

November is 'Thanksgiving season'. Here are a few inspiring stories from your church, to spark your gratitude.

- 12 of our youth attended our Western ND Synod Gathering in Bismarck mid October. How awesome that they want to spend time with other teenagers who love Jesus!
- Zion members have already given \$10,700 to our Heat fundraiser. Thank you!
- 25 teens were confirmed on Sun. Oct. 26th with over 380 people in worship to celebrate with them. Professing your faith is a powerful thing! Praise be to God.
- 87 hats, gloves and boots were collected by Sisterhood to be donated to our local Washington Elementary School so kids in need can be warm. What a gift!
- Project Bee has been living in our building for two months as they await the completion of their new building. What a joy to be able to help a neighbor!

These are just a handful of the many reasons we rejoice that you are a part of this great congregation. You make Zion stronger. Praise God for our shared ministry together!

Psalm 100:4 'Go into God's gates giving thanks and into God's holy place with praise. Give thanks to God. Honor God's name.'

Thanksgiving Table Grace:

Loving God, thank you for the gift of the people around this table. We give you thanks for the blessings you have given each of us. Watch over us in this coming year. Lead us as only you can. We pray for safety, for those who are vulnerable today. We pray for health and comfort, for those who are sick. Bless our church, that it may grow stronger and reach more people. Bless; the farmers that grew this food, the truckers who transported it, the grocery store workers who made it available, and bless our good cook who prepared it. Make us grateful every day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

-Pastor Elaine

Mark Your Calendars!

November 5th
Time and Talent
Auction @6pm

November 8th
Widows and Widowers @1pm

November 12th
Holy Listening @6:30pm
(At Bootlegz)

November 13th
safeTALK Suicide Training
@5:30pm

November 14th
Book Club @6:30pm

November 18th
Men's Breakfast @9am

November 22nd
Thanksgiving Eve
Worship @7pm and
Pie Social @8pm

November 23rd & 24th
Office is CLOSED

Time & Talent Auction

Sun. Nov. 5th at 6pm Viewing of auction items and live music. 6:30pm Live Auction and Silent Auction begins. Intermission with Fall desserts and hot drinks provided. Don't miss this fun evening, that supports the ministry of Zion. This is a great event to bring a friend. The more bidders, the better. Oh, and if you haven't donated to the auction yet, there's still time. Contact the office and we'll complete the Bid Donation Form, so your item can be included in the auction too. Everyone's contributions will help make this event a success!

Items donated so far include:

Skid Steer Work (2 hours), Spicy Caesar Basket, S'mores Cake, Lord's Prayer Quilted Banner, Lawn Mowing (4 times), Family Photo Session, Reserved Seating for Holiday Worship (2 seats), Wood Spirit (hand carved), Frozen Walleye (4 fillets x3 pkgs), 2 Paddleboard Rental, Week at Arizona home, Cookie of the Month (24 monthly), Ground Moose Meat (10lbs)

Won't these be fun to bid on! Good luck on your bidding at Zion's 1st Time & Talent Auction.



