



CONNECTIONS

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Guests and Members... Please fill out the card in the pew rack and pass it to the center aisle at the time of the offering. This helps us continue our ministry to you.

Families in Worship... As you enter the church please pick up a kid's bag for your young children. It contains activities for them during the service. *Don't be embarrassed* if your children make noise during worship—all children do! We encourage families to worship together but, if you feel the need, there is a nursery available down the hallway just south of the narthex (an usher will be happy to direct you).

Bible Study and Sunday School... We invite you to join us each Sunday morning at 9:15 for Bible Study and Sunday School. Sunday School meets downstairs from the church Narthex in our Noah's Ark Themed Sunday School. The Adult Bible Study meets in the Parish Hall, which is also downstairs and to the left.

The Lord's Supper... The Lord's Supper is celebrated regularly and frequently at Zion in the confession and glad confidence that, as He Himself says, our Lord Jesus Christ gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matt. 26:26-28, 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-26). All who commune at this altar are to be members in good standing of a Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregation. All guests who desire to receive the Lord's Supper at this altar are asked to first speak with the pastor(s).

For those who are communing, both the chalice and the individual cups are offered. The chalice will come through first. For those who desire it, look up and tilt the bottom of the chalice to assist with its distribution. For those who desire individual cups, they will follow the chalice.

March 17, 2023-March 24, 2024

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

March 17 Sun.	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Worship w/HC Bible Study/Sunday School Worship w/HC
March 18 Mon.		
March 19 Tues.	6:00 pm	Community Meal
March 20 Wed.	10:00 am 12:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Daniel Bible Study Lenten Service John Study Lenten Service Choir (After Service)
March 21 Thurs.		
March 22 Fri.		
March 23 Sat.		
March 24 Sun.	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Worship w/HC Bible Study/Sunday School Worship w/HC

Lenten Services

Join us for the following Midweek Services at 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm:

Wednesday, March 20th

Holy Week: *Palm Sunday*: Sunday, March 24th, 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Holy Thursday: Thursday, March 28th, 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Good Friday: Friday, March 29th, 12:00 pm (with Zion Schumm) & 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 31st, join us for one of our three services—or ALL THREE—at 6:30 am, 8:00 am, & 10:30 am.

PEOPLE IN SERVICE CALENDAR

		March 17	March 24
Elders	8:00 10:30	Steve Fuelling Jared Lengerich	Steve Fuelling Jared Lengerich
Sound/Power Point	8:00 10:30	Elder on Duty/TBD	Elder on Duty/TBD
Ushers	8:00	Mark Braun Randy Hendricks Larry Irwin Nick Irwin Art Verschure	Mark Braun Randy Hendricks Larry Irwin Nick Irwin Art Verschure
	10:30	Mike Busse Terry Witte Ken Ketzler Mike Miller Treyten Tomkinson	Mike Busse Terry Witte Ken Ketzler Mike Miller Treyten Tomkinson
Altar Care	8:00 10:30	Cindy Powell Diane Irwin	Cindy Powell Diane Irwin
Acolyte	8:00	Jacob Bleeke Sydney Angel	Jace Stinson Rylee Hammond
	10:30	Cohen Bluhm Griffin Bluhm	Lexy Harvey Emalyn Aldrich
Nursery Workers	8:00 10:30	<i>Available during service</i>	<i>Available during service</i>
If you cannot serve, please find a replacement or call the church office @ (260) 724-7177.			

Life Thoughts in the Church Year— 5th Sunday of Lent— Jesus Christ embodies the God who abides beside us in our ailments and frailties. Our incarnate and crucified Savior suffers with and for those who cannot sustain or save themselves. He regards even human beings beset by weakness or sickness high enough to take on our condition Himself (Hebrews 5:7-9). The Gospel just leaves no room for abortion or assisted suicide.

