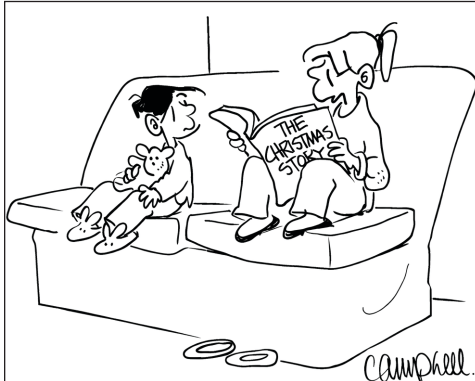


# stephen MINISTRY

## Do You Know Someone Going through a Difficult Time?

Do you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who has been struggling with the loss of a loved one, loneliness, cancer, a layoff, relocation, divorce, a spiritual crisis, recuperation, single parenthood, or any of countless other life challenges? Our Stephen Ministers can provide them with the focused care, encouragement, and support they need to make it through the crisis. If you know of someone who is hurting, talk with one of our **Stephen Leaders: Judy Laude, Nancy Schultz, or Kristin WhiteHorse**. They can talk with you about how we can connect the person you know with one of our Stephen Ministers. It's a great way for you to show how much you care!



"Because they didn't have e-mail then.  
That's why God sent an angel  
to proclaim the baby's birth."

Clipart used by permission from Communications Resources ©2025 ChurchArt Online

## 50 PLUS GROUP IS BACK THIS JANUARY!

Single or married, everyone is welcome!  
Come join us for an afternoon of laughter,  
connection, and joy.

When: Third Wednesday of each month

Time: Noon–2 PM

Where: Zion Lutheran Church

What to Expect:

- Warm fellowship and friendly faces
- An uplifting devotion to nourish the soul
- Fun games and plenty of laughter
- A light lunch and refreshments

Whether you're hoping to meet new friends or simply enjoy a relaxing and joyful afternoon, this group is the perfect place to connect, share, and have fun together. Don't miss out. We can't wait to see you! Questions? Contact **Nancy Schultz**, Health & Wellness Coordinator at **715.390.4540**.



## THIS IS MOTHERHOOD

**Motherhood is complicated.  
Mom friends help.**

**ZION Lutheran Church**

**10-11:30am**

KidCo Available

Supportive Community, Great Conversations, Devotionals and Crafts

Mom's Nights Out



**Spring 2026**

January 15th

February 5th

February 19th

March 5th

March 19th

April 16th

April 30th

May 7th

May 21st

For More Information: visit our website  
[www.shawanozion.org/momco](http://www.shawanozion.org/momco)

DECEMBER 24, 2025



# ZION NEWS

WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

## ZION'S CHRISTMAS WEEK

**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 Song 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

**MON., DEC. 29**  
Staff Meeting | 10 AM

**TUES., DEC. 30**  
Men's Breakfast | 8 AM

**WED., DEC. 31** Office Closed

## WE REMEMBER PASTOR ROLLEN HALVORSON



We remember and give thanks for the life of **Pastor Rollen M. Halvorson**, who passed away on **Mon., Dec. 22, 2025**, in Minnesota. Pastor Halvorson faithfully served here at ZION Lutheran Church in Shawano from 1977 to 1984 and later retired on Sept. 1998. He is survived by his wife, Alle, and their children, Jonathan, Mary, and Joel. Funeral arrangements are pending, and no further details were available at the time of printing.

## 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 LUTHERAN CHURCH

715.526.2017 | [zion@shawanozion.org](mailto:zion@shawanozion.org) | [www.shawanozion.org](http://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 | **Deb Maier**, Guest Organist  
**Randy Steffen**, Worship Coordinator | **Ann Johnson**, Custodian | **John Phalen**, Maintenance



## ZION Lutheran Church

Sun., Jan. 25, 2026

11:30 AM in the  
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, Leslie Buckbee, Lily Cornelius, Marilyn Dahl, Terry Fusek, Larry Gueths, Beverly Heling, 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: 61 | Sun. 8 AM: 60 | 10:30 AM: 55 | In-Person: 176 | YouTube: 122  
General \$8,706 | Building \$525 | Restricted \$591.83 | Total \$9,822.83

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

<b>Dec. 24</b>	
3:30 PM	Camdin Olson Open
5:30 PM	Two Open
<b>Jan. 4</b>	
8 AM	Levi Effenberger Lane Laude
10:30 AM	Olivia Phalen Audrey Moeller
<b>Jan. 11</b>	
8 AM	Addie Bernath Open
10:30	Bailey WhiteHorse Open



## 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.

## GAME NIGHT & BINGO RETURN TO ZION!

Join us on **Sun., Feb. 15** at **3:30 PM** as **Game Night** and **Bingo** make a return to ZION. Enjoy an afternoon filled with laughter, fellowship, and friendly competition for all ages. Whether you love classic board games, fast-paced card games, or the excitement of bingo, there's something for all. Bring your friends, family, and favorite games, or just come ready to play. Snacks will be provided, and all are welcome. It's a great way to connect, laugh, and enjoy time together as a church family. We can't wait to see you there!



## COOKIE FUNDRAISER A DELICIOUS TRIUMPH!

This year's **Youth Christmas Cookie Fundraiser** was another incredible success! Our middle and high school students gathered to decorate hundreds of festive cookies, filling the room with Christmas cheer, creativity, and plenty of sugary fun. From frosting bags to sprinkles scattered everywhere, the students worked hard and had a blast doing it! By the time Sunday morning rolled around, every cookie had been sold, thanks to the amazing support of our congregation. We're already dreaming even bigger for next year! A heartfelt thank-you to the parents and volunteers who jumped in to help. Your support makes all the difference!

## 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!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH FAMILIES SYNOD YOUTH RETREAT: JOURNEY WITH JESUS

**February 20–22, 2026 | Green Lake Conference Center**

Middle school and high school students, please mark your calendars! Our synod's annual youth retreat, **Journey with Jesus**, is this February. This weekend is packed with fun, faith-building experiences, workshops, Bible study, worship, and time in community. It's a great chance to step away from the busyness of life, grow in faith, and connect with students from across the synod. We will be planning what this looks like for our group in early January. Parents are invited to join for the weekend too!

## 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!

