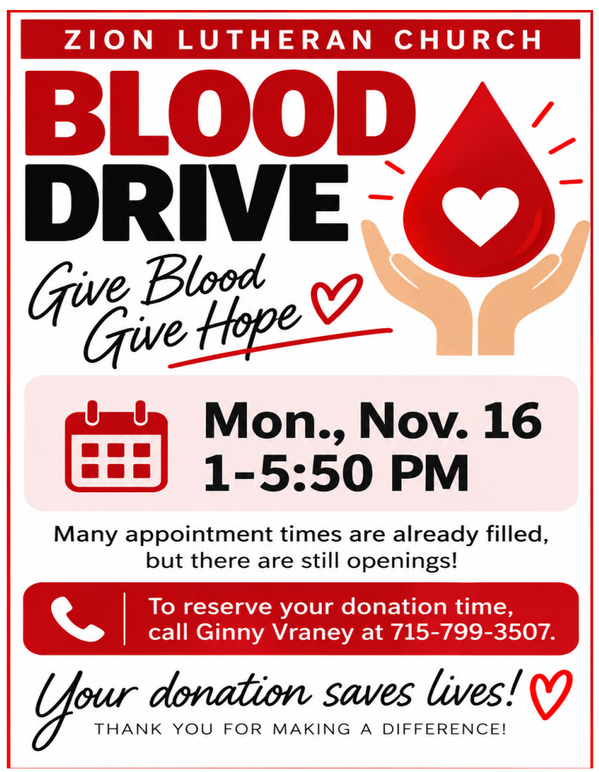
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1254 S UNION STREET
SHAWANO WI 54166

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.
Psalm 34:18, ESV





FOCUS NOVEMBER 2026

WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE



YOUR GENEROSITY, GOD'S WORK: A LEGACY OF FAITH

Dear Friends and Members of ZION:

The role of the church is to offer people a new way of life in Jesus Christ that will bring hope and joy. There is no part of life that Jesus cannot save. If Jesus is to heal us from the impact of sin and show us the good life of righteousness, no part of life can be placed beyond the bounds of his Lordship. As Paul wrote in his letter to Timothy, ***"that they may take hold of the life that really is life."*** ~ 1 Timothy 6:19b

To each and every one of you who have been actively participating in that mission through your worship, giving of your time and talents, and financially supporting the ministry of ZION thank you! Your generosity and thoughtfulness has certainly made a huge impact on the mission of our congregation. Many people's lives have been impacted by you; but not just for today but for generations to come.

Whether you realize it or not, every time you invest something of yourself, you are creating a legacy for the future. As an example, a child may be coming to Sunday School whose family has no church home. By that child's attendance, the family may become members of ZION and start a Christian education for that child and in adulthood that child who was ministered to, becomes a pastor who touches thousands of lives as he/she serves God. Does that seem like a push to you? I've seen it happen! When we put our resources together, with God anything can happen! I am filled with so much joy with the way that many of you have contributed so generously not only to the general fund, but also the many special ministry projects of ZION. Who would have guessed that we have been able to make a difference in and around Shawano as we have? You are very special faith-filled people who continue amaze your pastor … but are also a living witness to the community of your faith and spirit. R

~In God's service, Pastor Ludford

BIBLE PRESENTATION



On Sun., Oct. 25 at the 8 AM Worship Service, we joyfully celebrated the presentation of a Bible to **Kanean John Sparks**, son of Sarah Sparks and Dylan Sparks and grandson of Tom and Judy Laude, as he continued to grow in faith and understanding of God's Word. May this Bible guide and inspire him as he deepens his relationship with Christ. R

WEDDING BLESSINGS



Best wishes to **Megan Fischer** and **Cullen Patterson**, married **Sat., Oct. 24**, at 4 PM at Celebrations on the River in La Crosse, where Pastor Ludford officiated. Megan is the daughter of Gene and Kristine Fischer and the granddaughter of June Peters. May their lives be filled with love, joy, and faith as they begin this beautiful new chapter. R



