



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1254 S UNION STREET
SHAWANO WI 54166



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

**HANDMADE
HOLIDAY
MARKETPLACE
& KIDPRENEUR EVENT**

SAT. NOVEMBER 15

9AM-2PM

Explore a variety of unique, handmade items from our local artisans.

NEW THIS YEAR- Come see what our talented Kidpreneurs have created.

The holidays are
challenging when you're
grieving a loss.

GriefShare

**Surviving
the Holidays**

provides encouragement, support, and valuable
tools to navigate the season.

Join us for this holiday seminar

Location	Date & time	Contact info
Elizabeth Business Street Complex 605 E Elizabeth Street Shawano, WI 54166	Wednesday, December 3, 2025 12:30-2:30 p.m.	Nancy Schultz health@shawanozion.org 715-390-4540

griefshare.org/holidays



WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Worship Services: Saturday at 5 PM | Sundays at 8 & 10:30 AM

OCTOBER IMPACT OF FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS

ZLCW SILENT AUCTION

The ZION Lutheran Church Women (ZLCW)'s **Silent Auction of Baskets** was held Oct. 11-19. This was a fantastic fundraiser, bringing in **\$2,915** from **forty-six baskets and quilts** to support year-end benevolences. R

PASTOR APPRECIATION

We gave thanks and celebrated **Pastor Scott Ludford's** dedication, compassion, unwavering faith, and loving leadership on Sun., Oct. 12. R

WEE CARE SWEET SUCCESS

The **Wee Care Cookie Sale** (Oatmeal Scotchies), held on Oct. 11 and 12, raised **\$873**. This money will greatly help purchase food for local children, ensuring 119 food bags are packed each week. R

LOUD OFFERING

The **Kids of the Kingdom** collected a **Loud Offering** during the Confirmation Worship Service on Oct. 26 to support the ZION Youth Program's activities, service projects, and adventures. R

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

- **Middle and High School Youth** kicked off fall with an overnight **Lock-In** on Oct. 11 and a spook-tacular **Halloween Party** on Oct. 29. R
- The new **Friends & Fellowship** group gathered on Oct. 19 for a fun afternoon of **Bingo and Pizza**. R

GRIEF SHARE SEMINAR

ZION hosted a 2-hour GriefShare event, **"Surviving the Holidays After Loss,"** on Oct. 29, for navigating the season. R

NOVEMBER MISSION & OUTREACH

DIAPER DRIVE AT ZION

The ZION Health Ministry Committee is hosting a **November Diaper Drive** to support local families in need. Throughout the month, please help fill the collection box in the Narthex with baby diapers in sizes three through seven. Donations benefit Snuggled with a Hug Diaper Bank, which serves more than 160 local families each month. Your generosity helps keep babies clean, dry, and healthy. R

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Celebrate Thanksgiving with your ZION family and the community! Thurs., Nov. 27 at Noon. Call **715-526-2017** to reserve your plate by Mon., Nov. 17. Freewill donation is accepted; \$8 per plate suggested (children under five eat free).

HONORING OUR ZION VETERANS – NOV. 9

ZION will honor our veterans on **Sun., Nov. 9**. Veterans Day is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, and we express our gratitude to ensure their sacrifices are not forgotten. Additionally, **Shawano's Hometown Heroes** invites the community to a **Veterans Day Celebration** on Fri., Nov. 7. R

ZION HANDMADE HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

Get a head start on your holiday shopping! Join us for the **Handmade Holiday Marketplace & Kidpreneur Event** on Sat., Nov. 15, 9 AM–2 PM. R

