

Connecting with God; Connecting with Others; Connecting others with God

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WeeklE-Newsletter: December 15 THIS WEEK AT ZION

Friday, December 15

Saturday, December 16

Sunday, December $17 - 3^{rd}$ Sunday of Advent

- * The flowers are sponsored by Brenda Stover in memory of Nick Schmalhofer, Michael Rutt, Adam Ocker, and Ashley Bukeavich.
- * The communion elements are sponsored by Al Ramer in celebration of Diane's birthday on Monday!

Worship – 9:00 a.m. (In-Person & Livestreamed/Recorded)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy 3AeK pExuVhcUfI2cSw

Adult Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study Class (An Advent Study) – Parlor

Wired Word Class – Zone & Zoom (https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2283229266)

Holiday Concert (Hempfield H.S. Chamber Choir – 2 p.m. [*NOTE TIME CHANGE*] (Sanctuary)

Monday, December 18

Food Pantry -10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Council – 7 p.m. (Zone)

Tuesday, December 19

Bible Study – 9 a.m. (Parlor)

Social Outreach – 6 p.m. (HotZ)

Scouts – 6:30 - 8 p.m. (Scout Room, Classrooms, and Social Room)

Wednesday, December 20

Food Pantry -10 a.m. -1 p.m.

Thursday, December 21

Choir - 6 p.m.

Friday, December 22

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve

Worship – 9:00 a.m. (In-Person & Livestreamed/Recorded)

Livestream/Recorded Link

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy_3AeK_pExuVhcUfI2cSw

Adult Sunday School

Advent Study – 10:30 a.m. (Parlor)

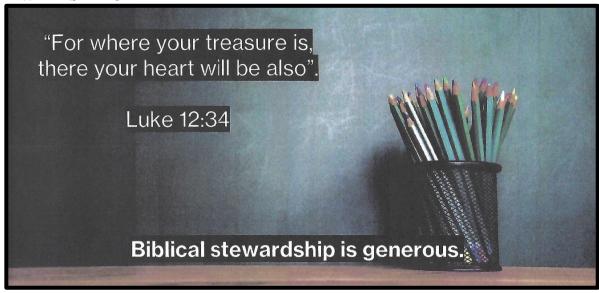
No Wired Word class today or next Sunday (12/31)

Christmas Eve Worship – 7:00 p.m. (In-Person & Livestreamed/Recorded)

Livestream/Recorded Link: http://bit.ly/Zion Live

ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES, & EVENTS

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



In the New Testament, Jesus talks a lot about money and possessions. He is blunt: "our hearts follow the money."

In this season of gifting and getting, are we relying on what is under the tree (or in the checkbook) to save us?

Or are we listening to the voice speaking from the wilderness who points us back to the manger, not the market.

Where we invest our treasure determines where our ultimate loyalty will be.

As disciples, we seek to be generous so that our hearts will be loyal to Jesus.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

In the spirit of Zion's Stewardship Initiative and being generous followers of Jesus, be sure to pick up your offering envelopes in your church mailbox! [Please note that some envelope numbers have changed in 2024 from what they were in 2023. Make sure you use the correct box number!]

OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONALS

The December-February devotional booklets are available on the ushers' table in the narthex, on the window ledge in the back hallway, and on the kiosk across from the mailboxes. Advent devotionals are there as well.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

There are a variety of Advent devotionals on the ushers' table in the narthex. In addition, there are also copies of the Advent Prayer cycle for the Middle East and the Holy Land from the ELCA and her ecumenical partners. Help yourself!



Contact John L. with questions or if you would like to be a sponsor for this year's concerts!

johnplandis@gmail.com 717-875-6182

ANNUAL REPORTS: ATTENTION ALL MINISTRY TEAMS!

It is Annual Report time! All ministry teams need to email your report about what was accomplished this year and what is on your to-do list for 2024 to Anne (adminzelc@comcast.net).

JOYFUL NOISE



The Joyful Noise offering through December will go to Bethany Christian Services' Safe Families for Children program. For more information about this program, visit: https://bethany.org/help-a-child/emergency-care/safe-families

2024 FLOWER, BULLETIN, AND COMMUNION ELEMENTS SPONSORS

The sign-up sheets for all three of these sponsorship opportunities next year are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex across from the mailboxes. This is a great way to help offset the church's cost for these worship service expenses and a special way to honor, remember, and celebrate someone or an occasion! Cost is \$40 for flowers, \$40 for bulletins, and \$35 for communion elements.

FLOWER VASE DONATIONS

Do you have any altar flower vases from the church? The Altar Guild (and Nancy M. in particular!) would love it if you could return them so they can use them to deliver arrangements to others! ALSO, if you have any clear vases with about a 6-inch diameter that could use a new home, the Altar Guild will be more than happy to take them off your hands! They thank you in advance! Questions about size or type? Talk with Nancy (717-278-1556).



THIS SUNDAY! HOLIDAY TRIVIA!

Classes will meet together in the Social Room for Holiday Trivia! All are welcome to come join the light-hearted fun (and yes, maybe a little bit of friendly competition)!

* The Wired Word class will not meet next Sunday or 12/31.

* The class that meets in the parlor will complete an Advent next Sunday (12/24) and will meet on 12/31 as well. They will begin a new study in January...Stay tuned for more information!

SPECIAL
CHRISTMAS
EVE
PRELUDE
MUSIC
BEGINS AT
6:30 p.m.



