



Happy New Year! A change of year is a great opportunity to do some reflecting on the past year and goal setting for the next. At every age and stage of life there can be things we wish to achieve. Having things to look forward to and motivate us is healthy. Perhaps you would like to set a goal of making a new friend or two this coming year. Maybe you'd like to learn something new, or set a goal of the number of books you would like to read. Maybe physically you have a goal of getting healthier by moving more or consuming better meals and drinks. Maybe relationally you'd like to invest more time and attention on your family, or plan to travel to see a few more friends this year.

New Years resolutions or goals don't just have to do with more, sometimes healthy goals have to do with what we will be saying 'no' to. What unhealthy habits would we like to change for the new year? What can we declutter from our homes, our brains, our activity list? I hope as you are reviewing this past year and setting goals for this next year, that you are including some reflection about your faith. How would you like to get involved in your church in 2026? What activities or groups would you like to try at Zion? How could you serve? How often do you plan or hope to worship this year?

Goals are an opportunity to create the life we want to live. Being intentional about how we wish to use the time God has given us, how we want to use what God has entrusted to us, and how we want to allow God to grow and shape us; is wise. I pray you'll discover some exciting goals to set for 2026. May you be filled with joyful anticipation at all God has ahead for you in this new year!

Here are a few goals your pastor is setting for herself. Maybe as I share my 2026 aims it will help you consider your own. 1) to continue investing time with my family (daily talking with each kid, more date nights with my husband (at least bi-monthly), and more phone calls with my extended family (at least monthly), 2) printing more photos (monthly), 3) organizing closets (not thrilling, but satisfying) (1 closet a month), 4) read 4 books (just for fun) (one a season), 5) meet with colleagues for good faith conversation and encouragement more often (monthly), 6) commit to a regular exercise plan (weekly), and 7) complete and send one writing project to publishers.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:

The old has gone, the new is here!". - 2 Corinthians 5:17

God bless us with courage and wisdom as we set goals for this new year. Bless our Church Council as it sets intentions and direction for a new year. Equip us for growth, joy and good service in this new year. Amen. -Pastor Elaine

Memorials

IN MEMORY OF DOUG BECK

Undesignated Fund:

Kristi Asendorf
Richard & Bev Roen
James & Sherlene Clute Nelson
Anonymous



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

Zion General Fund ~ Building Fund ~ Community Outreach ~ Education
Music Ministry ~ Outdoor Enhancement ~ Trust ~ ZLCW

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



December 2025- Baptisms

Osmund Moum 12/27

December 2025- Funerals

Mike Wilz 12/9
Petra Baehm 12/10
Kathy Tofteland 12/23

Looking Back!



Christmas Poinsettias



Christmas Poinsettias adorned the sanctuary again this Christmas! Thank you to those who donated to beautify our church and to honor loved ones.

Christmas Nativity Display Winners

Most Beautiful: The Olivewood Project– Carol Moberg



Best Traditional: 1959 Assembled Manger Scene– Susan Cleveland



Best Tiny: Small & Simple Mini Nativity– Lesley Peterson



Most Unique: Moose Nativity –Beth & Joe Stenvold



Christmas Eve Joy

Thank you for making this Christmas Eve fantastic. 623 worshippers this year! That's nearly 50 more than last year. Thank you to all the musicians, readers, ushers, and communion servers and altar guild people who made our worship services run smoothly. Continue to invite your family, neighbors etc. to join us in worship and events this January. There are many good things ahead.



Kids Sabbath 2025

Zion's children did a wonderful job of leading us in every part of worship, singing, and acting out the nativity. We have some great worship leaders, readers, and singers in this next generation. It was a joy to see them share the Christmas good news with us. Thank you to church school adult leaders and to Kayla Cole stepping in when our Christian Education Director was ill. Great job Everyone!



The following groups & ministries are happening now! 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.

Next meeting is Sat. January 17th @9am in the Fellowship Hall



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.

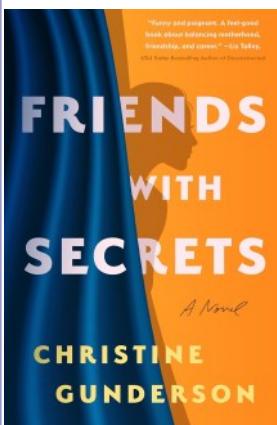
Next meeting is Jan 8th at 2pm

Meets every Tuesday 1pm in the North Boardroom

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 oil paints due to allergies. **Not meeting until Jan 6th 2026.**



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



January's Book is "Friends with Secrets" by Christine Gunderson

What you see isn't always what you get.

Take Ainsley. The gorgeous mother of two lives a picture-perfect life with her husband, Ben—aspiring politician and heir to a candy fortune—in suburban Washington, DC. But in reality, Ainsley has no idea what she's doing and is terrified someone will figure out who she really is and where she came from.

Nikki's fighting to keep afloat as a stay-at-home mother of four, subsisting on chicken nuggets and very little sleep. She's a mess on the outside, and inside yearns for the validation—and the paycheck—of the television news career she left behind. ***Excerpt from Amazon.com ****The Next Book Club Meeting is Tuesday, January 13th at 6:30pm**



Widows & Widowers

Support with Pastor Elaine.

Treats provided by Connie Knudson

The next meeting is **Wed. January 7th at 1pm**



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 Tues. Jan 13th @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.



Come join our quilters group! All are welcome to join regardless of skill level. **Next meeting is Mon. Jan 12th at 6pm**

Prayer Circle

Meet with Pastor Elaine to pray over members of the congregation.

Next meeting is Wed. Jan 28th at 2pm in the south board room

Coming up!

Annual Meeting

Zion's Annual Meeting is Sun. February 22nd immediately following 10am worship. All confirmed members are invited to stay and exercise your vote as nominations will present a slate of officers for Council and Trust committees etc., and our 2026 budget will be presented for the congregation's approval. Reports for inclusion in the Annual Report are due Mon. January 12th.

Food Faith Family Meal Schedule

January Menus

7th– No Food Faith Family

14th– Spaghetti and Garlic Bread with Salad Bar

21st– Taco in a Boat

28th– Chef's Choice

Financials

As of Nov. 30th	Year to Date
Income	\$574,155.51
Expenses	\$561,678.47
Surplus	\$12,477.04

Thank You
For your continued support of Zion Lutheran and Zion's mission!

Please scan this QR code to give an offering to ZLC



Expenses are currently lower due to vacant staff positions. Previous deficit years will begin to be offset by potential surpluses. Strong giving is needed to provide options for staffing in the future.

Worship Date	On-Site	Online	Total
November 22nd, 23rd, & 26th	181	262	443
November 29th, 30th, & December 3rd	187	293	480
December 6th, 7th, & 10th	173	355	528
December 13th, Kids Sabbath 14th, & 17th	454	206	394
December 20th & 21st	140	136	276
December 24th	623	588	1211
December 27th & 28th	88	154	242



Thank You to Our 2026 Pledgers!

Atkinson, Burton & Erica
Baker, Chris & Jennifer
 Beggs, Janell
BerntsonHynson, Teresa
 Billing, Vivian
 Boyeff, Ardell
Broderick, Maurice & Sherry
 Butts, Dick
 Cleveland, Sue
Clute & Nelson, James &
 Sherlene
 Cole, Devin & Kayla
 Cole, Ezra
 Cole, Nora
Deaver, Steve & Rondi
 Desjardins, Donna
Dokken, Brian & Laura
 Dupay, Joyce
Erickson, Troy & Leah
 Fiske, Peter & Mandy
Getzlaff, David & Patricia
 Grey, Lisa
 Hartung, Shirley
 Haugeberg, Phoebe
 Hennessy, Karen
Hjelmstad, Terry & Gail
Hjelmstad, Travis & Cassidy
 Hoewt, Greg & Chanda
Hornecker, Brian & Janet
Hornecker, Ryne & Angela
 Huettl, John & Julie
 Huus, Ordean
 Iverson, Gene
 Jensen, Karen
Jensen, Mark & Bethany
 Johnson, Richard
 Juergens, Ruth
Kippen, Heather Kirkhammer,
 Kent & Chelsea Knaup,
 Marshall & Lindsay
 Knudson, Connie
 Korslien, Milton
Lakoduk, Ray & Brenda
 Lewis, Eli & Carrie