REGULAR OPPORTUNITIES

- **Worship Services:** Sat. 5 PM; Sun. 8 AM and 10:30 AM. Holy Communion at every service.
- **Kids of the Kingdom:** Sun. at 9:15 AM.
- **Confirmation Class:** Wed. at 6 PM.
- **Men's Bible Study:** Tues. at 8 AM at Shawano Cafe.
- **Women's Bible Study:** Third Monday of each month at 3:30 PM.
- **GriefShare Class:** Wed. at 10:30 AM.
- **MomCo/KidCo:** Meets the first and third Thurs. every month, 10-11:30 AM.
- **Strong Bodies Exercise Classes:** Mon. & Wed. 8:30-9:30 AM or Tues. & Thurs. 7:30-8:30 AM. Call 715.390.4540 to register.
- **LWR Mission Quilting:** Tues. at 9 AM.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thurs., Nov. 27, 2025 at Noon

Zion Lutheran Church

1254 S Union Street, Shawano WI 54166

Reservations appreciated by Mon., Nov. 17. Call **715-526-2017** to reserve your spot.
Freewill donation — \$8 per plate suggested (Children under five eat free)

“Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.” ~ 2 Timothy 11:10



Recently, I re-watched Robert Redford as he portrays baseball player Roy Hobbs in the film “The Natural.” Redford played out the dream that is rooted in North America stories where the underdog can win out even in the face of evil, even against all odds, even when opportunity and skill seem worn out. The dream, mixed with steam from train engines and the fog of early morning, still tempts us summer after summer to root for our favorite baseball team and the dreams of being World Series Champions.

Somehow one gets a sense that the nostalgia and the dream get wrapped up together to say we are more comfortable with the positive side of life than the negative. We Christians are more comfortable with praising God than with lamenting before God. It is said that whole societies are built on the capacity to forget. We forget the victims of war and laud the returning soldier. We forget the stories of the neglected nobodies in the idolized biographies of the rich and famous.

The stories we cherish as Christians bring us face to face with the lament of our ancestors. There is lament in the experience of Naomi and her daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth (as told in the O.T. Book of Ruth). All three wind up as widows. All three become marginalized. All three find cause to lament. Yet the Jewess Naomi and the Moabite Ruth do not abandon or forsake one another. What does God work? They go to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest. Out of lament comes blessing. Ruth’s plight eventually gives us King David.

Naaman, an outsider Syrian has cause to lament. He is marginalized as a leper. At the word of the Prophet Elisha, the man of God, he goes down to the Jordan and is plunged seven times into those life-giving waters. His flesh became like that of a little child, and he enters into allegiance with the God of Elisha. Out of lament comes blessings. Naaman not only finds wholeness and inclusion in society; he also finds faith. (2 Kings 5)

Amid our desire for nostalgia of passed, more wondrous days, we discover a wholesome word. We cannot forget. We cannot deny lament. What all these people have in common is their lament, their outsider status, their experience of human suffering and pain. In fact, one of the signs of cure from leprosy is newfound ability to feel pain. Too often we take comfort in praise! We forget that there is something redemptive in pain and in suffering.

Paul tells Timothy, “Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal.” (2 Timothy 2:8) It is not that pain is to be dwelt out of any sort of destructive tendencies upon oneself. Pain and suffering are real and are evils to be dealt with. They are not

goods in themselves. But out of lament comes blessing. Pain and suffering disturb our desire for nostalgia. They become worthwhile when they enable us to turn to God, the source of blessing, the one who creates out of chaos.

There is a something subtle here that we could easily overlook. Luke’s gospel portrays Jesus as someone regrettable. He is the innocent martyr who goes up to Jerusalem. His message, a brutal cross-death and an innocent suffering Master, is not the stuff of nostalgic dreams. But out of regrettable brutal sacrificial deed comes a blessing. Blessing for the man who is promised a paradise. Blessing for the lost sheep, for the woman with her lost coin, and for the son seemingly lost in his irresponsible, dissolute living. The saving power of the Lord is for all the nations, all the peoples who lament, all the nobodies who yearn to be somebodies, all the unnamed who are graced with the name, “Children of God.”

