



Calendar

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

ZECC Closed
Church Office Closed
10:00am Christmas Day

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

ZECC Closed
9:00am LBW Large Print
1:00pm Weekly Newsletter Deadline
6:35pm Mom's In Prayer

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

ZECC Closed
No Classes
9:30am Morning Glory Circle

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

ZECC Closed
1:00pm Ruth Circle

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

ZECC Closed
1:30pm Church Office Closes

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

5:00pm Informal Worship
6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:40am Sunday School Education—Adults only
10:50am Contemporary Worship
3:00pm Camann/Wells Wedding
5:00pm New Year's Eve Service with Communion

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Monday, December 25th and Monday, January 1st.

When We Last Gathered December 16 & 17

Attendance	376
General	\$13,508.78
Missions	\$1,149.00
Building Fund	\$2,008.00
Dedicated	\$204.41
Parking Lot	\$2,125.00

For Next Week—December 30 & 31

Readers

Craig Ahlman, 5:00pm
Judy Miller, 8:30am



Acolytes

Libby Jacobs, 5:00pm

Altar Care

Darlene Klug & Amy McCutcheon



Today at Zion

Message Theme
"Gabriel's Question"
Luke 1:26-38

Scriptures

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, p. 259
Romans 16:25-27, p. 951
Luke 1:26-38, p. 855
Luke 1:26-38, p. 855 (10:50)

Worship Leaders

Pastor Randall Neal, Message & Liturgist
Pastor Howie Krienke, Liturgist (8:30)
Carol Krueger, Piano (5:00)
John Herkenratt, Cantor (5:00)
Brice Petersen, Director of Parish Music
Lori Ebert, Soloist (8:30)
Desert Voice & Living Faith (10:50)
Tim Bodin, Reader (5:00)
Bob Shorten, Reader (8:30)
Ethan Adam, Worship Assistant (10:50)
Brian Olson, Slide Technician (5:00)
Debi Herzan Parker, Slide Technician (8:30)
Rhett Dressel, Slide Technician (10:50)
Margo Brettin, Acolyte (5:00)
Jonah Schultz, Acolyte (8:30)
Dave Erdmann, Elder (5:00)
Gary Schuette, Elder (8:30 & 10:50)
Russ Peterson, Associate Elder
Darlene Klug & Amy McCutcheon, Altar Care

Hymns

5:00pm
P&W 248, P&W 176, P&W 75, P&W 76, LSB 387
8:30am

Prelude: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus", Arr. David Johnson, Organ
LSB 338, "Light One Candle", LSB 357, LSB 345, LSB 333, LSB 349,
LSB 621, LSB 636, LSB 387, LSB 349

Offering: "An Advent Processional", Arr. D. Pearson, Sanctuary Choir
Postlude: "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry", Arr. A.D. Miller, Organ

10:50am
Gathering: "Born Is the King (It's Christmas)", Living Faith & Desert Voice
"Here Is Our King", "O Come O Come Emmanuel",
"Angels We Have Heard on High (Deo)", "Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)"

STAFF:

Rev. Randall A. Neal, ext. 12
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December 24, 2017

Zion Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center
241 5th Avenue North ☩ Hopkins, MN 55343
952.938.7661 ☩ www.zionhopkins.org



News & Notes

FIRST TIME HERE? - Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church! We are so glad to have you worshipping with us. We hope your experience today connects you to the life-changing love of Jesus Christ. Please let us know you're here by filling out the "Friendship Register" located at the end of each pew. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you find what you're looking for right here.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Saturday Worship: Informal 5:00pm *Holy Communion is celebrated*
Sunday Worship: Traditional 8:30am *the first and third weekends.*
Contemporary 10:50am

Education Hour: 9:40am

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP

We are pleased to have children at worship. We have quiet activity bags for use during worship. They are available in the entry area at the rear of the church. There is also a "Children's Room" in the rear of the church for those wishing to stay with their children and still participate in the worship service. A nursery is open but unstaffed on the lower level on Sunday mornings.

ASSISTED LISTENING SYSTEM—Hearing enhancement devices are available at all services; obtain one by asking an usher to direct you to one of our Elders.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER (ATTENDANCE)

Please take a moment to clearly fill in the attendance sheet located in the maroon folder found near the center aisle in each pew so we may know how best to serve you.

LISTEN TO WORSHIP ONLINE OR WITH A CD—A free CD of today's 8:30 traditional worship service is available during the week in the Coat room, or sermons are available at www.zionhopkins.org under the "Online worship" *Quick link*.

MOBILE FINANCIAL GIVING TO ZION (Smartphone Users)

- Online: Scan Zion's QR code which takes you to Zion's web page then click on Donate Online.
- Give by Text: Send a text message to 952-260-0635 with the dollar amount you want to give; wait for a reply message, click on the link, enter your details. For future donations send text message to the same text number.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4:30pm
Friday 9:30am - 1:30pm
952.938.7661 Visit us online at www.zionhopkins.org.

ZION EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ZECC)

A nurturing and loving environment for the growth and development of your child, ages 6 weeks to Pre-K.
Monday - Friday 7am - 6pm
952.938.7661 ext. 21

Prayers

In your personal devotions, please pray for those in our Body of Christ who have requested your prayers and praises:

PRAYERS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING FOR: 70th birthday Rich Daniels.


PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, HEALING, AND STRENGTH FOR: Gene Bachman, Eric Olson, Allie Skaalerud (granddaughter of Janice Struthers & niece of Gary & Bonnie Shelton), Roger Henke, Julie Hendrickson, Cheyenne Hulscher (great niece of John Herkenratt), Roberta Seefeldt (friend of Phyllis Olson), Carol Herkenratt (mother of John Herkenratt), Chris Ruggiero (son-in-law of Brenda Walsten), Markus Bachman (grandson of Gene & Carolyn Bachman), Scott Olson (son of Pat Mattson & nephew of Paula Rosengren), Margaret Riley, Roger Matson (brother-in-law of Wendy Ahles), Brian Olson, Norine Francis-Michels (sister of Nita Ahlman), Mary Hagan, Darlene Best, Dan Damschen, Lori Wildermuth (daughter of Evelyn Wildermuth), Don Ahlman, Leroy Peterson, Carol Larson, Nita Larson, David Mentzer (father of Becky Riethmeier).

PRAYERS FOR ZION: That God would continue to bless Zion Lutheran Church and allow us to be a blessing to our community; that He would abundantly provide the resources needed for faithful ministry.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL CONCERNS FOR: Missionaries: Rev. Cullen & Deaconess Jacqueline Duke; for those in the Armed Forces; for all people in this current economic downturn, especially those for whom employment, credit, investments and housing have been adversely affected; for those affected by natural & manmade disasters.

PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND PEACE FOR: the family of Jan Loehr.

PRAYERS FOR ZION MEMBER FAMILIES: Each week the Ministry Team at Zion meet to coordinate the many different ministries here at Zion and to pray for individual families. This past week we prayed for: Irene Stephens; Fred Stern; Cindy & Jennifer Stover; Dan, Denise, Amanda & Jennifer Stover; David Strei.

 **PRAYER WARRIORS: (ZIPS)** “Zion in Prayer on Saturday” meets monthly on the 1st Saturday from 9:00am–10:00am in the Fireside Room (#102) where they pray for everyone on our prayer list and then some. Everyone is welcome. January 6th is the next gathering. Contact Karen 952-935-4356 or Carolyn 952-935-5909 with questions.

MOMS IN PRAYER Our children need our prayer support. Come pray with other women for one hour each week. We will be praying each Tuesday evening at 6:35pm in Room 205. More information is available at the Information Center or from Barb Kan.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

- Submit in writing, phone into the church office, by email, or via our website at www.zionhopkins.org
- Prayers may also be submitted to the prayer circle by calling Corrine Gust at 952-974-3846.
- Anniversary, birthday, wedding, and thanksgiving prayers will normally be included for one week.
- Medical and special concerns may be included for longer as needed. Be sure to keep us informed on any updates or changes to

Zion Happenings



SUNDAY SCHOOL: Remember there is no class today. Join the cookie fellowship and celebrate the birth of Jesus. Class resumes on January 7th.

EVER WONDERED WHAT THE INITIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE IS FOR? In the January-February offering envelope packet, there is an envelope marked Initial Offering. The funds collected from the Initial Offering are used to offset the cost of printing and mailing offering envelopes. In 2017, we received \$520 for the Initial Offering. The total annual cost for offering envelopes is approximately \$1,340. If everyone who receives offering envelopes gave \$4 for the Initial offering, we would have the funds to pay for offering envelopes for all of 2018.



