Zion Messenger

November 2026

REJOICING, REACHING OUT, and RENEWING,
we share the joy of the gospel, through a life of faith.



Thanks & Praise

FROM OUR PASTOR

This story about the Samaritan Leper who was healed and turned back to give thanks and praise to Jesus causes us to realize that we might not praise God as we should. It's so much easier to lament or complain to God about what we want, or resent what we've lost than it is to just be thankful for what we already have. Thankfulness is not an obligation like the thank-you note to Grandma – it's an act of freedom that doubles the joy of what was received.

So, with the help of Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber, and the framework of Jesus' parable, let us offer thanks and praise to our God…

Luke 17:11*On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.*

Thank you God for being in the regions between – the unnoticeable spaces that we often don't think about or fear going. Thank you for those who bring water in the desert danger of border-crossing. Thank you for the space between my wakefulness and sleep. Thank you for being in the spaces we try to pretend are not there.

12*As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance,* 13*they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"*

For your approachability in Jesus, O God, we give you thanks. Thank you for coming to us in the most vulnerable way possible – contained in human skin. Thank you for revealing your glory in the person of Jesus Christ whom lepers approached and who in turn we are also able to approach. For your earthly approachability to all of us broken-winged birds we give you thanks.

14a*When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests."*

We give you thanks, O God, that you see us. Thank you for seeing that which we try to hide — our hurt and fear, our hearts and humor. Thank you for seeing the brokenness in our world as well as its beauty. Mostly we thank you for not only seeing all of these things, but for responding with nothing but love.

14b*"And as they went, they were made clean."*

We praise you for the healing that happens in our lives, even when it comes in forms we didn't expect. Thank you for the way in which you bring your people together to be healed.

15*Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.*

We praise you God for the ones who turn back. Thank you for all the

Continued on page 23

President's Corner

Stand Like a Mountain, Love Like an Avalanche

I am currently reading the daily devotional ***"Live in Grace, Walk in Love"*** *by Bob Goff. One of the recent devotions that really touched me was titled "Stand Like a Mountain, Love Like an Avalanche."*

It shared a story about Nelson Mandela. When he was released from prison in South Africa, he said, *"As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison." Mandela knew he had been wronged, but he didn't want the people who had wronged him to continue to control him. Instead, he chose to forgive and move forward, choosing to "stand like a mountain" and "love like an avalanche."*

The devotional goes on to say that the only way to multiply love in the world is to let go of the wrongs done to us. We do not need to minimize them or make excuses for others. Instead, we can recognize their failures alongside our own and remember that Jesus wiped our records clean through His grace.

What a powerful message and a difficult challenge! I am far from perfect, and when I feel I have been wronged, it is not always easy to forgive and let go. Yet, I want to challenge myself the next time I feel wronged to release that hurt and remember that, through Jesus' grace, we are all forgiven.

Bear with each other and forgive one another
if any of you has a grievance against someone.
Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
(Colossians 3:13)

Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

Tammy Reigle
Council President



From the Vicar



So let us not grow weary in doing what is right,
for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.
(Galatians 6:9, NRSV)

November is a month of transition. The leaves have fallen, the days are growing shorter, and we begin preparing for the winter months ahead. As the world around us changes, the month of November gives us an opportunity to pause, reflect, and give thanks for the ways God continues to work in our lives.

When we think about gratitude, we often focus on the big things: family, friends, good health, and special moments that bring us joy. These are certainly blessings worth celebrating. However, God is also present in the ordinary moments of our days: in a kind word shared, a helping hand, a shared laugh, a familiar prayer, or the comfort of knowing someone is thinking of us.

As a church family, we have many opportunities to recognize God's love in action. We see it when people volunteer their time, care for those who are hurting, welcome visitors, encourage one another, and serve our neighbors. These acts may sometimes seem small, but they make a difference. They remind us that being the church is more than gathering for worship; it is about carrying Christ's love into our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities.

November also reminds us that not everyone enters this season with a heart full of joy. As we give thanks for our blessings, may we also remember those who need extra care and compassion. Sometimes the greatest gift we can offer is simply our presence, a listening ear, or the assurance that a person is not alone.

During the month of November, I encourage you to look for God in the everyday moments of your life. Take time to notice the blessings that might go unseen. Offer thanks in prayer, express appreciation to someone who has made a difference, and look for opportunities to share God's goodness with others.

May this November be a time of renewed gratitude, deeper connections, and faithful service. And may we remember that even in seasons of change, God remains with us, calling us to love our neighbors and live as people of hope.

Blessings,
Vicar Keith Powell



Zion Congregational Council
Minutes from September 8, 2026

Call to Order: Roberta Seda called the meeting to order at 5:58pm.
Present: Adam Briese, Kay Flanagan, Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Jim Meyer, Vicar Keith Powell, Sara Rasmussen, Roberta Seda, Brett Temme, Brian Tisthammer
Excused: Tammy Reigle, Amanda Reinhart

Equipping Time: Sara Rasmussen – We focused on our need to slow down. Our world is too fast paced due to technology. Age of acceleration. Coming to God first is the most important. We need to let God's word set the pace. We need to slow down and meditate on God's word.

Council Minutes: Jim Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes of August 11, 2026, seconded by Brett Temme. Motion carried.

Reports of Officers:

President Tammy Reigle: No report.

Vice-President Roberta Seda: No report.

Treasurer Nancy Ahlers: Corrections: Page 6 – Building Fund Savings ADA should be $1,575.00; Undesignated Building Fund should be $143,720.46. Budgeted Continuing Ed money ($850) was transferred to Pastor's Continuing Ed Account. It is time to choose Pastor's Health Care Package through Portico, even though Pastor is on Medicare. Adam Briese made a motion to continue with the Gold Plus Portico Plan, seconded by Sara Rasmussen. Motion carried. Adam Briese made a motion to keep the fair rental value of the parsonage at $7,200 for 2026, seconded by Brian Tisthammer. Motion carried. Adam Briese made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Brett Temme. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Senior Pastor Carolann Hopcke: Pastor is on vacation September 10-23. Jane Mundschenk has a copy of the Chosen series that includes a study guide. A possible Bible study will be scheduled with those interested. VBS statements were mailed to St. Michael's and the Methodists. September is suicide prevention month; we may do an awareness event in 2027.

Intern Pastor Vicar Keith Powell: Classes started last week. Vicar was elected co-president of his class so there will be some extra meetings added to his schedule.

High School Youth Coordinator: Vicar Keith. Luther League has started. The kids suggested cooking a meal together once a month, and they did just that last week with Lisa Thayer leading the group while Vicar was out of town. They also made cookies. They are hoping to have some students attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering in July 2027. They had a meeting with parents and youth to talk about this event.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising: Lottery calendars for 2027 are ready to be sold. Nikki Heidemann, Cheryl Sherburne, and Marlys Smith will be selling lottery tickets on Sundays. The Puzzle competition will be at the Cardinal Inn again on Sunday March 7, 2027. There will be a pumpkin carving/decorating contest the week of October 25th through November 1st.

The angel ornaments are available to order ($10 each); Lois Hoefer is making them in red, blue and green. All money raised will benefit our ADA projects.

Parish Education: Bibles will be given to third graders on September 27th. Cheryl Sherburne and Amy Moser will decorate Rally Day (9/13); the theme is Fruits of the Spirit.

Property & Maintenance: There were two bats this week – one at church & the other at the parsonage.

Worship Committee: Zion Lutheran Church has been asked to ring the church bell on September 11th to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks; it will be rung at the moment of impact for the twin towers, the pentagon and flight 93, as well as when each of the towers collapsed. Veteran's Sunday will be held on November 8th. Choir will sing on Reformation and Veteran's Day Sunday. Maggie Wolf will be baptized on October 18th.

ADA Project: We are waiting for an estimation on the bathroom project so we can submit the grant. Correction to finances on page 14: Sunday Offerings designated for ADA Projects = $510 (August) and $1,575.00 (YTD).

Old Business: Pastor stopped and talked to Jon and Joann Porter two weeks ago today. She asked for an estimate for the bathrooms. Pastor told them that Will Frey is willing to help with the finishing part. We have a $30,000 matching grant that may be reallocated for the bathroom project; however, we need to submit an estimate and a letter requesting this reallocation. Once we have the estimate, we can request the grant transfer and present all findings to the congregation to perhaps move the bathroom project ahead of the elevator renovations.

New Business: None

Adjournment: Brett Temme made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jim Meyer. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:25pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 13th at 6pm. Amanda Reinhart will have equipping time.

Respectful submitted,
Kathryn Flanagan



Pat Francis
will turn 80
on November 16th!

Cards may be sent to:
734 S 4th St
Albion, NE 68620-1622

happy 80th birthday!



Loren Pearson
827 W. Columbia St., Apt. 129
Albion, NE 68620-1537

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

1 Mitch Koch, Jacob Lindgren, Jeff Martin, Connie Rieck
2 Joyce Rieck
3 ***Tom Fick****, *Noah Lindgren,* Barb Trollope
4 Aaron Allgood, Pat Christo, Casey Slaymaker
5 ***Carol Brugger****, *Ross David,* Ryan Hoefer, Shalei Merten, Lainah Neidhardt, Kaysen Nelson, Ashlynn Paulson
6 ***LeRoy Mangus****, *Ally Staub*
7 Wyleigh Peters, Albert Sutton
8 Maggie Cleveland, Clay Sandman, Evelyne Schaefer
10 Sheila Carder, Heather Kohtz
11 Gage Evans, Randy Leetch
12 Chuck Long, Amy Olnes
15 Jenny Gompert, Becky Lindgren, Mikaela Roberg
16 ***Pat Francis****, Hesston Rugg
18 Cooper Seier
19 Abigail Addison
20 Margie Broekemeier, Max Grosch
21 Tom Dickey, Carter Henn, Jim Meyer, Maren Nelson, Jana Niewohner
22 Adam Briese, Chad David, Brian Moser, Matthew Schmitz
23 Marlys Smith
24 Bradon Anderson
26 Branden Roberg, Jim Staub, Justin Temme
27 Ashton Evans, Nathan Paulson
29 Madison Gompert, Axel Kardell, Tammy Reigle, Corey Zoubek
30 Mary Grosch, Cola Heesacker, Eric Johnson, Dan Olson



*Denotes 80+ years young

ANNIVERSARIES

3 Amanda & Philip Rasmussen
4 Dana & Karen Andersen
7 Jana & Mark Niewohner
12 Brad & Lori Warner
13 Joey & Melissa Neidhardt
17 ***Charles & Cheryl Krohn****
21 Cody & Sara Rasmussen
22 Barb & Mike Trollope

**Denotes 50+ years of marriage*





Wednesday,
November 11th

TABLE GRACE



Happy Hearts

(tune: Yankee Doodle)

We thank you Lord for happy hearts
for rain and sunny weather.
We thank you Lord for this our food
and that we're here together.

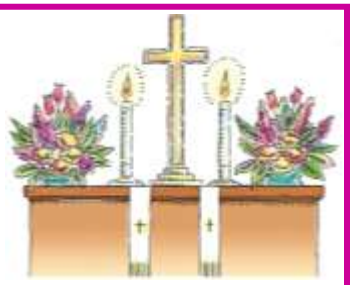
Thank you, thank you,
thank you Lord.
Thank you, thank you, Father.
Thank you, thank you, for this food
and that we're all together.

Women's Circles November 2026

Peace Circle will meet at Zion on Wednesday, November 18th at 9am. ***Mary Levander*** will be the study leader.

Grace Circle will meet at 2pm on Wednesday, November 18th at Assisted Living. **Doris Warner** will be the study leader.

2026 Flower Committee



November
Jolene Roberg

December
Tammy Reigle

NewsLetter DEADLine

The December Messenger deadline is Sunday, November 15th!



2026 Schedule

Altar Guild

November:
Katie Rugg*
Nicole Levander
Amy Olnes

December
Jim & Patti Meyer*
Nikki & Rich Heidemann

Intern Committee Meeting 6pm on Monday, November 30th

INTERN COMMITTEE



2026 Fellowship Coffee Serving Schedule

November: Faith & Fellowship Committee

December: Women of Zion

☩ Christian Symbol ☩



DOOR

A door symbolizes our invitation to engage in prayer and a personal relationship with Jesus: "Knock and the door will be opened to you." *(Matthew 7:7, NIV)* A door can also represent Jesus' loving invitation to open our hearts to him: "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock." *(Revelation 3:20, NIV)* When we welcome him in, we receive the joy of fellowship and life with Christ.

PUZZLE

Counting Our Blessings

Thanksgiving is a great opportunity to "count our blessings." God blesses each of us daily in so many ways. Solve the following math problems. Then write the words on the numbered lines below to complete Ephesians 1:3, NIV.

14 - 7 = ____ Father
10 + 9 = ____ heavenly
10 + 5 = ____ blessed
2 - 1 = ____ Praise
7 + 7 = ____ has
11 + 11 = ____ every
12 + 12 = ____ blessing
10 + 10 = ____ realms
13 + 13 = ____ Christ
8 + 8 = ____ us
8 + 9 = ____ in
5 + 5 = ____ Lord
10 + 11 = ____ with

10 + 15 = ____ in
6 - 3 = ____ to
12 - 6 = ____ and
6 + 6 = ____ Christ
18 - 9 = ____ our
22 - 11 = ____ Jesus
1 + 1 = ____ be
7 + 6 = ____ who
2 + 2 = ____ the
10 - 5 = ____ God
4 + 4 = ____ of
9 + 9 = ____ the
10 + 13 = ____ spiritual

"_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
1 2 3 4 5 6

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____,
7 8 9 10 11 12

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
13 14 15 16 17 18

_____ _____ _____ _____
19 20 21 22

_____ _____ _____ _____."
23 24 25 26

Ephesians 1:3, NIV

Bible Quiz



What did St. Paul teach about how people can recognize the existence of God?

A. They would have no understanding of God unless someone told them.
B. They could see evidence of God by observing creation.
C. God cannot be known in any way except through Jesus.

Bread Painting



When you eat this fun snack, be thankful for Jesus, who is our Bread of Life.

What you need:

- Small cups
- Milk
- Food coloring
- Clean, food-safe brush
- Slice of bread
- Toaster or toaster oven
- Butter, optional



What you do:

1. Set out one small cup for each color you want to use.
2. Pour 1 to 2 tablespoons of milk into each cup.
3. Add a few drops of food coloring to each cup and stir until the color is bright.
4. Using a clean, food-safe brush, gently paint a picture or design on the bread. Be careful not to soak the bread.
5. When you're finished painting, toast the bread. Add a little butter, if desired, and enjoy!



Reminder: Ask an adult for help when using a toaster or toaster oven.

"I am the bread of life."
John 6:35, NIV



Answers are on page 14

luther league

LUTHER LEAGUE

for all youth in grades 9-12.
Join us on
Wednesday Nights!
Dinner begins at **6pm.**

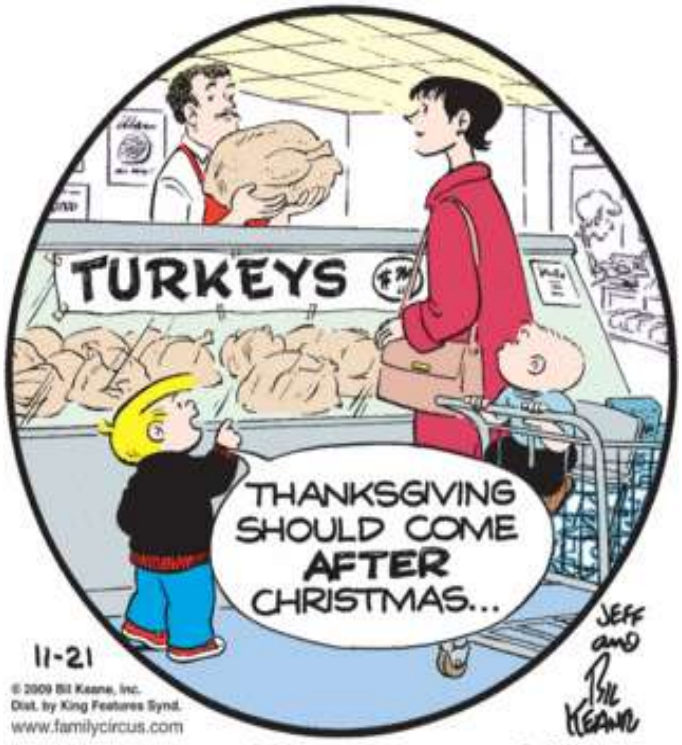
Please mark your calendars and invite your friends! Everyone is welcome at any and all of our Luther League events!