IN MEMORY OF TESSA ASENDORFOutdoor Enhancement/Playground

Cindy Palen

Undesignated Memorials

Darlene Mommerak

IN MEMORY OF LOIS TANDBERGZion General Fund

Anonymous

Undesignated Memorials

Jacky Smith

Joe/Beth Stenvold

IN MEMORY OF BOB KNUDSONTrust

Armend/RaNae Lynner

Carmen Bell

Myrna/David DeMers

Dale/Kay Mattern

Craig/Jane Nelson

Carol Oster

Eunice Simbalenko

Joe/Beth Stenvold

Marlys Sundbakken

Judy Teets

Helene Anderson

Anonymous

Joel/Sonja Hernes

Richard Korslien

Richard/Bev Roen

Charles/Sandy Swenson

Eddie/Carmen Wheeling

Zion General Fund

Todd/Kristi Asendorf

Anonymous

John/Glenda Streccius

Joyce/Hilmer Maas

LaVerne/Kandi Mikkelsen

Ruth Juergens

Mike/Pam Uran

John/Julie Huettl

Gary/Betty Peterson

Larry/Ruth Ann Rexine

Eleanor Berg

Ordean Huus

Anonymous

Marlyn/Virginia Korslien

Milton Korslien

Jacky Smith

Larry Wahlund

Building FundMusicPrayer Shawl AnonymousUndesignated Memorials

Pat White

Jim Clute/ Sherlene Nelson

Anonymous x2

Dale/Wanda Maixner

Jason/Melody Sundbakken

Dean/Nancy Ziegler

**Designated funds to which you may donate in memory/honor of someone:**

Zion General Fund ~ Building Fund ~ Community Outreach
 Education ~ Global Missions ~ Hand Bells ~ Music Ministry ~ Playground
 Prayer Shawl ~ Trust ~ Youth Ministry ~ ZLCW

If no specific fund indicated, gifts go to the Undesignated Memorial Fund

Worship Date	On-Site	Online	Total
2, 3, 6-September	121	248	369
9, 10, 13-September	190	220	410
16, 17, 20-September	147	161	308
23, 24, 27-September	190	160	350
30, 1, 4-Sept-Oct.	246	223	469
7, 8, 11-October	216	189	405
14, 15, 18-October	214	210	424
21, 22, 25-October	116 (no Wed worship due to weather)	144	260



BINGO-WEEN PRIZES & FUN Decorations
 Thanks to Thrivent Action Team Dollars!
 Have you used your Thrivent member Action Team Dollars yet this year? Every Thrivent member gets TWO \$250 cards to use for special events throughout the year.

BINGO-WEEN was a HUGE success thanks to ALL of you!

We had over 120 people join us for a Taco Bar, Trick or Treating, BINGO and LOTS of fun! We had quite a few people from our community join us and it was fun to welcome them into the crazy fun!

We had an amazing selection of donated silent auction items brought in \$500. Our yummy taco bar brought in over \$400 and over \$1000 in BINGO Ticket sales. After a few food expenses, it was a grand total of **\$2000 in profit!** We were able to raise \$2000 for our young people and adults going to the Gathering in New Orleans next summer—**THAT'S AMAZING!**





Fall Worship Schedule

Happy Thanksgiving

- Saturday 5pm
- Sunday 10am
 - 1st & 3rd Traditional
 - 2nd & 4th Led by Praise Band
- Wednesday 6:15pm Led by Guitar



Office will be
CLOSED on
Thursday,
Nov 23rd and
Friday, Nov 24th

safeTALK Suicide Training

Attend the safeTALK training program and quickly learn four basic steps to connect people at risk of suicide to life-saving resources. Both professionals and members of the general public save lives using safeTALK training. Anyone 15 or older can attend. Presented by Heather Kippen and Christine Brigden



Monday-Friday
8am-4pm



The Sacred Practice of HOLY LISTENING

“Hear my cry, O God; **listen** to my prayer.”

On November 12 at 6:30pm we will once again be gathering for our practice of Holy Listening. Holy Listening is an opportunity to have fellowship and to hear from members of our community.

The focus of these is to intentionally listen to hear the joys, challenges and what we can do to help. We started this practice during Lent and would like to continue this practice once a month. In November, we will hear from some of our First Responders in the community. Please join us at Bootleggers at 6:30pm on November 12. Our December date and speaker will be announced soon.

-Pastor Natasha Kolles

The following groups & ministries are happening this fall. You are invited to attend any of the following (*bring a friend*):



Men's Breakfast

Come and have breakfast with Zion dudes/fellows/gentlemen where you will eat, pray, and talk.



This group meets once a month.

Next meetings are Saturday, November 18th @9am and Saturday, December 16th @9am



Meets @ 2pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the Board Room.

This circle joins together for a monthly Bible study led by one of our pastors. Contact the office for more information.

