

JANUARY  
2025

From the Pastor



# MESSENGER

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

John 10:11

This month's "I am" statement from the Gospel of John come just 2 verses after last month's as part of the same discourse. Last month, Jesus says, "I am the gate, (or the door)." The picture was the gate of a sheep pen. Here in John 10:11 and 14 God furthers the picture and describes himself to his creation by tapping into something familiar to his listeners: Shepherding. While Jesus was having a conversation about God's Truth with the Pharisees and the people of the land of Israel, it's very possible that there was the bleating of sheep echoing behind him as he spoke. As he is talking to the religious leaders and explaining to them who he is and why they didn't like him, he talks in a way that reminds us of Psalm 23: The Shepherd Psalm.

Psalm 23 paints a beautiful picture of a peaceful existence. Peace from enemies, tables overflowing, gentle streams running through green meadows. Almost Eden-esque.

Humanity has been looking for a return to the perfection of Eden for as long as it has been around. It's been searching for a return to the peace and safety that can only come when there is no sin. The search for a Utopia, for world peace, for the right leader or the right form of government with the right laws are some ways this desire manifests. To be sure, some leaders and forms of government have been and are objectively better than others, but no manmade institution and no man can bring about a return to Eden.

That is because during our time on this earth; because of the effects of the fall; because of the sin that is living in every single human and cannot be fully eradicated; because the devil prowls around this earth trying to lead people away from the one true answer to sin, we can and should expect trouble on this earth.

## COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Communion is offered regularly on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, and the Wednesday that precede that Sunday. Individual Cup will be available at the Sunday Communion Services. Individual Cup will be available at the Wednesday Communion Services.



Wed., Jan. 15  
Sun., Jan. 5 & 19

## AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Please join us for an afternoon worship service on the second Tuesday of each month. Individual cup communion will be served.

1:30 p.m., Tuesday  
January 14

## Jesus Cares Ministry Worship

Please join us once a month for a service for anyone with special needs.

1:00 p.m., Sunday,  
January 19

What's the answer of how to find Eden again? The One who came to undo the curse of Adam by being substitute and bearing the total punishment for all sin. The One who came into this world to unlock the way to a place far better than Eden by making captive the curse of death, and enslaving it forever as the thing that delivers believers to eternal life. The One who promises you that he is your Shepherd. The One who every day guards and guides His sheep, leading them to springs of living water, guarding them as they walk through the valley of the shadow of death freeing us from the fear of evil, spreading a table of daily bread anew every day and making sure our cups overflow.

Jesus says "I am the Good Shepherd." The One whose voice the sheep know and trust. The Shepherd will protect and save the sheep at any cost. He is your good Shepherd. He didn't blink at laying his life down for you to protect you and save you. And because of that, you are forgiven and you are safe!

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## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS-** Classes are at 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class is held in the church basement. Sunday School for **grades PreK-4 is in the Mother's room. Grades 4-7 are in the teen room** in the church basement. All classes will run an hour after they start.

**Tuesday morning Bible Class** - The instructor is Bari Waltz. The class will meet in the Mother's room from 10-11 a.m. every Tuesday unless otherwise announced.

**LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** — Zion started a school in 1858. Currently we teach students from Preschool through 8th grade. Our staff of five teachers are both certified and experienced to provide instructions in all academic areas, but especially in God's Word. They are:

Deanna Schneck — Preschool

Stacey Sordahl—Kindergarten

Michelle Roth — Grades 1 & 2

Ryan Roth — Grades 3, 4, & 5

Bryan Schneck — Grades 6, 7, & 8 and Principal

# PRINCIPAL REPORT



## *Principal's Report – January Zion Messenger*

***"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." – Matthew 2:2***

One star is all you need. As long as it is the right star.

It's commonly called the North Star, but it is named Polaris. For centuries navigators on land and sea have used it to set their course. All other stars change their positions in the sky as times and seasons pass, yet the position of the North Star stays the same hour after hour, day after day, year after year. But it's not that easy to find if you don't know what to look for. The star might be prominent in the sky, but many others are as well. Navigators use the constellations Ursa Minor and Ursa Major, the "Little and Great Bears", to locate this all important star. Those who know the constellations have no problem finding the star.

The magi, or wise men, saw a new star and knew it was important, but what told them so? How did they know it meant the birth of the Savior? Apparently some exposure to the Old Testament prophecies filled in the blanks, perhaps in prophecies brought to the East during the Jews' exile in Babylon. God's Word and prophecies in the Old Testament served as the "constellations" to focus their search for this newborn King.

God's Word today focuses his people not on a "star" of promise looking for a Savior to come, but on our Savior himself, Jesus, who has completed the work of redemption. Through Scripture and the eyes of faith we can see clearly who our Savior is and what he has done for us. We can follow the path from the manger to the cross to the empty tomb to the heavenly throne, where Jesus reigns as we wait for his return.