Blessings, Vicar Keith

Luther League Meals

Want to help provide meals for Luther League meetings on Wednesday nights? Go to signup genius at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c44acac28a1f58-luther to volunteer! Thanks!

SignUp Genius



"...then we'd have more things to be thankful for."



ADDRESS CORRECTION:

Preston Trollope
(2nd year Peru State)
600 Hoyt St
Peru, NE 68421-3073



S c h e d u l e

Wed., Nov. 4	6:30pm	LL Room Meeting
Wed., Nov. 11	6:30pm	LL Room Meeting
Wed., Nov. 18	6:30pm	LL Room Meeting
Wed., Nov. 25	NO LL	Thanksgiving Break
Sun., Nov. 29	4:00pm	Decorate Marilee's



Boone County Food Pantry



1108 W. State St.
Albion, NE 68620

Open EVERY Thursday
2-4pm

Ongoing Needs:

Canned Soup	Crackers
Canned Fruit	Toilet Paper
Shampoo	Bar Soap
Conditioner	Toothpaste
Hand Sanitizers	Paper Products

Miscellaneous Personal Hygiene Products

Donations may be brought to the Pantry on Thursdays between 2-4pm.

For more information, call Nancee Krohn (402) 741-1184 or Lynn Bygland (402) 920-3552

Worship Committee

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, November 3rd at 5:30pm



Just a REMINDER: the Sew Happy Mission Quilters will NOT meet in November or December.

All are welcome to join them in January 2027!



Mobile Food Pantry — Saturday, November 7th!

This month's Mobile Food Pantry will be held on Saturday, November 7th at 9:00 am at the Boone County Fairgrounds. This is set up as a drive-through only. All patrons will need to enter the fairgrounds from the 11th and Fairview entrance. Vehicles will be taken in order of arrival in a designated line. The first vehicle to arrive is asked to follow the road into the fairgrounds and stop and park directly in front of the cones that will be set out. All other vehicles entering that are there for the mobile pantry need to follow in line and wait until you have been asked to do otherwise.

If anyone is coming to volunteer their time, please park in the west parking lot next to the Casey Building. If you are willing and are able to volunteer, please arrive around 8:15 am.

If any volunteers or patrons have any symptoms of illness, please refrain from coming to the mobile pantry this month but feel free to ask someone else to pick up for you.

The Food Bank of the Heartland will provide pre-packaged boxes, along with some other produce and food products. Each patron will be required to take what is already packed in each box.

A specific number of vehicles at a time will be sent down to the distribution area. All people attending must remain in their vehicles unless asked to get out. All cars in the distribution area must remain parked until all of those vehicles are told to move. This is a big change as to how things are generally done so we ask for your patience and cooperation as the volunteers are doing their best.

Everyone is reminded that there is always the possibility that the mobile pantry could be cancelled or postponed due to the current events. Coordinators will do their best to update the information in the newspaper or through the Boone County **Nebraska Sheriff's Facebook page.**

FOODBANK FOR THE HEARTLAND



Holiday Dinner

at

Albion Country Club

December 10th

at 6:00pm

The Fellowship Committee is planning another Holiday Dinner for members, families & friends! More details will be coming soon.

Mark your calendars and join us!

For more information, please speak with Deb Borchers (308-991-3912)







LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SUNDAY: OCTOBER 11, 2026

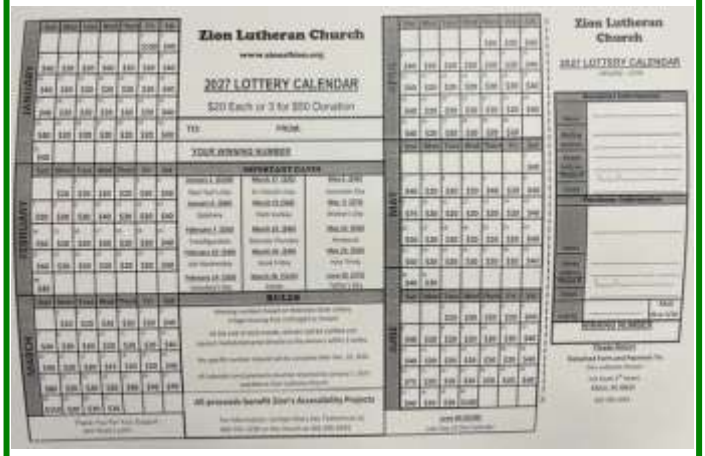
Thanks to our Sew Happy Mission Quilters **136 quilts** were boxed up to be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talents, the ZLC Sew Happy Mission Quilters will be starting up again in January 2027. Check the January Messenger for dates.

Zion also created 33 Personal Care Kits & 50 School Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Thanks to all who helped donate, package, box & transport these donations!

2027
Six-Month Lottery Calendars
(January to June)
$20 each or 3 for $50



Zion is selling Lottery Calendars again! Winning numbers will be based on the Nebraska State Lottery 3-digit Evening Pick 3 (Straight as drawn).

Numbers from 000 to 999 may be purchased for $20 each or 3 calendars for $50. Prizes range from $20 to $150 depending on the day of the month.

They'll make great Christmas gifts!

For more information, please contact Mary Kay Tisthammer (402-741-1256) or the Church Office (402-395-2043)

All proceeds benefit ADA Bathroom Fund!