WEE CARE THANKS SHAWANO 4-H

Wee Care thanks Amy Tomashek-Thorson and her **Shawano County 4-H group** for their generous food donation. What a wonderful example of young hands doing God's work! Well done, 4-Hers! Together, you have helped feed children in need. R



LAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

November	Saturday 5 pm	Sunday 8 am	Sunday 10:30 am
Greeter	Eileen Ebelt	Marcy Rosenow Joanne DeFere	Sara & Peyton Boucher
Reader	Bob Hass	Barb Hoppe	Sara & Peyton Boucher
Communion Assistants	Bob Hass	Brian & Carey Grieves	Sara & Peyton Boucher Winnie Preston 8, 22, & 29 Molly Hanson 1
Usher	John Phalen	Jerry & Lauren Donath Dan & Joy Fritz	Lorin Preston Gail Hoffman Paul & Tammy Huebner
Slide Operator	Randy Steffen	Julie Effenberger	Jenny Tonn 1 Noreen Christianson 8, 15, 22, & 29

ALTAR GUILD **Nov. 7-15~Linda Burrack & Eileen Ebelt Nov. 21-29~Joni Shebuski & Eileen Ebelt**

WORSHIP TIMES

Saturdays at **5 PM, Sundays** at **8 AM** and **10:30 AM**

OFFERINGS

October Total $27,651

ROOF & VAN FUNDS

Totals through Sept.

Roof fund: $27,714 Van: $7,090

IN OUR PRAYERS

Richard Bahr, Dale Bergsbaken, Leslie Buckbee, Bob Burdick, Audrey Ganzel, Larry Gueths, Joanne Horn, Bob Janicki, Lois Korth, Dorothy Kunst, Wendy Nead, Anita Stubenvoll, and Judy Wendt, and in the military: Drake Herm, Aschton Pitts, & Mitchell Vanderpoel. R

ZION CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARRIVE!

Directories are available for members to pick up. Please take a few minutes to review your family's information and the congregation directory. If you notice any errors, omissions, or information that needs to be updated, please contact the church office or a member of the Life & Growth Committee. Your updates will help us keep ZION's church records accurate and current. A limited number of additional directories are available. Members who joined ZION after photographs were taken in May 2025 will be offered a complimentary copy. **Additional copies may be purchased for $17 each, our cost**, while supplies last. Thank you for helping us keep our church records accurate and up to date! R ~ *Life & Growth Committee*



ALL SAINTS DAY REMEMBRANCE

On **All Saints Sunday, Nov. 1**, we remembered with love and thanksgiving those who have entered eternal rest: **Donald Anker, Gerald Bartline, Constance L. "Connie" Birkholz, Karen Corn, Marilyn Dahl, Carolyn June Erickson, Terry Fusek, Ewald "Jake" Giese Jr., Nancy Goode, Jean (Gipp) Hacker, David O. "Dave" Hintz, Lynn Hintz, Paul R. Hintz, Esther Hopkins, Charlotte Claire Johnson, Marlene Joyce Johnson, Daniel S. Koral, Kim K. Meyer, Stuart Oestreich, Sally A. Peterson, Annette E. "Nettie" Rosenberg, Clarence W. Schampers, Donald "Don" Schultz, Richard "Dick" Sperberg, Dennis Duane Wegner, Yvonne Wolf,** and **James "Jim" Yeakey**. We give thanks to God for their lives and the love they shared, and hold their families in prayer, trusting in Christ's promise of resurrection and eternal life. R

THANKS, LAY MINISTER SCOTT GLYSCH

A big thank you to **Lay Minister Scott Glysch** for stepping up to the plate as our guest worship leader at **Saturday's 5 PM service**. God blessed you and all us Milwaukee Brewer fans with a the Championship! R

PRAYER & CARE AT ZION

Need Prayer?