For believers, the Bible serves as the "constellation" pointing out our Savior. But many in this world don't see it. They stop at the baby in a manger at Christmas, then go on with their lives not realizing what it means.

This new year, don't let Jesus be just another "star" in your busy sky. Spend time with your family in God's Word, keeping your hearts and lives focused on the one "star" that matters. The one that was born for you, lived for you, died for you, and rose for you. The one that is in heaven preparing a place for you. The one that will "bring you safely into his heavenly kingdom. (2 Tim. 4:28) Don't forget to share this Gospel joy with those around you, so that they too can "come and worship him".

Our school year is going by so quickly! We shared the Gospel joy retold by our preschool classes and our grades K-8 students as they presented their messages of our Savior's birth at our preschool and elementary school Christmas services on December 20, and are thankful for their efforts. What a great opportunity for our students to do "shepherds' and angels' work" sharing the good news of great joy for all people with our church and school family, as well as other family and friends. The students and families at Zion again hosted a "giving tree" again this year, and the gifts were much appreciated by Paula's House residents. After our Christmas break we will soon be completing our second quarter of the school year on January 17. The co-ed basketball teams assembled and began their practices in December and will be starting games this month. Our coaches are preparing grades 3-8 students in three teams: C (grade 3-4), B (grades 5-6) and A (grades 7-8). With our smaller classes we will have some overlap within the teams and plenty of action for our players. We thank the coaches for their work as they prep our Warriors for the upcoming season. Pee Wee Poms and Cheerleading treated us to a Gingerbread Pep Rally in December and will be preparing their routines for our games. We will also have special theme nights for our home games, with "Oscars Night" being our first home game on January 17. As we look forward to the new year that God has planned for us, we appreciate our school family, and especially our parents who recognize how important the knowledge of Jesus and his gift of salvation is to their children's future, and are willing to use their gifts to support Christian education. We are very pleased with the continued success of our preschool and K-8 programs, and our school board is working on plans to continue the current momentum of growth into the future. We know that God has us in his hand and will continue to provide as we place our trust in him.

God's blessings to you this New Year as you as we look forward to another year of God's grace in our lives. Thank you, Zion congregation, for your continued prayers and support of Zion Lutheran School. You are a blessings to these lambs and their shepherds!

In Christ's service and yours,  
-Principal Schneck ☺

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025** are available in the office. Please see Amy to get your envelope.

**ALTAR GUILD FOR 2025**—There is a sign-up sheet in the west foyer for Altar Guild volunteers for 2025. We really do appreciate all the help we get through the year with this service of love. If you haven't ever done Altar Guild, please consider helping out. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

**INSTALLATION OF NEW CHURCH COUNCIL POSITIONS:** Newly elected councilmen will be installed at the 9 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 5, 2024. They are: Jake Burke, Vice-president; Joe Schmeling, Financial Secretary; Bari Waltz, Elder Chairman; Keith McBee, Trustees Chairman, Erich Freiny 1 year Stewardship Chairman and Jeff Grubb, Recording Secretary. We appreciate these brothers and their willingness to serve. The office with no man to serve is Education Chairman.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS TAKE DOWN**—We are planning to take down Christmas Decorations in the sanctuary beginning at 9:00 a.m. on **Saturday, January 11th**. If you are able to help, please join us. THANK YOU.

### **CHURCH SERVICE LIVE STREAMING VOLUNTEERS**

Zion is looking for volunteers to help live stream church services. Once trained, volunteers will be scheduled for services based on their availability, similar to the usher schedule. All members 13 years old and older are welcome to volunteer. This is a great opportunity for youth to serve. Contact Steve Sordahl ([sjsordahl@gmail.com](mailto:sjsordahl@gmail.com)) or the office for more information.

**OPEN FORUM—Sun., Jan. 26 @ 10:15 a.m.**

**QUARTERLY VOTER MEETING—Sun., Jan. 26 @ 11:30 a.m.**

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION



# Worship at the Cross

**January 19, 2025 at 1 pm**

## **Program for Individuals with Special Needs**

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church will have the next monthly program on January 19, 2025 at 1 pm. The Worship at the Cross program provides individuals with special needs the opportunity to hear God's Word.

The Worship at the Cross program is a simplified service that follows a format appropriate for people with a cognitive disability, including people with forms of dementia.

**After the service, there will be a Bible Study to learn more about the Lord's Prayer. All are welcome.**

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
186 Cole Rd.

Monroe, Michigan 48162

Phone: (734) 242-1378

E-mail: [office@zionmonroe.org](mailto:office@zionmonroe.org)



**JESUS CARES MINISTRIES**  
Worship at the Cross



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

# CHANGE FOR LIFE

## OUR GIFT OF LOVE

Our Congregation is participating in the Change for Life program to support the ministry of New Beginnings—A Home for Mothers. New Beginnings is a WELS-based ministry that helps single mothers pave the way to self-sufficiency in a Christ-centered home. We will give gifts of LOVE to support the mothers and babies they serve. The bottle drive display will be located in the back of the church. The fundraising effort is going to run from January 1st through February 23rd.

Pick up a baby bottle, take it home and have everyone in your household fill it with their spare change. On Sunday, February 23rd please make sure all bottles are returned so we can send the money to New Beginnings. Thank you.

For those interested in participating without the need for cash, we are excited to introduce Spave. To begin making a difference digitally, simply visit [spave.io/](https://spave.io/) and search 'New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers' or enter the code: 841215090. Your support can create a meaningful impact!



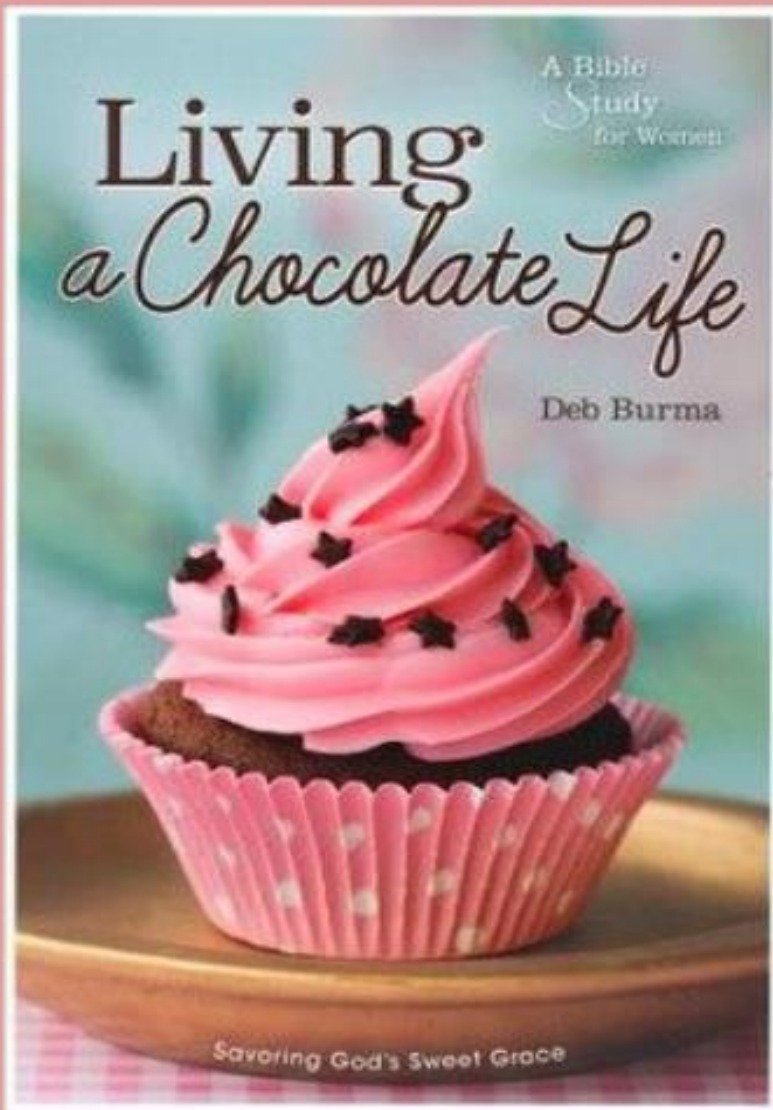
**NEW BEGINNINGS**  
A HOME FOR MOTHERS

Thank you for supporting this ministry!  
[www.homeformothers.com](http://www.homeformothers.com)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

# Friends in Faith

## *Christian Book Study*



January 12th, 26th  
February 9th, 23rd  
2:00 - 4:00PM

*Living a Chocolate Life*  
By: Deb Burma

Join us for an informal discussion. We will meet 4 times over the next 2 months discussing 2 new chapters at each date. As a bonus we will enjoy some chocolate treats and fellowship.

Available to purchase on Amazon.

If you have any questions contact Brenda Chandonnet - 734-915-5477



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION



## The Fourth Annual Sisters in Christ Retreat

*Registration is Now Open!*

March 14-16, 2025  
DoubleTree by Hilton - Bay City Riverfront  
One Wenonah Park Place - Bay City, MI 48708



*"How beautiful on the mountains*

*are the feet of those who bring good news,*

*who proclaim peace,*

*who bring good tidings,*

*who proclaim salvation,*

*who say to Zion,*

*'Your God reigns!'" (Isaiah 52:7)*

Whose feet were beautiful because they brought you the good news of Jesus? Maybe it was a pastor, parent, relative or friend. We are truly thankful for those who have shared, and continue to share, the story of God's grace in Christ's forgiveness.