For us who gather to give praise at the table, we can depend on this, “If we who have died with Christ, we shall also live with Christ; if we endure, we shall also reign with Christ.” (2 Timothy 11b-12) R ~ Pastor Scott Ludford



AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

PEYTEN ELIZABETH BOUCHER
Parents: Nathan & Sara Boucher
Godparents: Eric Hoffman & Sadie Hill

GRACIE MARIE CURTIN
Parent: Hayley Curtin
Godparents: Courtney Curtin, Jamie Dieck & Jessica White

MOLLY LOUISE HANSON
Parents: Brian & Jennifer Hanson
Godparents: Douglas Bjelland & Bridget McArtney

COLLIN JOSEPH OLSON
Parents: Scott & Jennifer Olson
Godparents: Jamie Schoenhofen, Lisa Lechterman, Nick & Liz Bartz

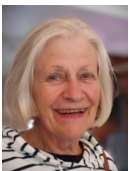
BRYNLEE ANNA RAY
Parents: Tracy & Coleen Ray
Godparents: Troy Klement & Rachel Tattum

GABRIEL PETER TONN
Parents: Shawn & Jennifer Tonn
Godparents: Michael Peotter, Joshua Schuelke & Nicole Passehl

BROOKLYN MARIE WHITEHORSE
Parents: Clint & Kristin WhiteHorse
Godparents: Gregory McKeefry & Andrea Kick

REMEMBERING PATRICIA GWIDT

Patricia A. Gwidt, 83, of Legend Lake and formerly of Pulaski, passed away on Oct. 28. Pat was known helping to establish the St. Michael’s Food Pantry in Keshena and supporting countless local causes. She also talk the Tuesday/Thursday Strong Bodies Class here at ZION. Patricia’s funeral was held on Nov. 7 at Assumption B.V.M. Church in Pulaski. Read her obituary at www.marnochafuneralhome.com R



HOMER ERICKSON LAID TO REST

Dr. Homer Theodore Erickson passed away at 100 years of age on Oct. 23. He was a soldier, scientist, horticulturist, ornithologist, and raconteur admired by all who knew him. His funeral was held Oct. 30, with Pastor Ludford at Our Savior Lutheran Cemetery near Lessor. swedbergfuneralhome.com/obituary/homer-erickson R



IN OUR PRAYERS

We lift these individuals in prayer, seeking God’s healing, strength, comfort, peace, and renewal. Gerald Bartline, Dale Bergsbaken, Debbie Bernard, Leslie Buckbee, Marilyn Dahl, Terry Fusek, Larry Gueths, Lynn Hintz, Pete Hintz, Adeline Holtz, Joanne Horn, Bob Janicki, Helen Kaurala, Wendy Nead, Shirley Sorenson, Ken Spreeman, and Jim Yeakey. R

OCTOBER ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

Attendance | In-Person-837 | YouTube-896 Offerings | \$31,500
YTD Offerings \$386,941 (93% as of 10/31/2025) YTD Budget \$414,627

BOOK & PUZZLE SETUP HELP

On Thurs., Nov. 13, at 8 AM, we’ll be setting up for the Book and Puzzle Sale at the Handmade Holiday Marketplace. We need extra hands to help put books on shelves and display puzzles in the nursery. If available, please join us. We’d love your help! R

Shawano County
TOYS FOR TOTS
2025 APPLICATIONS
Children ages: Newborn to 18 years old
Must live in Central & Eastern Shawano County
Registration Opens Online Nov. 3rd ~ Dec 11, 2025
2025 VOLUNTEERS
Always needed and welcome!
Earn community service hours!
Make a difference in our community!
2025 DONATIONS
New unwrapped toys or books ~ Thank you for remembering our teens ages 13 ~ 18!
Drop sites all over the county
Online monetary donations gratefully accepted
To Apply, Volunteer or Donate:
Scan QR Code or visit: shawano-wi.toysfortots.org
Or call Coordinator Michael Johnston 715-280-0991

EXTENDING CHRIST’S LOVE – SAM25

This past year, SAM25 provided more than 2,200 nights of shelter, 6,600 meals, and clothing and care to hundreds in our community. You can donate hygiene items, paper products, food, or winter gear; provide a meal; or volunteer your time. Please, visit www.sam25.org or email health@shawanozion.org. R



NEW LIBRARY BOOK

Do Yourself a Favor ... FORGIVE

by Joyce Meyer
What is peace worth to you? If you don’t see it as extremely valuable, you will never do what you must do in order to have. Controlling your anger and learning to forgive generously and quickly are parts of maintaining peace. But always being willing to sacrifice our own desire, especially the desire to be right, is also a daily part of enjoying the peace that God has provided in Jesus Christ. I have discovered that God is much better at vindi-cating me than I am at trying to vindicate myself. Let God be God in your life and you will enjoy more peace also. The emotion of anger does not have to rule you. Let go of anger, press past it and enjoy the peace of God. R



~ ZION Library Committee
(This book was donated to Zion’s Library by Harriet Villarreal.)

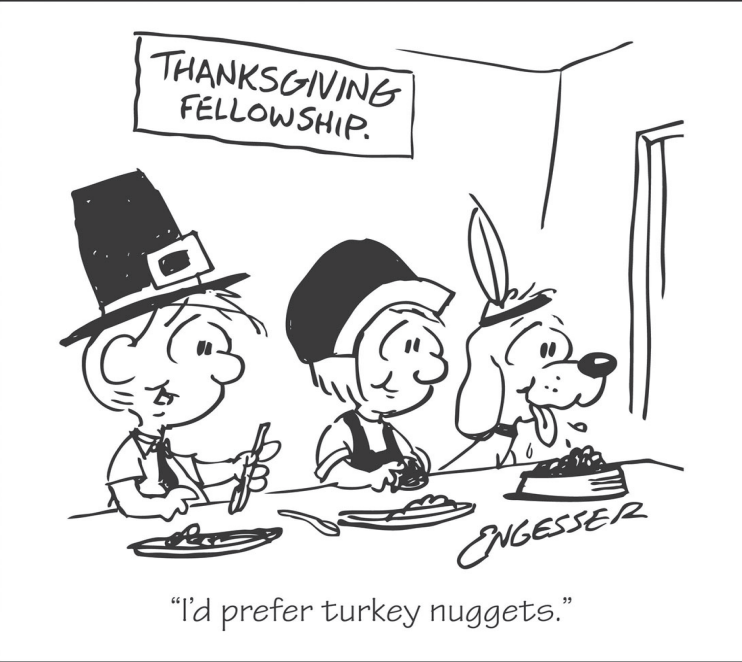
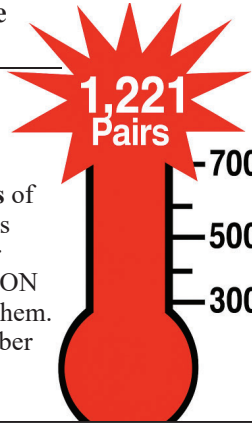
ALL SAINTS’ DAY – NOV. 2

Pastor Scott Ludford has conducted graveside and funeral services for both ZION members and non-members. We remember Ronald “Ron” E. Raasch, Gordon Holten, Eileen R. Elertson, Rita H. Trinko, Kenneth Lounsbury, Barbara A. Beversdorf, Melvin Gutt, Harold Moesch, Carlton Edward “Carl” Hock, Homer Theodore Erickson, and Seegar Swanson II. R

SOCKTOBER SHATTERS GOAL!

