

DECEMBER

Zion Lutheran CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

The Blessings of Advent and Christmas

We all love Christmas. It is truly a wonderful time of year. What great joy we celebrate at the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Everyone has a favorite Christmas carol or hymn, like “Joy to the World,” “Hark the Herald Angels Sing,” “Oh Come, All Ye Faithful,” “Away in a Manger,” and “Silent Night,” to name a few. Just writing that list gets me in the mood for Christmas. There is so much to look forward to when it comes to the birthday of our Lord.

Every year it seems that popular culture begins to promote the holiday season earlier and earlier. Many stores have Christmas items even before Halloween, and certainly after it. The Christmas commercials on TV are non-stop. Thanksgiving, as a holiday, almost gets swallowed up by Black Friday and Christmas preparations. Scheduling becomes tricky when everyone has some party or event to attend during the holiday season. It is a busy time of year!

That’s why we need Advent. Advent helps us slow down and enjoy the moment. Christmas will come. It is December 25th. That leaves us with a month to prepare, and that is what Advent does is help us prepare. Because we want our hearts to be ready for the good news, we don’t want to let the busyness of the holiday season to sidetrack us from the true meaning of Christmas, which is Christ is born for us. He came for us on that dark and cold night in Bethlehem. They called his name Jesus, “for he shall save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). How many of the Christmas hymns express our need for this child, this



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If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter via email, please sign up at the back of the church and include your email address. Will begin January 2023.



Christmas Newsletter

There is a sense in which Christ is formed in us when we submit ourselves in faith and repentance to God. When we receive Holy Baptism, when we come to the Lord’s Table, when we hear the Gospel preached and believe the good news of our salvation, Christ is born in us. We pray the fruits of His saving work be manifest in us and have an effect on those around us, that we might be His Gospel lights in the world.

May you have an awesome Advent and Christmas, and may the Lord bless you and your family this season with hope, love, peace, and joy!

Pastor Hinckley, Lindy, and family



Advent and Christmas Services

December 7th: Soup Supper 5:30-6:30, Service @ 7:00 p.m.

December 14th: Soup Supper 5:30-6:30, Service @ 7:00 p.m.

December 18th: Sunday School Program @ 4 p.m.

Desserts to Follow.

December 21st: Soup Supper 5:30-6:30, Service @ 7:00 p.m.

December 24th: Christmas Eve Service @ 5 p.m.

December 25th: Christmas Day Service @ 9 a.m.

The women of the LWML worked hard to make 420 burritos and over 1000 meatballs and sauce. The frozen meals were sold to support mission projects. Great job, ladies!



Meals for Missions: Meatball and Burrito Making



Shrek the Musical

Zion has very talented youth, thanks be to God! Many of them performed or participated in the crew recently in the High School rendition of Shrek the Musical. They all did a superb job and deserve a lot of credit for memorizing their lines, singing fantastically or working with the crew. Great job to Jack Swanson (Shrek), Maxwell Kelsey (Lord Farquaad), Abigail Hough (Gingy/Theolonius/Duloc Dancer), Dean DuVall (Crew), Lucy Swanson (Costumes) and Henry Swanson (Builder).



*From top left to top right: Maxwell Kelsey and Jack Swanson
Middle left to Middle right: Selah Duvall and Abby Hough
Bottom left Picture: Abby Hough, Jack Swanson, Maxwell Kelsey and Dean Duvall
Bottom Right Picture: Lucy Swanson*



Christmas Memories

Photos courtesy of Hope Lutter
and Lila Speckels

Christmas Recipes — Yum!

Sally Steinfeld's Christmas Salad

First Layer:

- 1 package cherry jello
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 can (2 cups) whole cranberry sauce
- 1/2 cup pecan or walnut halves



Dissolve jello in boiling water add cranberry sauce and chill until mixture begins to congeal. Add nuts and pour into pan. Chill until firm.

Second Layer:

- 1 package lemon jello
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese
- 1 cup crushed pineapple with juice

Add boiling water to gelatin. Stir until dissolved. Add cream cheese to hot mixture and beat until smooth. Add pineapple and juice. Chill until partially congealed. Pour over firm cherry layer and chill until second layer is firm.

