Acolytes:** in addition to our excellent crew of teenage acolytes, fit and agile adults may also serve in the acolyte corps for upcoming special and outdoor liturgies.
- **Luminary Team:** During Advent and Christmas, outdoor luminaries will fill the darkness with light around Zion as we share His bright Gospel with our neighbors. Please consider joining this group of people who will help turn those luminaries on and off for special services.
- **Fire Team:** The Outdoor Services of Light for Advent (Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20, 4:30 PM) will feature small fires to help warm the faithful. Members of the Fire Team will help prepare and tend these small fires.

If you are interested in helping in any of these ways, please contact the church office.

Donations for Property Maintenance (Building Fund)

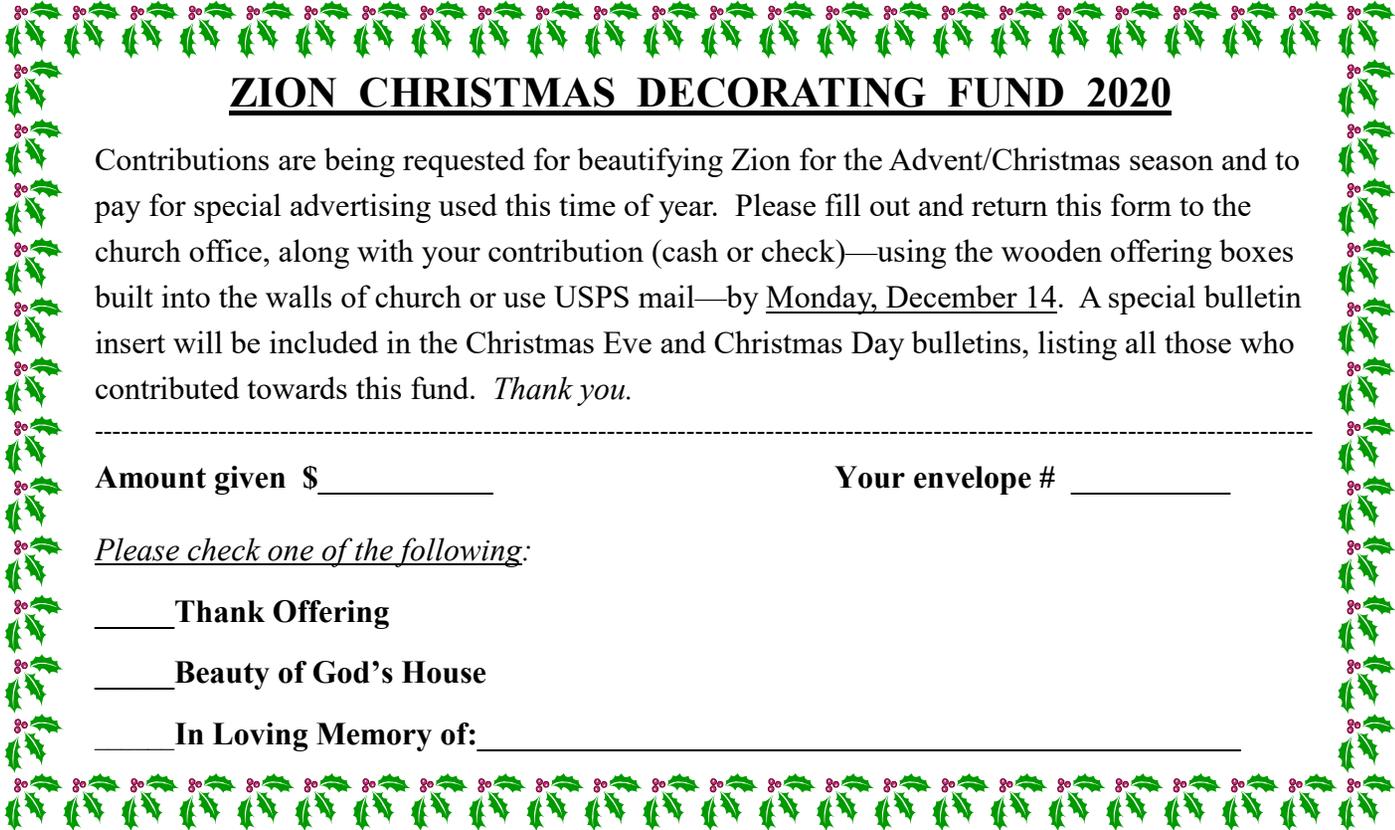
Zion's almost-70-year-old house of worship, as well as its school, parsonages, and grounds, will continue to have maintenance needs in the years ahead. When considering a memorial or donation beyond your regular giving, please keep the building fund in mind.

Donations for New Green Paraments

Zion Altar Guild is in the process of ordering new green paraments, which are the cloth decorations which hang from the pulpit, lectern, and altar. If you would like to donate money towards the cost of these new paraments, you may direct your donations to Altar Guild.

Altar Guild

Members of Altar Guild who would like to donate money for staff Christmas gifts, may donate by November 30. Also, your \$10 dues should be paid at this time. Bring your money to the church office and it will be directed to the Altar Guild treasurer.



ZION CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND 2020

Contributions are being requested for beautifying Zion for the Advent/Christmas season and to pay for special advertising used this time of year. Please fill out and return this form to the church office, along with your contribution (cash or check)—using the wooden offering boxes built into the walls of church or use USPS mail—by Monday, December 14. A special bulletin insert will be included in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins, listing all those who contributed towards this fund. *Thank you.*

Amount given \$ _____

Your envelope # _____

Please check one of the following:

_____ **Thank Offering**

_____ **Beauty of God's House**

_____ **In Loving Memory of:** _____

Calendar

for the upcoming week

Sunday • November 22 (*Sunday of the Fulfillment*)

- 9:00 AM Holy Communion; Live Radio Broadcast,
WSAU 550 AM
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:15 AM Bible Study, Facebook
- 11:00 AM Holy Communion

Monday • November 23

- 8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
- 12:15 PM Holy Communion
- 8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Tuesday • November 24

- 8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
- 9:00 AM Bible Study
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting
- 12:00 PM Music at Midday
- 12:15 PM Holy Communion
- 8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Wednesday • November 25

- 8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
- 12:15 PM Holy Communion

Thursday • November 26 (*Thanksgiving Day*)

- 8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
- 10:00 AM Thanksgiving Worship, Live Radio Broadcast,
WRIG 1390 AM
- 8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Friday • November 27

Church Office Closed

Saturday • November 28

- 5:15 PM Holy Communion



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WAUSAU WI 54403-4791

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U.S.POSTAGE PAID
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PERMIT NO. 66

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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A member of Lutheran CORE