ZION’s SOCKTOBER collection was a tremendous success! We collected 1,221 pairs of socks, far exceeding our 700-pair goal. Thanks to everyone who donated and helped keep our community warm! Also, a thank you to the ZION Youth for making two blankets and donating them. Your generosity truly made this year’s Socktober drive one to celebrate! R

~ The Health Ministry Committee



HOLY BAPTISM

KYRAH GRACE ANN & XYRIM ZANE WELCH

Parents: Adam Bruce Welch & Brandie Leanne Vandervest
Godparents: Anita Marie Welch



DECEMBER* ZION LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

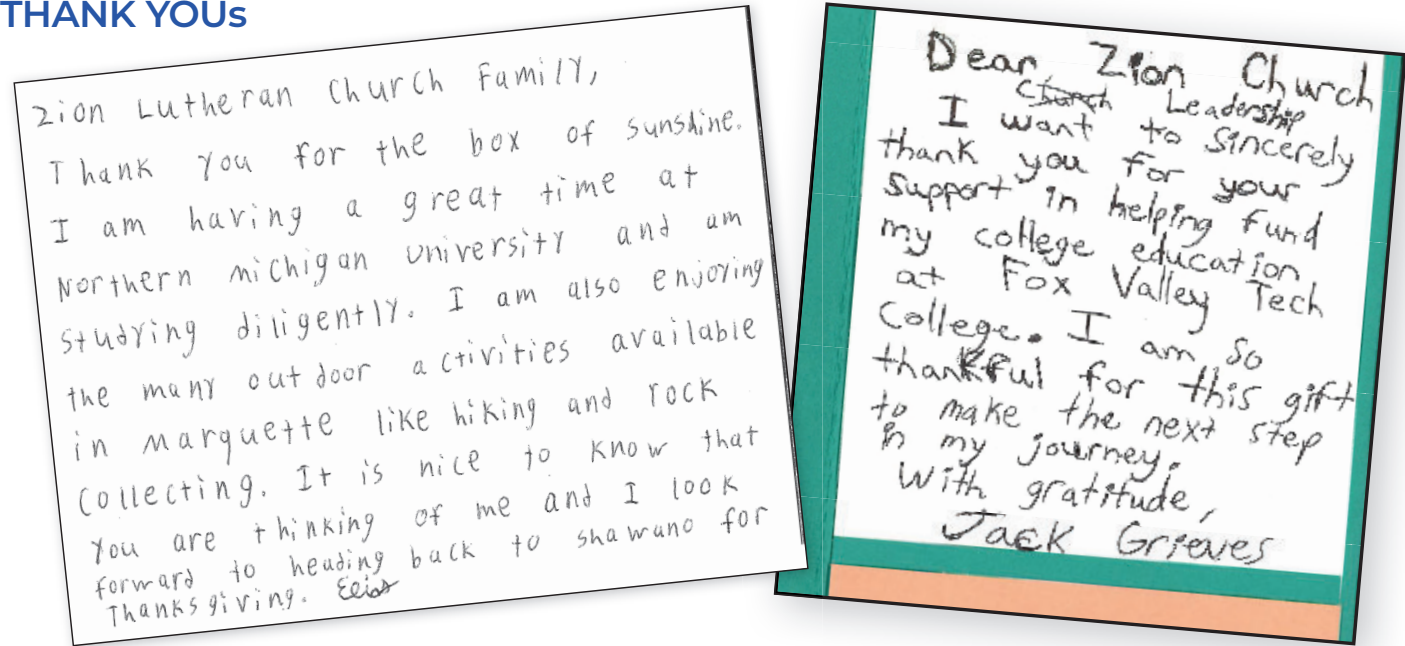
Role	SAT 5 PM	ACOLYTES
Greeters	Steve & Joy Dalke	Dec. 7
Ushers	John & Joyce Phalen	8am
Lay Reader & Communion Assistants	Steve & Joy Dalke, Scott Glysch	
Projector Operator	Randy Steffen	10:30
		Addie Bernath
		Bella Krone
		Olivia Phalen
		Audrey Moeller
		Dec 14
		8am
		Kyle Huebner
		Jonah Glysch
		Erin Felhofer
		10:30
		Dec 21
		8am
		Lee Wolff
		Open
		10:30
		Leah Hanson
		Open