Third layer:

- 1 package lime jello
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 cup grapefruit juice
- 1 cup grapefruit juice
- 1 cup grapefruit sections, canned or fresh

Add water to gelatin, stir until dissolved. Add juice and chill until mixture begins to congeal. Arrange grapefruit sections over chilled cream cheese layer. Pour syrupy gelatin mixture over grapefruit and chill until firm. (Use a large pan so it will make 15 sq. servings.)

Ronda Klein's Microwave Peanut Brittle

- 1 1/2 cups raw peanuts, I use one bag
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup white corn syrup
- 1/8 tsp salt



Combine and cook, depending on microwave (I cook 3 minutes). Stir and cook another three minutes. I have these ingredients all measured out ready to stir into the above mixture:

- 1 T. butter
- 1 tsp vanilla

Microwave this again for 2-3 minutes, then add:

1 heaping tsp baking soda, it gets frothy while you are stirring in the soda. Pour onto a greased cookie sheet and spread out the best you can. Let it cool before breaking it up.

Yvette Duvall's Chipped Beef Cheese Ball

- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 4 green onions chopped, include tops
- 1/2 tsp. Accent
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 pkg. chipped beef torn in small pieces



Mix cheese, onions, w. sauce and accent plus half of chipped beef into ball. Roll ball in remaining beef.



Yvette Duvall's Chocolate Logs

- 12 oz. plain peanut butter
- 2 T. melted butter
- 2 cups powdered sugar (don't sift)
- 1 lb. cut up dates
- 1/2 cup walnuts (chopped small)
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla

Mix all ingredients with spoon, then with hands until thoroughly blended. Form into finger size rolls, place on cookie sheet, and refrigerate or freeze. Melt 6 oz. package chocolate chips and 1/2 bar of p. wax in double boiler. Dip logs into chocolate mixture and lay out.

Refrigerate or freeze. Makes 4-5 doz.

November 3rd LWML Minutes

The Zion Lutheran LWML met on November 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. with seven members present. Chairman Hope Lutter opened the meeting with the LWML League Pledge and a Mustard Seed devotion. The minutes from the September meeting were read. No changes so the minutes stand approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Yvette Duvall presented the treasured report. The report will stand as presented.

The Sunday morning offering is covering the cost of the donut. There was discussion about where to put the surplus. It will be decided at the next meeting.

Unfinished Business:

The new group booklets will be reviewed at the next meeting with a date to distribute them.

Fundraiser Planning –

Need for more volunteers, Hope will contact people through texts for more help.

The ladies cleaned the freezers and refrigerators after the meeting.

Hope requested a shopping list from Lori and Lindy.

Discussion on which missions will receive the money from the Fundraiser.

The Sunday morning donuts is going well. We will continue to buy donuts for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday's. Beginning in December the LWML groups will be contacted to be in charge of the kitchen. (Make coffee and cleanup)

New Business:

Election of Officers will be held in January. Candidates are needed for the offices of president and secretary. Hope will not run for president. If interested in serving please talk to one of the officers.

Shirley Bailey is making salads for the Community Thanksgiving. She has asked for volunteers to help on Tuesday, November 22. They will begin at 10 am at Zion.

Ongoing and New Service Projects:

Elder/Shut-in Christmas Card Project

Angel Tree for 1, 2 or more families (it was very successful last Christmas)

Youth Encouragement Project – There was not as much participation this year. Some will continue encouraging the youth that they had last year.

Plarn Mats – Melanie Olson is crocheting the balls of plarn that were made in September.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 29th at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted,

Susan Swanson, secretary

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES-NOVEMBER 9, 2022

The November meeting of the Zion Lutheran Church Council was held in the fellowship hall Wednesday, November 9, 2022. In addition to Pastor Hinckley, council members attending were Rocky Knippling, Russ Lutter, Joe Swanson, Kenny Knutson, Todd Van Den Bosch, Darrel DuVall, Garrett Chilson, Rick Hargens, Marsha Houska and Todd Powell. The meeting was called to order by Todd Powell at 8 PM with Pastor Hinckley opening the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's Report:

The council minutes from the October 12, 2022 meeting were provided by Secretary Marsha Houska and read individually. Rocky Knippling made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Rick Hargens. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: provided by Treasurer Todd Van Den Bosch.