Join us at the next Sisters in Christ Retreat where God will refresh and renew us as we sit at the feet of Jesus by growing in his Word, through which the Holy Spirit also calls and equips you to share the gospel with the people in your own life. During our time together, our presenters will share various ways that you can be the one who proclaims the good news, peace, good tidings, and salvation.

How beautiful are your feet because you are the herald of the good news about our Savior Jesus!

## THANK YOU!

**CRADLE ROLL**—Thank you to Carol Pitcher who has faithfully volunteered to do the Cradle Roll at Zion.

**THANK YOU** – The faculty and staff of Zion would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the Christmas greetings and gifts from our family of faith: on behalf of our office coordinator, Amy Vanisacker; teachers, Mrs. Schneck, Mrs. Sordahl, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Roth, Mr. Schneck, & Pastor Sitzman – thank you for your expressions of well wishes and love.

**THANK YOU** - At the end of December, the following will have concluded their service in these offices: Ray Palmatier, Recording Secretary; Mark Kipf, Elder Chairman; Erich Freiny, Education Chairman **THANK YOU**. Thanks for your desire to prosper Christ's Kingdom. Thanks for your time and efforts. Thanks for everything. We appreciate it and so does our Lord.

*Well done, good and faithful servant! Matthew 25:23*

## MEMORIALS (GIVEN TO GENERAL FUND, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

In memory of Paul Yoas

*(Food Pantry)*

from

Lois Yoas Freimark Breeding    Howard Raasch    Marge Brinkmeier  
Deane & Leonna Rogers    Juergen & Lorrie Koenig    Pete Nied  
Bari & Wendy Waltz

In memory of Loved Ones

Kenny & MaryAnne Havekost

In memory of Carol Kilgus

Jenna & Eric Barnes    Kay Armbruster    Curtis & Dawn Croskey  
Pam Zimmerman, Nicole Moreno, & Michelle Elton

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

From December 19, 2024 Council Meeting

**There were 10 members present.**

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Rob Krueger

1. The meeting was opened with a devotion by Pastor Sitzman
  - A. Point Me Heavenward: Philippians 4:6 NIV

**II. Previous Council Minutes:** M/S/C to approve the minutes from November with one amended item below (Kipf/Freiny)

- A. Board of Outreach report amended as follows: New Year’s Eve Party is for members as well as non-members

**III. Pastoral Report:** M/S/C to approve the submitted report for Thursday, December 19, 2024 (Heusman/Kipf)

- A. Zion and St Paul called Pastor John Moll to serve as associate Pastor for both churches
- B. The Advent Tea took place on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>
- C. Church decorating took place on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>
- D. Happy Birthday Jesus took place on December 8<sup>th</sup> with 51 people attending
- E. We will be holding a pre call meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM for the position of Preschool Director
- F. The Education Chairman position for 2025/2026 is currently unfilled
- G. Thank you to outgoing members of Council whose 2-year terms have been completed: Ray Palmatier, Recording Secretary, Mark Kipf, Elder Chairman, and Eric Freiny, Education Chairman.
- H. Concluded with a reading from Luke 12: 35-37 and the Large Catechism IV 63

**IV. Principal Report:** M/S/C to approve the report as given (Kipf/Smith)

- A. Enrollment at 92
- B. Mrs. Vanisacker and I are still going through setup training with FACTS. We will begin using the FACTS platform starting in February of 2025
- C. Basketball A, B, and C and Cheerleading and Pee Wee Poms have started practices
- D. We are once again collected gifts for Paula’s House through December 15
- E. Mrs. Sordahl organized a Gingerbread House Building and competition
- F. School Christmas parties took place on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>
- G. Christmas break will be from December 23 to January 3
- H. CEA Minutes for November and the treasures report were presented

**V. Board Reports:**

1. Board of Education: M/S/C to accept the report as given (Kipf/Robinson)
  - A. Met on December 9, 2024
  - B. The new school website is going to be up and running after the Christmas break
  - C. 2025-2026 tuition rates propose a slight increase (no more than 6.06% depending upon category) to cover increases to 2025 budget as approved by voters. Proposed increases displayed below:

	2024-2025	2024-2025	2025-2026	2025-2026	2025-2026	2025-2026
	Member	Non-Member	Member	% Increase	Non-Mem	% Increase
Preschool	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,300	4.55%	\$2,300	4.55%
Tuition K-8						
1 Child	\$3,300	\$3,900	\$3,500	6.06%	\$4,100	5.13%
2 Children	\$5,800	\$7,000	\$6,100	5.17%	\$7,300	4.29%
3 Children	\$7,900	\$9,700	\$8,100	2.53%	\$9,900	2.06%

Additional Fees:

- Registration Pre-K: \$50 per student
- Registration K-8: \$160 per student
- Registration K-8: \$ 60 per additional student
- Cleaning Fee: \$250 1<sup>st</sup> student
- Cleaning Fee: \$450 Family Rate

# Council Meeting Highlights (cont.)

## 2. Board of Elders: M/S/C to accept the board and statistical report as submitted (Schmeling/Freiny)

- A. Met on December 3, 2024
- B. Jesus Cares took place on December 15, 2024. The next service will be on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 1 PM
- C. Attendance/Lord's Supper/Visitor collection data will be entered into Church 360. Some volunteers have stepped forward to help with this task, a few more are still needed
- D. We will be sending letters for those inactive members who have been absent for 6 months
- E. Pastor's vacation will be February 19-25, 2025
- F. Pastor's work load continues to be monitored while we call for an Associate Pastor
- G. Services continue at the Gardens Assisted Living in Carleton. December 22<sup>nd</sup> service will include carolers
- H. Carol Kilgus and Paul Yoas passed in November. Carol's funeral was on November 13, and Paul's funeral was on November 30<sup>th</sup>
- I. We are looking at adding more handicapped parking spots in the circle drive and the portico by the gym
- J. Upcoming holiday services dates and times were announced

## 3. Board of Outreach: no report

## 4. Board of Service and Fellowship: no report

## 5. Board of Stewardship: no report

## 6. Board of Trustees: M/S/C to accept the report as given (Kipf/ J. Heusman)

- A. Met on December 10, 2024
- B. Sump in tunnel still needs to be looked at
- C. The heater in the Macomb St Foyer needs to have the motor replaced. Sieb is working on it
- D. The faucet on the outside of the front of the church has been repaired
- E. The steps on the White Parsonage will be done in the spring
- F. Breakers may be replaced over Christmas break
- G. Parts are ordered for the windows in the school and gym
- H. 3D Driveway markers for snow removal have been placed
- I. Replaced plexiglass in the boy's bathroom and installed benches in the boy's locker room
- J. Repaired 3 loose pews in the church
- K. We drilled a hole for Wi-Fi wiring for the basement
- L. We will call Sieb regarding the air handler in the gym and have them fix the leak in the boy's bathroom
- M/ We are considering installation of coat hooks/racks in the new bathrooms
- N. We will inquire with Monroe Plumbing regarding float sensor

## VI. **Treasurer's Report:** M/S/C to accept the Treasurer's report (Kipf/Freiny)

- A. Balance Sheet is balanced (Total Assets = Total Liabilities plus Equity)
- B. Monthly **net** operating income for November is \$-2,986.66.
- C. YTD **net** operating income through November 30, 2024 is \$13,448.99 (2023 was \$-13,399.90)
- D. As of November 30, 2024 Restricted funds = \$402,036.72. Unrestricted funds = \$310,647.41

## VII. **Financial Secretary's Report:** M/S/C to accept the report submitted for the month of November, 2024 (Kipf/Freiny)

- A. Numbers in Treasure's report balance with special savings account at Merchants Bank

## VIII. **Committee Reports:** No reports

- *Financial Staff Committee:* no report
- *Technology Committee:* no report
- *Budget Committee:* no report
- *Nominating Committee:* no report
- *Security Committee:* no report
- *Audit Committee:* no report
- *Cottage Committee:* no report

## IX. **Unfinished Business:**

- A. None

# Council Meeting Highlights (cont.)

## X. New Business:

- A. M/S/C to approve the 2025-26 tuition rates as presented (see chart above) (Freiny/J. Heusman)
- B. M/S/C to make additional handicapped spots near the portico along the East side of the gym (Kipf/Freiny)
- C. M/S/C to approve the Housing allowance for 2025 as follows:

### 2025 Parsonage Allowance Resolution

The following resolution was duly adopted by the church council at a scheduled meeting on December 19, 2024, a quorum being present:

Whereas, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code specifies that the amount of ministers' compensation that is designated in advance by their employing church as a housing allowance is not taxable in computing federal income taxes to the extent that it is used to pay for actual expenses incurred in owning or renting a home (and for ministers who live in a parsonage and who pay some of their housing expenses) Those ministers who own their own home must not exceed the fair rental value of the home; and Whereas, Pastor Gregory Sitzman is compensated by Zion Lutheran Church exclusively for services as minister

Whereas, teachers Bryan Schneck & Ryan Roth are compensated by Zion Lutheran Church exclusively for services as teachers (ministers of the Gospel)

Therefore, it is resolved that of the amount paid for 2024 as listed below, includes the amount hereby designated as a housing allowance.

Minister of the Gospel	*Amount Paid 2025	Housing Allowance 2025
Bryan Schneck	\$XX	\$10,500.00
Ryan Roth	\$XX	\$30,000.00
Pastor Sitzman	\$XX	\$9,000.00

- **Please update with 2025 salary figures prior to January voter's meeting**

Be it further resolved, that these housing allowances shall apply to all future years that these (Ministers of the Gospel) are employed by Zion Lutheran Church, unless otherwise noted.

XI. **Meeting Adjourned:** M/S/C with no other business needing attention, we move to adjourn with The Lord's Prayer at 7:25 PM (Kipf/Freiny)

## To be Noted:

- Next Council Meeting will occur on January 16, 2025 at 6 PM
- A special voter's meeting has been scheduled for December 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM
- Next Open Forum and regularly scheduled Voter's Meeting will occur on January 26, 2025 immediately following Sunday Morning Service
- A Pre call meeting for a preschool/Kindergarten Director will be on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray Palmatier



# JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Thurs. -Fri., Jan. 2-3	Office open 8:00 a.m.—noon
Sun., Jan. 5	9:00 a.m. Worship services (IC/CC) 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class 11:30 a.m. Call Meeting—Preschool Director
Mon., Jan. 6	8:00 a.m. School resumes
Tues., Jan. 7	10:00 a.m. Bible Class 5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting
Wed., Jan. 8	7:00 p.m. Worship Service
Sat., Jan. 11	9:00 a.m. De-decorate Church
Sun., Jan. 12	9:00 a.m. Worship services 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class 2:00 p.m. Friends in Faith—Living a Chocolate Life Devotional
Tues., Jan. 14	10:00 a.m. Bible Class 1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship Service (IC) 5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. Board of Education
Wed., Jan. 15	7:00 p.m. Worship Service (IC)
Thurs., Jan. 16	6:00 p.m. Church Council
Fri., Jan. 17	11:00 a.m. Zion Early Dismissal
Sun., Jan. 19	9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC) 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class 1:00 p.m. Jesus Cares Ministry Worship Service
Mon., Jan. 20	No School/Office closed—Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tues., Jan. 21	10:00 a.m. Bible Class 5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting
Wed., Jan. 22	7:00 p.m. Worship Service
Sun., Jan. 26	9:00 a.m. Worship services 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Open Forum (No Bible Class) 11:30 a.m. Voter's Meeting 2:00 p.m. Friends in Faith—Living a Chocolate Life Devotional
Tues., Jan. 28	10:00 a.m. Bible Class 5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting
Wed., Jan. 29	7:00 p.m. Worship Service (IC)

# JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

	<b>Jan. 1 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Jan. 8 &amp; 12</b>	<b>Jan. 15 &amp; 19</b>	<b>Jan. 22 &amp; 26</b>	<b>Jan. 29 &amp; Feb. 2</b>
Altar Guild			NEED VOLUNTEER		
Live Stream Helpers					
Ushers	<p><b><u>Jan. 1</u></b> No Service</p> <p><b><u>Jan. 5</u></b> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p>	<p><b><u>Jan. 8</u></b> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p> <p><b><u>Jan. 12</u></b> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p>	<p><b><u>Jan. 15</u></b> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick</p> <p><b><u>Jan. 19</u></b> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick</p>	<p><b><u>Jan. 22</u></b> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier</p> <p><b><u>Jan. 26</u></b> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier</p>	<p><b><u>Jan. 29</u></b> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling</p> <p><b><u>Feb. 2</u></b> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling</p>
Communion Helpers	<p><b><u>Jan. 5</u></b> Alan Bober Mark Kipf</p>		<p><b><u>Jan. 15</u></b> Ken Vagt</p> <p><b><u>Jan. 19</u></b> Jeremy Robinson Ray Palmatier</p>		<p><b><u>Jan. 29</u></b> Alan Bober</p> <p><b><u>Feb. 2</u></b> Erich Freiny Ron Krueger</p>

Ezekiel 34:11-16

*<sup>11</sup> For this is what the LORD God says. Here I am. I myself will seek the welfare of my flock and carefully search for them. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd searches for his flock when his sheep that were with him have been scattered, so I will search for my flock and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own soil. I will shepherd them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys, and in all the settlements of the land. <sup>14</sup> I will lead them into good pasture, and their grazing land will be on the high mountains of Israel. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and they will pasture on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will shepherd my flock. I myself will let them lie down, declares the LORD God. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost. I will bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured. I will strengthen the weak. I will destroy the fat and the strong, and I will shepherd them with justice.*

**CHURCH COUNCIL & BOARDS**

PRESIDENT	Rob Krueger
VICE-PRESIDENT	Jake Burke
SECRETARY	Jeff Grubb
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Joe Schmeling
ASST. FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Jeremy Robinson
TREASURER	Jeff Heusman
<b>CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>	<b>VACANT</b>
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF ELDERS	Bari Waltz
CHAIRMAN, OUTREACH	Mark Kipf
CHAIRMAN, SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP	Jeff Smith
CHAIRMAN, STEWARDSHIP	Erich Freiny
CHAIRMAN, TRUSTEES	Keith McBee

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**OPEN FORUM—  
Sun., Jan. 26 @ 10:15 a.m.**

**QUARTERLY VOTER MEETING—  
Sun., Jan. 26 @ 11:30 a.m.**

**THE MESSENGER** is printed monthly for the members of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church for the purpose of informing them of the upcoming events along with sharing the good news of the Gospel and information about our members. It is also intended to help and inform those not in our church family.