Next meeting is Thurs, Nov. 9th @ 2pm.



Quilting Ministry
Meets @ 9am on the 3rd Monday of the month in the Fellowship Hall.

Many hands are needed to cut pieces, pin, sew and tie.

No experience necessary!

Next meeting is Mon, Nov. 20th @ 9am.



Meets every Tuesday 1pm in room 407. You can use the Southwest entrance

This group meets weekly to enjoy the art of painting. You do not have to know how to paint to join. A short lesson

is given at the beginning of the session, then conversation and painting on your own continues until 4pm. Bring your own supplies and any paint medium except latex paints due to allergies.



Widows & Widowers

Lunch & Support with Pastor Elaine Wednesday, November 8th at 1pm We will meet at Zion



Meets @ 5:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in Youth Room.

Yarn is available if you wish to make shawls at home.

Prayer Shawls are given to people who are seriously ill or grieving.

Next meeting is Tue, Nov. 14th @5:30pm

Sisterhood Ministry

Meets monthly

Meet other women of the church while learning, celebrating and being a servant of God through monthly service projects throughout the year.



Poinsettias, Easter Lilies, Outdoor Flowers

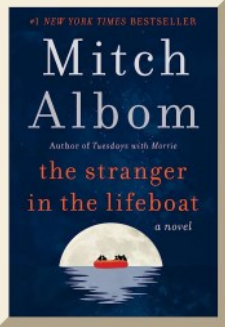
Building & Grounds Committee has a great idea. They'd like to group our three flower events into one ministry. If you love flowers, this might be a perfect group for you to join. We are looking for a few people to lead decision-making about the beautification of our sanctuary and church grounds with flowers. This new Flower Team would lead choosing the flowers, and pricing for congregation in honor of loved ones. The hope is that funds from Christmas poinsettia and Easter lilies would help fund our exterior flowers for the spring and summer. We can't see what this new group can come up with! Please speak to Pastor Elaine or Korby Steward (chair of Building & Grounds) by Thanksgiving. The Flower Team will plan to meet at the end of November.

Choir is Starting!

Come sing with us! We plan to aim for our choirs singing monthly. Add your voice to Zion's choir! Adults and teens welcome. **Sunday Choir sings Sun. Nov. 19th** with practices 11:15am Sun. Nov. 5 & 12. **Wednesday Choir sings on Nov. 22nd**, practices 5:30pm Wed. 8th & 15th. Led by Pastor Elaine.



Book Club— *Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6:30pm.*



As a reminder, there will not be a book club meeting in December.

Novembers book— The Stranger in the Lifeboat

What would happen if we called on God for help and God actually appeared? In Mitch Albom's profound new novel of hope and faith, a group of shipwrecked passengers pull a strange man from the sea. He claims to be "the Lord." And he says he can only save them if they all believe in him.

Adrift in a raft after a deadly ship explosion, ten people struggle for survival at sea. Three days pass. Short on water, food and hope, they spot a man floating in the waves. They pull him in.

"Thank the Lord we found you," a passenger says
"I am the Lord," the man whispers.
So begins Mitch Albom's most beguiling novel yet.

(Excerpt from
Amazon.com)



Looking Forward.....

**Christmas Eve Worship: 1:30pm & 3:30pm Family Worship,
5:30pm & 10pm Traditional Candlelight**

Bell Choir

We are restarting our bell choir! The Bell Choir will play in December. Be on the lookout for more information and talk to Pastor Elaine if you'd like to ring a bell in this beautiful music. We can't wait to hear this special music ringing in worship!



Yummy for the Tummy Auction

Sunday, December 3rd @ 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite baked goods (lefsa, pie, cake, cookies, krumkake, etc.) to auction off to the highest bidder. Have some fun and raise some \$\$\$\$. Proceeds benefit the ministries that are a part of the church. *Please have items to the church by 10:30am on the 3rd.*



Stewardship Info for 2024

Official Pledge Card Blessings will happen for **two weeks in November, the weekends of Nov. 11-12 & 18-19, and Wednesday the 8 & 15**. A Pledge box will be available to confidentially deposit your pledge card as you approach for communion. Last year we had 132 pledge cards received. We have 362 active giving families. Our goal this year is 150 pledges! Help us grow our giving at Zion.

