



**ZION YOUTH FUNDRAISER**

RECHARGEABLE CAR WASH CARD

**ULTIMATE**

Kwik Trip Kwik Star

**ONLY \$36 FOR 5 ULTIMATE CAR WASHES**

**GET YOURS TODAY IN THE OFFICE**



**ZION Youth Group**

**Christmas Cookie Sale**

**DECEMBER 21**  
AFTER 8AM & 10:30 SERVICE

**\$10 for 10 cookies**

Funds to support Youth Activities and Winter Synod Retreat

**LOVE**

**Peace**

**Joy**

**HOPE**

ATTEMPTS TO MAKE THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER MORE EXCITING TO READ WERE GETTING OUT OF HAND.

*M. Pfeiffer*

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**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

715.526.2017 | zion@shawanozion.org | www.shawanozion.org  
A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Pastor Scott Ludford, Sr. Pastor | Jill Sousek, Organist & Music Director | Kay Kristof, Admin. Asst.  
Kristin WhiteHorse, Family & Youth Director | Nancy Schultz, Health & Wellness Coordinator  
Randy Steffen, Worship Coordinator | Ann Johnson, Custodian | John Phalen, Maintenance

DECEMBER 21, 2025

**ZION NEWS**

WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

*Joy To The World*

**CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**  
DECEMBER 24 AT 3:30 AND 5:30 PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY SONG SERVICE**  
DECEMBER 25 AT 9 AM

**WELCOME**

We're so glad you're here! We celebrate **Holy Communion** at every weekend service at ZION, and we invite all baptized and communing Christians to partake. **Children** are always welcome in worship and are invited to come forward for a blessing during communion! Our services have children's messages, and if your little one needs a break, **Noah's Ark Nursery** is behind the Sanctuary. We provide **Kids in Church** activity bags in the Narthex.

**RESTROOMS**

Restrooms are near the Union Street entrance, in the lower level, and inside Noah's Ark Nursery.

**WELCOME PADS**

Whether you're a long-time member or visiting for the first time, please sign the **Welcome Pad** in your pew.

**CARE TO JOIN**

If you're new or would like to make ZION your church home, fill out a **Welcome Card** and place it in the offering plate. We'd be honored to have you in our faith family! Please scan the QR Code for ZION's **Membership Application** or contact the office. We can't wait to get to know you and walk alongside you in our faith!

**ZION'S CHRISTMAS WEEK**

**SAT., DEC. 20** Advent 4

Live Recording – Chris Dalke  
Worship Service | 5 PM

**SUN., DEC. 21** Youth Cookie Sale

Worship Service | 8 & 10:30 AM  
Choir Rehearsal | 9:15 AM

**MON., DEC. 22**

Constance Birkholz Funeral | 11 AM

**TUES., DEC. 23**

Men's Breakfast | 8 AM  
Joyful Ringers Rehearsal | 5 PM

**WED., DEC. 24** Christmas Eve

Worship Service (ZION Choir) | 3:30 PM  
Worship Service (Joyful Ringers) | 5:30 PM

**THURS., DEC. 25** Christmas Day

Worship Service | 9 AM

**FRI., DEC. 26** Office Closed

**SAT., DEC. 27**

Worship Service | 5 PM

**SUN., DEC. 28**

Worship Service | 8 AM  
Kids of the Kingdom (No Class) | 9:15 AM  
Worship Service | 10:30 AM



**Jan. 25, 2026**

**11:30 AM**  
**Sanctuary**



**ANNUAL MEETING**

## DECEMBER\* ZION LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

<b>Role</b>	<b>SAT 5 PM</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Steve & Joy Dalke
<b>Ushers</b>	John & Joyce Phalen
<b>Lay Reader &amp; Communion Assistants</b>	Steve & Joy Dalke, Scott Glysch
<b>Projector Operator</b>	Randy Steffen

<b>Role</b>	<b>SUN 8 AM</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Joanne DeFere & Dawn Brock
<b>Ushers</b>	Bart & Debbie Defere Al Wichmann & Bob Bartelt
<b>Lay Reader &amp; Communion Assistants</b>	Amanda Bernath, Dawn Brock Brian & Kris Johnson
<b>Projector Operator</b>	Julie Effenberger

<b>Role</b>	<b>SUN 10:30 AM</b>
<b>Greeter</b>	Nancy Schultz
<b>Ushers</b>	Robert & Jackie Weier, Cooper & Jackson Boucher
<b>Lay Reader &amp; Communion Assistants</b>	Michael Eidahl, Susan Lemke, Judy Stoltenow
<b>Projector Operators</b>	Noreen Christian (Dec. 21 & 28)

\*Youth Group will cover Lay Ministry on the third Sun. 10:30 AM service.