Jamie Marrs Smith, cello

Lisa Nelson, piano

Lisa Nelson & John Landis, piano 4-hand duet

John Landis, organ

ADVENT BANNERS

As we prepare for the coming birth of Jesus, the anticipation builds as a banner in front of the Sanctuary is added each week. The 3rd banner design is of an angel holding a heart above its head with swirls ascending, extending upward to God and the heavens. The 2nd banner has a candle with a heart in its flame and a swirl rising upward symbolizing prayer and commitment to God. This banner represents our turning to God. The 1st banner has a large, open hand of God with a heart in the middle of the hand and a swirl descending to us. The idea is that God chooses us in grace and stirs our hearts in love and power.







Second Banner



Third Banner







Enjoy Kirchenwald in the winter!

Play broom hockey and other games on the frozen pond.

Have fun sledding, playing snow soccer and other winter games.

Creative Bible studies and worship experiences led by our summer camp counselors are an important part of this retreat.

Meet new friends and catch up with your summer camp friends.

Other indoor and outdoor activities may be included, as the weather dictates.

January 5-7, 2024 \$170 MORE INFO. & TO REGISTER!

Advent & Christmas in a Barn https://www.lut herancamping.org/event/christ mas-in-the-barn-2023/

Join us at the Wittel Farm for our annual Advent/Christ mas night. This year, we'll gather around the outdoor fire and have cookies and cocoa in the barn. Lights and decorations!

December 17 7-8:30 p.m.

MORE INFO. & TO REGISTER!

Youth
Retreat
https://www.lut
herancamping.
org/event/winte
r-youthretreat-2024/





- To everyone who helped decorate the church for the holiday season ... Thank you! The worship, narthex, and the outside of the church looks absolutely beautiful and message-filled!
- From Lutheran World Relief ... Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$265.00 to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund! The kindness and love you show your neighbors in Christ is truly transformational. ... LWR is so grateful for the love you are bestowing on our neighbors around the world.
- From Off the Streets ... Thank you for the gift of \$107 from your Joyful Noise collection! This donation provides the security deposit for our clients to live in a home of their own. Your caring, consideration also enables a person to go from unbelievable living conditions to a life without the stigma of homelessness... Thank you, again, most sincerely. You have made a difference in someone's life.
- ➤ To the anonymous donor in the community ... Thank you for the very generous donation of your \$6,000 year-end bonus to help offset the cost of the food ministries and outreach at Zion.

*Note: This is the third year that this individual has stopped by the church unexpectedly to give this donation. They do not have any known connections to Zion. Let this example of living in a Christ-like way be a model for us all.



PRAYER LIST

FOR HEALING

Dave Wauls

Dick Olson

Cindy Blough

Bob Shirk

Tom Grzybowski

Jess Barcaro

Sam King

Bill Grove

Connie Alsedek

Joe Adams

Mary Zimmerman

Marvin Ruch

Kate Donnan

Judie Ingersoll

Joan Mays

Holly Hoover

Barb Williams

Kay Crawford

Dolly Overly

Ed Illick (Husband of Pastor Pam Illick)

Loma Slike (Mother of Sue Wise)

Brook Ross (Friend of Barb Williams)

Walter Thalgott (Brother of Thelma Pearson)

William Hartman (Father of Deb Grube)

Jeff Long (Nephew of Rick & Deb Long)

Mike LaFata (Son-in-law of Bill & Julia Grove)

Jack Taylor (4-year-old son of the niece of Deb Grube)

Harmony & Family (Friends of Kim & Jim Paternoster)

FOR COMFORT, PEACE, STRENGTH, & SAFETY

Thelma Pearson

Lucy Davis

Deb McCartney

George Potts

Ruth Burkett (Mother of Deb Long)

Arlene Wise (Sister-in-law of Dave Wise)

Ed & Dotty Sites (Parents of Cathy Benedict)

Jennifer Kready (Daughter of Dave & Donna Dumeyer)

Peggy & Rick Dolly (Relatives of Barb Williams)

FOR PROTECTION FOR MILITARY & FIRST RESPONDERS

Evan Benedict

Christopher Wright

Chris Andrew

Thom Whitesel

Ryan Stitzel

Doug Kautter

Justin Gorlaski

Tyler Duke (Great Grandson of Jan Reeves)

Corey Landis (Nephew of Jesse & Pat Landis)

David Adams (Son-in-law of John & Kathleen Hay, and husband of Liz)

IN CELEBRATION

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

18th – Diane Ramer, Nate Deibler

20th – Brenda Stover, Cameron Reed

21st – Todd Reed

23rd – Linda Bear, Don Wierschke

24th – Sue Wise, Holly Hoover

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
17^{tth} – Chrissy (Rickert) and Johnny Fenwick



MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers Members of the Congregation Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown **Pastor** Music Director John Landis Parish Administrator Anne Rankin Worship Technology Assistant David Albin Lay Ministry Assistant Diane Gerlach Council President Kim Paternoster Council Vice President Denise Haun Sextons Brian Bourassa (a.m.) Tom Miller (p.m.)

WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, & CONTACT INFORMATION

Worship Sundays @ 9:00 a.m.
Livestream & Recorded Linkhttps://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy 3AeK pExuVhcUfI2cSw
Bible Study Video Series Class (Parlor) Sundays @ 10:30 a.m. (Except 12/17)
Wired Word Class (Zone & Zoom) Sundays @ 10:30 a.m. (Except 12/17, 24, & 31)
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2283229266

Morning Bible Study
Church Office
717-898-2911
Pastor
Parish Administrator
Council President
717-342-3796

Office Email
Pastor Email
Council President

Adminzelc@comcast.net

zion1517pastor@gmail.com

krpkc@aol.com

Music Director Email

zionlandisvillemusic@gmail.com

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^{*} The Stewardship slide is adapted from A Litany Prayer for Aleppo by Michael K. Marsh by Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown