



The Rosette

December, 2023

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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*O holy night! the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope- the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night, O night divine!*

Advent is a season marked by anticipation and preparation as we look to that holy night when Christ was born. In a culture oversaturated with commercial preparations for Christmas, Advent-keeping remains a deeply counter-cultural practice, and an opportunity to dwell for a set apart time in the light of God's promises.

Our Advent theme this year references one of the lines from the hymn O Holy Night. For 4 Sundays, beginning November 26, we will explore the question "**How Does a Weary World Rejoice?**" With this theme, we acknowledge our own weariness, and the hope we have in the gift of Emmanuel, God with us.

We'll be keeping the Advent season at Zion a bit out of sync with the liturgical calendar this year. Advent is appointed to begin on Dec. 3, with the fourth and final Sunday of Advent on December 24. In order to fully engage our Advent theme and to fully prepare the way of the Lord at Zion throughout the season of Advent, Zion will begin Advent worship on November 26, as noted above. **This means that all services on December 24 will be worship for Christmas Eve. Christmas Eve worship will take place at 10:30 am and 7 pm -- please note the change of time for morning worship!**



How does a weary world rejoice? Let the answer be: together, in the light of God's love this Advent season.

Pastor Kate

Outdoor Christmas Tree Decorating

Our annual, outdoor Christmas Tree Decorating event, held in conjunction with the Zion Preschool, will be Tuesday December 5, 5:30 – 6:30 pm.

In past years we have offered this event as part of the First Thursday events in Manheim, but First Thursdays are on pause until spring so we have flexibility for scheduling and for setting up. We are planning this year to set up the craft tables and some of the refreshments in our parking lot, near the main entrance to our building, and to mark a pathway out to the tree with lanterns and luminarias. We will fire up the firepits for marshmallows, and offer hot dogs, hot chocolate and baked goods to eat.

A sign up sheet for baked goods and for volunteers is posted outside the office. In the event of inclement weather, please call the office to check the status of the event. (If the weather is bad, we may shift the craft tables and refreshments indoors and/or have the preschool kids decorate the tree at a later date).

All are welcome to come and join the fun, and to help decorate the outdoor tree.

A Spirited Christmas

Join us on Sunday, December 17th for a day of preparation and praise! We celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent with service at 9:15 a.m. Following the service, the decorating team will put the final touches on the sanctuary – decorating the tree and putting out poinsettias. At the conclusion of the decorating, we will have a light lunch. The big finale for the day will be at 2:00 p.m. with a special presentation of Christmas music by the sanctuary choir in the nicely decorated church! There will be spirituals and carols to whet everybody's appetite for Christmas Eve! You are cordially invited to join us for any portion of these activities that you like.

10:30 a.m. - Christmas decorating 12:30 p.m. - Light lunch 2:00 p.m. - Christmas Music!!



Annual Congregational Meeting Set

Our annual congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd. We will be voting on the proposed 2024 budget and election of new Council members. We will also be voting on a proposal to change some wording in the by-laws of the Special Gifts and Bequests Committee. (Please see next page with related info.) Please plan to attend.

Special Gifts and Bequests Fund: Proposed Bylaw Amendment

An agenda item to be addressed at Zion's Annual meeting on Dec. 3rd concerns the process of allocating the interest income from the Special Gifts and Bequests Fund. The following by-law, with the noted procedures and percentages for disbursements of SGB Funds, was adopted in 2006:

The COMMITTEE shall determine what is principal and interest according to accepted accounting procedures.

Gifts and bequests to the FUND shall accumulate until principal amount of \$25,000 is achieved, after which the interest generated from the investment of the principal shall be expended.

Interest from the FUND shall be distributed annually and such other times as deemed necessary and/or feasible to accomplish any of the following purposes:

- 1. "Seminary Scholarships" – 30%**
- 2. "Scholarships for Zion's Youth and Adults" – 30%**
- 3. "Local and Wider Church Benevolence" – 30%**
- 4. "Capital Improvements for Zion's Nursery Preschool" – 10%**

This would include playground equipment, facility repairs or improvements, and other long-term improvements, if needed. If not all of the interest credited for this purpose is expended annually, the remainder of the funds may be accumulated within the fund, or may be assigned for purpose #3, "Local and Wider Church Benevolence".

Programs for support shall be recommended by the COMMITTEE and approved by the Church Council for funding.

In order to give the Special Gifts and Bequests Fund Committee greater discretion and flexibility for disbursement of monies from the Fund, the Church Council, at the request of the Committee, proposes to eliminate the percentage allocations and to replace the bold section with the following amendment:

Interest from the FUND shall be distributed annually and such other times as deemed necessary and/or feasible at the discretion of the FUND Committee, to support any of the following purposes: local and wider community ministries; spiritual formation and leadership development opportunities for youth and adult members; and the Zion Lutheran Preschool.



Silent Auction Upcoming

Christmas is fast approaching! And, once again, it's time for Zion's Annual Silent Auction. You can help fight world hunger by bidding on many unique displayed items that are generously donated by some of Zion's members. This is a great way to get a jump on your Christmas gift buying, as well as donating towards a very worthy cause. Items will be on display by the stage starting on Sunday, November 26th. Bidding begins on December 3rd, and concludes at noon on December 10th. You will be notified if you have the winning bid for any item. Bidding numbers may be obtained from Donna Dieter in the church office or from a member of the Social Ministry Committee starting on December 3rd. All proceeds go towards the Lutheran World Hunger Appeal. Please come and enjoy all the fun, and help out with this mission opportunity.

2024 Offering Envelopes available

Zion's 2024 offering envelope sets are available for pick-up. For your convenience, they are located on the table in the back of the large Sunday School room for a few weeks. After the new year, they may be picked up in the church office.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

The Sunday morning bible study will be taking a break for the month of December and will resume in January with a new book of the bible. Your ideas for study topics are welcome.

Toys for Tots Campaign, 2023

Thanks to everyone who donated toys for the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" campaign. The donation box will be in place through the end of November for any last minute offerings. May God bless these gifts from our hands and hearts, and may these gifts brighten the holidays for children in Lancaster county.



Tree and Church Decorating Planned

We will be decorating Zion's Christmas tree and church on Sunday, December 17th following the regular church service. Come out and help prepare the inside of the church for Christmas. There will be a light lunch following the decorating.



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS NEEDED!!

Ring a bell...help change a life

What you are doing is directly providing funds for an important ministry to people in need in the Manheim area, as all the donations are kept and distributed right here in the Manheim School District Area. We will be ringing the bell on Thursday, December 7th @ Longenecker's Hardware from 12:00-8:00pm. Please sign up on the sheet posted outside the church office if you can help during that timeframe.

Food Pantry Needs

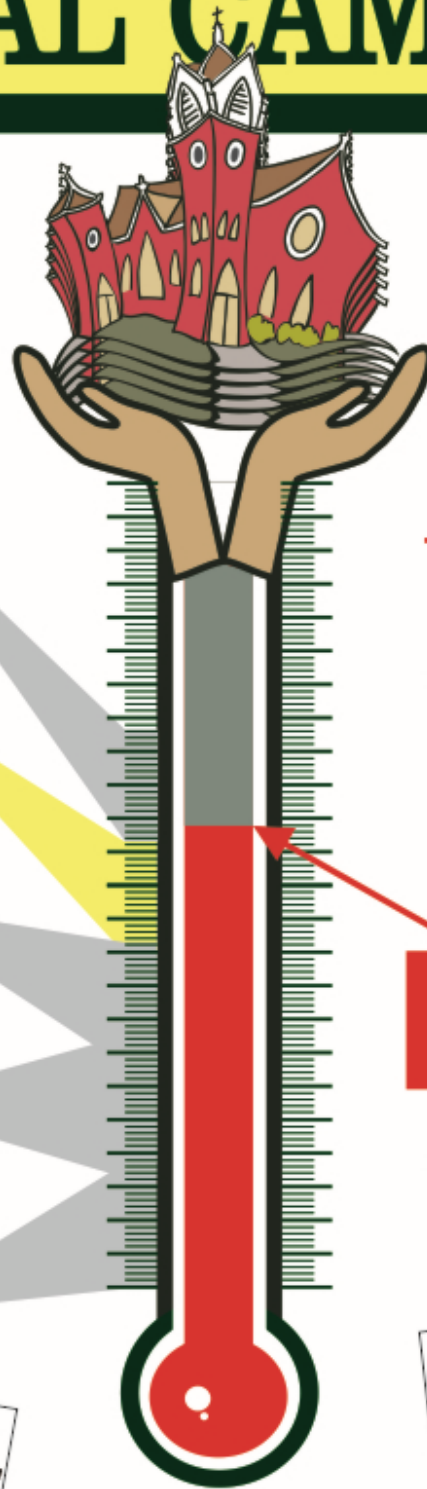


During the month of December, the Manheim Central Food Pantry is looking for canned beef stew, canned chili, soup, Spam, and boxes of rice. They no longer need plastic grocery bags at this time.

Please make sure any food items you may be donating are not out of date. Please put your donations in the grocery cart outside the church office or drop them in the collection box on the front porch of the food pantry located at 334 W. Gramby St., Manheim. Monetary donations may also be sent to the MC Food Pantry, c/o Salem United Methodist Church, 140 N. Penn St., Manheim, PA 17545.

Investing in the Future

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



PROJECTED ANNUAL PLEDGING



ZION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CURRENT GIVING

\$138,098
thru 11-13-2023



We are now working on our 4th year's commitment!
You may make contributions to the Capital Campaign
by using your regular offering envelope
and designating in writing "Capital Campaign" on the line marked "other".

Thanksgiving Thanks

We want to give a great big **“THANK YOU”** to all who helped make this year’s Thanksgiving meal such a success! For the willingness of the planners, servers, bakers, runners, and delivery people...we are so proud to have members who offer their assistance to make this event happen each year. It’s a great outreach to members of the community who, for whatever reason, may want or need a delicious meal to give thanks for. We are truly blessed here at Zion, and in the Manheim community at large.

Daughters of Zion

The Daughters of Zion met on November 20th with 16 members in attendance.

Our meetings always begin with devotions, and this month’s devotions were led by Jean Rambler. Then comes the business end of our meetings. Many of you may not know how much support the “Daughters” give to various projects not only inside Zion’s walls, but to the community at large. We give through our monthly collections to the MC Food Pantry, Teen Central, The Home on Ferdinand, Zion’s Preschool, Lutheran World Relief, and other organizations where we see the need. We’re always standing ready to help our neighbors, whether near or far away! (*We’re not just a bunch of pretty faces!*)

Upcoming Events:

Our **December 18th** meeting will feature our Annual Christmas Brunch! Please note: this particular day’s activities will begin at **12:30** instead of our usual time!

January 15: We welcome Corinna Harnley and Teresa Nolt, Manheim Community Board members! They will address the group on the impact the “Home on Ferdinand” is making in the community.

Our lively discussions left no time for games. We closed with prayers and enjoyed some delicious refreshments provided by Verdella Frey!!

Our meetings are held every third Monday of the month at 1:30.

Please join us! We’d love to see you!



Preschool News

November went fast with “Thankful” as our theme. Our Pre-K students enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast together. Parent volunteers helped all enjoy the meal sporting their Thanksgiving-wear and sharing the things that they are thankful for. The teachers and children are looking forward to Thanksgiving break and enjoying time with family



and friends!
We have some fun art on the



Our Preschool Thanksgiving Feast

Preschool walls that I hope you have a chance to see!

Over our Thanksgiving break we will decorate and gear up for the Christmas season. We return on November 27th and jump right into the season! We have friends looking forward to lunch bunch with Pastor Kate & Friends on the 6th and 7th. The Christmas Tree Decorating is on December 5th and the One Baby Jesus program will take place this year on December 13th and 14th. There are so many wonderful events and activities coming up!