General Fund:

Beginning balance	\$30,509.81
Ending balance	\$35,352.79

Special Funds:

Memorial	\$30,506.67 (\$15,459.89 Thrivent investment moved to Memorial acct)
Building	\$873.86
Thrivent Choice	\$26,067.97
Youth Acct	\$6,180.53
Zion Life Team	\$316.66

Unpaid Bills:

ABC, LLC	\$190.19
Burke Oil	\$1,248.97
Church Art Online	\$59.95
Concordia Pub	\$119.99
North Star Ins.	\$1,378.25
Office Products	\$143.74
SD District LCMS	\$1,517.73

Motion to approve the treasurer's report and pay the outstanding bills as presented with report on building fund balance next meeting was made by Darrel DuVall and seconded by Russ Lutter. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Robert Struble's prayer service and funeral Oct. 26 & 27
Nov. 2nd men's Bible study started again, meeting 6:45-7:45 every Wed morning
Children's Christmas program scheduled for Sunday, Dec 18th at 4 PM
Will visit Regency every 2nd Wed of the month for communion service for our residents
Hospital visits, home visit, phone calls to members
Annual Congregational Voters' meeting Sunday Nov. 13 at 11 AM; need to nominate 2 elders to replace those whose terms are up. Two trustee terms up also.
We thank those whose terms are up. Your service has been greatly appreciated. We hope you will serve our congregation again sometime in the future.
LWML Meals for Missions pickup is Nov. 12 4-7
Circuit meeting in Pierre Nov. 15 10-3
Nov. 18 is MVCS Evening of Praise 7 PM
Weekend of Nov. 26-27 is First Sunday in Advent with first Wed Advent service Nov. 30 at 7 PM.
Youth planning soup/chili supper before the Wed. advent services
Advent services also Dec. 7, 14, and possibly the 21st at 7 PM

Christmas Eve service, a service of evening prayer, is Sat, Dec. 24th at 5 PM/ Christmas Day service, a Divine Service of Holy Communion, is Sunday, Dec. 25 at 9 AM

Trustees' Report:

Plumbing issues taken care at parsonage
Get bid for downstairs shower at parsonage
Spotlight on the outside sign is broken/needs repair

Old Business:

Looking for volunteers to take over flower bed at parsonage; put in monthly newsletters until spring
If no volunteers, will put to grass in the spring; perennial plants and flowers to be dug up no later than May 5th by those who would like some

New Business:

Receive monthly newsletter via email-If interested, please sign up at the back of the church and include your email address

2023 Proposed Budget reviewed/discussed.

Rocky made a motion to accept the 2023 proposed budget as presented. Russ Lutter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussed positions opening up on the church council; Need 2 elders as Rick Hargens and Kurt Kelsey terms are up; two trustee positions are open with Scott Walker and Kenny Knutson terms up and have found two people willing to fill the trustee positions.

DeHaais will continue with lawn services and are doing a great job. Britini has requested a leaf blower. Todd Van Den Bosch made a motion to allow Britini DeHaai to purchase a leaf blower with a cost of up to \$400. Motion seconded by Rocky Knippling. Motion carried.

Discussion held on remodeling women's downstairs bathroom into a unisex bathroom

Discussion held on basement remodel including ceilings, wall repair, paint. Will take to annual voters' meeting with an approximate cost of \$12,000

