

Focus

Monthly Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI

January 2018

POT LUCK



Fellowship Hall



Notice is Hereby Given...
Annual Congregational Meeting January 28

11:30 Potluck Dinner ~ 12:30 Annual Meeting

Make plans to attend!



Sanctuary

These positions are up for election/re-election at the
January 28th Annual Congregational Meeting....

Prayerfully consider serving Zion in one of these positions.

Council positions....

- ◆ Vice-President
- ◆ Church in Society
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Life & Growth
- ◆ Stewardship
- ◆ Youth

Committees....

- ◆ Endowment Fund
2 positions
- ◆ Personnel
1 position
- ◆ Homme Home Representative

Improving Health Through Nutrition

**Tuesdays,
January 9 & 16**

6:00 p.m.

Lower level Rooms B25/27



Join Dr. Mindy Frimodig and Health Coach Carey Grieves, for these informative sessions that may change the way you view food!

Topics Include:

- ◆ *Nutrition—What you REALLY need to know!*
- ◆ *Cut the Confusion! Reading Labels and Knowing the Lingo!*
- ◆ *Habits to Instill....Ditch the Diet!*



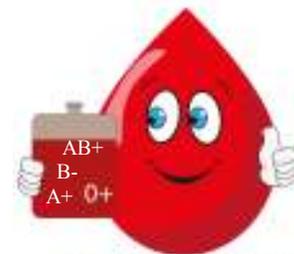
Healthy snacks and foods will be offered each week!

This is a 2-session series—you are encouraged to attend both, but may attend either as you are able.

Please...Sign-up at the table by the office!

Sponsored by the Health Ministry Committee

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED!



**North Central Wisconsin
Blood Drive
Monday, Jan. 29**

2:00—6:00 pm.

Fellowship Hall

**Sign up in advance
at the information desk!**

Walk-ins welcome!

*Sponsored by the
Health Ministry Committee*

November 2017 Financial Update

November turned out to be another disappointing month, financially. General Fund income was \$22,932 and spending was \$27,965 a deficit of \$5,033. The General Fund balance dropped to a negative \$40,448. This has been an up and down year, mostly down, for the General Fund. However, member contributions in the first two weeks in December have been very good, and with Christmas just ahead, we hope to end the year on a positive note.

At the Annual Meeting the Congregation approved a 2017 spending plan for the General Fund calling for annual giving of \$353,000 or average weekly giving of at least \$6,800 through the year.

Thank you, Zion Members. We continue to appreciate your loyal support throughout the year.

Gordon Holten, Treasurer



2018 Contribution Envelopes are in the commons!



KOZ (Kids of Zion) After-School Program

→ Grades K-5 Jan. 3 & 17
Meet 1st & 3rd Wednesdays
After school to 5:00 p.m.

Call Debra Ludford 715-558-6085 with questions.

→ Grades 6-7-8-9 Jan. 10 & 24
Meet 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
After school to 5:00 p.m.

Call Nancy Goode 715-584-3751 with questions.

Youth Sponsored Upcoming Events



Youth Lock-In

Saturday, January 27

Watch the weekly *News* for more information!

Loud Offering January 28!

Sunday School Loud Offering last

Sunday of the month!

Please keep all your loose change and on the last weekend of each month bring it in for our collection.



New in Zion's Library

To Be Where You Are *A Mitford Novel* by Jan Karon. A beloved town character lands a front-page obituary, but who was it, exactly, who died? And what about the former mayor, born the year Lindbergh landed in Paris, who's still running for office? All this, of course, is but a feather on the wind compared to Muse editor J.C. Hogan's desperate attempts to find a cure for his marital woes. Karon weaves together the lives of two Kavanagh families, and a cast of characters that readers around the world now love like kin.

Secrets of the Castleton Manor Library *A Novel Murder* by Elizabeth Penney. Faith Newberry's dream job may be morphing into a nightmare. Newly hired as the librarian at Castleton Manor literary retreat, things turn ugly when she discovers that the first edition book by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle proudly displayed in the library - also his first in the Sherlock Holmes series - is a counterfeit. Who could have absconded with the real volume? Could it have been the former librarian when she mysteriously disappeared, leaving only a cryptic note of resignation? Or has someone else duped the handsome heir to the Castleton estate, Wolfe Jaxon?

