

ZION'S MESSENGER DECEMBER 2017

December newsletter time. Hmm, probably this will first be read about a week after Thanksgiving, but is officially the month of Christmas. What's a writer to do?

Be thankful – especially for Christmas!

St. Paul writes in closing his first letter to the Thessalonians “Give thanks in all circumstances.” (5:18). For a short verse, what a punch it packs! All circumstances? Even the terrible ones? Yes! For God is with us even, perhaps especially, then! Even in the worst, there are blessings we are surrounded with. What a blessing if we could truly be so God-focused to find blessings ALWAYS.

Our biggest blessing, indeed our identity itself comes from the work of Christ – God Immanuel coming to be one of us, and live and die among us. Through the life, death and resurrection of Christ we find our meaning, our identity, our purpose. Christmas notes the coming of Christ, but we know the true Gospel that this coming began. What a blessing indeed!

So... Thanksgiving? Christmas? Give thanks in ALL circumstances because Christ did come that first Christmas, and the spirit is with us always. God is with you at the thanksgiving table, in the aftermath of overeating, in the joy of gift giving and families, in the pain of loss of loved ones no longer with us for the holidays. In all we are blessed, and invited to live thankfully!

With gratitude for your gratitude this holiday season,

Pastor John



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES –

December 24 at 4:00pm & 8:00pm

Holy Communion and candle lighting will be celebrated at both services.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIME CHANGES:

Worship will be at 9:00am on December 24th & 31st.

There will not be a service on Monday, December 25, 2017 or January 1, 2018.

GIVING ENVELOPES 2018!

“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Acts 20:35

Boxed offering envelopes will be available for pickup in mid-December in the hallway where the coat racks are located. They will be displayed in alphabetical order to make it easier to find your box. Again, 2018 boxed envelopes will not have dates on them. If you received a box of envelopes last year and have not used them all, continue to use them for 2018. Contributions received are added to your offering record on the date it was counted by the money counters which is Monday morning of each week.

To keep the cost of envelopes down, boxed envelopes will be printed for those members who use them regularly. If you have a boxed set you don't use regularly I encourage you to use those. It does not matter what date is on them as the contribution will be added to your account on the date received. Packs of 10 generic offering envelopes will be available to take home and will be available in the Narthex as well as on the table with the boxed sets.

Generic offering envelopes are available in the Narthex all year long. Pew envelopes are also available at all times and can be used for Regular Giving, Special Giving, World Hunger, In Memory Of and Special Projects. Simply write your name and envelope number on it.

I encourage members to consider electronic methods of giving as this will save Zion money. We currently offer “My Eoffering” which is available on Zion's website by clicking on DONATE NOW. You can also use the Bill Pay function offered by your financial institution.

Envelopes for holiday giving, such as Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent and Lent will be available in the pews at those times of the year.

If you have questions on any of the information provided, please email me at grace@zionappleton.com or call me at 739-3104 Ext. 301.

God's Peace and Blessings! Grace Van Eyck

FROM ZION COUNCIL PRESIDENT, DEB REIS

Merry Christmas! This greeting will soon echo throughout. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior and most recently Thanksgiving, let us give our thanks for all that we have... all that He has given to us. As we look back over the past year, we have all had our joys and sorrows. Thankfully, we have our Lord with us at all times. He is our constant, our comfort in the storm and rejoicing with us in times of joy. Just as He is always there, let us not forget to serve and worship him. I hope that as we start a New Year that we can resolve to do just that by joining our family at Zion in worship and service. My wish for you is a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Deb Reis

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES –

Zion will have evening worship services on December 6, 13, and 20 at 6pm in the sanctuary.

HANGING OF THE GREENS - Join us on December 3rd after the 10:30 service to help decorate Zion for Christmas. We'll put up the Christmas trees and other decorations in the sanctuary and chapel. All ages are invited to help and extra hands are always appreciated!

ZION'S CONFIRMATION TOYS FOR TOTS TREE is in the Narthex. Please remember to bring your non-wrapped toy back to church by Dec. 10th and place it under the giving tree. The confirmation students would like to thank you in advance for your help with this project!

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

As you decorate for the Holidays you are bound to find some Christmas lights that no longer work. Don't throw them! Bring them to church and we will recycle them. We will also take brass and copper fittings and wires! There will be a container in the hallway by the chapel to place them in. Last year we made over \$50! All proceeds will go to the repayment of the Organ Fund loan.

“A TIME FOR REJOICEING”

Zion's 2-CD set from the Organ Inaugural Recital and the Mary Kay Easty Hymn Sing is now available! Give the gift of music and song to that "someone special" on your Christmas list! The donation of \$20 will go to help pay off the Organ Fund loan to the Zion Foundation. CD's are available by signing up in the narthex or in the church office.

FROM THE DESK OF MATTHEW WALSH, MUSIC MINISTER

People that play stationary instruments like the organ and piano know that this is the time of the year when we start thinking about tuning up our instruments. Having scheduled the tunings for the organ and pianos this has been on my mind these last couple of days. As we prepare for the Advent and Christmas season it got me wondering if we are “tuned up,” getting ourselves ready for the real reason of this season?

As musicians, especially singers, this cold weather can be brutal to our vocal health. Our bodies keep a constant temperature of 98.6, and this would be true for our vocal chords. When the weather is 32 degrees and below, this takes a dramatic effect on your voice. Being kept at 98.6 degrees, and moist means that when it is freezing outside, your vocal apparatus is going to be more susceptible. Disclaimer to our school aged children, I am about to reveal one secret to a sore throat so if you don't want your parents to read this, hide the article now. One of the biggest reasons we get sore throats in the winter time is because we insist on speaking when we are outside. When we are speaking we breath more, which in turn freezes the vocal chords. When children complain about a dry/sore throat after school and it was freezing out during the day, it is probably because they were yelling outside.

How do we rectify this? Keep our environment warm, and moist. Our bodies like warm, and moist conditions. It not only will help our bodies rectify themselves after being out in the cold, but the moisture will help ward off viruses like the flu. If you do go outside and insist on talking, because I am one that likes to talk wherever I am, make sure you are dressed appropriately for the conditions. I am guilty at not dressing appropriately. I often will leave the hat, or the scarf, because I want to do a quick exit, but taking the time will only help in the long run.

One thing I impress on the choirs is that as musicians, just like sports players, we need our whole body. As singers if we are not relaxed, and release all tension, that will equate to harmful tension in our vocal chords. One of the best ways to get rid of excess tension, especially around the holiday season, is to get a massage. You will be surprised where you might be harboring stress in your body. By releasing these tensions, we can free our body up to allow best possible music making. There are other factors as well that can keep you in excellent vocal health, and overall health as we progress into Advent and Christmas. Don't drink milk before you sing, or any dairy for that matter. While it may be good for you, dairy coats your vocal chords and causes extra phlegm production. Water is good, and so is water with lemon. Remember, however; that lemon is highly acidic, and it can cause harmful issues if you consume to much lemon. Caffeine, while it seems harmless, can also cause vocal issues, so drink coffee sparingly.

If you want to learn more about treating your body right, consult a physician. If you like what a holistic doctor, or chiropractor offers, I would recommend my cousin. Yes, shameful plug for her. Her name is Dr. Stephanie VandeWettering, and she works at Abbott Family Chiropractic here in Appleton. She helps our daughter Hayleigh with posture, and body movement because of her gymnastics, and loves to educate people on the human body.

As we begin this season of crazy, don't forget to take time to think about your body, and how you can keep it “tuned up.” I am reminding you because singing is an important part of who we are as Lutherans, and I want you all to be healthy and ready to sing this Advent/Christmas seasons.

Soli Deo Gloria;
Matthew Walsh

TAX DEDUCTIBLE YEAR END DONATIONS - With 2017 drawing to a close, please consider helping to pay back our current pipe organ loan of \$125,884.75 to the Zion Foundation. While there is no specific payment schedule, the faster we pay off this loan we can be earning interest that will be used, in part, for the year end Foundation distribution benefiting local charities and programs. Please note "Organ Fund" in the memo section of your check or note the envelope of your designation.

The Zion "Friends of Music" is another opportunity that you have to help support the music program and recital events such as our recent Chicago Gargoyle Brass Ensemble concert. If you would like to make a donation to help bring in outside recitalists and musicians, please note "Friends of Music" in the memo section of your check.

Thank you for your support of Zion's music ministry!

2017 ZION CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Deb Reis - President	dejolen@aol.com	Carl Abendroth	cabendroth@sbcglobal.net
Tricia Kasten - Vice President	tricia.staedt@gmail.com	Dave Murphy	dave4assembly@gmail.com
Marilyn Hetzler - Treasurer	mdhetz@athenet.net	Gwen Schwandt	schwandt@tds.net
Candy Korzilius - Secretary	grandmakorz@gmail.com	Janice Weber	jweber8581@yahoo.com

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Appleton, WI
October 16, 2017 Council Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 6:50 PM by President, Deb Reis.

Attendance: Pastor John Czarnota, Tricia Kasten, Candy Korzilius, Marilyn Hetzler, Deb Reis, Gwen Schwandt, Carl Abendroth, Dave Murphy

Absent: Janice Weber

Opening Prayer and Meditation led by Tricia Kasten

Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Marilyn moved to amend the August minutes striking the first line of Pastor's report. Seconded and passed. Gwen noted that under the Property committee report the courtyard door of the Parish House is to be painted. The amended meeting minutes were moved to be approved. Seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report: The Finance committee has recommended that staff salaries and benefits stay as they are with the Gold Plus package. Marilyn moved to accept the recommendation of the Finance committee to stay with the Gold Plus package. Seconded and approved. Gwen requested that council be provided a copy of dedicated funds each month in order for us to know where there might be money available to pull from.

Pastor's Report: The Call committee is working well. Now the Synod form is ahead of them to fill out. Pastor Amy will be meeting with them. During the month of November, he will use worship time to focus on Stewardship theme and financial needs facing the congregation.

Committee Reports:

Property and Social Concerns had printed reports for the council to take and study.

New Business:

The lease for Little Angel Day Care is still being worked out.

Nominating committee – in the past, it has been made up of outgoing council members plus one other member. Council members whose terms are up: Marilyn Hetzler, Candy Korzilius, Gwen Schwandt and (?).

Motion made to adjourn by Marilyn Hetzler. Seconded and passed.

Meeting closed at 7:50pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Candy Korzilius

These minutes were approved at the Council Meeting on November 20, 2017.

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

DECEMBER 3/4

Altar Care

8:00 Matthew Walsh
10:30 Cortlynn Rusch
6:00 George & Vera Zimmer

Assisting Ministers

8:00 Janice Weber
10:30 Grace Van Eyck

Lectors

8:00 Janice Weber
10:30 Grace Van Eyck

Communion Assistants

8:00 Karen Luedtke
Elmer Luedtke
10:30 Chase Nicholson

Fellowship Host

Greeters

8:00 Shorty Managan

10:30 Dar Steger
Sonja Eick

Linens

Ushers

8:00 Dave Rades
John Becker
Lyle Butts
Dave Weber
Carl Abendroth
Karen Arnoldussen
10:30 Tex Goehring
Carl Schelm
Lynn Walter
Gary Neumann
6:00 Duane Schoepke

DECEMBER 10/11

Altar Care

8:00 Jim Schley
10:30 Oliver Hestres
6:00 George & Vera Zimmer

Assisting Ministers

8:00 Gwen Schwandt
10:30 Wendy Sachs

Lectors

8:00 John Gill
10:30 Wendy Sachs

Communion Assistants

8:00
10:30 Oliver Hestres

Fellowship Host

Greeters

8:00 Shorty Managan

10:30 Cortlynn Rusch

Linens

Ushers

8:00 Dave Rades
John Becker
Lyle Butts
Dave Weber
Carl Abendroth
Karen Arnoldussen
10:30 Tex Goehring
Carl Schelm
Lynn Walter
Gary Neumann
6:00 Duane Schoepke

DECEMBER 17/18

Altar Care

8:00 Wendy Sachs
10:30
6:00 George & Vera Zimmer

Assisting Ministers

8:00 Marilyn Hetzler
10:30 Dave Murphy

Lectors

8:00 Tricia Kasten
10:30 Dave Murphy

Communion Assistants

8:00 Carl Abendroth
10:30 Sydney Lyons

Fellowship Host

Greeters

8:00 Shorty Managan

10:30

Linens

Ushers

8:00 Dave Rades
John Becker
Lyle Butts
Dave Weber
Carl Abendroth
Karen Arnoldussen
10:30 Tex Goehring
Carl Schelm
Lynn Walter
Gary Neumann
6:00 Duane Schoepke

DECEMBER 24 - 9:00am

Assisting Minister/Lector

Deb Reis

Greeters

Shorty Managan

DEC 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

Altar Care

4:00
8:00 Steffanie Walsh

Assisting Ministers/Lectors

4:00 Grace Van Eyck
8:00

Communion Assistants

4:00
8:00

Greeters

4:00 Diana Staedt
Bonnie Carpenter
8:00 Cayly Bureau
Bobbi Jo Rusch

DECEMBER 31 - 9:00am

Altar Care

Assisting Minister/Lector

Amy Baehman

Communion Assistants

Greeters

Shorty Managan

Linens

WEDNESDAY BOOK STUDY meets Wednesdays 9:30-10:30am in the conference room.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP LADIES NIGHT OUT! Women of Zion & friends meet at 6:00pm for dinner December 5th for our Christmas dinner at Mary's North and exchange Christmas ornaments (optional). We ask that you spend no more than \$5. Women of all ages are welcome! Sign up in the Narthex.

OWLZ - Older Wiser Lutherans of Zion is a group of age 40+ people who get together at 5:30pm for dinner and fellowship. Watch the bulletin for our next date and location. Sign-up in the Narthex.

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Building not available
3 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Confirmation 9:15am Fellowship 10:30am Worship 11:30am Decorating Zion	4 6:00pm Worship	5 1:00pm Staff Mtg 5:30pm Worship/ Music Meeting 6:00pm Women's Fellowship	6 9:30am Book Study 6:00pm Advent Service at Zion 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm Sanctuary Choir	7 9:00am LEAVEN 9:00am Disciples' Closet 12:00pm-8:30pm Gym Reserved	8	9
10 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Confirmation 9:15am Fellowship 10:30am Worship	11 4:00pm ABS in Conference Rm 6:00pm Worship	12 9:00am Zion Place Mtg 12:00pm-8:30pm Gym Reserved 1:00pm Staff Mtg 6:30pm Neighbor Book mtg	13 9:30am Book Study 6:00pm Advent Service at Zion 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm Sanctuary Choir	14 9:00am LEAVEN 9:00am Disciples' Closet	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 9:00am Sunday School Christmas Program Practice 2:00pm Ark reserved
17 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Confirmation 9:15am Fellowship 10:30am Worship-Christmas Program	18 6:00pm Worship 6:45pm Council Mtg	19 1:00pm Staff Mtg	20 9:30am Book Study 6:00pm Advent Service at Zion 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:15pm Sanctuary Choir	21 Assemble Newsletter 9:00am LEAVEN 9:00am Disciples' Closet 6:30pm Neighbor Care Mtg	22	23
24 9:00am Worship 4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship 8:00pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Church office closed No Worship Service	26 Church office closed	27	28 9:00am LEAVEN 9:00am Disciples' Closet	29	30 Ark reserved
31 9:00am Worship	January 1 Church office closed No Worship Service			Gym Use: Fitness on Mon, Tues, Thurs: 5:30pm-7:30pm		

SPECIALS & MEMORIALS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED:

Doris Murray in memory of Gary Fiebelkorn, *designated for the Steeple Repair*

Geri Fiebelkorn in memory of Gary Fiebelkorn, *designated for the Organ Fund*

Ardis Egli in memory of Anna Deguisne, *designated for the Organ Fund*

Anna Deguisne Estate, *designated for the Organ Fund*

Earl Miller in memory of Janet, *designated for Friends of Music*

BAPTISMS: Alice Margaret Rose Wabanascum-Bodoh - November 12, 2017

FUNERALS: Marie Chilicki - November 4, 2017

Roy Schumacher - November 11, 2017

Glenn Bessette - November 12, 2017

DECEMBER 2017 CALL COMMITTEE

The Call Committee has been meeting almost weekly since early September. We continue to work on the eleven-page synod "Ministry Site Profile" that will be vital in matching up a potential pastoral candidate with the needs of the Zion congregation. In order to adequately fill out this profile, we need the input of the congregation. Starting on Sunday November 5, we asked you to share your viewpoint by filling out a bulletin insert. Every two weeks through mid-December there will be a new question along with a transcript of the answers from the previous question. This is your opportunity to share your input so please participate. We have created a bulletin board in the hallway outside the chapel, Call Committee Central, which will include a transcript of all the answers from the bulletin inserts. We will continue sharing information on the Call process in the form of Temple Talks, messenger articles, bulletins and face to face discussions. We look forward to continuing our prayerful duties as the Call Committee.

Sarah Hestres - Chair, Tony Hawley, Amanda Kuba, Colleen Malchow, Gary Neumann, Jim Schley

FROM YOUR PROPERTY COMMITTEE

To keep you informed, following are some facts you should know concerning repairs needed to our church building. The steeple, up in the air 140+ feet, needs some tender loving care. The pictures on the bulletin board show you these needs, please look at them on the wall outside the Gammelín Chapel. The committee is working with Marvin Rivers, Engineer with the Boldt Company. The result of his inspection is that there are no structural problems with the steeple. The issues are on the exterior, due to normal wear of a building this age. We are receiving estimates for brick work repair, doors & windows up at the clock level of the steeple, sheet metal railing restoration and painting. These items need our immediate attention. Looking further ahead there are additional things needing work such as the clock faces and hands as well as the smaller cupola on top of the sanctuary roof.

The storm this past June damaged the large stained glass window above the red front doors. Cost of this replacement is covered by our insurance. Work will proceed as weather permits.

The clock and bells have been causing some problems, they are old too. As of this writing, Gary Neumann has the clock working again. Due to the City having a sound ordinance, Zion will comply to their ringing from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., much like St. Joseph and St. Therese. A work in progress to re-activate the timer control system. The peal of the bells will ring again after Gary does necessary mechanical maintenance and adjustments.

The committee appreciates your support as we move ahead. Forward progress is happening. We are all pleased to be a part of this restoration project. Zion has an inspiring steeple that calls the community through sight and sound. What others built before us, we commit to preserving and restoring to the best of our ability. Join in the excitement as we proceed.



TIME TO ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS



If you would like to help beautify our Sanctuary for the Christmas services, please complete this order form & return it to the Church Office, or place it in the offering plate. Orders must be placed by December 10th. Thank you!

Given By:

In Memory of:

In Celebration of:

Quantity Ordered _____ x \$10.00 ea. = _____ Would like to donate our flowers to a shut-in _____

Poinsettias may be picked up after the 8pm service on Christmas Eve.

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

912 North Oneida Street, Appleton, WI 54911 ♦ (920) 739-3104

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm zion@zionappleton.com

Like us on Facebook or check out our Website – www.zionappleton.com

Worship Opportunities

Monday: 6:00 p.m. ♦ **Sunday:** 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship on Sunday: 9:15 a.m.

Reverend John Czarnota
Matthew Walsh
Jodi Hoesli
Grace Van Eyck
Nao Bee Moua
Amanda Van Dyke
Ashley Brei
Steve Smith
Elmer Luedtke

Pastor
Music Minister
Secretary
Finance Manager
Church Custodian
Confirmation Youth
Sunday School
ZP Maintenance & Manager
ZP Maintenance

⌘

⌘

⌘

⌘

MAILED NOVEMBER 28, 2017

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
APPLETON, WISCONSIN
PERMIT NO. 41

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
912 N. ONEIDA STREET
APPLETON, WISCONSIN 54911