Our Prayer Chain is here to pray with and for you.
Prayer requests go to our Prayer Chain Co-Captains:

Renee Elertson, Co-Captain
715-851-2548
elertson3@hotmail.com

Winnie Preston, Co-Captain
715-851-9576
lorinpreston34@icloud.com

Pastoral Care

Need to speak with Pastor Scott or request a pastoral visit?
Contact the church office at **715-526-2017 Ext. 0.**

In Our Prayers

Please lift up these people in your prayers.
(See prayer list in this issue.)

Prayer is powerful. Thank you for being part of ZION's Prayer Chain.

CONDOLENCES

IN OUR PRAYERS: THE HINTZ FAMILY

Please keep ZION member Pete Hintz and family in your prayers following the death of his brother, **Paul R. Hintz**, who passed away **Sat., Sept. 26**. Visitation was held **Swedberg** in Shawano. Lay Minister Nancy Schultz lead the service. R

REMEMBERING KAREN CORN

We remember ZION member **Karen Corn**, passed away **Mon., Sept. 28**. Visitation was **Oct. 10** at **Swedberg Funeral Home**. Please keep Karen's family in your prayers during this time of loss. R

A LIFE REMEMBERED: LYNN HINTZ

We lift up the family of **Lynn Hintz**, 72, who passed away **Oct. 13**, following a courageous four-year battle with cancer. Lynn and her late husband, David, were married at ZION Lutheran Church on Dec. 19, 1981. A Celebration of Life was Nov. 1 at the American Legion Hall. May the memories created and the love shared bring comfort to those who knew her. R

REMEMBERING GERALD BARTLINE

Gerald Bartline passed away on **Oct. 22**. Please keep his wife, Gloria, in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. His funeral was conducted by Pastor Ludford at Swedberg Funeral Home. R

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

YOUTH LOCK-IN: NOV. 7-8

Students (**grades 6-12**) are invited to an overnight adventure with faith, fun, and service! We'll begin with a devotion before heading into hands-on service projects. We'll share dinner, games, creative activities, snacks, worship, and late-night fun wrapping up Sunday morning with breakfast, prayer, and worship. R

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MEETINGS

Youth Group meets Wednesdays from 6:30-8 PM. Friends are welcome, so invite them to join the fun! R

2027 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

"Imagine More," the national gathering brings high school youth from the U.S. together for fellowship and faith. Watch for registration plans and fundraising. R

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS LEND A HELPING HAND

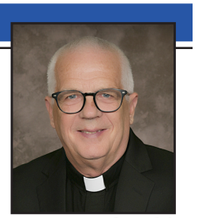
Thank you to our **6-8 grade Confirmation students** for the hard work for ZION's Mission Quilters! You brought up 60 boxes filled with quilts, ten boxes with Personal Care Kits, and 13 boxes with School Kit supplies to the east exit. Students taped boxes with guidance from **Kristin WhiteHorse, Karen Childs,** and **Dorothy Eidahl**. Everything was finished in just 26 minutes! WOW! That may be a new record. Thanks for making this effort part of your Community Service project. R

~ Karen Childs & Dorothy Eidahl





PASTOR'S COLUMN



"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

~ James 1:17

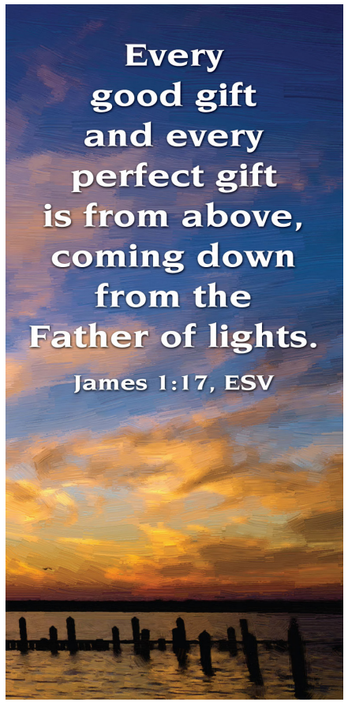
As we move into November, we often start thinking about our national holiday of Thanksgiving. I challenge all of us to think not just about the holiday of Thanksgiving, but about being thankful every day of our lives. More specifically, our thanksgiving to God as a fundamental aspect of our relationship with our Creator.