Weekly Stewardship Message—Mark 10:45— “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Jesus gives everything He has: He gives Himself. That self-giving is the model for our giving in all aspects of our lives. In our family, in our church, and in the world at large, Jesus calls us to follow His example of self-giving. We can only do this if we are connected to His self-giving in faith.

New Topic!

Wednesday morning Bible Study is moving on! Beginning Wednesday, March 13th, the new topic is the book of Daniel. You are all invited to join Pastor O. and the rest of the group to dive in and see what Daniel is all about! Start time is at 10:00 am.

Board of Stewardship

The Board of Stewardship is sponsoring the Crisis Center for the months of March and April. Please help us to support this well deserved organization by bringing in nonperishable food items as this is what they currently are in need of. Please place your donations in the tub in the narthex hallway that is marked Crisis Center. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting them.

Thank You

The family of Jeanette Bultemeier would like to extend a gracious thank you to our Zion Lutheran Church family, especially Pastor Oedewaldt for the many prayers, visits, and much support while Jeanette was ill and at her recent passing. Also, a special thank you to Carl Risch for providing the wonderful music for the funeral service.

God's Blessings To All,
The Family of Jeanette Bultemeier

Scripture Readings Next Week

Sunday of the Passion

First Reading: **Zechariah 9:9-12** Epistle: **Philippians 2:5-11** Gospel: **Mark 15:1-47**

Birthdays and Anniversaries— March 18— March 24

Caleb Cerna (18)
James Ungemach (18)
Mylee Hoffman (18)
Janet Meyer (20)
Aaron Cowans (20)
Kayla Kaehr (20)
Isaac Wheeler (20)
Peyton Lengerich (20)
Cohen Feasel (20)

Nick Griffiths (21)
Jill Grimm (22)
Callaway Conrad (22)
Kelsey Fleming (23)
Stephanie Fawcett (23)
Patrick Gunsett (23)
Everley Ruby (23)
Barrett Stimpson (23)
Tammy Reynolds (24)

Anniversaries
Ed & Gloria Daniels (20)

Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt

There will be an Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt again this year during the Bible Study Hour for all our members. Breakfast will be served immediately following the 8:00 service. The egg hunt will be for ages 3-10 and will be held outside the Narthex on the 10th street lawn. An announcement will be made during breakfast for all to gather.

Youth Families: we will be in need of breakfast casseroles, ingredients for French Toast, drinks, etc. Please see our Facebook page for the Sign-up Genius link or here is the link to copy:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4EADA62DA2FA7-48439226-easter>

Candy Donations

Congregation Members are invited to donate candy to fill the eggs for the egg hunt on Easter Sunday. **Please drop off candy donations to the church office by Wednesday, March 20th.**

Gardening Angels

Starting again late Spring or early Summer the Gardening Angels Committee will be removing the old bushes and replacing with all new landscaping in front of the church on Monroe St.

We have a 4th donor that will match up to \$250.00, so for every \$1 you give, they will give \$1. If you would like to contribute to this cause please make checks payable, in designated envelopes, to "Zion Lutheran Church Gardening Angels."

You may also go to the church website at www.ziondecatur.com and select 'Gardening Angels' under giving options.

Please contact Joan Fortman with questions at (260) 724-3955 or (260) 223-0998.

The Gardening Angels Committee

CTS Food Co-Op Project

The Zion Missionary Society would like your help in collecting non-perishable food items and paper products for the seminary food co-op during the Lenten season. Collection baskets are now available in both the north and south hallways off of the narthex. Our collection will run through Good Friday (March 29, 2024). Donated items will be delivered to the seminary the week after Easter. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Zion School News

Upcoming Dates— March 25-29: Spring Break—No School

Monday, April 1st: Easter Monday—No School

Tuesday, April 2nd: New Life Parties— 1:30 pm

Zion Endowment Fund

Dear Members of Zion Lutheran Church and School:

It is once again time for our **Lutheran Foundation School Matching Fund** program. This year our 2024 goal is \$17,500. This Lutheran Foundation program triples every dollar that you donate up to \$17,500. Therefore, if we meet our goal, there would be \$17,500 coming directly back to the school to use immediately in the form of grant money. The next \$17,500 goes into a restricted investment fund. The remaining \$17,500 goes into a restricted matching investment fund. These 2 restricted funds allow for Zion to use the dividends from these investments for eligible school needs.

