

The Spirit of Zion

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri



December 2025

No. 12



2025 Christmas Offering

The Outreach Team has designated the 2025 Christmas Offering to be donated to the **Missouri tornado victims** and **Bread for the World**.

Missouri residents are still dealing with the destruction created from the tornadoes that swept through our area in the spring. Residents who were impacted by the tornado are still needing help with repairs to their homes as well as day to day living expenses. Our gifts will help with these expenses as residents continue to move forward following the devastation.

A portion of the offering will be given to Bread for the World. Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Their mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.

Christmas offering envelopes are available in your offering envelope boxes and additional envelopes will be available by the offering plate during December.

Thank you for your donations!

- The Outreach Team



2025 Christmas Fund for Veterans of the Cross

For more than a century, The Christmas Fund has been a beacon of love and care – providing direct financial assistance to the healers in our lives: retired and active UCC ministers, faithful church workers, and their families. In 2024 alone, The Christmas Fund offered more than \$1.7 million in support, touching the lives of 766 individuals across the UCC. This generosity made hope tangible by: mounting medical bills were eased during a time of crisis; a couple could hear each other clearly again with the gift of hearing aids; a family found safety through a plane ticket out of a war-torn land and much more.

Offering envelopes are included in this edition of the newsletter and additional envelopes will be available by the offering plate on Sunday mornings during December. Thank you for your gifts!

Serving Christ in December

Ushers:

Dec. 7 & 14

Dan Mossoney*,
Jane Wilson

Dec. 21 & 28

Susan Merlino,
Karen Tucker*

Christmas Eve

Paul & Shanna Brinker*,
Scott & Annie Buehrle,
Sammi Blankenship
(*designates Head Usher)

Greeters:

Dec. 7 –

Marilyn Freiermuth

Dec. 14 –

Colleen Simons

Sound System Tech:

Jason Dewert

Camera Techs:

Dec. 7, 14, 21 & 28

Blake, Camden & Jason
Dewert

Dec. 24 – Alysha Petry



Wednesday,
December 24

6:30 p.m.

Family Service
With Candlelight



The Giving Tree

This year's Giving Tree will have Christmas wishes from 20 children in our area. The tags will be available for pickup on the Giving Tree in the lower commons. Grab a tag off the tree and return in **unwrapped with the tag** by Wednesday, December 10th.

Children's Christmas Program Sunday, December 14th

The children of Faith Quest will present their Christmas Program "Christmas Birds in Zion" on Sunday, December 14th during the 9:00 a.m. morning worship service.

Winter Care Packages Assembled Sunday, December 14th

During the Intergenerational Sunday School Hour we will be assembling winter care packages for the Little Free Pantry. Items needed can be found on page 5 of the newsletter. Please bring items by December 7th.

2026 Offering Envelopes Available

The 2026 offering envelopes will be available in the upper commons during the month of December. Thank you.



Christmas Poinsettias/
Benevolent Gifts

Given by: _____

Memory of/Honor of (circle one)

_____ Poinsettia (\$18 per plant)

_____ Union Food Pantry/Little Food Pantry

Please return this form to the church office no later than December 17th. Thank you!

Zion Fellowship – December 2025



This article was printed before the November event took place.

On Sunday, November 23, the Greening of the Church will be held immediately after church, where all are welcome to help decorate the church for Advent. Many hands are needed. After most of the decorating is finished, we will furnish a pizza lunch for everyone who helped decorate. Anyone who would like to bring cookies/brownies (finger food) to contribute to the lunch, please do so.

Also on November 23, the Combined Christian Choir will perform at 3PM at the Immanuel Lutheran Church on Fifth St. in Washington.

There is no event planned for December. Enjoy this holiday season.

In January we will plan a Game Night. More details later.

Suggestions for other future events would be appreciated.

Check the monthly Newsletters, also the weekly Bulletins, for any change of event dates/times that might occur. **Anyone** is welcome to join us for these events. If you have any questions, please contact Fern Dewert (President), Carl or Jane Ridder (Vice Presidents), Ruth Parker or Bruce Templer (Treasurers), or myself. - Sharon TenEyck, secretary

CROP Walk Update

We would like to update you on the latest CROP Walk donations. The final we know at this time is that \$6,001 has been given to help hungry people! We give a sincere, large THANK YOU to EVERYONE who walked, rocked, and gave to help people in any place where they are hungry, have suffered loss of housing, have suffered devastation from storms, floods, fires, or any other loss of life provisions. We are grateful to you! We look to next year to help again. May God bless you, and those we try to help.