There's a story of a father of a very wealthy family who took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing his son how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family. On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" "It was great, Dad." "Did you see how poor people live?" The father asked. "Oh yeah," said the son.

"So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" Asked the father. The son answered: "I saw we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon. We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friends to protect them." The boy's father was speechless. Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

Isn't perspective a wonderful thing? Makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks for everything we have, instead of worrying about what we don't have.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 we are reminded to ***"give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*** This verse doesn't say give thanks only when things are going well, or when we feel like it. It says to give thanks in all circumstances. For when we thank God, we are acknowledging His sovereignty, His goodness, and His grace.



When we thank God, we are focusing on the positive, on the blessings, on the good things in our lives. This helps us to foster a positive attitude and a grateful heart. It helps us to see the world through God's eyes, to see the beauty and the blessings instead of the problems and the challenges.

Thus, by thanking God for what He has done, we are reminding ourselves of His faithfulness, His power, and His love. This strengthens our faith and gives us confidence to trust Him for the future. We become witnesses to others that God is good, that He is faithful, and that He is worthy of our trust.

By focusing on our blessings, our problems and challenges become less overwhelming. We are reminded of God's faithfulness in the past, which gives us hope for the future. We shouldn't be thankful for the problems themselves, but rather, we should be thankful in the midst of life's troubles God is with us and He is working all things together for our good. In so doing, we are saying, ***"God, I trust You. I know you are in control. I know You are good."***

Too many times I take for granted the everyday blessings – the air I breathe, the food I eat, the people who love me. But when I pause to thank God for these things, I begin to see everything in a new light. I come to realize how truly blessed I am, and this realization fills me with joy and peace. And there is no greater joy in my life than knowing I'm not alone, the Creator of the universe loves and cares about me. R

~ In God's ministry, ***Pastor Scott Ludford***



2026 CONFIRMANDS



ERIN ANNA FELHOFER

Luke 6:37 (NIV) – *Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.*
Parents: **Joshua & Julie Felhofer**
Godparents: **Sam & Katie Roberts, Jason & Sharon Luepke**



BELLA LOUISE KRONE

Matthew 9:29 (NLT) – *Then he touched their eyes and said, 'Because of your faith, it will happen.'*
Parents: **Daniel Krone & Mindy Frimodig-Krone**
Godparents: **Rachel Krone, Roxanne Doyle-Keszo & Nicholas Keszo**



BLAKE VERNON OTTO

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NIV) – *Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.*
Parents: **Jason & Katie Otto**
Godparents: **Tracy Otto & Michael Hoffman**



BRIXON DEAN KOENIG

Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV) – *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*
Parents: **Lucas Koenig & Tracie Schroeder**
Godparents: **Terri Schroeder & Jim Montour**



JONAH ETHAN GLYSCH

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV) – *But may you have mercy on me, LORD; raise me up, that I may repay them.*
Parents: **Scott & Christy Glysch**
Godparents: **Jane Phelps & Andrew Glysch**



KENLEY LOUETTA GWEN WILSON

1 John 4:19 (NRSV) – *We love because he first loved us.*
Parents: **Roy & Lacey Wilson**
Godparents: **Dustin Leach & Darcy Peterson**



KYLE MATTHEW HUEBNER

Proverbs 3:5 (NIV) – *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.*
Parents: **Paul & Tammy Huebner**
Godparents: **Tammy Huebner & Lori Huebner**



This is what the Lord says...

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!"