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

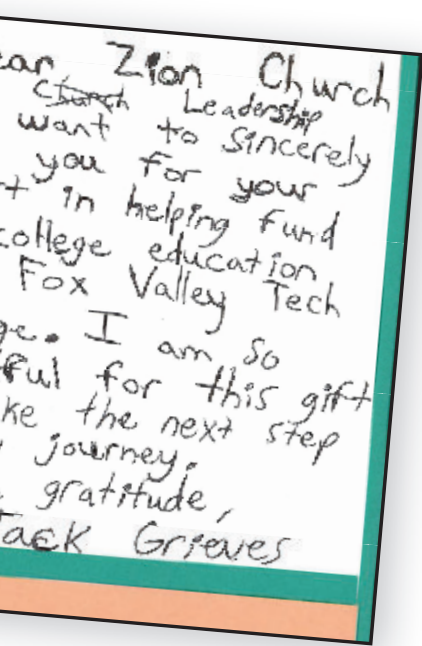
Role	SUN 10:30 AM
Greeter	Nancy Schultz
Ushers	Robert & Jackie Weier, Cooper & Jackson Boucher
Lay Reader & Communion Assistants	Michael Eidahl, Susan Lemke, Judy Stoltenow
Projector Operators	Jenny Tonn (Dec. 7 & 14), Noreen Christian (Dec. 21 & 28)

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

THANK YOU



Zion’s quilts and kits were blessed during worship, each one stitched with love and prayers before being sent to bring warmth and comfort through **Lutheran World Relief**.





HELP OUR FURRY FRIENDS!
Kinzie Rosenow representing, Girl Scout Troop 4723, is collecting supplies for the **Shawano County Humane Society**. A donation box is located in the Narthex for your contributions. Every item helps provide care for animals in need. Deadline is **Mon., Nov. 24 at 8 AM**. Thank you for supporting this paws-itive cause!

HEALTH & WELLNESS

BLOOD DRIVE WRAP UP

ZION’s Health Committee is looking forward to getting back into the swing of things after Labor Day, we will be starting a motivational program to keep everyone on track to healthy eating and to keep moving in the right direction for the fall and winter days. More to come in the *NEWS*. Can’t wait to get together with you all. R
~ Thanks, **ZION’s Health Committee**

HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

ZION’s Health Committee is looking forward to getting back into the swing of things after Labor Day, we will be starting a motivational program to keep everyone on track to healthy eating and to keep moving in the right direction for the fall and winter days. More to come in the *NEWS*. Can’t wait to get together with you all. R
~ Blessings, **ZION’s Health Committee**
Kathy Beyer & Joyce Phalen, Co-Chairs

PROTECT YOURSELF: DON'T LET SCAMMERS STEAL YOUR PEACE

Scams are everywhere today—through phone calls, emails, text messages, and even in person. Scammers are clever, and their goal is to trick you into giving away money, personal information, or access to your accounts. But with awareness and a few smart habits, you can protect yourself and your loved ones.

Common Scams to Watch Out For

- **Phone Scams:** Calls claiming you owe money, that your grandchild is in trouble, or pretending to be the IRS, Social Security, or Medicare.
- **Email & Text Scams:** Messages that look official, asking you to “click a link” or “verify your account.”
- **Prize & Lottery Scams:** Promises that you’ve won big—but you need to pay a fee first.
- **Romance or Friendship Scams:** Online “friends” who eventually ask for money or personal details.

Tips to Avoid Becoming a Target

- Pause before responding. Scammers want you to act quickly—don’t.
- Don’t share personal information (Social Security number, bank account, or Medicare number) with someone who contacts you unexpectedly.
- **Hang up.** If a call feels suspicious, simply end it.
- **Verify first.** If you get a call about a family emergency, contact your family directly before taking action.
- Use strong passwords and never reuse them across multiple accounts.
- **Be cautious with links.** Don’t click on links in texts or emails unless you’re absolutely sure of the sender.
- Trust your instincts. If something feels “off,” it probably is.