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**FAX: 734-242-7049**

**E-MAIL: office@zionmonroe.org**

**WEBSITE: www.zionmonroe.org**

**Pastor Greg Sitzman**  
734-309-7877

**Principal Bryan Schneck**  
907-331-7761

**Rob Krueger, Church Council President**  
734-770-1149

**Jeff Heusman, Treasurer**

**Mona Vitale**  
**Coordinator for Accompaniments**  
734-242-8061

**Dottie Bober, Organist**  
**Abbey Johnson, Pianist**  
**Kayla Liechty, Pianist**  
**Deanna Schneck, Pianist**  
**Stephanie Sitzman, Organist & Pianist**

**Brenda Chandonnet, Friends in Faith Contact**  
734-915-5477

**Sherry Fuerstenberg, Ladies Serving Groups Contact**  
734-654-3736

**Amy Vanisacker, Office Coordinator**  
734-790-1481

# JANUARY 2025

## ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1  No Worship Service	2  Office Open 8 a.m.—noon	3  Office Open 8 a.m.—noon	4
Zion School Closed—Christmas Break						
5 9:00 a.m., Wor- ship (IC/CC) 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class	6 School Resumes	7 10:00 a.m. Bible Class  5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting	8 7:00 p.m., Worship	9	10	11 <b>9:00 a.m.- noon De-decorate Church</b>
12 9:00 a.m., Wor- ship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class  2:00 p.m. Friends In Faith—Living a Chocolate Life	13	14 10:00 a.m. Bible Class  1:30 p.m., (IC) Afternoon Worship  5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting  7:00 p.m. Board of Education	15 7:00 p.m. Worship (IC)	16 6:00 p.m. Church Council	17 11:00 a.m. Zion School— Early Dismissal	18
19 9:00 a.m., Wor- ship (IC/CC) 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class	20 No School/ Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 10:00 a.m. Bible Class  5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting	22 7:00 p.m. Worship	23	24	25
26 9:00 a.m., Wor- ship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School <b>10:15 a.m.</b> OPEN FORUM (NO Bible Class)  <b>11:30 a.m.</b> VOTER MEETING  2:00 p.m. Friends In Faith—Living a Chocolate Life	27	28 10:00 a.m. Bible Class  5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting	29 7:00 p.m. Worship (IC)	30	31	

# January 2025

**Zion Lutheran School**  
 186 Cole Road, Monroe, MI 48162  
 734-242-1378 [www.zionmonroe.org](http://www.zionmonroe.org)