ISAIAH 43:1





On Oct. 25 (**Reformation Sunday**), we joyfully celebrated the **Rite of Confirmation**. These young members of ZION Lutheran Church affirmed their Baptismal promises before God and the Congregation. We rejoiced with the confirmands and their families as they publicly professed their faith and commitment to Christ. May God bless our confirmands, strengthen their faith, and guide them throughout their lives in His grace, so they may share His love with others. R

HEALTH & WELLNESS

GRATITUDE AND EMOTIONAL WELLNESS: FINDING JOY IN THE EVERYDAY

As we enter November, we are reminded that Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the blessings in our lives. Practicing gratitude can also support our emotional wellness, especially during times when life feels stressful, lonely, or overwhelming.

We all have days when things don't go as planned, when we worry about family or finances, or when we miss loved ones who are no longer with us. The holidays can bring happy memories, but they can also bring sadness. Remember, we don't have to feel happy or thankful every moment of the day. We can be grateful for our blessings while still acknowledging life's challenges.

How can we practice gratitude in our everyday lives?

It doesn't have to be complicated. Here are a few simple ideas:

- **Start your day with gratitude.** Think of one thing you are thankful for.
- **Notice the little things.** Enjoy a cup of coffee, a phone call with a friend, or a beautiful fall day.
- **Write it down.** At the end of the day, name two or three things that made you smile.
- **Share your appreciation.** Thank someone who has made a difference in your life.
- **Reach out to others.** A phone call, visit, or simple message can brighten someone's day.

Practicing gratitude doesn't mean ignoring our problems or pretending everything is okay. It helps us notice the good things in life, even when we are facing challenges.

The Bible reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 to ***"give thanks in all circumstances."*** This doesn't mean we must be thankful for every hardship. Rather, we can look for signs of God's presence, comfort, and love, even during difficult times.

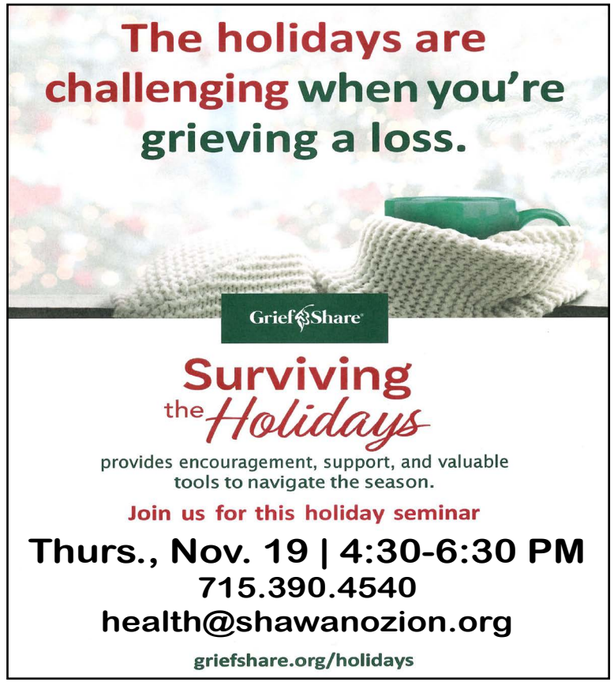
As we prepare for Thanksgiving, may we take time to notice our blessings, care for our emotional well-being, and share kindness with others. Sometimes the greatest gifts are the simple moments we share and the reminder that we are never alone in God's love.