What To Do If You Suspect a Scam

- Report suspicious calls or texts to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at www.reportfraud.ftc.gov.
- Call the Wisconsin Consumer Protection Hotline at 1-800-422-7128.
- If you think your bank account or identity has been compromised, contact your bank and credit card company immediately.

Remember

Scammers count on fear and urgency to trip us up. By slowing down, asking questions, and reaching out to trusted friends or family, you can avoid becoming a victim.
“Be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.” – Matthew 10:16
Staying alert is part of good stewardship of the resources and blessings God has entrusted to us. Let’s look out for one another and share these tips so that no one in our community falls prey to scams.

THANK YOU DONOR



Connecting lives and sharing life.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE



STUDENTS HELP PACK LWR QUILTS
WOW! ZION has a wonderful group of confirmation students! They were very helpful Oct. 1. The boys, under the guidance of Scott Glysch, brought upstairs all of the boxes of quilts, Personal Care Kits, and School Kits. The boxes were all taped by the girls and stacked in the Union Street entry. We cannot thank you enough! R
~ **Karen Childs and Dorothy Eidahl**, Co-stewardship chairs



NEXT WEEK IS RIVALRY WEEK AT ZION!



Next week marks the long-awaited **Packers vs. Vikings showdown**, and Pastor, our ever-loyal Vikings fan, is ready for some friendly rivalry! The game kicks off **Nov. 23 at Noon**, so wear your team colors to worship. Whether you bleed green and gold or dare to wear purple, let’s pack the pews with laughter, good sportsmanship, and plenty of team spirit. Remember, no matter the score... we’re all winners in Christ (but let’s hope the Packers take this one)!



TRUE NORTH KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Kids of the Kingdom are excited to announce our **Christmas program!** To make this year’s performance a success, it’s important all students attend classes from now until the program. Your child’s attendance will help them learn their parts, participate fully, and enjoy the experience. Thank you for supporting your children as we celebrate this season!

LEARN, GROW & SERVE AS A STEPHEN MINISTER

Do you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening? ZION is training another class of **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 learn more or to be matched with a Stephen Minister, contact: **Judy Laude, Nancy Schultz, or Kristin WhiteHorse**.

31-MILE WELLNESS CHALLENGE WRAPS UP STRONG

ZION’s **October 31-Mile Wellness Challenge** has officially come to an end. Thank you to the twenty-one members who committed to walking or exercising for at least thirty minutes each day! The members logging the highest physical activity (converted to miles) were **Shannon Neumann (170), Joy Fritz (168), Gail Hoffman (164), Bonnie Wolf (146), and Lori Onesti (145)**. Prizes will be awarded to all participants during worship services this weekend. A special thank-you to coordinators **Kathy Beyer and Joyce Phalen** for inspiring our Congregation to stay active and healthy!

SWEET SUCCESS FOR WEE CARE!

Wee Care extends thanks to everyone who supported our cookie sale last week! Together we raised **\$873**, which will greatly help purchase food for local children. With **119 bags packed each week** at a cost of **\$900**, your generosity ensures young bellies will be full.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

This year ZION’s **Mission Quilters** sent **200 quilts, 46 Personal Care Kits, and 56 School Kits**. All of these items were made possible by the 10-12 quilters who came every week to make the quilts. Faithful donations from Zion’s members of fabric, sheets, items for Personal Care Kits and School were appreciated very much. These items were taken to St. James **Fri., October 3**, and loaded on a semi headed to the Lutheran World Relief (**LWR**) warehouse in MN. From there the items will be distributed wherever there is a need throughout the United States and the world. As we begin a new year of quilting please consider donating fabric and sheets.



ZION’s **55+ Singles** group enjoyed a lively afternoon of fellowship and fun during their *Jeopardy* game event.





Diaper Drive

In Shawano County, 200 families need assistance to ensure they have enough diapers for their little ones each month.