New DVDs...

Creation or Evolution? Can the Bible's account of creation be reconciled with modern scientific fact? How did so many life-forms come into existence: This carefully researched video sheds helpful new light on the debate. Whether you're a parent, teacher, and student or are simply curious, you'll appreciate this candid, informative, Christian perspective and analysis of both the geologic record and the biblical account of creation. This video will help you better understand this controversial subject.

The Praise Baby Collection *Praises and Smiles* This DVD is the first developmentally appropriate CD, DVD and video series that creates a nurturing environment for your baby's spiritual and intellectual development. Combining popular praise and worship songs with images of children, colorful animation and real world objects, this DVD will actively engage your baby's spirit and mind, stimulating early learning in the areas of tactile, cognitive, social, emotional, and most importantly, spiritual development.





The baby is sleeping, at least for the moment. She doesn't even awaken even at the sound of her own name spoken at the font. Gently, her sponsor rocks her while the pastor dries her off. She squirms a little, but still sleeps through the prayer. Then the sign marked on her forehead, just above her sleeping eyes: "Cynthia Marie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever."

She might have been crying; the parents were relieved for they remember baptisms when it was impossible to hear the pastor over the screaming baby. But the sign would have been the same in either case: the cross on her forehead. By the time of the closing hymn the cross was invisible. No mark was left above the child's eyes, waking or sleeping. No sign as clear as ashes for others to see when tomorrow she is in her stroller. No one who sees her in the park or at the doctor's office will remark, "Oh, she has been baptized."

The water dries quickly and the sign of the cross is invisible. Who will know that Jesus' name has been written on her forehead? For one way to spell "the name of Jesus" is by marking the sign of the cross. Jesus – "The one who saves," for that is what the name means. It is not a magic name reserved for God; it is a human name, blessed by God and spoken by angels.

At the end of eight days, on the day of circumcision, the name was given. The child's parents followed the ancient rite which tied this child to human ancestors, back beyond the Roman occupation, back to the burning bush when God's mysterious name was spoken to Moses; "I AM WHO I AM." Tell the people that is my name."

There was another name, a name with human names attached, "I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." It was as though God also had a last name, that God's full name always has human names attached... Sarah, Rebekah, Leah, Rachel. This word too was given to Moses, "So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them."

But God's name dried on their foreheads. The people forgot how they were named; the covenant was broken and they tried to make a name for themselves. A mighty nation was soon reduced to ashes, a promise – "A child will be born as a sign, I will put my word upon the earth."

And it came to pass, in the fullness of time; that the child was born to Mary, a descendant from the ancient line, and circumcised as Joshua had been centuries before. "You shall call his name Jesus," a human name with God's name attached. Jesus, the suffering servant whose name brought hope to the outcasts, the name which redefined family as those who do the will of God, and the name which hung on a cross (between heaven and earth) to reconcile all people to God. His name put God's name again upon the people and wrote God's covenant within human hearts.



As we enter the New Year reflecting on the past and looking towards the future...let us remember that name that is written on our foreheads. Long after the waters of baptism dry, the name is still there. It is spelled with the sign of the cross and marks us forever, sleeping, or waking. And the people will come to know the name of Jesus with our very human names attached. Oh, the name can't be seen, but the baptismal words remain true: "***You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.***" The name of Jesus...how will people hear and see that name in my life and in yours these next twelve months of 2018?

~ Pastor Scott Ludford

We are expecting an infectious outbreak of laughter and fun...



Bring your games, bring your neighbors and friends, and join us on the long, cold, Sunday afternoons this winter!

☺ Cards ☺ Board Games ☺ Sheepshead ☺ 500 Rummy ☺ Canasta
☺ Dominos ☺ Yahtzee ☺ Sorry ☺ Sequence ☺ or ???