We are thankful for Pastor Kate, Miss Donna, and all the members of Zion Lutheran Church who are such advocates for the children in this community. We appreciate all you do and hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Katie Mummau



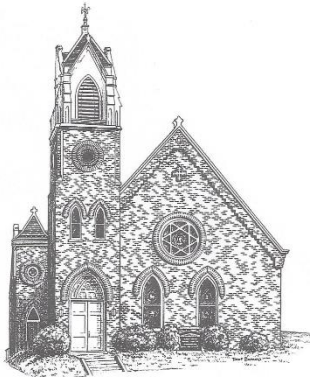
December Birthdays

- 12/1 Sue Murray
12/5 Karen Connelly
Earl Gernert
12/8 Miranda Kulp
12/15 Ella Fotiou
12/16 Jen Corson
Cheryl Witmeyer
12/20 Norm Drescher
12/24 Mary Caplinger
Jim Miller
12/30 Linda Keiffer
Jackie McKinney
Wayne Olson
12/31 Betty Myers
Elaine Olson



December Anniversaries

- 12/4 Tom & Connie Hershey
12/8 Dave & Sharon Lynes
12/12 Dennis Shafnisky & Carol Atherholt
12/17 Bill & Rose Longabach
12/19 Richard & Doris Adair
12/23 Leonard & Jayne Burns
Tim & Jody Hess
12/27 Bob & June Lancaster (65 years)



Parish Registry

No changes for this month

Financial Notes:

with joy and thanksgiving for your faithful stewardship.

<i>OFFERINGS</i>	Mo. Total	Budget
October General Fund offering	23,552	23,165
October Capital Campaign offering	2,192	-----
November General Fund offering (as of 11/13)	7,685	18,532
Nov. Capital Campaign offering (as of 11/13)	1,199	---



Prayer Chain

The Expanded Prayer List is published at the beginning of each month. Printed copies are available at the church. Please contact Linda Keiffer @ 742-2149 to add a name to the list and to initiate the prayer chain. She will, in turn, notify the church office of the name and the reason for prayer.

Current Prayer Warriors to Zion's Prayer Chain include: Rubye Barto, Holly Brosey, Linda Keiffer, Yvonne Kreider, Verna Landry, and Donna Rhodes.

Take note: Please have permission from the person whose name you are placing on the list for prayer. The name of the contact person and phone number are also important for updates and further information about the person being prayed for.

December Readings

12/1 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Zechariah 14:1-9
1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

12/2 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Micah 2:1-13
Matthew 24:15-31

1st Sunday of Advent

12/3 Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

12/4 Psalm 79
Micah 4:1-5
Revelation 15:1-8

12/5 Psalm 79
Micah 4:6-13
Revelation 18:1-10

12/6 Psalm 79
Micah 5:1-5a
Luke 21:34-38

12/7 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Hosea 6:1-6
1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

12/8 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Acts 11:19-26

12/9 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Ezekiel 36:24-28
Mark 11:27-33

2nd Sunday of Advent

12/10 Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8

12/11 Psalm 27
Isaiah 26:7-15
Acts 2:37-42

12/12 Psalm 27
Isaiah 4:2-6
Acts 11:1-18

12/13 Psalm 27
Malachi 2:10-3:1
Luke 1:5-17

12/14 Psalm 126
Habakkuk 2:1-5
Philippians 3:7-11

12/15 Psalm 126
Habakkuk 3:2-6
Philippians 3:12-16

12/16 Psalm 126
Habakkuk 3:13-19
Matthew 21:28-32

3rd Sunday of Advent

12/17 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

December Readings, cont'd

12/18 Psalm 125
1 Kings 18:1-18
Ephesians 6:10-17

12/19 Psalm 125
2 Kings 2:9-22
Acts 3:17-4:4

12/20 Psalm 125
Malachi 3:16-4:6
Mark 9:9-13

12/21 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
2 Samuel 6:1-11
Hebrews 1:1-4

