



ZION NEWS

WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

THIS WEEK AT ZION

SATURDAY, NOV. 30

Worship Service | 5 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

Worship Service | 8 AM

Choir Rehearsal | 9:15 AM

Worship Service | 10:30 AM (Joyful Ringers)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

Strong Bodies | 8:30 AM

Health Ministry Committee Meeting | Noon

Worship & Music Committee Meeting | 5 PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

Strong Bodies | 7:30 AM

Men's Breakfast | 8 AM

LWR Mission Quilting | 9 AM

Investment Committee Interviews | 9:30 AM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

Strong Bodies | 8:30 AM

Staff Meeting | 10 AM

Bell Rehearsal | 5 PM

Confirmation Class | 6 PM

High School Youth Group | 6:30 PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

Strong Bodies | 7:30 AM

Investment Interview Follow-Up (tentative) | 10:30 AM

Girl Scouts Troop #4723 | 4:30 PM

Stewardship Committee Meeting | 4:30 PM

Girl Scout Troop #4717 | 6 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

Office Closed

Shawano Holiday Parade | 6 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

Worship Service | 5 PM (Stephen Ministry Commission)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

Worship Service | 8 AM (Stephen Ministry Commission)

Sunday School & Choir Rehearsal | 9:15 AM

Worship Service | 10:30 AM (Choir Sings and Stephen Ministry Leaders Commission)



Advent



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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

General Fund: \$1,621

Building Fund: \$351

Restricted Funds: \$44

Total Weekly Offering: \$2,016

This week, we fell short of our weekly budget goal of **\$8,500**. While we understand the challenges of the season, your generosity is vital in helping us sustain ZION's ministries and outreach. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference in strengthening our mission. Thank you for your support, and let's work together to close the gap in the coming weeks. Your faithfulness is appreciated!

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

SAT | 5 PM | 29

SUN | 8 AM | 50

SUN | 10:30 AM | 57

Total In-Person | 136

YouTube Views | 132 views

ZION'S HOLIDAY PARADE FLOAT

ZION will have a float in the Shawano Holiday Parade on **Fri., Dec. 6, at 6 PM!** Lineup begins at 5 PM, and we welcome all ages to help us share ZION's joy with the community. Our float will feature a nativity scene with Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, joined by shepherds, angels, wise men, and animals. ZION provides all costumes. To spread cheer and invite others to learn about ZION, we'll hand out flyers and candy – donations of candy are always welcome! Want to join the fun? Sign up at the Info Desk or RSVP to Kristin at youth@shawanozion.org. We look forward to celebrating this festivity with everyone!

CELEBRATE WITH POINSETTIAS!

Be part of our joyful Christmas decor by contributing a poinsettia for the Chancel! Each plant is **\$25**, and it's a beautiful way to add beauty to our celebrations. Please pick up a Poinsettia form in the Narthex or download at [website](#). Place payment and form in an envelope and leave it in the offering plate or the office. **Deadline is Wed., Dec. 11.**

BAG DONATIONS NEEDED AT ZION

The **ZION Food Pantry** is in need of paper bags to help distribute food items to those in need. Additionally, **Wee Care** is requesting plastic bags to package donations for children at school. Your contributions of bags, along with food items, will make a meaningful impact in our community. Thanks!

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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ZION CELEBRATES THE SEASON

Come celebrate the joy and hope of the season with your ZION family! We look forward to worshipping with you. Please join us for these special Christmas Worship Services, in addition to our regular December services:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Sunday School Kids' Christmas Program | 5 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Blue Christmas Worship Service | 10:30 AM (See below)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services | 3:30 & 5:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day Worship Service | 9 AM

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.

BLESSINGS OF STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry brings blessings to both the church and the community by enabling congregations to carry out Christ's commandment to *"Love one another as I have loved you"* in a practical way. Pastors benefit from gifted, trained, and committed team of lay caregivers ready to minister those in need. Laypeople have the training to nurture and use their gifts in meaningful ministry, growing spiritually as they serve others. Those who are hurting receive the care of a compassionate Christian presence, offering emotional and spiritual support. Stephen Ministry helps carry out the this ZION mission. For more info, visit stephenministry.org.

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. Decorating dates are Dec. 9-13. 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.



HOMME HOLIDAY GIFT LIST

Support **Homme Youth & Family Programs** by donating items for boys aged 10-18. Needed: athletic shoes (sizes 8-13), men's clothing (M-XL), snow gear, sports team apparel and gloves, slippers, watches, wallets, hygiene products, DVDs (G/PG), games, coloring books, and gift cards. Remember to please leave gifts unwrapped. Pick up copies of the shopping list at the Info Desk or see Nancy Schultz.

SHAWANO COUNTY TOYS FOR TOTS

Volunteers are welcome to join and earn community service hours, impacting our area. Donations of new, unwrapped toys or books are needed. County-wide drop-off locations available, and online donations are accepted. Applications  are open for children from newborn to 18 years old residing in Shawano County. **Register by Dec. 11.** Visit shawano-wi.toysfortots.org for more details.

YOUTH GROUP ADOPTS A CHILD

The ZION Youth Group has adopted a local child in need this season and will be shopping for toys and clothes to donate on **Wed., Dec. 4** at the beginning of Youth Group. If you'd like to support this effort by helping the youth shop, donating funds, or providing items, please reach out to Kristin WhiteHorse at youth@shawanozion.org.

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.



"I don't know where Cain and Abel went for Thanksgiving, Son. I just know they didn't go to Grandma's."