**1st and 3rd Sunday afternoons ☺ 1:00—4:00 p.m.
Starting in January if there is enough interest.**

Sponsored by Church in Society

Happy Birthday



Sharon Erickson... 80 on January 18
127 S. Smalley St, Shawano • 715-524-4280

Woody Davis... 80 on January 21
1135 S. Lincoln St, Shawano • 715-526-5646

Duane Hovet... 80 on January 27
W5868 Lake Dr, Shawano • 715-526-5491

*Happy birthday to the 63 other members
celebrating this month!*

The Parish Records

New Members:

† David Welander and son Marcus.
Transferred from Faith Lutheran ELCA, Clintonville WI



Members Transferring:

† Gary Trull Transferred to
Sabetha First United Methodist Church, Sabetha KA

Deaths:

† Dorothy J. Bowan November 25, 2017
Memorial service December 9, 2017.
† Carol J. Cornelius November 27, 2017
Memorial service December 8, 2017.
† Hubert C. Brown December 2, 2017 (non-member)
Memorial service Dec. 5, 2017 at funeral home.



God's Work, Our Hands

CS Thank you! CS

Dear Health Ministry Members,

Thank you for the gift of pantry and freezer foods. It was a generous and great variety of foods. May you and your services be blessed.
~ Bernadine Wendt

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,



Thank you for supporting my Eagle Scout project with the Dreams of Green gardening shed. I really appreciated your funding my project. Thank you also to those who helped: Andy Crawford from Timber Pro, Pat Bohm from Shawano Lawn & Stone, Greg Brown, the construction teacher at SCHS, Dearco, and my team!

~ Benjamin Smits

Thank you for supporting my Eagle Scout project with the Dreams of Green gardening shed. I really appreciated your funding



Ben's Shed Team: Alex Montour (on ground). L-R: Taylor Pederson, Parker Perry, Jackson Smits, Ben Smits, Damon Montour, Liam Krueger, & Tyler Thiel.

Memorial Gifts

Nov. 28—Dec. 25, 2017

*Special gifts "in honor of" or
"in memory of" to:*

Endowment Fund

By: Laurel Marquardt
In memory of Richard & Lois Marquardt

General Fund

By: Steve & Renee Elertson
In memory of Fred & Joyce Souba, Cliff Elertson, Charlotte Bolssen, Carol Cornelius, and Bonnie Little

By: Ted & Mary Ann Rudie
In memory of Carol Cornelius
By: Darci Van Sickle, Lynn Steiner, Keith, and Paul Marquardt

In memory of Ruth Marquardt
By: Eileen Elertson
In memory of Carol Cornelius

Undesignated Fund

By: Mike & Dorothy Eidahl
In memory of Bert Brown

In Memory of Dorothy Bowan:

- **General Fund** by
Ted & Yvonne Wolf, Eileen Elertson
Ted & Mary Ann Rudie, June Peters
- **Health Ministry Fund** by
Maralyn Steffen
- **Undesignated Fund** by
Mike & Dorothy Eidahl
- **Youth Fund (NYG)** by
Diane Rugalski
Jim & Barb Ash

In Memory of Arbutus Olson:

- **General Fund** by
Steve & Renee Elertson
Amy Slagle & Bruce Denny
Family and Friends
- **Music Fund** by
Family and Friends
- **Sunday School Fund** by
Family and Friends

In Memory of Eleanora Peterson:

- **General Fund** by
Gary & Kristi Leipold, Joann Jones
Jean Kralovetz, Susan Kallies
Jim & Connie Seriaty, Herbert & Diane Kriese, Ed & Kathy Irmiger
- **Library Fund** by
Marian Teckam
- **Undesignated Fund** by
Dolores Paulson

From Your Parish Nurse...

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018... Resolutions are made at the beginning of each year by many people all over the earth. It is a start up with new hopes and decisions to make the coming year more beautiful and prosperous. The majority of us start out well, with good intentions of really making it. New Year's Resolutions are good, they give us a goal to achieve and become better people. However, statistics show that the majority of these resolutions that we make each year usually are broken within three to six months. It seems that a New Year's Resolution is something that goes in one Year and out another.

