DECEMBER 8, 2024

WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

THIS WEEK AT ZION SATURDAY, DEC. 7

Worship Service | 5 PM (Stephen Ministry Commission)

SUNDAY, DEC. 8

Worship Service | 8 AM (Stephen Ministry Commission) Choir Rehearsal | 9:15 AM Sunday School | 9:15 AM Worship Service | 10:30 AM (Choir Sings & Stephen Ministry Commission)

MONDAY, DEC. 9 (Festival of Trees Setup-All Week) Strong Bodies | 8:30 AM Sunday School Teachers Meeting | 5 PM Girl Scout Leader's Meeting | 6 PM Youth Committee Meeting | 6 PM

TUESDAY, DEC. 10

Strong Bodies | 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast | 8 AM LWR Mission Quilting | 9 AM Finance Committee Meeting | 10:30 AM Property Committee Meeting | 6 PM

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11 Poinsettia Order Deadline

Strong Bodies | 8:30 AM Staff Meeting | 10 AM ZLCW Board Meeting | 1 PM Bell Rehearsal | 5 PM Confirmation Class | 6 PM High School Bible Study | 6:30 PM Life & Growth ZOOM Meeting | 7 PM

THURSDAY, DEC. 12

Strong Bodies | 7:30 AM Girl Scouts Troop #4723 | 4:30 PM

SATURDAY, DEC. 14 Children's Christmas Program | 5 PM

SUNDAY, DEC. 15

Worship Service | 8 AM Choir Rehearsal | 9:15 AM Blue Christmas Worship Service | 10:30 AM Navigating the Holidays After Loss | Noon

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

1254 S. Union Street, Shawano, WI 54166 Pastor Ludford: 715.558.5737 · Office: 715.526.2017 zion@shawanozion.org · www.shawanozion.org A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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We believe in the power of prayer. Pray for these loved ones; may they feel God's comfort and healing presence.

Leslie Buckbee • Gerald Bartline • Marilyn Dahl Terry Fusek • Eileen Elertson • Rita Trinko Ken & Linda Spreeman

WEEKLY OFFERING UPDATE

<u>General Fund</u>: **\$10,199** <u>Building Fund</u>: **\$1,010** <u>Restricted Funds</u>: **\$2,157** <u>Total Weekly Offering</u>: **\$13,366** We are thrilled to share that the total offerings for November amounted to **\$52,894**, exceeding our monthly goal of \$34,000 by a significant margin! This remarkable generosity reflects the deep commitment of the ZION Congregation to support our ministries and outreach efforts. Your faithfulness and dedication allow us to continue making a positive impact within our church and beyond. Thank you for your incredible support and for helping us surpass our goal this month! Together, we are truly living out our mission.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

 SAT | 5 PM | 27
 SUN | 8 AM | 57
 SUN | 10:30 AM | 58

 Total In-Person | 142
 YouTube Views | 202 views

ZION CELEBRATES THE SEASON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Sunday School Kids' Christmas Program | 5 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 Blue Christmas Worship Service | 10:30 AM (See page 2)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Services | 3:30 & 5:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day Worship Service | 9 AM

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF TREES

ZION Lutheran Church Women (ZLCW) are excited to organize this year's **Festival of Trees** again. Committees, classes, or individuals are invited to participate by trimming an artificial tree with any theme or style of your



choice. <u>Now through Dec. 13</u>. Last year's trees were festive, creative, and unique and added a beautiful festive touch to ZION. We encourage you to join in and help make this year's display just as special and memorable! Visit the Info Desk or call **Karen Childs** at **715.526.2445**.



STEPHEN COMMISSIONING

We will joyfully commission our new Stephen Ministry Leaders — Judy Laude, Nancy Schultz, and Kristin WhiteHorse. This is a significant moment for ZION as we formally recognize and bless these leaders who have been called to serve in this vital, Christ-centered ministry. Stephen Ministry equips church members to provide confidential, one-on-one care to individuals facing life challenges such as grief, illness, or other crises. Judy, Nancy, and Kristin have completed extensive training through Stephen Ministries, a respected organization dedicated to faith-based care giving and emotional support. The commissioning celebrates their commitment to guiding our Stephen Ministers, who will offer compassionate care to those in need. Through this ministry, ZION continues to embody Jesus' call to "bear one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2), ensuring no one journeys through hardship alone. We invite you to join us in honoring and praying for our new Stephen Leaders. Together, let us affirm our shared dedication to being a source of hope and healing within our congregation and community.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Sun., Dec. 15, you are invited to a day of peace, comfort, and connection to help navigate the holidays after loss. The day begins with a service at 10:30 AM, and a light lunch and program from noon to 1:30 PM.

Blue Christmas Service: The holiday season can be difficult for those experiencing grief or life transitions. This reflective and gentle service offers hope, healing, and comfort during a difficult time.

Navigating the Holidays After Loss: Join this supportive session to share experiences with others who understand, gain tools for managing grief during the holidays, and learn ways to honor your loss while engaging with the season. This special day is open to everyone seeking solace and understanding. Email health@shawanozion. org or call Nancy Schultz at 715.390.4540 to RSVP.

CELEBRATE WITH POINSETTIAS!

Be part of our joyful Christmas decor by contributing a poinsettia for the Chancel! Each plant is \$25, and is a beautiful way to add beauty to ZION. Please pick up a Poinsettia form in the Narthex or download on our *website*. Place payment and form in an envelope and drop in the offering or the office. *Deadline is Wed.*, Dec. 11.



2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2025 offering envelopes (#1-200) are now available. The remaining numbered envelopes will be available next week. Pick them up at the Info Desk. Your continued support through regular giving helps sustain ZION's mission and ministries year-round. Thank you for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE-YOUTH

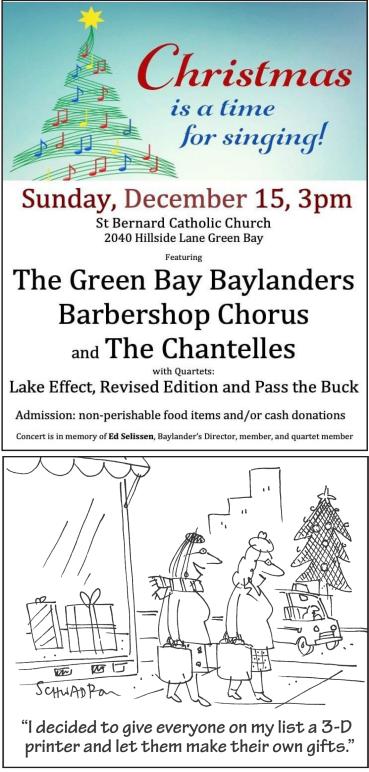
ZION Youth will be decorating Christmas cookies to sell on Sun., Dec. 15. Decorating will occur on Wed., Dec. 11 at 6 PM. We invite all ages to join in the decorating, and any adult helpers would be appreciated, too.

HOMME HOLIDAY GIFT LIST

Support Homme Youth & Family Programs by donating items for boys aged 10-18. Remember to please leave gifts unwrapped. Pick up copies of the shopping list at the Info Desk or see Nancy Schultz. Thank you for your donations.

SILENT AUCTION SUCCESS

The ZLCW Silent Auction was a success. We increased the amount of baskets/items to 49 this Fall, and had many varied themes! Thank you to everyone who shared a basket or item with us and to the bidders. We made an estimated \$2,400 to help with the benevolences we gave away in December. ZION Lutheran has many blessings and disciples.



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