Over the years, Zion Lutheran Church and School have benefited greatly from this program. Since 2009, we have raised \$206,000 and have been able to redirect \$115,528 of the fund dividends back into the school for various programs and projects. In addition, since 2016, we have successfully met our fundraising goals which resulted in direct grant payments to our school now totaling \$138,000.

Your support of this program has allowed the school to use dividends to fund the purchase of 4 necessary HVAC systems, Cafeteria tables, multiple National Youth trips, I-Pads, classroom white boards, new computers, new student desks, and various other items not included in the school budget. In addition, new exterior lighting around Zion campus in 2023.

Zion students will be the future leaders of our church and school. Your contribution will ensure a continued solid learning environment for them to thrive. Please keep in mind that all contributions you make will continue to provide dividends for years to come. With your generous help we can achieve our goal again this year.

Since we are not mailing green letters to your home, you will instead have 3 easy ways to contribute.

Endowment Online Giving is set up on Zion's website by clicking the "Zion Online Offering" button and choosing Endowment fund.

- 2) **Designated offering envelopes** available in your own contribution envelope box.
- 3) **Green envelopes** can be found in the back of church in the narthex.

If the LORD guides you to contribute, please make checks payable to "**Zion Endowment-Matching Fund**". Your contributions are tax deductible. The deadline is Sunday, **May 19th**

"You shall surely give him, and your heart shall not be grieved when you give to him: because that for this thing the LORD your God shall bless you in all that you put your hand to." Deuteronomy 15:10

Please feel free to contact any member of the Zion Endowment Committee with any questions or comments.

Shaun Braun 223-8689 | Angie Bultemeier 223-9484 | Bryan Saalfrank 433-3696 | Mike Grimm 403-5956 | Kathy Brown 728-2220

Community Happenings

Fish & Tenderloin Dinner—St. John Bingen will host its annual Fish & Tenderloin Dinner, **TODAY** from 10:30 am–1:00 pm at Wyneken School. Adults are \$14.00; children (6-12) \$10.00; 5 and under free. All proceeds go to the Family Assistance Fund. Drive thru and carry-out are available. Fried by Dan's Fry Service, Huntington, IN.

CTS Kantorei Lenten Service—The Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne Kantorei will lead music for the season of Lent in a special service at Kramer Chapel (CTSFW Campus) **THIS AFTERNOON** at 4:00 pm. The Kantorei is a men's choir of students studying for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. They are directed by Kantor Kevin Hildebrand. For more information, visit www.ctsfw.edu.

Prayer List

Please submit your prayer requests by contacting the church office at (260) 724-7177 or by writing a request on the back of the attendance card. Thank you!

Hospitalized or Receiving Special Care:

Our Missionaries:

Those Serving Our Country: Brian Donovan, Zack Lavy, **Dalton Hackman, Michael Swygart**, Daniel Hughes, **Dan Creek**, Steven Bleeker, **Ally O'Connor, John Weidler, Will Busse, Taylor Schultz**, Katie VanWye, Taylor Bird, Jonathan Pogue, Ben Pogue, **Montgomery Hill, Jackson Becher, Shelbi Hess**

Continuing Health Prayers:

Nancy Tripp	Joan Roop	Marvin Ewell	Rita Wolfrum
Dodie Litchfield	Bob Bowen	Maxine Elzey	Dawn Smith
Kelly Shinaberry	Jim Bowen	Lyle Shaffer	Mike Ross
John Schultz	Noah Kunkel	Jackson Lanford	June Schroeder
Alice Hall	Mary Reinking	Caitlen Ford	Dorothy Hines
Ryan Brunton	Kim Landrum	Samantha Schultz	Claudia Schnepf
Gloria Daniels	Joe Longworth	Bev Wagner	Eugene Weber
Lillie Bleeker	Duane "Moe" Moser	Joellen Meyer	Steve Straub
Brendan Gross	Carolyn McMaster	Luke Schultz	Jordan Baker
Luke Liechty	Cari Shaffer	Tammy Dahling	Anna Weidler
Bob Tinkham	Rebecca Strack	Yvonda Sheets	

Baptism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be performed at the 10:30 am service for Hayden Dawn Ruble, daughter of Craig & Rachel Ruble. Hayden's sponsors are Isaac Wheeler, Alex & Monica Cerami, Abby Ruble & Colton Mishler. We celebrate this new life in Christ and send prayers of Thanksgiving to our Lord and Savior.

Funeral: The Rite of Christian Burial was conducted Friday, March 12th for Pat Hoblet. We commend Pat to the Lord's Eternal Care and pray for God's peace and healing for her family as they mourn her loss.

If you or someone you know needs to be added to or can be removed from the Prayer Request list, please contact the church office or note it on your attendance card.

Stewardship of God's Gifts

ATTENDANCE

8:00 am Service	103	Sunday School	N/A
10:30 am Service	167	Bible Study	N/A
Midweek Lenten Services (Combined)	166		

OFFERING

Weekly Income Received	\$ 12,942.25
Weekly Income Projected	\$ 16,325.45
Year-to-Date Income Received	\$ 151,769.25
Actual to Projected Income	\$ 163,254.50

Do you like listening to talk shows or music while at work, at home or on the go? Tune into something fresh yet profound with these online Lutheran Radio broadcasts! Go to the web-sites or download the apps to hear the programs live or listen to past shows.

kfu.org—The radio station of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod hosts a variety of shows during the week, such as Faith 'N' Family, Law & Gospel, and BookTalk. Pastors from around the country also lead daily devotions on-air.

Issuesetc.org—This “cross-centered, Christ-focused talk radio” airs each Monday thru Friday at 3 to 5 pm EST. Pastor and lay-man guest speakers are invited to discuss Scripture, theology, current religion news, and Christianity in culture...just to name a few!

Connections & Lamp Newsletter Deadlines

Just a reminder to those wanting to submit information to either publication:

Connections: *information/articles will be due by the end of Wednesday each week*

Lamp Newsletter: *information/articles will be due by the 20th of each month*

Zion Lutheran Decatur Sunday Service
Sunday 10:30 a.m. - WZBD 92.7 FM

Worship for Shut-Ins

Sunday 7:00 a.m. - FW's NBC [21.2]

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Frontier 9, Digital 33.2, Comcast 252

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - WINM-TV 12/38 – TCT

Sunday 4:00 p.m. & Monday 10:00 a.m. - Comcast 55, Frontier 25 [PA]

The Lutheran Hour

Sunday 8:05 a.m. on WZBD 92.7 FM

Sunday 10:30 a.m. on AM 1190 (WOWO)

Sunday 3:30 p.m. on AM 1090 (WFCV)

Issues Etc.

Monday thru Friday—3-5 pm live or on demand at issuesetc.org

Lutheran Broadcasts



BOARD OF ELDERS

Allan Engel (Head)	(260) 223-3439
Norb Bleeke	(260) 517-9339
Shaun Braun	(260) 223-8689
Greg Fleming	(260) 724-7268
Steve Fuelling	(260) 223-5587
Randy Hormann	(260) 704-8501
Jared Lengerich	(260) 701-9378
Les Marckel	(260) 223-5396
Mike Miller	(260) 223-9509
Douglas Ungemach	(260) 223-5669

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