Please consider donating to help support these families

Collection Period: The month of November
Sponsored by the Health Ministry Committee supporting the Snuggled With A Hug Diaper Bank



Olivia Bernath and Aiden Heling were presented with their Bibles during Bible Sunday worship. R

ZION KIDS OF THE KINGDOM CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



SAT. DECEMBER 13 AT 5PM

Come celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with an unforgettable Christmas program that leads kids on an exciting journey to the heart of the season—with Jesus as their True North!

Zion Lutheran Church
1254 S Union St Shawano, WI

SAVE THE DATE!

Give Kids A Smile Event

WHEN: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2025
TIME: 9 AM - 1 PM
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED
WHERE: 657 N. MAIN ST. SHAWANO, WI

This is a **FREE** event for kids ages **6-14** years old for a dental evaluation and same day treatment. Follow our Facebook or Instagram page to see more information as the date gets closer.

ZION INVESTMENTS

ZION has been the recipient of very generous gifts from many, many members over the years. Some of these gifts have been made for immediate, short term use. Others have been intended for specific and longer-term use. For many of us, the different gifts received can cause uncertainty and confusion

The gifts invested fall into three basic categories; Undesignated, Designated and Endowment. These invested funds are primarily managed by Thrivent and some at the Mission Investment Fund. In total, ZION has just short of \$2.8 million in investments.

Undesignated funds

As the term implies, these gifts do not have a specific intended purpose and can be used in a variety of ways. The practice has been to use these for larger, capital improvement projects. This year, ZION has used these funds to cover the cost of window replacement in the office area and for the floor that had to be redone in the church basement. Currently, the Undesignated Fund balance is approximately \$50,000.

Designated Funds

These funds were gifted to ZION with a designated purpose by the donors. The Finance-Investment Committee and ZION Council believe that we should honor the intentions of the donors of these gifts by using them as intended. The current invested balances are primarily from the generous gifts from the estates of Lois Kruse and Anita Hartman. The designated uses for these funds are the areas of Missions and Health and Wellness.

Examples in 2025 of the use of these funds include: contributions to Lutheran World Relief for the devastating flooding in the SE US and CA wildfires, the purchase of a new AED, the purchase of communications technology to enhance Stephen Ministry training and other training programs, and ZION banners at Memorial Park. Also, the salary for the Health & Wellness Coordinator was covered from these funds in 2025 and likely will be also in 2026. The current balance in the designated funds is slightly over \$1 million.

Endowment Funds

The Endowment Fund is also a designated fund, but of a very specific category of investment and use. An endowment fund, by definition and application, is a pool of assets donated to a non-profit organization, where the principal is kept intact for long term use and stability into perpetuity. Usually, only earnings on investment are disbursed, leaving the principal balance intact. ZION’s Endowment Fund is in this category.

The ZION Endowment Fund was initially established in 1976 and was incorporated into the ZION Council oversight in 1993. The Endowment Plan of Operations has been updated multiple times, most recently this year. The money in the Endowment Fund is the result of generous contributions of many ZION members over the nearly 50 years of existence.

The ZION Endowment Fund has three stated categories of distribution; scholarships, mission development, both within the US and abroad, and mission outreach. Per the Plan of Operations, up to 5% of the invested balance can be disbursed annually. In 2025, \$50,000 was distributed for scholarships and \$1000 to the quilting mission for supplies for quilts. Currently, the Endowment Fund has a balance of \$1.725 million.

ZION members have been very generous in establishing the funds described above. It is also clear that there are specific limitations and qualifications on how these funds can be used. Applications can be made for projects that fit into the stated categories for distribution. Application forms are available in the ZION office. R



The Kids of the Kingdom, led by Emma Effenberger, sang during Worship Service and collected a Loud Offering to support the ZION Youth Program’s activities, service projects, and adventures. R



Above, Hope Church volunteers joined forces with the Wee Care team to pack food bags for local children. A special thank you also goes to the ZION Youth, who helped with this important mission during one of their service project days. R

