



ZION NEWS

WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

THIS WEEK AT ZION

SAT., DECEMBER 21 First Day of Winter
Worship Service | 5 PM

SUN., DECEMBER 22

Worship Service | 8 AM

Choir Rehearsal | 9:15 AM

Worship Service | 10:30 AM (Joyful Ringers)



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP INVITE

This Christmas season, we invite you to ZION for worship, song, and the celebration of Christ's birth. There's always a place for you — bring your loved ones, embrace His peace, and share in the true joy of this holy season!

TUES., DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve

Worship Service | 3:30 & 5:30 PM

WED., DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day

Worship Service | 9 AM

SAT., DECEMBER 28

Worship Service | 5 PM

SUN., DECEMBER 29

Worship Service | 8 & 10:30 AM



No Sunday School or Middle School Bible Study on Dec. 22 or 29. Classes resume Jan. 5. No confirmation classes on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Classes resume Jan. 8.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

SAT | 5 PM | 118 SUN | 8 AM | 47 SUN | 10:30 AM | 50

Total In-Person | 215 YouTube Views | 174 views

WEEKLY OFFERING UPDATE

General Fund: \$10,338 Building Fund: \$385

Restricted Funds: \$695 Total Weekly Offering: \$11,420

CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendar! ZION's **Annual Meeting** will be on **Sun., Jan. 26, 2025**, at **11:30 AM** in the sanctuary. Your presence and votes are vital as we review the past year, discuss plans for the future, and make important decisions for ZION. Together, let's shape the next chapter of ZION's ministry. We look forward to seeing you there!



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

We trust in prayer's power. Lift up these loved ones, asking for God's comfort and healing presence to surround them.

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

OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences and prayers to the families grieving recent losses. On Tues., Dec. 17, at 11 AM at ZION, we held a funeral for **Ronald "Ron" E. Raasch**, which included military and police honor guard ceremonies in recognition of his life of service and sacrifice.

We also lift up the Logemann family in prayer following the passing of **Nita "Kay" Moberg Logemann**. Her funeral was held on Tues., Dec. 17 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Wausau. Memorials in her name may be made to ELCA at goodgifts.elca.org, and her obituary is at: brainardfuneral.com/obituaries/nita-logemann.

Please also keep Kay Weing and family in your prayers as she mourns the loss of her father, **Ralph Wuske**, whose funeral was held on Mon., Dec. 23, at 11 AM at ZION in Caroline. eberhardtstevenson.com/obituary/Ralph-Wuske.

As a church family, we continue to walk alongside these families in love and support during this holiday season.

CONTEMPORARY GROUP BACK!

The **Youth Contemporary Music Group** will perform at the 10:30 service this week! Made up of middle and high school youth, they are guided by Jennifer Tonn and Dan Krone. Youth interested in joining can contact Jennifer Tonn or Kristin WhiteHorse to join this vibrant ministry!

SPREAD JOY WITH GIVING!

The Health Ministry invites you and your family — children, grandchildren, and all — to pick an ornament from our ELCA Giving Tree. Each ornament shares how you can make a meaningful, tax-deductible gift by check or online. Your generosity brings hope to those in need, making a real difference this holiday season. Rejoice — it's the season of giving!



2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2025 offering envelopes are now available at the Info Desk. If yours are missing, please contact the office. Your support through regular giving helps sustain ZION's mission and ministries year-round. Thank you for your generosity!

ADVENT 4 DEVOTIONAL: JOY

Rejoicing in God's Presence

~ **Philippians 4:4-5** (NRSV)

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.”

What's something that makes you really happy?

How is joy different from happiness?

Advent reminds us that joy is more than just being happy. Joy comes from knowing that God is with us no matter what. Paul wrote these words from prison — he wasn't in a good situation, but he still chose to rejoice because he knew that God's love and presence were constant.

Reflection Questions: When have you experienced joy even when things weren't going great? How does knowing “the Lord is near” give you joy? How can you spread joy to others this Advent?