Wine & Word

6pm on Thursday, November 19th at the Gateway Terrace Community Room

Everyone is invited to the Gateway Terrace Community Room (11th St) for a casual evening of faith, food, and fellowship.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Pastor Carolann (267-374-7762).

Please mark your calendars and join us!



Sunday, November 8th at 3pm

All Confirmation Students and Mentors are invited to go Punkin' Chunkin' on Sunday, November 8th! We will meet at the church just before 3pm. We'll hopefully take a hayrack ride to possibly collect pumpkins & then end up at our Punkin' Chunkin' site!

If you have pumpkins to donate, let us know and we'll stop by and pick them up on our way!

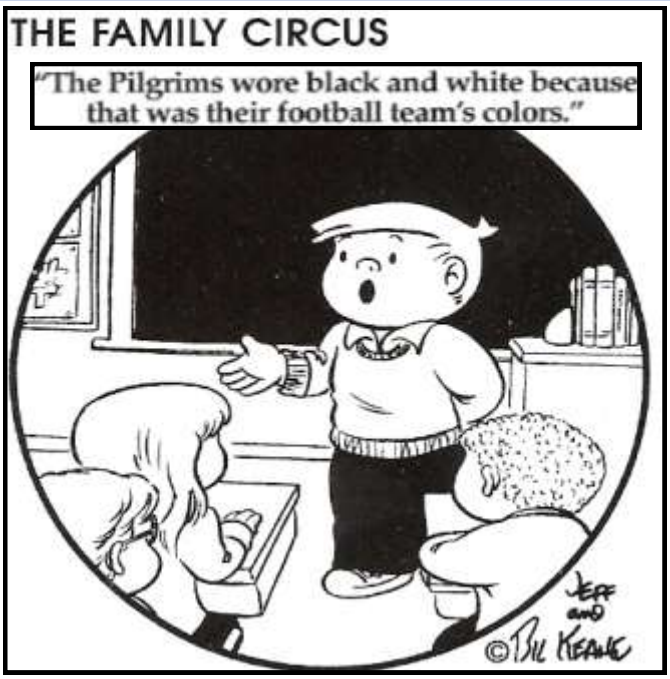
Mark your calendars!





Congratulations
Mr. & Mrs. Zoucha!

Kim Christo & Zach Zoucha were married at Olson Nature Preserve on Saturday, September 26th.
We wish them God's abundant blessings in their new life together as husband and wife!





Congratulations
Mr. & Mrs. Knopik!

Keiley Tisthammer & Quinton Knopik were married at Zion on Saturday, October 3rd.
We wish them God's abundant blessings in their new life together as husband and wife!

Albion's Light Parade

Thursday, December 3rd
6pm

Zion will be participating in the light parade again this year! Our theme is: Freshen up your life with Jesus! We'll be giving away car air fresheners.

We need:

Lights (old or new as long as they work!)
VOLUNTEERS to

- walk with the float
- hand out our giveaways!
- ride on the float!

Light donations are being collected in the narthex. We need these as soon as possible.

If you'd like to volunteer to help walk or ride, please speak with Kim Schaefer 402-741-2716.

SignUpGenius®

All of Zion's Sign Ups
can be found online!

To volunteer, use one of the links below:

Worship Assistants: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C44ACAC28A1F58-worship

Food Pantry Volunteer Signup: https://ww.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C44ACAC28A1F58-54444846-food

Confirmation Meals: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C44ACAC28A1F58-meal

Luther League Meals: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C44ACAC28A1F58-luther1

This is an easy and convenient way to volunteer for the dates and ways you would like to help. If you need assistance, contact the church office.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Zion Church Council

Will MEET on **Tuesday, November 17th at 6pm.**



Next Meeting: Monday, November 2nd At 6:00pm



All Saints' Day is a time to remember all the saints who have faithfully lived and died with the Lord. All Saints' Day will be celebrated during worship on Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026. All Saints' Day provides a time for the faithful to remember, reflect on and thank God for their loved ones who have died. We will light candles and ring a chime as we name the saints. Please give the name of your saints to Pastor Carolann.

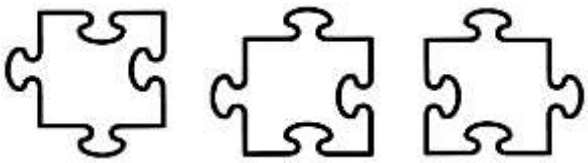
This year, we are also inviting everyone to bring in pictures of their loved ones who have died. We will be placing the pictures throughout the sanctuary so that we will truly be surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Please put a sticky note on the back of each picture with your name, so that we may return the pictures to the right people.

All Saints' Day
Sunday, November 1st!

Puzzle Answers

Bible Quiz Answer: B (Romans 1:19-21)

Answers: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.





Enclosed in this newsletter is a **Reverse Advent Calendar**. Simply collect the suggested items in a box over the season & bring it to church on Christmas Eve or the Sunday after. All items benefit our local food pantry.

Thanks for your help!

Coffee and CONVERSATION

November 5th 9:30am at the Dotted Daisy

The Faith & Fellowship Committee is inviting everyone for Coffee & Conversation at the Dotted Daisy on the first Thursday of each month at 9:30am. We hope to see you on November 5th!

Please join us & invite friends!





Worship Song Leaders

NOVEMBER

1	Jacque & Tom Dickey
8	Kay Flanagan
15	***Volunteer Needed!***
22	***Volunteer Needed!***
29	***Volunteer Needed!***

CONFIRMATION



Classes:
Wednesdays in November
4th, 11th & 18th
Dinner is served at 5:30pm
Class begins at 6pm until 7:30pm



NOVEMBER

1	Tami Texley
8	Tami Texley
15	Tami Texley
22	Tami Texley
29	Sarah Liss



The Evangelism Committee will meet on Monday, November 2nd at 7pm. All are welcome!