Why pledge? Pledges help our church Council by knowing the amount of giving income we can expect in the coming year. It helps us set a budget with more confidence and less guessing. It gives the Council peace of mind to know that we can pay the bills without stress, because a large group of people have committed to sharing in this good work together. You can notify the church at any time during the year, should your circumstances change and your ability to give increases or decreases. Pledges give the church a solid financial baseline.



How does my pledge work? You complete the pledge card received in the mail (or use one at the church) with your estimated annual giving to Zion. You place your pledge in the pledge envelope. This can be placed in the pledge box during worship on the dates listed above, mailed, or delivered to the church office. The only person who sees your pledge amount is our Office Manager. Pledges, like all giving information, are kept confidential. The financial total of all pledges is given to Council who begins work on the 2024 budget in late November. Your pledge amount is also included on your quarterly statements from Zion, so you can track how your giving is progressing.



Is my pledge needed? Sometimes in larger churches we might feel like our pledge isn't as necessary. The truth is it takes many, many individuals and families to keep a building the size of Zion, a staff the size of Zion's, programs as numerous as Zion's, and the outreach as wide as Zion's going. Post-pandemic many charitable organizations are struggling to return to the giving income level of years prior. You are needed. Your attendance in worship, your service on committees/teams, your participation at events, in choirs, teaching and leading, and your financial participation is all needed.

Thank you in advance. We can't wait to receive your pledge for the first time or for the 40th time. What a joy to share in generosity and impact together!

-Pastor Elaine Sweet

CHURCH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

***Kids' Sabbath on Jacob & Esau**

***WED, NOV 15th at the 6:15pm Worship**

*All kids and shepherds should be here by 5:55pm to find their group's classroom and line up.

*Kids will sing a few songs and share what they learned about Jacob & Esau



*Join us for Supper at 5:15pm—our youth going to the National Youth Gathering this coming summer will be serving supper as one of their fundraisers.

CHRISTMAS INFORMATION

*Wednesday-Nov 29th, Dec 6th & 13th

*NO Church School-Nov 22nd

*Sunday-Nov 29th, Dec 3rd & 10th

*NO Church School-Nov 26th

*Kids' Sabbath

***Saturday, Dec 16th at 5pm Worship**

Led by 7pm Church School Session

***Sunday, Dec 17th at 10am Worship**

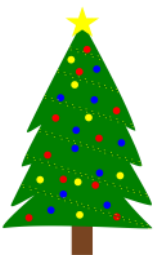
Led by 4:30pm & 9am Church School



*PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CHILD IS UNABLE TO BE A PART OF THE PROGRAM.

***TRAINING** for ALL Workshop Leaders and Shepherds will be in-person on **Tues, Nov 21st from 7:30-8:30pm.**

*Recording will be available.



CHRISTMAS FUN NIGHT
Church School on Wed, Dec 20th will be all about FUN! We will watch a Christmas movie, have crafts and snacks! Can't wait!

**NO CHURCH SCHOOL
UNTIL FEBRUARY 14TH
DUE TO LIFE GROUPS**

**FAMILY ADVENT
WREATHS**

*Advent is a time of expectant waiting and the preparation for the celebration of Christmas.



*We have supplies for your family to make Advent Wreaths to use in your home. Contact Chris to receive materials. We will have the wreaths, supplies to decorate, and a daily devotion for your family to use throughout this season of anticipation.

**The first Sunday in Advent is Nov. 26th.*



LIFE Groups will be starting another session in January.