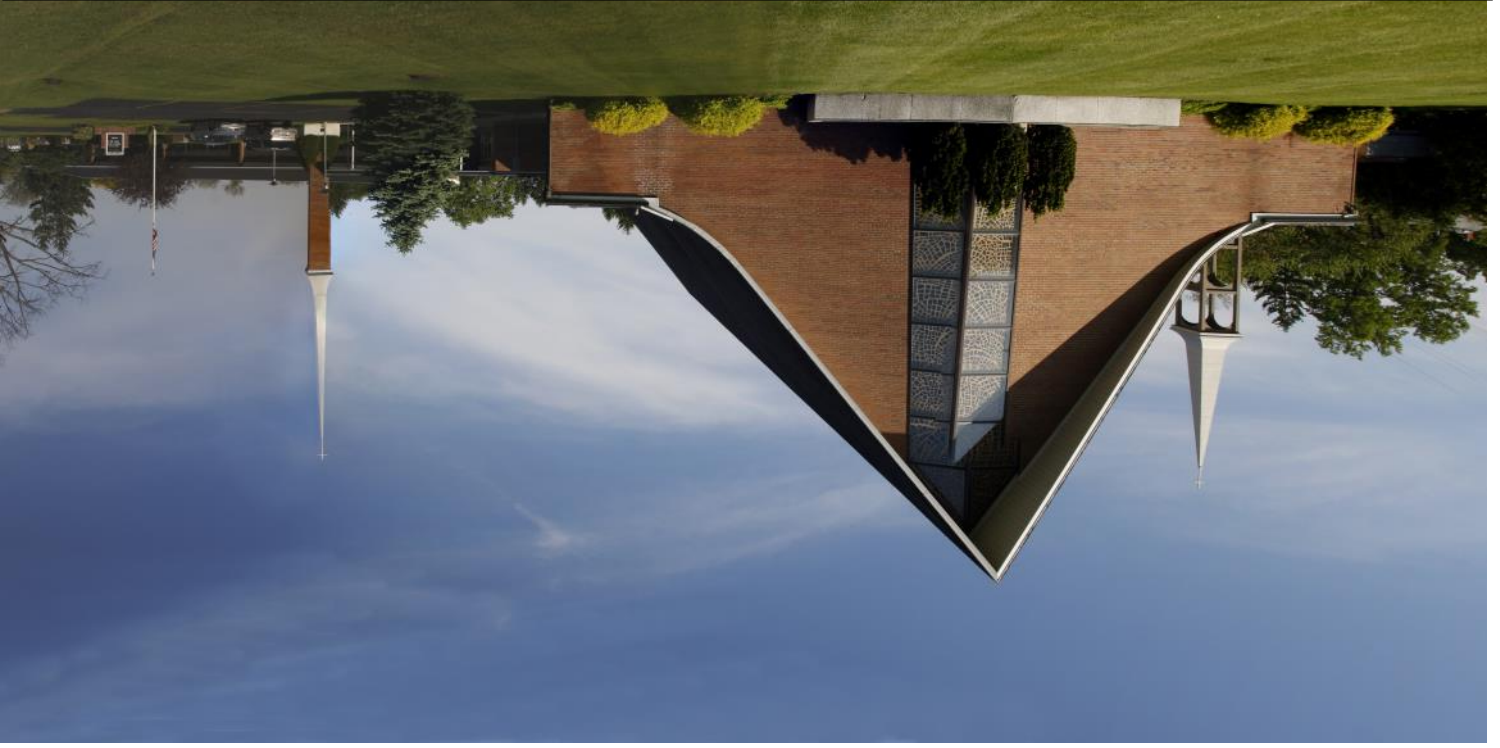
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 NO SCHOOL CLASSES SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK Worship at Zion 7pm	2 NO SCHOOL CLASSES SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK	3 NO SCHOOL CLASSES SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK	4
5 Worship at Zion 9am Sunday School and Bible Class 10:15am	6 School Classes Resume 8am Hot Lunch - Hot Dogs	7 Warrior Oasis Cafe 7:45-8:10am	8 School Chapel 8:05am Hot Lunch - Baked Potato Bar ZION CEA Meeting 3:10 pm C Basketball Practice 3-4:45pm Cheerleading Practice 3-4pm Worship at Zion 7pm	9 A/B Basketball Practice 3-4:45pm	10 Warrior Oasis Cafe 7:45-8:10am Hot Lunch - Pizza	11 Hope Christian Academy Pre-Season A Team Basketball Tournament 8am vs Cross/Crown 11am vs St. Stephen
12 Worship at Zion 9am Sunday School and Bible Class 10:15am	13 Hot Lunch - Ch. Nugga/Mac&Ch Pee Wee Poms Practice 3-4pm	14 Warrior Oasis Cafe 7:45-8:10am	15 School Chapel 8:05am Park Field Trip - Pearson Metropolitan Hot Lunch - Sloppy Joes Faculty Meeting 3:15pm Worship at Zion 7pm	16 Bookmobile 10:30am-12:30pm	17 Warrior Oasis Cafe 7:45-8:10am End of 2nd Quarter Early Dismissal 11am HOME Basketball Games (B and A) vs Cross/Crown 4:30pm "Oscars Night"	18
19 Worship at Zion 9am Sunday School and Bible Class 10:15am	20 NO SCHOOL CLASSES Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 Warrior Oasis Cafe 7:45-8:10am	22 School Chapel 8:05am Hot Lunch - Salad Bar	23 A/B Basketball Practice 3-4:45pm	24 Warrior Oasis Cafe 7:45-8:10am Hot Lunch - Pizza	25
JESUS CARES Special Needs Worship 1pm		A/B Basketball Practice 3-4:45pm	C Basketball Practice 3-4:45pm Cheerleading Practice 3-4pm Worship at Zion 7pm		AWAY Basketball Games (C,B and A) vs Trinity, Jenera 5:30 PM	
26 Worship at Zion 9am Sunday School and Bible Class 10:15am	27 Hot Lunch - Waffles Pee Wee Poms Practice 3-4pm	28 Warrior Oasis Cafe 7:45-8:10am	29 Hot Lunch - Walking Tacos School Chapel 2:30pm C Basketball Practice 3-4:45pm Cheerleading Practice 3-4pm Worship at Zion 7pm	30 A/B Basketball Practice 3-4:45pm	31 MLS A Team Tournament Saginaw Hot Lunch - Pizza	Feb 1 MLS A Team Tournament Saginaw (Game Times TBA)







ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH  
186 COLE RD., MONROE, MI 48162



Check out our website:  
[www.zionmonroe.org](http://www.zionmonroe.org)

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