This is your time to change and commit to one resolution that will give you self-satisfaction. I included a list of possibilities to achieve your goals. For more ideas go to <https://www.newmessage.org/17>

1. Prepare for the Future: Begin with little things and build from there. Start saving money and get your documents in order.
2. Find your greater strength: If you have suffered with a weakness—you now have a chance to find your greater strengths that will bring a sense of security and direction to your life. Lose weight,



by preparing healthier meals. Start by adding more fruits and vegetable to your meal plan.

3. Serve the World: See yourself in serving others in a special way. Look at the world compassion ally. Stop judging others; be kinder and helpful to others. Be more prayerful, talk to God.
4. Become Free: Freedom from certain things and freedom for certain things. Get rid of the clutter, sell unwanted items, and or donate your items to help others.
5. Forgive Another: Real forgiveness is a process of transforming something old into something new, something that was useless into something useful, and meaningful.

God has given to us something that continues to stay new from the day we accept it. And it will never grow old; when we give our lives to Jesus we become new creatures, full of life and excitement. Scripture tell us that we can have a new life, and new "beginning" when we are born again, we become God's "new creations".

2 Corinthians 5:17 therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

~ Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse



Parish Nurse Office Hours

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Health Ministry Dates At A Glance...

Tuesdays & Thursdays: Evening Exercise Class
4:00-5:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall. All welcome!
No need to pre-register. Nancy Schultz, Leader.

Thursday, Jan. 4: Healing Touch Ministry
4:00-7:00 pm. By appointment... 715-584-7080.
Provided by JoAnne Bartz in the Nursery.

Monday, Jan. 8: Health Ministry Committee
1:00 p.m. Room 101. New members welcome!

Tuesdays, Jan. 9 & 16: Nutrition Classes
6:00 p.m. Room B25/27. Sign up at table near office!

Wednesday, Jan. 10: Book Club 3:30 pm. Library

Wednesday, Jan. 17: Friendly Visitors Meeting
9:00 a.m. Room 101. New members welcome!

Blood Pressure Checks: Saturday, Jan. 20 after service and Sunday, Jan. 21 between services.
Free screening! Everyone welcome!

Monday, Jan. 29: Blood Drive! 2:00-6:00 p.m.
Fellowship hall. Make an appointment or walk-in!

Become a "Friendly Visitor"



New Visitors are always welcome.

Come join, experience the rewards of providing this visitation ministry!

Contact Parish Nurse Jennifer Greiert



Zion's Prayer Chain

If you have a telephone prayer chain request, please call
Co-Chairs, Winnie Preston 715-851-9576 or
Eileen Ellertson 715-526-3500.

Book Club's Current Read...

Water with Lemon by Zonya Foco
Club meets **Wednesday, January 10**
(the second Wednesday of each month) in the church library at 3:30 p.m. Anyone interested in reading and discussing this book, please join us! Questions? Suggestions?



Contact Joni Shebuski
715-526-6453 or
Sharon Erickson 715-524-4280.

**Thank You Everyone for Participating in
Filling the Advent Bags**

with non-perishable food items and gift cards.

We collected 100+ bags which we donated to SAFPARC and shared with our parishioners. The Health Ministry Committee purchased twenty \$15 gift cards from Aldi's that were also donated to SAFPARC. This was very successful, thanks to all of you.

~ Health Ministry Committee



L-R: Ginny Vraney, Parish Nurse Jennifer Greiert, Melody Boyd, and Dolly Burdick getting the Advent Bags ready for delivery!

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1254 S. Union St., Shawano WI 54166

Rev. Scott Ludford, Senior Pastor
Debbie Bernard, Administrative Assistant
Jill Sousek, Organist and Music Director
Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

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Jennifer Greiert..... nurse@shawanozion.org

Education..... education@shawanozion.org



To connect with our youth visit
[www.facebook.com/
ZionYouthShawano](http://www.facebook.com/ZionYouthShawano)



NOTICE...

**January Council
Meeting date changed to
Thursday, January 11
6:00 p.m.
Conference Rm.**



Youth & parents had a fun time
decorating Christmas Cookies!

Joy & Remembrance Tree
was filled with ornaments!

~ Sponsored by the Health Ministry Committee



L-R: Health Ministry Committee members
Melody Boyd, Dolly Burdick, Kathy Beyer,
and Ginny Vraney.