Lommen, Orvin & Carolyn
 Maas, Hilmer & Joyce
 Mahoney, Deborah
 Martin, Josh & Nicole
McLean, Bruce & Diana
 Momerak, Darlene
Morrison, Harland & Ellen
Nelson, Craig & Jane Olson,
 Olson, Mary
 Paurus, Mike & Karla
Peterson, Michael & Lesley
 Pfau, Matt & Kara
 Rittel, Fred & Teresa
 Robb, Jim & Sue
Roen, Richard & Bev
Rude, Floyd & Millie
 Schell, Gary
 Schmidt, Michele
 Simbalenko, Eunice
 Smith, Jacky
Solar, Larry & Carlene
Somerville, Dean & Diana
Steenerson, Brian & Leanne
 Stenvold, Mike & Shirley
Summers, Tim & Harreitta
 Sundbakken, Marlys
Sveet, Erik & Reverend Elaine
 Teets, Doug & Connie
 Teets, Judy
 Thomas, Bill & Amy
Thomas, Don & Dianne
Thompson, John & Sandi
Torgeson, Chris & Rod
 Troxel, Brian & Julie
 Tweten, Betty
Uran, Michael & Pam
 Valgren, Judy
Zerr, Angela & Mike
Ziegler, Dean & Nancy
 Winkels, Amanda
 Anderson, Helene
Anderson, Nathan & Jeni
 Asendorf, Kristi
 Beeter, Kevin & Renae

Berntson, Robert & Bonnie
 Bossert, Peter & Linda
Callahan, Ryan & Jennifer
 Cole, Shelley & Donna
 Eskelson, Tim & Stacey
Goodman, David & Michelle
 Hernes, Joel & Sonja
Hochhalter, Justin & Sarah
 Hughes, Tina
Jackson, Kevin & Kayla
 Jacob, Michelle
 Johnson, Dianna
 Lawson, Joel & Lori
Mackner, John & Emily
 Maixner, Dale & Wanda
Nordquist, Dennis & Cindy
 Roehm, Charlie & Angie
 Rovenko, John & Vicki
 Schlosser, Chad & Julie
 Stenvold, Joe & Beth
Swenson, Charles & Sandy
Thorlaksen, Eric & Tasha
 Weidman, Chelsee
 White, Pat
 Whorley, Richard
 Wold, Eldon
 Lunstad, Penny

**There is still time to
pledge for 2026!
Please email zlc@srt.com
or call 852-1872
to pledge today!**

Church School Updates

*Ruth & Naomi Rotation

*We will begin:

*Sun—Jan 11th

*Wed—Jan 14th



*Training will be sent out via video in early January.

*We need **more workshop helpers**. If you are willing to serve in a workshop to guide the students through an activity, please contact Chris. Chris will continue to do the main portion of the teaching during our opening time leaving approximately 25-30 minutes for the activity.

High School Youth Group

Our weekly schedule for youth group is going to shift slightly as we begin 2026. We are going to set aside 2 Wednesdays a month to dive into what it means to be a Christian as a teen in today's world through Bible study, videos, discussion and how to live our faith out loud.

- Jan 14th-Youth Group
- Jan 21st-Bible Study
- Jan 28th-Youth Group
- Feb 4th-Bible Study
- Feb 11th-Youth Group



Confirmation Updates

6th-8th Grade-The Lord's Prayer

- Jan 14th—Onsite Learning
- Jan 21st—Onsite Learning
- Jan 28th
 - 6th Grade-ONSITE
 - 7th/8th Grade-OFFSITE
- Feb 4th
 - 6th Grade-OFFSITE
 - 7th/8th Grade-ONSITE
- Feb 11th-Onsite Learning
- Feb 18th-Onsite Learning
- Feb 25th-Onsite Learning

9th Grade-Life & Faith

- Jan 28th-Alcohol & Addiction
- Feb 4th-Taking Action Learning
- Mar 4th-Crime & Violence
- Mar 25th-Offsite-Funeral Home Visit
- April 29th-Diversity & Racism
- May 6th-Student-Led Worship

10th Grade MENTOR YEAR

- Initial Meeting (Parents/Students)- Choosing Your Mentor-January 14th at 7:45pm in the Sanctuary.
- Mentor/Student Gatherings
 - Wednesdays 7-8pm
 - Feb 18 & 25; Mar 4, 18 & 25; Apr 1



NEW Middle School Youth Group

We will be meeting once a month for a time of fellowship and fun!

MONDAY, JANUARY 19th from 1-3pm

WHEN THE WEATHER IS COLD...

Staying Connected and Active in the Colder Months

As the winter months set in, the shorter days and chilly weather can sometimes lead to feelings of *isolation and loneliness*. However, staying connected with others and keeping active can brighten your mood and improve your overall well-being. Here are some simple ideas:

*Attend Social Gatherings

Bring warmth to the season by hosting gatherings with friends and family. Whether it's a cozy movie night, a game night, or a potluck dinner, these moments of connection can make a big difference. Get connected at Zion.



*Stay Physically Active

Movement is essential for both physical and mental health. Staying active releases endorphins and keeps your energy up during the winter months.