VETERANS

Sunday, November 8th

We will be honoring all veterans with a special worship service on Sunday, November 8th followed by a free breakfast after worship in our fellowship hall. Please invite all the veterans you know to join us!



Just a Note Bell Choir Schedule

Wednesday	November 4	4:30pm
Wednesday	November 11	4:30pm
Wednesday	November 18	4:30pm
Wednesday	December 2	4:30pm
Wednesday	December 9	4:30pm

Jacque Dickey
402-741-1709 (cell)





	In person	Online
May	149	118
June	113	167
July	104	203
August	109	109
September	109	108

Year to Date: 130 In person
143 Online





2pm on November 19th at Wolf Home
Volunteers & Prizes needed!

We host Bingo at Wolf Home on the 3rd Thursday of each month. We need volunteers as well as prizes each month. We are looking for donations of Large Print books, coloring books for adults, beanie babies, candy, cookies, chips, etc.

Donations are being collected in the marked box in the narthex.

For more information, please speak with Pastor Carolann (402-395-2043 or 267-374-7762)



Prayer Concerns this Month

Wolf Memorial Home Residents
Bob & LaVonne Kruse
LaVonne Mills
Dorothy Young

Good Samaritan Estates *(Assisted Living)*
Cynthia Kraus *Donna Kruse*
Barb Michael *Marilyn Ramm*

Cloverlodge Care Center *(St. Edward)*
Marianne Karmann

Genoa Assisted Living *(Genoa)*
Arletta Francis

Mid-Nebraska Lutheran Home
Harold & Lois Thewke
Faith Tyson



In Our Sunday Prayers
Marilyn Boyette, Marlene Kotrc,
Owen Neesen, Carola Reigle,
Mary Roberts, Cooper Seier, Mark Smith,
Marlys Smith, Pat Tobiason,
Staci Wright, Xander Wright,
and the families of
Dee Fugate, John Kolar, Miriam Taylor

Our Congregation
Church Council
Our Sexton: Jenny Gompert
Our Finance Committee
The Newly Baptized:
Maggie Wolf & James Meyer

Other Concerns
Our Military
Those affected by war, violence & hatred
Those affected by natural disasters

Other prayer concerns are welcome



Rehearsal	Sunday, November 1st	10am
Rehearsal	Sunday, November 8th	8:30am
SING	Sunday, November 8th	9am

Veteran's Sunday Worship

Rehearsal	Sunday, November 15th	10am
Rehearsal	Sunday, December 6th	10am
Rehearsal	Sunday, December 20th	8:30am
SING	Sunday, December 20th	9am

*If anyone would like to prepare a vocal or instrumental special music, please contact Tami Texley (402-741-2330).

Sunday Bulletins



Sunday bulletins are available in the narthex. They are in the tract rack by the Thursday before the upcoming Sunday. Feel free to stop by and pick one up.



Communion Elements Available

Individually packaged communion elements continue to be available for pick up in the church narthex. Take as many as you need for your household. This will let you take communion with us on Sundays as you watch us on Facebook live.
If it is easier, or you are more comfortable taking communion in your seat, you may also use these elements to take communion on Sunday mornings.

If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Carolann or Amy Zaruba.

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to help decorate the church for Christmas, please order some poinsettias. They are available in the following colors:

Red, Pink, White,

*Marble (pink & white) or Glitter (Red & White)**

*(*Colors are subject to change based on availability)*

You may order flowers in honor/ memory of loved ones. The list of those honored/remembered will be in the Christmas Eve bulletin and the January Messenger.

Complete the form below to order poinsettias and place it in the offering plate or mail it ***with your payment*** *to:*

Zion Lutheran Church
319 S. 5th St.
Albion, NE 68620

The cost is $15.00 per plant (6" pots).

The order deadline is Sunday, November 29th.
(Speak with Patti Meyer if you have any questions.)

Name of sponsor: _____

Phone # ( ) _____

In memory of: _____

_____

In honor of: _____

_____

# of plants & colors: _____

*Amount enclosed: $*_____

(Feel free to use more than one order form)

Advent Families



Would your family like to be an Advent Family and help light the candles on the Advent wreath? Sign-up on the bulletin board outside the offices or call the church office at 402-395-2043.

Nov. 29	*Advent 1*	*Volunteer Family Needed*
Dec. 6	*Advent 2*	*Volunteer Family Needed*
Dec. 13	*Advent 3*	*Volunteer Family Needed*
Dec. 20	*Advent 4*	*Volunteer Family Needed*
Dec. 24	*Christmas Eve*	
	3:30pm	*Volunteer Family Needed*
	5:30pm	*Volunteer Family Needed*

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sun., Nov. 1 9:00am	**All Saints' Sunday** Remembering the Saints with bells, candles, pictures, and Holy Communion
Sun., Nov. 8 9:00am	**Veterans Sunday** with Holy Communion, Choir & Brunch to follow
Sun., Nov. 15 9:00am	**25th Sunday after Pentecost** with Holy Communion
Sun., Nov. 22 9:00am	**Christ the King Sunday** with Holy Communion & Holy Baptism: James Bentley Church Meyer
Sun., Nov. 29 9:00am	**First Sunday in Advent** with Holy Communion

Christmas Eve Special MUSIC

Do you play an instrument? Do you like to sing?

We are in need of special music before each of our Christmas Eve services. There will be time to share your musical talents before the 3:30pm or 5:30pm services.