Challenge: Do something this week that brings you joy and share that joy with someone else. Maybe invite a friend to church or write a note to someone who needs encouragement.

Closing Prayer: God, thank You for giving us joy that doesn't depend on our circumstances. Help us to remember that You are near, even when things are hard. Fill us with your joy and help us to share it with those around us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SERVE ON CHURCH COUNCIL

ZION's Church Council needs a Treasurer and Secretary for the upcoming terms. These roles are key to supporting ZION's ministries. Have experience or just a heart for service? Consider stepping up!

COOKIE SALES A SWEET SUCCESS

A big thank-you to everyone who purchased Christmas cookies from our Youth Fundraiser! Your support means so much to ZION Youth. We'll be back next year with even more delicious treats — see you then!

BINGO FITNESS CHALLENGE!

Kick off the new year with fun! Join our Bingo Fitness Challenge starting Sun., Jan. 5, and take steps toward a healthier, stronger you! Over ten weeks, complete your Bingo card by March 15 while building lasting healthy habits.

Why Join?

- **A Fresh Start:** After the holidays, reset and refocus on your health goals. Move more, feel stronger, and start fresh!
- **Fun and Motivating:** Each Bingo square features activities like new workouts, hydration goals, or mindfulness. Completing squares keeps you inspired and rewarded!
- **Build Healthy Habits:** Ten weeks is the perfect time to create lasting routines that improve both physical and mental well-being.
- **Community Support:** You're not alone! Be part of a group cheering each other on as you complete your cards.

How It Works:

When: Jan. 5-March 15, 2025

Goal: Complete every square on your Bingo card.

Tasks: Enjoy activities like fitness challenges, hydration goals, or trying new exercises.

Get Started Today!

Make 2025 your healthiest year yet! The Bingo Fitness Challenge is fun, engaging, and the perfect way to stay on track. Sign up now, grab your card, and let's start this journey together! Sign up now, grab your card, and let's journey together! start this journey together!

PRESENTED BY ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

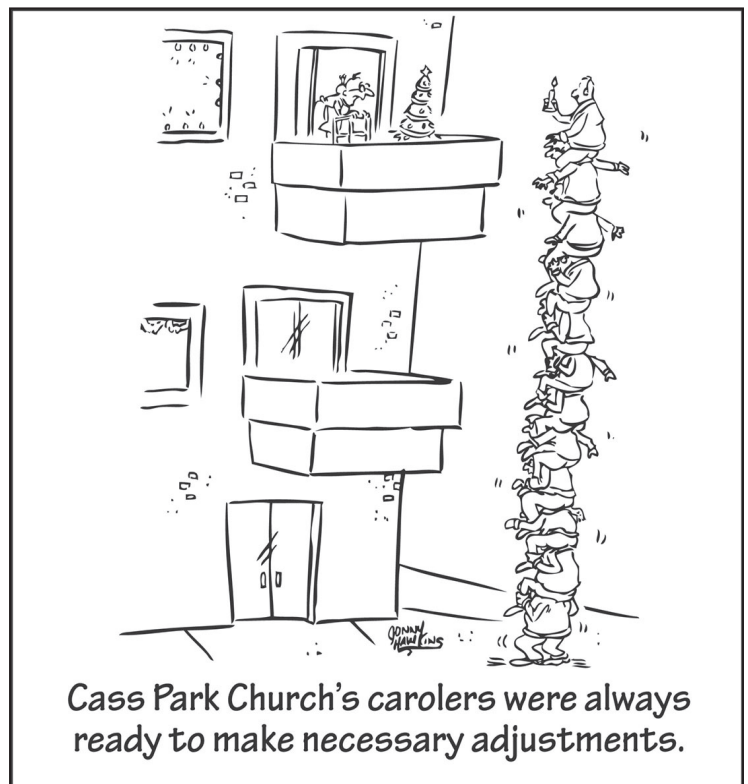
PLAY and LAUGH

Game Night

Eat snacks, play old favorites, learn a new game, or bring one to share!

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM



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