*Remember, staying proactive about your social and physical activity can help beat the winter blues.

With a little effort, this season can become a time of warmth, connection, and personal growth.



Let's embrace this winter with fellowship and activity—because together, we thrive!

Our 2nd Annual Winter Series of Chair Yoga at Zion on Wednesday afternoons from 1-1:30pm. We start

Jan 14th! No experience necessary.

Come enjoy an opportunity for a short 30 min session of easy chair yoga and stretching.



Angel Tree Thank You

A **HUGE** thank you to **ALL** of you who purchased Christmas gifts for North Central Human Services! We served over 55 individuals from Minot and the surrounding area!

Beat the Cold Carnival ALL AGES INVITED



- *This is an intergenerational event full of fun and fellowship for everyone!
- *If you are older, do not have children or are single—there will be activities FOR YOU such as board games, conversations, cards and more!
- *Join us for a potluck lunch and activities! We will be serving sloppy joes and inviting everyone to bring a dish/dessert to share. There will be something for EVERYONE!

Sunday, January 25th
11am-1pm Carnival



BINGO BLAST!

Enjoy a family fun night of supper, bingo and lots of laughs! This will be a Youth Fundraiser for our upcoming trips. Supper will be a free-will offering. Bingo Cards will be \$5 each.



Saturday, January 31st
6-7:30pm

HOLY LISTENING

Our next Holy Listening Event will be Jan 25th at 6:30pm in the back room of Bootleggers. We will hear from the Domestic Violence Crisis Center and how they serve those in our area.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

 <p>January</p>	<p>4 9:15am Coffee Fellowship 10am Epiphany Worship</p>	<p>5 1pm Watercolor Grp</p>	<p>6 1pm Watercolor Grp</p>	<p>7 1pm: Widows & Widowers 7pm: Guide Huddle</p>	<p>8 2pm Hannah Circle 7:30pm Narcotics Anon.</p>	<p>9 5pm Epiphany-Worship</p>
<p>10 5pm Worship</p>	<p>11 9am: Church School 9:15am Coffee Fellowship 10am Worship 6pm: Quilters</p>	<p>12 1pm Watercolor Grp 5:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Book Club</p>	<p>13 1pm: Chair Yoga 4:30pm: Church School 5:15pm Food Faith Family 6:15pm Worship 7pm: Church School & Confirmation 8pm HS Youth Grp</p>	<p>14 1pm: Chair Yoga 4:30pm: Church School 5:15pm Food Faith Family 6:15pm Worship 7pm: Church School & Confirmation 8pm HS Youth Grp</p>	<p>15 6pm: Cub Scout Pack #4432 Mtg 7:30pm Narcotics Anon.</p>	<p>16 5pm Worship</p>
<p>17 9am: Men's Breakfast 5pm Worship</p>	<p>18 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p>	<p>20 1pm Watercolor Grp 6:30pm Council Mtg</p>	<p>21 1pm Watercolor Grp 6:30pm Council Mtg</p>	<p>22 1pm: Chair Yoga 4:30pm: Church School 5:15pm Food Faith Family 6:15pm Worship 7pm: Church School & Confirmation 8pm HS Youth Bible Study</p>	<p>23 7:30pm Narcotics Anon.</p>	<p>24 5pm Worship</p>
<p>25 9am: Church School 9:15am Coffee Fellowship 10am Worship 11am: Beat the Cold Carnival & Potluck 6:30pm: Holy Listening- Domestic Violence Center</p>	<p>26 1pm Watercolor Grp</p>	<p>27 1pm Watercolor Grp</p>	<p>28 1pm: Chair Yoga 2pm: Prayer Circle</p>	<p>29 4:30pm: Church School 5:15pm Food Faith Family 6:15pm Worship 7pm: Church School & Confirmation 7pm: 9th grd Confirmation 8pm HS Youth Grp</p>	<p>30 7:30pm Narcotics Anon.</p>	<p>31 5pm Worship 6pm: Bingo Blast Event</p>

Zion Lutheran Church

1800 Hiawatha Street
Minot, ND 58701

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Minot, ND
Permit No. 261

January



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

Phone: 701-852-1872

Email: zlc@srt.com

Website: www.zionlutheranminot.org

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2025 Council Members

Joe Stenvold President

Amanda Winkels Vice President

Sherry Broderick Secretary

Mike Uran Treasurer

Matt Sundahl

Rondi Deaver

Nicole Martin

Harry Summers

Kinley Gruenberg Youth Member

Lead Pastor Elaine Sveet