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board by Pastor's office. Sign up for the time that works best for you and let us know what musical talent you will be sharing.

For more information, please speak with Tami Texley (402-741-2330)

PEOPLE SPOTS

Rich Heidemann



Richard (Rich) Lee Heidemann II, DDS was born on October 24, 1972, in Alamogordo, New Mexico, to Richard and Ann Heidemann. When Rich was just six months old, his father received orders to be stationed in England while serving in the United States Air Force. It was while living in England that Rich welcomed his younger brother, Jeff, to the family.

When Rich was four years old, his family moved to Longmont, Colorado, where he began his education at Indian Peaks Elementary School. As he prepared to enter sixth grade, the family relocated to Chappell, Nebraska, where he continued his schooling at Chappell Elementary and Chappell Jr./Sr. High School. During his junior year, the family moved again, this time to Fremont, Nebraska. Rich completed his high school education at Fremont High School, graduating with the Class of 1991.

Rich continued his education at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry in 1996. After spending several years away from the classroom, Rich returned to pursue his passion for dentistry at Marquette University School of Dentistry in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, earning his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 2006.

During dental school, Rich co-founded Compassionate Dental Care International (CDCI), a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing dental care to underserved populations around the world. Through CDCI, Rich has provided dental care to communities in the Dominican Republic and traveled to Tanzania, where he served individuals living in a refugee camp. In addition to providing dental treatment, he taught others how to perform basic dental procedures and tooth extractions, helping prevent serious illness and loss of life caused by dental infections. The techniques Rich and his fellow CDCI members taught at the refugee camp have since been adopted in refugee camps around the world, extending the impact of their work far beyond the communities they initially served.

Following his graduation from Marquette University School of Dentistry, Rich continued to share his knowledge and passion for dentistry by teaching part-time at the dental school while also practicing at Greenbrook Dentistry and the Madra Angelo Dental Clinic. Eventually, Rich made his way to Albion, Nebraska, where he established Albion Family Dental and began serving the dental needs of the local community.

While playing in the Men's Racquetball league at the Albion Fitness Center Rich met the love of his life, Nikki. Two years later, they were married on May 7, 2011, in Jamaica. The couple has been blessed with a wonderful son, Aiden, age 10.

Outside of his professional life, Rich enjoys spending quality time with his family and embracing the outdoors through hunting and fishing. He is an avid sports fan who proudly cheers on the Nebraska Cornhuskers, Green Bay Packers, and Milwaukee Brewers. Rich also enjoys traveling and exploring new places, with Italy and Baja among his favorite destinations. Beyond his personal interests, Rich is committed to giving back to his community. He volunteers with Ducks Unlimited and has previously served on the Albion Chamber of Commerce and the Boone County Fitness Board.



Rich is a lifelong Christian whose faith has been an important part of his life. He was baptized at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Fremont, Nebraska, in November 1972. During his childhood, he also attended a Lutheran Church in Longmont, Colorado, and later affirmed his faith through confirmation at the Methodist Church in Chappell, Nebraska, in 1987.

In 2011, Rich became a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Albion, where he continues to live out his faith. He serves as an usher and as a member of the Mission Endowment Committee, where he currently serves as treasurer of the committee. Zion Lutheran Church is grateful for Rich's membership, his faithful service, and the many ways he shares his gifts in service to God and the church.

Written & submitted by Vicar Keith Powell



We celebrated the gift of God's grace
on October 18th as
Margaret James Wolf
was baptized in the name of
the Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit.

Maggie *was born on*
Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 7:37am.
She weighed 9lbs. 2oz., and was 21" long.

Loving Parents: ***Alex & Ellie Wolf***

Big Brother: ***Jack Wolf***

Godparents: ***Adam & Lauren Briese***

Grandparents:
Bobbi & Sam Clinch
Jay & Susie Wolf



May God bless them all
with his abundant love and grace.

Faith & Fellowship

Committee will meet on
Sunday, November 8th
after the Veteran's Day Brunch

All are welcome to join us!



I am your Church Envelope

I would like to talk with you,
for I am part of your church life.

I may be a complete stranger to you,
but I can help you be a better Christian.

I like to go to worship on Sunday,
for I help you to be Christ's partner.

I am very small, but
I am the keystone of your church program.

I am a weekly reminder
of your daily blessings.

I dare you to be as good to God
as he has been to you.

I am only paper, but I carry
the full gift of a generous heart.

I am the only pocketbook
you need on Sunday, and
I promise not to be a burden.

I am your chance to preach,
for I am a silent sermon of your devotion.

God loves a cheerful giver
2 Corinthians 9

Handicap Accessibility Project

Elevator Update

Total Cost:$232,945*
(Custom Elevator for caskets)

Elevator T-bill Account	$260,738.37
September Income	$0.00
September Expenses	$0.00
September Interest	$710.42
Total	$261,448.79**

*This does NOT include the Sprinkler system estimated @ $252,000.

** Does NOT include the $30,000 grant!

Sprinkler Account	$1,820.00
September Income	$0.00
Total	$1,820.00
Bathroom Account	$39,057.20
September Income	$2,830.00
September Expenses	$0.00
Total	$41,887.20



Thanks for your support of this very important project!

Dear Church Family,

Thankful

I thank you all so much for the birthday wishes and gifts! Your love and kindness are such a blessing to me.

Vicar & I would also thank you for the cake, gifts & cards to celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month. We feel very fortunate to serve as your Pastor & Vicar. It is a joy to do ministry with all of you!