NO QUILTING IN JANUARY 2018. Please join us again in February.

MARTIN LUTHER AND CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT - Luke 2:(1-14) 15-20 . “For whoever confesses that God and man are one person must, by reason of such a union of the two natures in one person, also unquestionably concede that this man Christ, born of Mary, is creator of heaven and earth; for he has become this in one person, namely, God who created heaven and earth.” LW 41:109

MARTIN LUTHER AND CHRISTMAS DAWN - Luke 2:(1-14) 15-20. “From these words (i.e. Luke 2:10-11) you see clearly that he was born for us. He (i.e. Luke) does not simply say: ‘Christ is born,’ but: ‘for you is he born.’ Again, he does not say: ‘I announce a joy,’ but: ‘to you do I announce a great joy.’ Again, this joy will not remain in Christ, but is for all people.” LW 52:15

WINTER WOMEN’S QUARTERLY’S are in. Pick up your copy from the kiosk upstairs by the elevator or downstairs next to the confirmation pictures.

ZECC CPR/FIRST AID CLASS—ALL WELCOME. On Saturday, January 27, 2018, from 9:00am to 3:00pm, Minnesota Medical Training Services will be coming to ZECC for their annual CPR & First Aid trainings. These trainings are good for first-time learners or for a refresher class. Zion members are welcome to join us. To sign up or receive more information, contact Paula Hance, ZECC Director. 952-938-7661.



PACKING AWAY THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS—Sunday, January 7th, following the second worship service (11:50am). Who: You! Please give a hand. Thank you!

THE COLD AND FLU SEASON IS UPON US. Please remember to be considerate of your fellow worshippers when you are not feeling 100%. We have hand sanitizer containers at all entrances for your use. If you would prefer not to shake a hand during our regular greeting time perhaps a simple wave or elbow “bump” would be an appropriate greeting.

Zion Happenings

TABLE TALKS CHRISTMAS EVE DAY - Please join us to hear about “The Real St. Nick: Leader, Legend or Lie” where we will examine a man who, next to Jesus Christ, is the most visible figure during the holidays—St. Nicholas or Santa Claus—as we know him in Western culture. Dating back to the third century, St. Nick is attributed with the doing of many benevolent and charitable acts of kindness and generosity. Grab a coffee and join your brothers and sisters in Christ in the Fireside room at 9:40am on Christmas Eve morning between the services.

2017 TITHES AND OFFERINGS must be received in the church office on or before December 31st to be credited on your 2017 offering statement. Any tithes and offerings received after December 31st will be credited to 2018. Thank you for your gifts to do the Lord’s work at Zion!

DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve Services:

Sunday, December 24:

- Family Christmas Eve Service, 4:00pm
- Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 10:00pm

Christmas Day Service

Monday, December 25, 10:00am

New Year’s Eve Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 31, 5:00pm

****Please note: We will have regular weekend services December 30-31****

MARTIN LUTHER AND THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT - Luke 1:26-38 . “He who is called Man and who was born of the Virgin Mary and was crucified by the Jews must also be called the Son of God. And we must say that God was born of Mary and was crucified by the Jews; for God and Man are one Person. There are not two Sons, the one of God, and the other of Mary, but He is just one Son, God’s and Mary’s.” LW 15:341

MARTIN LUTHER AND CHRISTMAS EVE - Matthew 1:18-25. “It is also more precise to say, ‘Behold, a maiden is with child,’ than to say, ‘A virgin is with child.’ For ‘virgin’ is an all-embracing term which might also be applied to a woman of fifty or sixty who is no longer capable of childbearing. But ‘maiden’ denotes specifically a young woman, nubile, capable of childbearing, but still a virgin; it includes not only the virginity, but also the youthfulness and the potential for childbearing.” LW 45:210

MARTIN LUTHER AND CHRISTMAS DAY - John 1:1-14 (15-18). “For whoever confesses that God and man are one person must, by reason of such a union of the two natures in one person, also unquestionably concede that this man Christ, born of Mary, is creator of heaven and earth; for he has become this in one person, namely, God who created heaven and earth.” LW 41:109