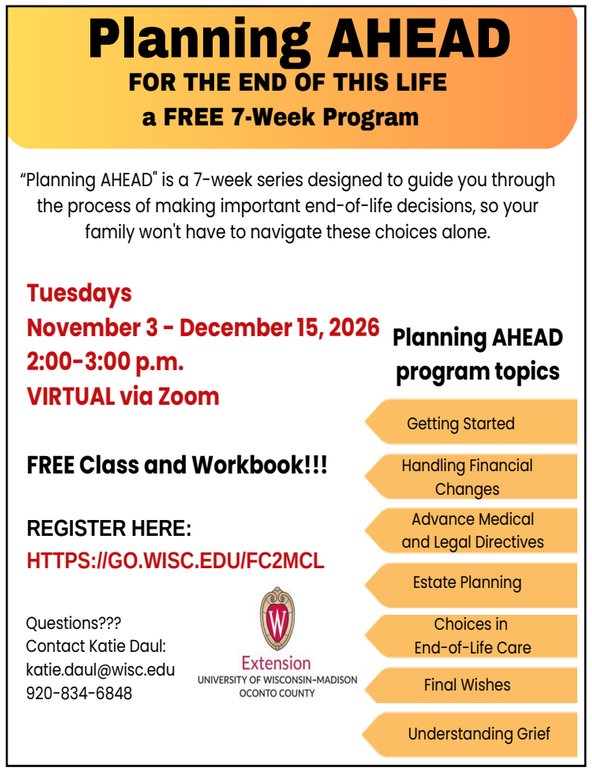
Wishing you and your family a blessed and meaningful Thanksgiving! R

FALL INTO FITNESS CHALLENGE

Thank you to everyone who participated in Zion's Fall Into Fitness Challenge! I hope this challenge encouraged you to find simple ways to stay active and make movement part of your everyday routine. Remember, every step counts, whether it's walking, stretching, attending Strong Bodies, dancing, or working in the yard.

Want to receive your completion gift? Please turn in your completed recording sheet to receive your gift for participating in the challenge! Thank you for taking time to care for your health and wellness. Keep moving, keep making healthy choices, and remember that small steps can make a big difference! R





NOTES & OUTREACH

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Zion Youth & Family Ministry,

Thank you so much for the thoughtful package and encouraging words you sent to me. These first weeks have definitely been an adjustment so it was very comforting to know I still have support from my Church family! Thank you again for helping me grow and succeed in my faith as well as my education! R

~ Alli Johnson

Dear Zion Family,

Thank you so much for the sweet, fall goodie basket! It was a thoughtful surprise because I wasn't having a great day when I opened it, so it truly was a highlight of the day, I really appreciate y'all thinking of me while in Madison. The treats, devotional, and goodies were so sweet. I miss you all! Sundays aren't the same without my church family. Can't wait to be home and join you all for a service again soon. Go Pack Go! Go Badgers! Go Brewers! Thanks again and blessings. R

~ Bailey DeFere

Zion Church Family,

Thank you for the care package. My first month and a half back at NMU has been exciting and a little stressful, but I'm finally settling into a routine. There are still some warmer days, but overall the weather is starting to cool off. The trees are also rapidly changing colors, and fall is officially here! Lotsw of school work, but I'm finding time to get outdoors and play tennis. With the changing seasons, I'm also looking forward to Thanksgiving break and heading back to Shawano, but in the meantime it is nice to know that you are rooting for me. R *~ Elias Popp*

Dear Zion Youth Ministry,

Thank you so much for the back-to-school care package. It is always so nice to get the reminder that my church community is thinking of me. I appreciate it every time. Thank you! R *~ Maddy Heling*

CHARLIE'S RED BARN & WEE CARE

Wee Care earned **$2,590** from the **Charlie's Red Barn** food pack fundraiser and an additional **$794** from the October **monster cookie sales** to support weekend children's backpack food bags. R

THANKSGIVING MEAL VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed to help with our Thanksgiving dinner! Everyone interested in lending a hand, contact **Joyce Phalen** at **715.584.1778**. Thanks for making this Thanksgiving celebration possible! R

ZLCW SILENT AUCTION

The ZLCW Fall Silent Auction was once again a success, thanks to wonderful donated items, happy bidders, and generous participants! We **raised $3,015** to support area nonprofits. Thank you, Zion, for your generosity and support, and don't forget to join us for the Spring Auction! R *~ ZLCW Board*







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ZION Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER

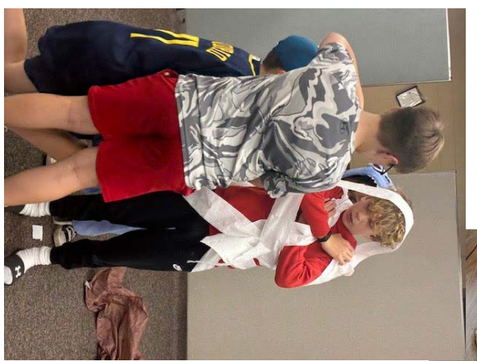
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **All Saints Day** **All Saints Weekend** **Daylight-Saving Time Ends** 8:00am Worship Service~ZION 9:15am Choir Rehearsal & Kids of the Kingdom 10:30am Worship Service~ZION 11:30am Education Committee Meeting	2 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Health Ministry Committee Meeting 2:00pm Thanksgiving Dinner Planning 5:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting	3 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting	4 8:30am Strong Bodies 4:30pm GriefShare Class 5:00pm Joyful RIngers Rehearsal 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Youth Group	5 7:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am MomCo/KidCo	6 Office Closed 9:30am Library Committee	7 **Veterans Day Weekend** **4:00pm Youth Lock-In 4:00 PM-8 AM** 5:00pm Worship Service
8 **Veterans Day Weekend** 8:00am Worship Service~ZION 9:15am Kids of the Kingdom 10:30am Worship Service~ZION 11:30am Youth Committee Meeting	9 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting	10 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting 10:00am Finance Committee Meeting 11:30am ZLCW Board 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop #4510 6:00pm Property Committee	11 **Veterans Day** 8:30am Strong Bodies 11:00am Veterans Day Program-Pastor Scott Invocation 4:30pm GriefShare Class 5:00pm Joyful RIngers Rehearsal 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Youth Group	12 7:30am Strong Bodies	13 3:00pm Holiday Marketplace setup	14 **Packers vs. Vikings Weekend** 10:00am Holiday Marketplace 5:00pm Worship Service
15 **Packers vs. Vikings Weekend** 8:00am Worship Service~ZION 9:15am Kids of the Kingdom 10:30am Worship Service~ZION (Kids of the Kingdom Sing)	16 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting **1:00pm Community Blood Drive** 3:30pm Evening Bible Study	17 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting 5:00pm Friendly Visitors Meeting-Library 6:00pm Council Meeting	18 8:30am Strong Bodies 4:30pm GriefShare Class 5:00pm Joyful RIngers Rehearsal 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Youth Group	19 7:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am MomCo/KidCo 4:30pm Surviving the Holiday's after a Loss Workshop	20	21 **Christ the King Weekend** **Opening Day Deer Hunting** 5:00pm Worship Service
22 **Christ the King Weekend** 8:00am Worship Service~ZION 9:15am Choir Rehearsal & Kids of the Kingdom 10:30am Worship Service~ZION	23 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting	24 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting	25 8:30am Strong Bodies 4:30pm GriefShare Class	26 **Thanksgiving Day**	27	28 5:00pm Worship Service
29 **First Sunday of Advent** 8:00am Worship Service~ZION 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Service~ZION	30 **Festival of Trees** 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting **5:00pm Worship & Music Committee**	1 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting 10:00am Tom Walker tune pianos	2 8:30am Strong Bodies 4:30pm GriefShare Class 5:00pm Joyful RIngers Rehearsal 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Youth Group	3 7:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am MomCo/KidCo	4	5 5:00pm Worship Service



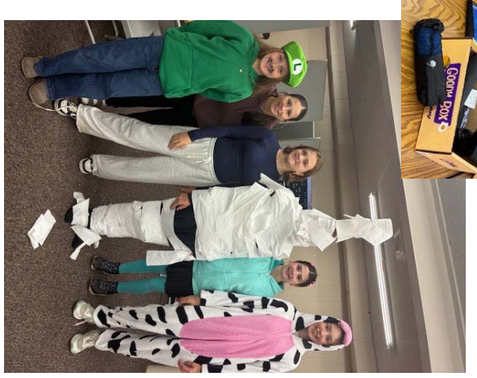
















YOUTH HALLOWEEN PARTY