

# Zion Chronicle

## December 2018



### + ADVENT & CHRISTMAS +

#### **Wednesday Advent Worship**

##### **“Announcing the Advent”**

7:00 PM

December 5 . . . . . “Announcing the Advent ... to Zechariah” . . . Text: Luke 1:5-25

December 12 . . . . . “Announcing the Advent ... to Mary” . . . . . Text: Luke 1:26-38

December 19 . . . . . “Announcing the Advent ... to Joseph” . . . . . Text: Matthew 1:18-25

*(a light soup supper is offered each of these Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45 PM)*

#### **Sundays in Advent**

##### **“Hymns of Advent”**

8:00 and 10:30 AM

December 2 . . . . . Advent I . . . . . “Come, O Long Expected Jesus” (LSB 338)

December 9 . . . . . Advent II . . . . . “Prepare the Royal Highway” (LSB 343)

December 16 . . . . . Advent III . . . . . “Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel” (LSB 357)

December 23 . . . . . Advent IV . . . . . “Savior of the Nations, Come” (LSB 332)

#### **Christmas Eve**

##### **A Service of Lessons and Carols with Candlelight**

##### **“Announcing the Advent ... Angels and Shepherds”**

Text: Luke 2:1-20

Monday, December 24, 2018

3:30 and 6:00 PM

#### **Christmas Day**

##### **A Service of the Word, Carols and Holy Communion**

##### **“Myths and Miracles of Christmas”**

Monday, December 25, 2018

9:00 AM

#### **New Year's Eve Service**

##### **“Till Tomorrow, Treasure Today”**

Monday, December 31, 2018

5:30 PM



# + ADVENT & CHRISTMAS +

## Advent Anticipation



In early church history, Advent began as a time of repentance. It served as preparation for Epiphany, which was the second most popular day for baptisms (after Pentecost). Common traditions during the Advent season, including wreaths and candles, add to the anticipation of Jesus' birth. Another tradition is to leave the manger empty when you set up your nativity scene. Then, during Christmas morning celebrations, you can place the newborn baby Jesus in his "bed."

## A Sure and Bright Faith

Bonhoeffer was in prison because he opposed Adolph Hitler's demonic actions. Bonhoeffer knew he would soon be executed. It was a time of loneliness and dreadful anticipation. While writing a letter to an old friend during Advent, Bonhoeffer remembered this hymn verse:

The manger glows bright and clear,  
The very night gives out a light,  
Darkness must not here appear,  
But faith remain both sure and bright.

The brave Bonhoeffer knew that no matter how dark and challenging a Christian's circumstances may be, we can celebrate joyously because the Lord has come. As he was led away to be hanged, Bonhoeffer said, "This is the end — for me the beginning of life."



## Legend of the Poinsettia

The Poinsettia was named for Joel Robert Poinsett, a native of South Carolina. Poinsett was serving as an ambassador in Mexico when he came across the Poinsettia. In 1829 he sent some home from Mexico to South Carolina, where they did very well in his greenhouse.



According to legend, the origin of the poinsettia was as follows: A poor Mexican girl and her brother were on their way to church on Christmas eve but had nothing to give the Christ child. They gathered weeds and made them into a small bouquet. The other children made fun of their gift. When they laid the branches at the manger in the church the weeds were miraculously transformed into bright red and white leaves that we know was the poinsettia.

Another version of the legend speaks of a poor child who prayed for a gift to present to the Christ child. As he knelt at the altar his prayers bright red and green plants grew up at his feet.

There is another completely unrelated legend, which says that as the Star of Bethlehem shone on the earth the earth responded by producing a plant that mirrored the star's beauty. The flower was star shaped with white petals and a golden star center. On the day that Christ died on the cross the white petals turned red to remember Jesus blood and some remained white to remember the purity of his sacrifice.

The general shape of the plant and the arrangement of leaves is seen as a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem which led the wise men to the baby Jesus. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent his purity.

## + Stewardship +

Throughout his epistles and his preaching recorded in the Book of Acts, St. Paul refers, in one way or another, to thanksgiving and thankfulness nearly 50 times. Whether vertically toward God or horizontally toward the neighbor, thanksgiving is a major theme within St. Paul's body of work.

What does this mean? It means thankfulness is intrinsic to the life of those baptized into Christ. In other words, giving thanks is what Christians do as they live out their lives in this world.

The problem is that we often forget this. Consider your average, run-of-the-mill, normal day. When you get home, and your parents, your spouse or your children ask about your day, what first comes to your mind? After 99 percent of things went right, went exactly as planned, were enjoyable and blessings, we tend to focus on and remember the 1 percent of things that went poorly, that didn't go as planned, and that were nuisances.

We remember the bad things. We focus on discontent. And we fail to give thanks in all circumstances for everything (Eph. 5:20) and to rejoice in the Lord always (Phil. 4:4).

Thankfulness and contentment go together. We are content with things for which we are thankful. St. Paul could be content with having plenty or when in need because He gave thanks to the Lord for all things. He thanked the Lord for those who had prayed for him and listened to his proclamation of the Gospel. He gave thanks for their good works in and for the Church of Christ. He gave thanks for the grace of God in Christ Jesus and found

that God's grace was sufficient for him. So, give thanks for all things and in all circumstances dear brothers and sisters in Christ. For you have been saved from sin, death, and hell by the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. You have been added to the very family of God in an adoption of grace through Holy Baptism. God is your Father. Our Lord, Jesus Christ is your brother.

But He not only provides for your spiritual well-being, He cares also for this body and life. Your Father in heaven provides food and clothes, house and home, husband, wife, and children. He gives you reason and all your senses. He has given you the raw talents that you have developed into careers. Everything you are and everything that you have is a gift from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in you.

Give thanks for these things. Make a list – every morning if you must. Say them out loud. Sing about them within the congregation of the saints. And remember this: God has given you these things so that you may be of service to those around you – your family, your neighbors, your brothers and sisters in Christ. For to whom much is given; much shall be required (Luke 12:48).





## + Welcoming and Caring +

### **How to Welcome Our Visitors**

Research has shown that many visitors to a church make up their minds whether or not to return within the first 30-60 seconds of their entering the church building. This means that for these people, their minds are made up before the church service begins. This means that each of us has a role in making these visitors feel welcome and important.

What can I do? First, be alert to a new face. Open the door for them, smile and say “hello” and shake their hand! Next, be ready to answer any questions, including questions about directions, which the visitor may have. We do have signs throughout the building, but sometimes spoken directions to the bathroom or Sunday school rooms are more helpful. Do not be afraid to sit with a visiting family or individual during worship. Help them if they seem unsure of what to do, say or sing. Finally, after the close of the service, take some time to talk with our guests if you haven’t already spoken to them before the service, and invite them to join us in worship again. Invite them to any other activities, Bible study, and events that Zion has to offer; the Zion Chronicle is a resource!

Zion Lutheran Church is a warm, caring, and loving church. We have much to be proud of, but more to share! We can share our love, friendship, and caring concerns as we demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior for our honor guests (and each other). Make that first impression a great one, especially during this holy holiday seasons of Advent and Christmas! To God be the Glory! - Pastor Matt

### **Mailboxes**

Stop by your church mailbox to pick-up your mail. Please note that the church mailboxes have a few new names. If we missed you, please inform the church office, in order that we can give you a mailbox. Your assistance is always a blessing.



## + Families and Fun +

### **New Year’s Eve Game Night . . .**

Don’t have any plans for New Year’s Eve? Then don’t sit at home alone! Join us, at Willa and Christiaan Olivier’s for a Game Night! Following the New Year’s Eve worship service, around 6:30 pm, we’ll enjoy a potluck dinner, snacks, play games and celebrate the New Year. Attendees are asked to bring a potluck item and snacks to share along with their favorite games. Join us for hour or stay till 10:00 pm, whatever works for you and the family! Want to watch a movie and others gaming too. RSVP on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the office.

# Ladies Society

Ladies Society annual brunch is being held Dec.1, 2018 at Zion Lutheran Church. We hope all Ladies from Zion will attend this Christmas Brunch as we will be into the Advent season soon. Advent prepares us for the birth of our Savior. With Hope, Peace, Love, Joy in our hearts for everyone to know Gods Love as we sow this Good News to all we meet. A very Blessed Christmas to all.

A small poinsettia plant will be given to the shut-ins by the ladies society.

## **LWML Mission Grants 2018**

### **Two MN South Congregations Connecting Ethnic Neighbors (POBLO) \$10,000**

A number of Minnesota South District congregations recognize the opportunity to connect their ethnic neighbors to their congregations and to Christ. POBLO has an International Friendship Center model of outreach that has been successful to many LCMS congregations. Two MN South District LCMS churches, Hosanna Mankato and Trinity Faribault have the willingness to start an International Friendship Center ministry in their area. POBLO International Ministries is ready to help these two congregations. This grant will provide funding to make the necessary planning, training, and on-site guidance needed to start the two International Friendship Centers *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."* John 13:34

### **Trinity Hope \$5,000**

Haiti Lutheran Churches are spreading the Gospel to the hungry children who attend their schools. They provide a noon meal which help make the children healthier, increase their energy and enable them to be more receptive to the Word of God. This grant will provide a noon meal for 110 hungry souls for an entire year. The grant will be assigned to one specific school. *"If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and gloom be as the noonday."* Isaiah 58:10

**Hannah Circle  
Dec. 4 at 9:00 am @ Trumbles  
Christmas Party**

**Martha Circle  
Dec. 4 at Noon @ Wedgewood Cove  
Christmas Party**

**Ruth Circle  
Dec. 4 at 7:00 pm @  
Home of Willa Olivier  
Christmas Party**

**Ladies Executive Board  
Dec. 17 @ 3:30 pm**



**Check out the LWML Websites.**

The National LWML Website: [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)

The LWML Minnesota South District Website:  
[www.mnslwml.org](http://www.mnslwml.org)



## Readings for December

### **Dec. 2 First Sunday in Advent**

Jer. 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thess. 3:9-13  
Luke 19:28-40

### **Dec. 24 The Nativity of Our Lord**

Is. 9:2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

### **Dec. 9 The Second Sunday in Advent**

Mal. 3:1-7b  
Psalm 66:1-12  
Phil. 1:2-11  
Luke 3:1-14 (15-20)

### **Dec. 25 The Nativity of Our Lord**

Is. 52:7-10  
Psalm 98  
Titus 3:4-7  
John 1:1-14 (15-18)

### **Dec. 16 The Third Sunday in Advent**

Zeph. 3:14-20  
Psalm 85  
Phil. 4:4-7  
Luke 7:18-28 (29-35)

### **Dec. 30 First Sunday after Christmas**

Ex. 13:1-3a, 11-15  
Psalm 111  
Col. 3:12-17  
Luke 2:22-40

### **Dec. 23 The Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Micah 5:2-5a  
Psalm 80:1-7  
Heb. 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45 (46-56)

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 1 - Ladies Society Annual Meeting and Brunch
- Dec. 5 - Soup Supper @ 5:30 pm and Advent Service @ 7:00 pm
- Dec. 12 - Advent Service @ 7:00 pm
- Dec. 16 - Cards & Cribbage @ Noon
- Dec. 19 - Advent Service @ 7:00 pm
- Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service @ 3:30 pm & 6:00 pm
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Service @ 9:00 am
- Dec. 24-26 OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK
- Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Service @ 5:30 pm

## + Christian Education +

### Sunday School Lessons

**December 2:** The account of God giving “The Ten Commandments” to Moses is today’s Sunday School lesson. The children will learn that the law was given through Moses but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. Talk about God’s laws and how they guide us and show us our sin when we cannot keep them. *Ask your children, “Who kept the Law perfectly for us?”* Though we sin much, daily we have God’s forgiveness because of Christ, His Son.

**December 9:** Today in Sunday School, students will study “Worship in the Tabernacle.” In the tabernacle, God dwelled with His people, cleansing them and making them holy through the blood of sacrifices. In Christ, God now dwells among us, cleansing us and making us holy through His blood, sacrificed for us on the cross. *Ask students, “Why did God direct the people to build the tabernacle? Where do we worship God today?”*

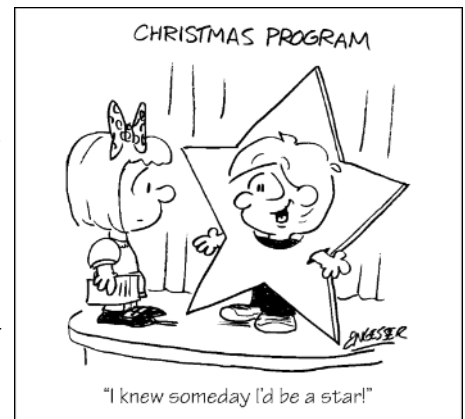
**December 16:** Today’s Sunday School lesson, “The Bronze Serpent,” is one of the more challenging stories in the Old Testament. Just as the bronze serpent was lifted up to heal and save the Israelites, Christ was lifted up on the cross to heal and save us from sin, death, and the devil. *Ask students, “How did God rescue people bitten by the serpent? How does God rescue you?”*

**December 23 and 30:** Sunday School is on Christmas and New Year’s Break.

### Epiphany Day Sunday School Second Christmas Worship Service “What Color Is Christmas” Sunday, January 6, 2019 10:00 AM

### Christmas/Epiphany Program and Practices

With the congested holiday schedules and find one slot of time to go to another activity; we decided to maximize the blessing of having Epiphany Day on a Sunday! The Sunday School children once again will be sharing the beautiful message of Christ’s birth on January 6; the second Christmas. For many eastern Christians, this is known as the Gentile Christmas; the day when they recognize the Magi (wisemen’s) visit to Bethlehem after following the star. They came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh; these gifts or presents were given to the Christ child.



Practices for “**What Color Is Christmas**” are set as listed below:  
Friday, January 4 --- 6:00-7:00 pm  
Saturday, January 5 --- 10:00 am – 12noon (after brats and cookies served)  
Sunday, January 6 --- 9:00-10:00 am



## + Christian Education +

### **Sunday Morning Bible Class**

Explore the in-depth meaning behind each petition of the Lord's Prayer. Until the conference room is finished being remodeled, class will be meeting in the sanctuary. We are covering the Introduction, First, Second and Third Petitions. Please bring your Small Catechism! On December 23, 30 and January 6, we will be on Christmas and New Year's recess.

### **Confirmation Class**

With a shorten schedule due to Advent services in December, class will be about 45-50 minutes in length. Our study continues with the 10 Commandments.

December 5 – Class Servant Event and Advent Meal

December 12 – The Third Commandment

December 19 – The Fourth Commandment

December 26 – Christmas Break – No Class

### **JAM (Jesus and Me)**

The J.A.M. kids will continue their trek through 100 Bible Stories. Lessons, activities, and crafts will be in lower Fireside Room. Classes will begin at 6:00 pm and we will be attending the Advent Service at 7:00 pm. If you would like to pick your child up before the service, please pick them up at 6:45 pm.

December 5 – Class Servant Event and Advent Meal

December 12 – “Absalom’s Rebellion” (2 Samuel 14-18)

December 19 – “Solomon and the Temple” (1 Kings 3-8)

December 26 – Christmas Break – No Class

### **Little Christian Education Holiday Humor**

The 10 commandments below are not God given. Nor are they anything like the original 10 Commandments as we found in Exodus 20. I hope you get a laugh reading this Norski version.

*Ten Commandments: Norski style*

1. Der's only one God, ya know.
2. Don't make that fish on your mantle an idol.
3. Cussing ain't Minnesota nice.
4. Go to church even when you're up nort.
5. Honor your folks.
6. Don't kill. Catch and release.
7. There is only one Lena for every Ole. No cheatin'.
8. If it ain't your lutefisk, don't take it.
9. Don't be braggin' about how much snow ya shoveled.
10. Keep your mind off your neighbor's hotdish.



## + Good News on the Airwaves +

### **Lutheran Hour**

The Good News of Jesus Christ is proclaimed across the airways each Sunday on WCCO (830 AM) at 6:05 am or KJLY (93.5 FM) at 6:00 am. Join the Lutheran Hour Speaker, Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler as he shares the powerful Word of God!

December 2

#### **"Reality Therapy"**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
The book of Ruth deals with unimportant people and unimportant matters, but deals with them in such a way as to show that God is active in ordinary lives-like yours and mine. Ruth's story became an important part of the story of Jesus. Listening to God's work in her life can rescue us from dead end delusions and bring us into what is most real-a Jesus-centered reality. (Ruth 1-2)

December 9

#### **"Redeemer with a Capital R"**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
When people use the word "redeem" outside of religious context, they tend to use it in a commercial sense-redeeming points from purchases or casino tokens for cash. In the Bible, the word "redeem" is used in a family setting. In the story of Ruth, Boaz is a "kinsman redeemer," who points to Jesus, our capital-r-Redeemer. Jesus has done more than pay our points. He redeems by bringing us into his clan, his people, his household, that we might be with him forever. (Ruth 3-4)

December 16

#### **"In Anxious Times - Rejoice! "**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook  
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. With anxiety on the rise, the Apostle Paul's call to "rejoice always" seems all but unobtainable. While there are many helpful ways to cope with society's increasing anxiety, Paul points us to a frequently overlooked source of joy and peace, God's grace in Christ. (Philippians 4:4-7 )

December 23

#### **"The King's Strength "**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
A true king's strength is seen, not in vaults and arsenals, but in the loyalty of his people. We celebrate the birth of the King who won the victory, not by taxing his subjects and killing his enemies, but by serving, loving and dying for them. By his resurrection, He destroyed the power of sin and lends us strength to become His loyal subjects. (Luke 1:26-56 )

December 30

#### **"A Long Good-Bye"**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Dean Nadasdy  
As the year come to a close, we likely have regrets and guilt. We can beat ourselves up over work left undone, but Jesus Christ has assured us that He is your hope. His grace is more than sufficient to take us into another year and give us peace. (Luke 2:27-32)



## + Families and Fun +

### Happy Birthday Jesus!

How does your family celebrate Jesus' birthday? The ways are as many and varied as the number of families. Here are a few suggestions. Maybe one or two would be just right for you and your family.

- \* Host a birthday party for Jesus. Invite neighborhood children to celebrate the real reason for Christmas – complete with birthday cake and candles.
- \* Celebrate Advent by having different family members read Scripture and choose a Christmas song to sing each night in December.
- \* Read the Christmas account from Luke 2 at a family gathering. Children could dress up as characters in the story and act it out or write each verse from the Christmas story on index cards for different members to read out loud.
- \* Add a new ornament to your tree each Christmas to commemorate a special event that occurred that year.
- \* Pray for each person who sends you a Christmas card.
- \* Have each family member draw a Christmas picture on a tablecloth with waterproof markers and use it from year to year.



## + Thank You +

Thank you to our church family for  
their prayers and cards after my  
knee surgery. Also thank you to  
Pastor Matt for his visit and  
bringing us communion.  
Love in Christ,  
Mike & Alayne  
Rohne



## + Christian Education +

### **Christmas Quiz** - Circle the correct answer

1. Which prophet said, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son"?  
a. Isaiah                      b. Jeremiah                      c. Micah                      d. Ezekiel
  
2. What did the prophet Micah say about Jesus' birth?  
a. He would be laid in a manger  
b. He would be born in Bethlehem  
c. He would be raised in Nazareth  
d. He would be visited by shepherds
  
3. What was the name of the old prophetess who saw Jesus in the temple when he was presented to the Lord after his birth?  
a. Huldah                      b. Deborah                      c. Hannah                      d. Anna
  
4. Which Caesar decreed that all the world should take part in the census?  
a. Claudius                      b. Julius                      c. Augustus                      d. Nero
  
5. Which prophet said, "Out of Egypt have I called my son"?  
a. Hosea                      b. Jeremiah                      c. Malachi                      d. Isaiah
  
6. What sacrifice did Mary and Joseph offer when the days of purification were complete after Jesus' birth?  
a. A young lamb and two pigeons  
b. A young goat  
c. A young lamb  
d. Two turtledoves or pigeons

## + Thoughts from an Elder +

A group of us have been attending the weekly Bible study hosted at the Olivier home this fall. Pastor Matt prepared a study of Genesis that we are using. Although I've read this book many times, Pastor Matt's prepared study brings up the occasional new insight I have not considered in the writings.

2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." I am continually amazed at the depth and complexity found in Scripture revealing the gifts of God, it is truly "breathed out by God". Like layers of an onion, we can peel back deeper and deeper into each verse, revealing and pointing to Christ.

Advent is upon us and we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Savior. Christmas time is a time of gifts, and the greatest gift to humanity is Jesus. Give yourself the gift of God's word. Get involved with one of various bible studies available here at Zion.

Happy Advent and many blessings,

Keith Kemkes



## Nine Lessons and Carols

The traditional Christmas Eve service using Bible lessons and Christmas carols was first held in England in 1918 at Cambridge University's King's College. Eric Milner-White, a 34-year-old who had just been appointed dean of King's, planned the service. His previous experience as an army chaplain convinced him that the Church of England needed to make worship more expressive.

The service has been broadcast from King's annually since 1928, missing only one year (1930). Radio listeners could tune in and hear the service during World War II, although the name of King's couldn't be broadcast due to security precautions. During the war, the chapel's antique glass — and thus all its heat — had been removed.

Every year, millions of people worldwide listen to the "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols." Since 1919, the service has begun with the hymn "Once in Royal David's City."

You can hear the "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols" on local Minnesota Public Radio stations (in Albert Lea it is broadcast on KNGA 92.7 FM) on Christmas Eve Day.







## Know Your Christmas Songs?

1. Move hitherward the entire assembly of those who are loyal in their belief.
2. Listen, the celestial messengers produce harmonious sounds.
3. Nocturnal time span of unbroken quietness.
4. An emotion excited by the acquisition or expectation of good given to the terrestrial sphere.
5. Embellished the interior passageways.
6. Exalted heavenly beings to whom hearkened.
7. Twelve o'clock on a clement night witnessed its arrival.
8. The Christmas preceding all others.
9. Small municipality in Judea south of Jerusalem.
10. Diminutive masculine character master of skin-covered percussion cylinders.
11. Omnipotent supreme being who elicits respite to ecstatic distinguished males.
12. Tranquility upon the terrestrial sphere.
13. Obese personification fabricated of compressed mounds of minute crystals.
14. Natal celebration devoid of color.
15. In awe of nocturnal time span characterized by religiosity.
16. Geographic state of fantasy during the season of mother nature's dormancy.
17. The first person nominative plural of a triumvirate of Far Eastern heads of state.
18. In a distant location the existence of an impoverished unit of newborn children's slumber furniture.
19. Tintinnabulation of vacillating pendulums in inverted, metallic, resonant cups.
20. Proceed forth declaring upon a specific geological alpine formation.
21. Jovial yuletide desired for the second person singular or plural by us.



*Answers to this quiz will be published in one of the bulletin announcements during this Advent-Christmas season. Keep watching for the answers. Have a great time figuring out the Christmas song or carol!!!*

## + Food For Backpacks +

I would like to thank all who have helped with donations to the backpack lunches that are delivered every week to District 241. We can be very proud of Zion for helping the community out in such a way that brings smiles to these children.

We are serving 329 lunches each week in this district. The numbers may fluctuate each week for meals during the school year. The cost of each meal is \$3.35 per child which we are supporting 35 children with Grace Lutheran Church. The average cost to support a child in a year is \$150 to \$155. Between Zion and Grace Lutheran we are taking every other month to deliver the food to Hawthorne School. Currently, we are delivering 77 meals every week to the school.

The committee wrote up grants to business in Albert Lea to help support this program. The Businesses are:

Mrs. Jerrys

Freeborn Mower Foundation

United Credit Union

The Mason

Home Federal

Kawanas



We are still seeking more grants from other businesses. The money that is received from these grants will be divided up among participating churches.

Our goal for the year was \$5,000.00 and as of November 20 we are at \$3,917.00 !!

Any questions please contact Deb Viktora at 507-373-2860.

Please keep the children in the community in our prayers.

Thanks,

Deb Viktora

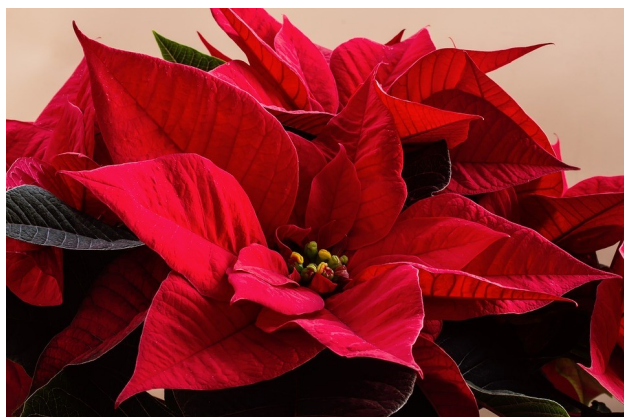
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## December Newsletter 2018



### **An ADVENT Prayer**

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son that at his second coming we may worship him in purity; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.

Zion Lutheran Church  
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Albert Lea, MN 56007

# DECEMBER 2018

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
<b>First Sunday in Advent</b> 2 8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion	3	4 9:00 am Hannah Circle @ Trumble's 1:00 pm Martha Circle @ Wedgewood Cove 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Ruth Circle @ home of Willa Olivier 7:00 pm Elder's Meeting	5 9:00 am Quilters 5:30 pm Advent Meal 6:00 pm Confirmation & J.A.M. 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:40 pm Choir	6	7 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>	8 9:30 am Ladies Annual Meeting and Brunch 10:00 am Youth Meet @ Wal-Mart for Shopping.
<b>Second Sunday in Advent</b> 9 8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion	10	11 6:45 pm All Boards Meet 7:30 pm Council Meeting	12 9:00 am Quilters 5:30 pm Advent Meal 6:00 pm Confirmation & J.A.M. 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:40 pm Choir	13	14 <b>January Newsletter Deadline</b> <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>	15
<b>Third Sunday in Advent</b> 16 8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Noon - Cards & Cribbage with walking tacos	17 3:30 Ladies Exec. Bd Meeting	18 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Bd. of Ed./Teacher's Meeting	19 9:00 am Quilters 5:30 pm Advent Meal 6:00 pm Confirmation & J.A.M. 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:40 pm Choir	20	21 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>	22
<b>Fourth Sunday in Advent</b> 23 8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion	<b>Christmas Eve</b> 24 3:30 pm Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service <b><u>OFFICE CLOSED</u></b>	<b>Christmas Day</b> 25 9:00 am Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion  <b><u>OFFICE CLOSED</u></b>	26	27	28 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>	29
<b>First Sunday after Christmas</b> 30 8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion	<b>New Year's Eve</b> 31 5:30 pm New Year's Eve Service 6:30 pm Game Night <b><u>OFFICE CLOSED</u></b>	<b>New Year's Day</b> 1 <b><u>OFFICE CLOSED</u></b>	2 	3	4	5

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12/2</b>		<b>12/9</b>		<b>12/16</b>		<b>12/23</b>		<b>12/30</b>	
	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Hailey Bera	Raven Mitchell	Travis Overland	Samuel Houle	Carly Hoffman	Raven Mitchell	Hailey Bera	Samuel Houle	Carly Hoffman	Raven Mitchell
<b>A-V Team:</b>	Roger Panzer Wayne Prudoehl Nancy Golde	James Hedin David Kelly	Roger Panzer Fred Rennpferd Nancy Golde	James Hedin David Kelly	Robin Pettit Fred Rennpferd Wayne Prudoehl	James Hedin David Kelly	Robin Pettit Brooks Drescher Nancy Golde	James Hedin David Kelly	Jim Viktora Brooks Drescher Nancy Golde	James Hedin David Kelly
<b>Comm. Assist:</b>	Jerry Kruckeberg	Jeff Brown	Ron Timm	Dean Johnson	Wayne Prudoehl	Tim Kasper	John Domes	Bruce Hayden	Ron Timm	Jeff Brown
<b>Elder:</b>	Rick Ashling	Glenn Houle	Rick Ashling	Glenn Houle	Rick Ashling	Glenn Houle	Rick Ashling	Glenn Houle	Rick Ashling	Glenn Houle
<b>Greeters:</b>		B&D Drescher	R&B Ashling	D&S Johnson	B&A Drescher	D&L Palmer	Linda Eggleston	B&J Hayden	M&D Helgeson	Bonnie Westbee
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Kelly Schultz	Chandra Whelan	Helen Johnson	Dana Nelson	Ann Estes	Glenn Houle	Kelly Schultz	Lois Palmer	Helen Johnson	Chandra Whelan
<b>Organist:</b>	Angie Drescher	Praise Team	Angie Drescher	Praise Team	Angie Drescher	Praise Team	Angie Drescher	Praise Team	Angie Drescher	Praise Team
<b>Ushers:</b>	Clint Miller Christiaan Olivier Jock Wenzel Dwight Meyer	Jeff Brown Dana Nelson	Ron Timm Jim Viktora Truman Gullord Dwight Meyer	Dean Johnson Dick Mucha	Jim South John Domes Dwight Meyer Fred Rennpferd	Tim Kasper Dana Nelson	Bruce Bakken Orlo Willmert Jerry Kruckeberg Dwight Meyer	Bonnie Westbee Natalie Nelson	Clint Miller Christiaan Olivier Jock Wenzel Dwight Meyer	Jeff Brown Dana Nelson

<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>12/5</b>	<b>12/12</b>	<b>12/19</b>	<b>12/24 3:30</b>	<b>12/24 6:00</b>	<b>12/25</b>	<b>12/31</b>
<b>A-V Team:</b>	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Robin Pettit Fred Rennpferd Roger Panzer	James Hedin	Wayne Prudoehl	Keith Kemkes
<b>Comm. Assist:</b>	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	No Communion	No Communion	??	None
<b>Elder:</b>	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes			Rick Ashling	
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Carly Hoffman	Samuel Houle	Travis Overland	Raven Mitchell	Samuel Houle	Travis Overland	Hailey Bera

<b>Financial Assistants</b>
Dawn Drescher Elaine Nelson
<b>Flower &amp; Altar</b>
Nancy Golde Sue Schmidt LeAnn Houle / Janelle Hayden