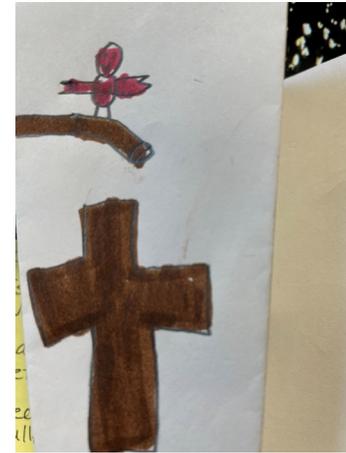
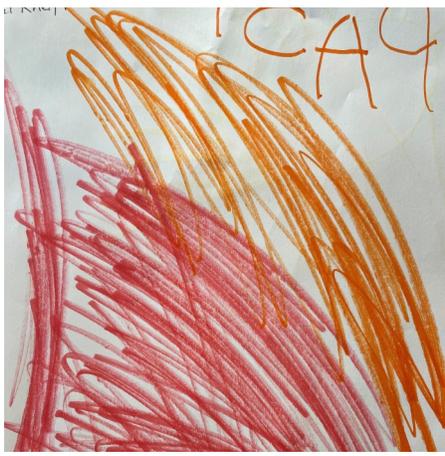
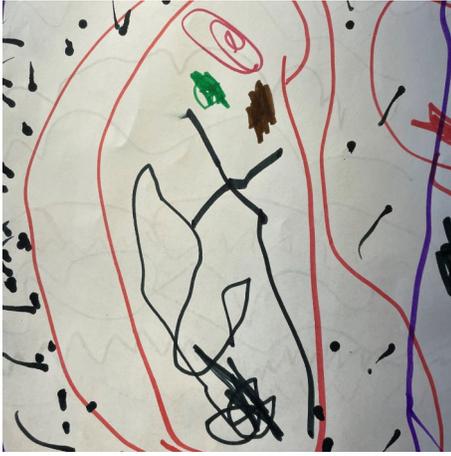
Church decorating for Christmas set for Nov. 30th following advent service

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022 with elders meeting at 7 PM and council meeting at 8 PM. Motion to adjourn was made by Rocky Knippling and seconded by Rick Hargens. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm, closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marsha Houska, Church Council Secretary

(These minutes are unofficial and will be presented to the church council for approval at the next meeting.)



December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Birthdays: Jenna Johnson, Stevie Thomas Baptism: Cody Smith Jr.	2 Birthdays: Shelley Engel Richard Swanson Baptism: Thom- as Scmidt	3 Birthdays: Ian Hickey Tayten Johnson
4 Birthdays: Jerry Dominiack Rodney Peterson Aniya Peterson Jasper Volz	5 Birthday: Dominic Hrabe	6 Birthdays: Stephanie Swanson Baptisms: Contessa Saul Tyler Woodraska	7 Birthdays: Terri Powell Connie Speck- els-Andera Baptisms: Timo- thy Engel, Lila Speckels	8 Baptism: Karen Ristau	9 Birthday: Blake Meagher Baptism: Leslie Olesen Anniversary: Jerry and Carol Herbst Bradley and Kristi Thompson	10
11 Birthdays: Connie Bailey Autumn Kurtz Karlie Thompson	12 Birthdays: Owen Larsen Anniversary: Nick and Jean- ette Nelson	13 Birthdays: Beth Jurgensen Melanie Olson Melissa Rybak Baptism: Thomas Swanson	14 Birthdays: Connie Cleland Zach Kenobbie Baptism: Rus- sell Bailey, Mi- chael Miller	15 Birthday: Ethan Swanson Baptism: Sawyer Hansen	16 Birthdays: Shawn Powers Koreena Strande	17 Birthdays: Daryle Fisher Sutton Powers Jack Swanson
18	19 Birthdays: Erica Julius Baptisms: Otto Hickey Betty Kindopp	20 Baptisms: Mike Reimer Burton Saul Sean Wagaman	21 Birthday: Ashley Rosen- berger Baptisms: Shawn Powers John Thompson	22 Baptisms: Rodney Peter- son, Tosha Schmiedt	23 Baptism: Ramsey Brennan	24 Birthday: Willow Kott Baptism: Loren Bode
25 Birthdays: Carol Bowers Mary Fisher Balinda Scmidt Janette Spreckels	26 Baptism: Mar- cheta Anderson, Melva Doerr, Ethan Swanson Anniversary: Bill and Elaine Dahlman	27 Birthday: Christy Hickey Baptisms: Alix Hickey, Cory Stellwag, Katie Swanson, Steph- anie Swanson	28 Birthday: Lorna DeHaai Baptism: Chad Swanson	29	30 Baptisms: Erica Julius Kendall Peter- son Melissa Rybak	31 Birthday: Alyssa Reis