12/22 Psalm 96
Zephaniah 3:8-13
Romans 10:5-13

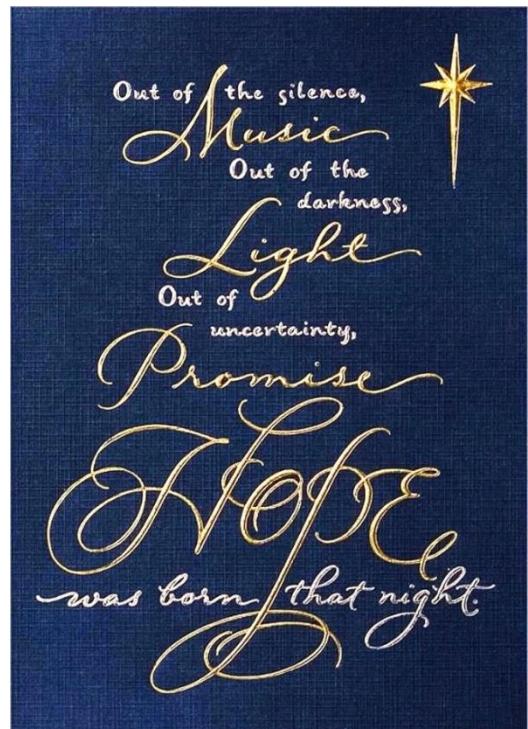
12/23 Psalm 96
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Romans 13:11-14

4th Sunday of Advent

12/24 Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Christmas Day

12/25 Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20



12/26 Psalm 148
Jeremiah 31:18-23
1 John 1:1-9

12/27 Psalm 148
Exodus 33:18-23
1 John 1:1-9

12/28 Psalm 148
Jeremiah 31:15-17
Matthew 2:13-18

12/29 Psalm 148
Isaiah 49:5-15
Matthew 12:46-50

12/30 Psalm 148
Proverbs 9:1-12
2 Peter 3:8-13

12/31 Psalm 148
1 Kings 3:5-14
John 8:12-19

Altar Flowers



- Dec. 3 Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Spohn in memory of George & Anna Spohn
Dave Lynes' family in honor of Earl Gernert's birthday
- Dec. 10 Dave & Sharon Lynes in honor of their anniversary
- Dec. 17 *This space available. Please call office at 665-5880.*
- Dec. 24 Lenny & Jayne Burns in honor of their 56th anniversary
- Dec. 31 Bob & June Lancaster in honor of their 65th anniversary

Note: Flowers are \$40 per week, and must be paid to the church by the beginning of the month for the flowers you are sponsoring. Thank you.

Bulletin Sponsors

Month of December – John & Carol Blanck in memory of Meda Blanck

Bulletins are - \$9.00 per week



Worship Help Schedule

We need helpers for this position. Please sign on the volunteer sheet outside the church office.

Date	Greeters/Ushers	Lay Readers	Communion Assistants
12/3	Jim & Susan Scales	John Blanck	George May
12/10	Terry & Cheryl Fry	Carol Atherholt	Lenny Burns
12/17	Sandy Quesenberry	Donna Moore	
12/24	Dave & Sharon Lynes	Carol Atherholt - 10:30 Sue Shaw – 7:00	Sharon Lynes
12/31	Kelly Barthold	Fay Varner	
1/7	Dave & Betty Wise	Ronda Moore	
1/14	Donn & Deb Gehman	Paul Caplinger	
1/21	Martha Rudisill	Mary Welliver	
1/28	Bob & Mary Ann Greiner	Norm Drescher	

Zion's Prayers

Please remember Zion's members as you pray:

Helen Blank	Kathy Connelly	Kate Eichelberger
Barbara Grunenberger	Kay Hoffer	Missy Hoffman
Yvonne Kauffman	Bill Martin	Erma May
Jacquie McKinney	Betty Minnich	Joe Murray
Sue Murray	Doreen Myers	Donna Ober
Donna Rhodes	Nic & Stefan Spohn	Mary Welliver

Please remember our Friends of Zion in your prayers:

Emily Bair	Lee Barrick	Daryl Barry
Edna Barto	Neil Bartsch	Tom Beil
Kathy Brosey	Winnie Cammauf	Bill Duncan
Jaxson Eberly	Lee Elgire	Judy Erb
Lewis Ettinger	Jerry Fickling	Judy Fiene
Jeff Fry	Trudy Grimm	Hana Haatainen-Caye
Mason Heishman	Diane Lord	Yasir Makki family
Sandy Pennell	Brandy Rhodes	Mahlon Schreiber
Abby Shipe	Kyler Shupp	Frank Smith
Rachel Toole	Thad Toole	Joyce & De Warn

Please remember those in Military Service as you pray:

Ryan Plowman, Blake Reber, and Mikaela Adams

*Please take some time to remember
all these people in our prayers.
They each have individual needs that
your prayers can help them with.*