We will spend the 5 weeks or so intentionally focusing on

creating opportunity for small groups to meet and dive deeper into the weekly text, sermon and seeking God in our daily lives. Groups will begin forming in December. Everyone is encouraged to give LIFE Groups a try. Find a group with people with whom you are in the same stage of life to create better connections with others in our church family.

CONFIRMATION UPDATE



Confirmation is off to a great start! We have 96 students in our confirmation program across our 6th-10th graders. Students this year will continue doing our offsite ministry learning and digging into scripture. Excited to see the rest of the year unfold!

2023 CONFIRMANDS



We would like to say one more congratulation to our 2023 Confirmands for all their hard work over the years. Many blessings to you as you continue your faith journey. Congratulations

Sydney Aberle, Luke Atkinson, Carson Brekke, Griffin Broderick, Nolan Callahan, Carter Coleman, Carson Deaver, Bostyn Edwards, Mason Eichhorn, Ashlynn Getzlaff, Chayse Grosche, Kaden Henderson, Medora Kolles, Jamison Longie, Erin McLean, Brooklyn Mosser, Madyson Rexine, Elisabeth Schaefer, Jayda Schall, Xander Soine, Jayden Thomas, Nicholas Thomas, Grant Thorson, Elle Tiedman, and Kiera Torgeson.

Congratulations Confirmands!

KORTNI'S CORNY CORNER

Q: How does a turkey travel?

A: By Gravy Train!

Q: What key has legs but can't open a door?

A: A tur-KEY!

YOUTH GROUP

IGNITE 9TH-12TH GRADE

Wednesdays from 8-9:30pm

Don't miss out on these fun youth group events! Hope to see you there!

November 1st– Food & Devos

November 8th– Service Project

November 15th– Activity

November 22nd– NO YOUTH GROUP FOR THANKSGIVING

November 29th– Food & Devos



DID YOU KNOW?



Did you know? "Every year, American families waste about 1,160 pounds of food, especially around Thanksgiving where an estimated 305 million pounds of food are wasted from Thanksgiving dinner alone."

-sustainable.umn.edu

We all love our family traditions and foods that come along with this time of the year. Aunt Debbie's mashed potatoes, Grandma Sharon's green-bean casserole and Dad's smoked Turkey, but how mindful are we of the amount of waste we are creating from all this food? This Holiday season, try cutting the recipe down a bit or using those leftovers in new recipes! Let us all be better stewards of the resources God has given us! Enjoy your Thanksgiving meal wisely. You're so smart and kind!

Heat Fundraiser

Final bids are being received by Building & Grounds committee. Since April the committee has been talking with engineers and companies who have presented options. We are now on our third option with three bids. The space we have to put a replacement heat pump for the sanctuary has complicated the process, but the committee feels comfortable with the final decision that all three companies decided as best. We hope to have a final price for the congregation next month. The cost will be over our initial \$75,000 estimate. The congregation has currently raised \$10,700 for the Heat Pump replacement. You can continue to contribute to this financial need with gifts marked 'Heat'. Thank you!

Congregational Renewal Update

Zion Lutheran, as part of the Lilly Grant received by Pastor Natasha, contracted with LeaderWise to engage in the Bridgebuilder process with the goal of discerning congregational identity and enhancing congregational renewal. The desired outcome for this work, which took place in September and October, is for the church to have the opportunity to gain knowledge of who it has been, who it is today, and how that informs congregational renewal and growth.

We were presented with a written learning report on Oct. 12th that identified our strengths and challenges/anxieties along with some observations, wonderings, and recommendations. Here are a few highlights...

Strengths

Family - positive comments were made about the role of children and families in the church, including the high quality of the church school program, the inclusion of children in worship, and the flexibility afforded to families by the availability of worship 3 days per week. "Family" was the most-mentioned value, the spiritual well-being of individual families is one of Zion's central values and a key aspect of its identity.

Leadership - many stories were shared about how different pastors through the years had touched their lives. Values associated with leadership such as "Education," "Creativity," "Vision," and "Worship" were frequently named.