## CHRISTMAS EVE ZION LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

<b>Role</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Joanne DeFere & Debra Larson
<b>Ushers</b>	John Phalen, Bob & Jackie Weier
<b>Lay Reader* &amp; Communion Assistants</b>	Judy Stoltenow,* Matt Heling, Susan Lemke, Emily & Maddy Heling
<b>Projector Operator</b>	Vicki Heling

<b>Role</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Nancy Schultz & Pam Hoernke
<b>Ushers</b>	Al & Marge Wichmann, Brian & Jack Grieves Bob Bartelt
<b>Lay Reader* &amp; Communion Assistants</b>	Bob Hass,* Carey & Charlie Grieves
<b>Projector Operator</b>	Nancy Schultz

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING

Richard Bahr, Gerald Bartline, Dale Bergsbaken, Debbie Bernard, Leslie Buckbee, Lily Cornelius, Marilyn Dahl, Terry Fusek, Larry Gueths, Lynn Hintz, Pete Hintz, Adeline Holtz, Joanne Horn, Bob Janicki, Helen Kaurala, Stacey Popp, Ken Spreeman, and Jim Yeakey ~ surround them by God's peace.

## LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

Sat. 5 PM: 128 | Sun. 8 AM: 64 | 10:30 AM: 52 | In-Person: 244 | YouTube: 98  
 General \$6,869 | Building \$755 | Restricted \$3,279.78 | Total \$10,903.78  
 November Budget: \$42,708 | November Actual: \$55,895 November giving reached 131% of expenses, a generous and encouraging month for ZION. Thank you!

## HELP NEEDED: YOUTUBE LIVE STREAM OPERATORS

Help us keep our YouTube Live stream running smoothly and share worship with those at home. Contact **Chris Dalke** or **Nancy Schultz** for more information.

### ACOLYTES

**Dec 21**  
 8 AM Lee Wolff  
 Levi Effenberger  
 10:30 AM Leah Hanson  
 Morgan Boucher

**Dec. 24**  
 3:30 PM Camdin Olson  
 Open  
 5:30 PM Two Open

**Jan. 4**  
 8 AM Levi Effenberger  
 Lane Laude



## WELCOME TO GOD'S FAMILY: LEDGER GENE FISCHER

We celebrate with joy the **Holy Baptism** of **Ledger Gene Fischer**, who will be welcomed into the body of Christ during our worship service on Sat., Dec. 20, at 5 PM. Ledger is the son of **Kyle and Samantha Fischer**. We also recognize his godparents, **Megan Fischer** and **Sydney Foote**, along with his proud grandparents, **Gene and Kris Fischer**, and great-grandmother, **June Peters**. Please join us in supporting this family and welcome our newest brother in faith!



## IN LOVING, PRAYERFUL, AND FAITH-FILLED MEMORY

We wrap our hearts and prayers around the families of two ZION members who recently went home to the Lord. **Frederick Goering**, age 95, passed away on Mon., Dec. 15; his family is planning a memorial service at a later date with Pastor Scott Ludford officiating. [[www.swedbergfuneralhome.com/obituary/frederick-goering](http://www.swedbergfuneralhome.com/obituary/frederick-goering)] We also mourn the loss of **Constance "Connie" Birkholz**, age 85, who passed away on Tues., Dec. 16. Connie is the mother of Pete Hintz, and we ask for special comfort for Pete and his loved ones during this time. Services for Connie will be held at ZION this **Mon., Dec. 22 at 11 AM** with Pastor Scott Ludford officiating. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers as they navigate this season of grief. Constance's obituary details and online condolences can be found at [[www.swedbergfuneralhome.com/obituary/constance-birkholz](http://www.swedbergfuneralhome.com/obituary/constance-birkholz)]

## LEARN, GROW & SERVE AS A STEPHEN MINISTER

Do you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening? We're training **Stephen Ministers** starting **Jan. 4**. Stephen Ministers provide emotional and spiritual support to those facing challenges such as grief, illness, or other life transitions. To sign up to help others, contact: **Judy Laude**, **Nancy Schultz**, or **Kristin WhiteHorse**.

## BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!

Wee Care's **Festival of Trees** display this year expands into a **mitten, hat, scarf**, and **sock tree** to help chase the chill away. All donations go to children who need these essentials for winter. Teachers often buy them with their own money. *A basket will be placed at the base of the tree for donations.* Wee Care hopes to bless children and families with warmth through food, mittens, hats, scarves, socks, and love.

## MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

**Men's Bible Study** meets Tuesdays every week at 8 AM at Shawano Cafe. **Women's Bible Study** meets at 3:30 PM in the ZION Library on the third Monday of each month.

## THANK YOU FOR SHARING CHRISTMAS JOY

**Health Ministry Committee** extends thanks to our generous Congregation for supporting the **Homme Youth & Family Programs Christmas Collection Drive**. With your incredible compassion, we raised **over \$2,500 in donations**, helping provide Christmas gifts, hygiene items, winter clothing, and more for boys ages ten to 18 at Homme House in Wittenberg. Your gifts brought hope, joy, and the love of Christ to youth who need it most. Thank you for making a difference this season!

## BLESS OTHERS THIS CHRISTMAS

**Health Ministry Committee** invites you to help us share Christ's love globally by choosing an ornament from our **ELCA Giving Tree**. Each ornament includes simple instructions on how to give by phone, credit card, or mail. Have a blessed Christmas, and thank you for helping spread the Good News to those in need overseas!