With love and appreciation,
Pastor Carolann & Vicar Keith



Memorial Gifts

The following people made donations to **Zion's *Memorial Fund*** in loving memory of ***Joy Haas*:**

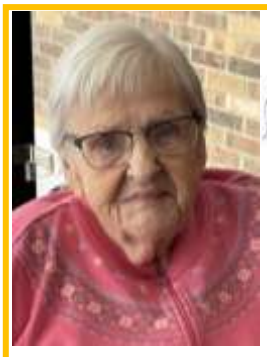
Charlie & Shelley Bode
David & Julia Bohm
Corrine Forbes
Joe & Kay Flanagan
Robert & Jana Fusselman
Don Haveman
Rv. Carolann Hopcke *(Scholarship Fund)*
Shirley Keller
Donna Kruse
Jane Mundschenk *(Scholarship Fund)*
Marilee Niewohner *(Elevator Fund)*
Carol & Jane Rolf
Bill & Eileen Wieser

MEMORIAL GIFTS



The following people made donations to **Zion's *Memorial Fund*** in loving memory of ***Janice Wauben*:**

Rev. Carolann Hopcke *(Scholarship Fund)*



Memorial Gifts

The following people made donations to **Zion's *Memorial Fund*** in loving memory of ***Lavonne Olnes*:**

Loran & Pat Naber
Vicar Keith Powell *(Scholarship Fund)*



Angel Ornaments

Zion is offering Angel Ornaments in memory or honor of loved ones. Angels are available in Green, Red & Blue. The cost of an angel is $10 with your loved ones name displayed on the heart. These ornaments will be hung on Zion's Christmas Tree in the sanctuary; you may take them home for your tree after the Christmas Eve services.

All proceeds benefit the Bathroom & Ramp ADA funds. For more information, please speak with Nikki Heidemann, Mary Kay Tisthammer or Pastor.

In **HONOR** of:

_____ Color: Blue / Green / Red (Circle One)

_____ Color: Blue / Green / Red (Circle One)

In **MEMORY** of:

_____ Color: Blue / Green / Red (Circle One)

_____ Color: Blue / Green / Red (Circle One)

Angels @ $10. each x _____ = _____

TOTAL Due: $_____

Checks may be made payable to Zion Lutheran Church

Your Name: _____

Deadline to Order: Sunday, December 6th

Special thanks to Lois Hoefer for hand making each angel



Immanuel-Zion Lutheran Church is hosting their annual ***Soup & Pie Supper***

Sunday, November 1st *(4:30-7:30pm)*

A freewill donation benefits Kenny Bartos, Kathleen Lee and the Miriam Taylor Memorial Fund. 10% also benefits World Hunger.

Dear Friends,

October is here, and the cooler temperatures have finally arrived! As we enjoy the crisp mornings and changing season, we are reminded of just how much we have to be thankful for at Oaks Indian Mission.

Your continued generosity helps us provide a safe, caring home and meaningful opportunities for the children and families we serve. We are so grateful to have you alongside us in this mission.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever."
Psalm 107:1

Thank you for your continued support of $195.00 and for being part of the Oaks Indian Mission family.

Your care gives children comfort, joy, and hope. Thank you.

Blessings
Dan Cooper
Executive Director

SCANDINAVIAN Baking

Sat., December 5th
9am-1pm
at Immanuel-Zion

This is an interactive baking experience in rolling, dipping, and tasting:

Norwegian Lefse, krumkake, kringle, rosettes, Danish aebleskivers, and Finnish Christmas tarts.

Everyone is welcome — no experience necessary all materials provided!

people in our lives who speak your name, who bravely point to you as the source and ground of all goodness, who dare to recognize you as God, and who remind all of us that you are real and actively redeem us and all of creation.

16He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet & thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? 18Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"

O God, thank you for revealing yourself in the foreigner and for reminding us that ALL our neighbors are brothers and sisters in Christ. May we love them and care for them as you do for us.

19Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

For all the blessings you've given while we have 'gone on our way' and failed to even notice, we give you thanks today. Thank you for our community of faith. Thank you for the children and teenagers. Thank you for the magnificent colors of autumn. Thank you for friends and family. Thank you for clean water, safe roads, electricity, and garbage pick-up. Thank you for never leaving us. Thank you for laughter. Thank you for creating us to sing. Thank you for the way in which we are fed at your table of grace — for the body and blood of your precious Son. Thank you for the waters of baptism that wash over us every day. And for every other gift which we may be too blind to see, but certainly comes from your love, grace, & mercy — Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

With thanks to God
for our Zion Lutheran Church Family,

Pastor Carolyn









Prayer Chain & Prayer Concerns

If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, please call Sharon Waters (402-741-2358) or the church office and they will start the chain. If you'd like to add someone to our Sunday prayers, please call the church office (402-395-2043).

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." *(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*





"Is it a sin to sing Christmas Carols before Thanksgiving?"

Zion Messenger is a monthly publication of
Zion Lutheran Church
319 S 5th St., Albion, NE 68620
Worship Services - Sunday 9:00am

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday	9:00am - 4pm
Friday	Office Closed

Phone 402-395-2043

Pastoral Care Concerns after hours:
Pastor Carolann Hopcke, 267-374-7762

Email: office@zionalbion.org
Website: www.zionalbion.org

Zion's Staff

Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Senior Pastor
PCA@zionalbion.org

Vicar Keith Powell, Seminarian
vicarkeith@zionalbion.org

Office Administrators
Amy Moser & Cheryl Sherburne
office@zionalbion.org

High School Youth Coordinator
Vicar Keith Powell
youthcoordinator@zionalbion.org

Nancy Ahlers, Treasurer
treasurer@zionalbion.org