Community Involvement - outreach to and support of the Minot community was named as a strength and as an area where they would like to see growth. Zion members raised up values relating to community involvement such as "Inclusiveness," "Compassion," and "Making a Difference."

Challenges/Anxieties

Financial Resources - Concern for diminishing financial support of the church from congregational giving. Whether or not the church's income has actually diminished is not as important as the fact that the perception that this is true creates a great deal of anxiety among the congregation and staff.

Volunteers - Another area of anxiety is that the number of people who volunteer in the church is dwindling.

A comment from the presenters; "Zions strengths are unique to Zion and our challenges are common to other churches."

The report in its entirety along with observations, wonderings, and recommendations are available in the church office.

In the next month we will be putting together a team of 5-8 members that will work with Leaderwise to determine goals and courses of action that best fit the church and its people.

Nominations

November is when the Nominations committee begins to get active. Please speak to Pastor Elaine if you have interest in serving for 1 year or 3 years on Zion's Church Council, Trust Committee, Building & Grounds, Personnel, Nominations Committee, or the new Welcome & Hospitality committee!

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



5
9am Church School
9:15am Coffee
10am Worship
-Clyde Tinnes Baptism

6pm Time and Talent
Auction

7
9am Pastors Text
Study
10:30am Team Mtg
1pm Watercolor Grp

6

12
9am Church School
9:15am Coffee
10am Worship

3:30pm OA Mtg
6:30pm Holy Listening
@Bootlegrz

13

5:30pm Safe Talk
Suicide Training
5:30 pm Childrens
Ministries Team Mtg
@ Chris's House

14
9am Pastors Text
Study
10:30am Team Mtg
1pm Watercolor Grp
5:30pm Prayer Shawl
Ministry
6pm Girl Scout Admin
Mtg
6:30pm Book Club

19
9am Worship
9am Church School
9:15am Coffee
10am Worship

20
9am Sewing Day

21
9am Pastors Text
Study
10:30am Team Mtg.
1pm Watercolor Grp

6:30pm Council Mtg.
6:30pm Church
School Training

22
7pm Thanksgiving
Eve Worship
8pm Pie
Social



26
9:15am Coffee
10am Worship

28
9am Pastors Text
Study
10:30am Team Mtg
1pm Watercolor Grp

29. 4:30pm Church
School
5:15pm Food Faith
Family Meal
6:15pm Worship
7pm 6th-8th Grade
Confirmation
7pm Church School
8pm Ignite

30

6pm Girl Scout
#10319 Mtg
7pm Scout Pack Mtg
7:30pm Narcotics
Anon.

24. Office Closed
Native American
Heritage Day

25

5pm Worship



23 Office Closed for
Thanksgiving
7:30pm Narcotics
Anon.

25

9am Men's Breakfast
5pm Worship

17

2pm Sommerset
Worship
6pm Girl Scout
#10319 Mtg
7pm Scout Pack Mtg
7:30pm Narcotics
Anon.

18

Veterans Day
5pm Worship

11

9
11am Unload
Donation Station

2pm Hannah Circle

7pm Scout Pack Mtg
7:30pm Narcotics
Anon.

10



3

6pm Girl Scouts Mtg
7:30pm Narcotics
Anon.

4

5pm Worship

Zion Lutheran Church

1800 Hiawatha Street
Minot, ND 58701



Our Purpose:

Loved by God – Living out the Love of Jesus

Our Guiding Principles:

growing spiritually to be more like Jesus
actively caring for one another
welcoming and inviting all people
giving generously to join in God's work
joyfully serving as Christ's hands and feet
living faithfully in daily life

Zion Lutheran Church

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2023 Council Members

John Butgereit President
Melissa Helgeson Vice President
Rich Jensen Secretary
Erica Atkinson Treasurer
John Thompson
Kristi Asendorf
Sherry Broderick
John Gruenberg
Matt Sundahl
Annlea Eskelson Youth Member
Lead Pastor Elaine Sweet
Pastor Natasha Kolles