- CROP Walk Committee





Beloved Zion,

Advent is just around the corner, and the festivities will soon begin. The annual cycle of Hope, peace, joy, and love will light our paths on our journey through the long nights ahead. This time of year always reminds me of Germany. During my senior year of high school, my family hosted a German student for the year. Fabian was a year younger than I. We played soccer together and hung out with the same friends. He joined us on every family holiday trip, and he was there at my high school graduation. A few years later, when I was in college, his parents flew me to Germany for the holidays. So, I spent three weeks in Germany over Christmas and New Year's. By plane, train, bus, subway, car, and plenty of walking, I traveled all over Germany. I slept in at least six different beds, toured plenty of Christmas Markets, and even met up with my best friend from college, who was living in Germany for the year. (The same one I just helped move across the country) Through all that travel, I carried Bertha. The name I affectionately gave my mother's oversized suitcase. I was heading to Germany alone, and I overpacked. With a large roller bag, whose wheels were far too small, I lugged, dragged, pushed, and carried it all over the place. It was too big for the kind of travelling I was doing. While I had plenty of space to bring gifts home, I would have been better off bringing far fewer clothes, using a washer, and carrying a duffel. But in the end, it was a fabulous trip that I remember fondly.

The question I have this year is what will I kindle on the journey. Like all journeys, what we carry with us matters. Depending on the journey, what was once an asset may become a liability. As we make our way into the cool nights of Advent, we will want to stay warm. But we also need to stay nimble so as not to trip over ourselves in the night. So, while we will honor all four guideposts this year, perhaps you will pick just one to carry. After all, we are a community, and someone will certainly pick up the others. So, what will it be? Will you kindle hope, peace, joy, or love? Stick to one. Write it down, "How will ___ be my guide today?" May this Advent journey be a blessing. And may you kindle what you need along the way.

Blessings,
Rev Nicholas Knoblauch



Pastor Drop In Hours:
Monday & Wednesday mornings
Email: knoblauchnicholas@gmail.com
Appointments upon request:
Church Office (636) 583-2814
or sending an email

Worship Opportunities In December

9:00 a.m. Worship

Sunday, December 7 *The 2nd Sunday of Advent*

Sacrament of Communion

Sunday, December 14 *The 3rd Sunday of Advent*

Faith Quest Christmas
Program

Intergenerational Sunday
School (10:00 a.m.)

Sunday, December 21 *The 4th Sunday of Advent*



Wednesday,
December 24
6:30 p.m.
*Family Service
With Candlelight*

Sunday,
December 28
*The 1st Sunday
after Christmas*



Zion Church Congregational Meeting Minutes – November 2025

Zion United Church of Christ Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, November 2, 2025. Church Council President Fern Dewert called the meeting to order followed by a Prayer offered by Rev. Knoblauch.

Old Business:

The February 2025 Congregational Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

The following Special Congregational Meeting Minutes were approved as presented:

- March 9, 2025
- June 1, 2025
- September 7, 2025
- September 14, 2025
- October 5, 2025

The 2025 January-September Financial Reports were reviewed with no questions asked by those present.

Security Camera Update - Rev. Knoblauch reported that all 13 cameras are up and running. The cameras are motion activated and hard wired. The main monitor for the cameras is in the closet in the church office. There is room for 3 additional cameras if we decide in the future that they may be needed.

AQM WiFi Update - Rev. Knoblauch reported that the WiFi is 95% done and internet is now available throughout the building. Two more 'access points' will be installed in the chapel and the educational wing in the upcoming week. The listening devices are still a work in progress and are priority to get them going.

Balcony Railing Update - Bruce Templer reported that the railing is installed and we are pleased with the results.

Fellowship Hall Update - Dennis Tucker reported that he has been in contact with the company to repair the walls in the fellowship hall. The company will begin the work sometime in the fall/winter.

Sight and Sound Update - Rev. Knoblauch reported in the WiFi update that the listening

devices are the main priority and that everything else is complete.

Additional agenda item - The 2024 Audit Committee Report was presented by Ken Rohrbach. The report was submitted to the council at their April 2025 meeting. The Audit Committee presented recommendations to the council that have been acted on. 1) All expenses should have receipts; 2) Two people to count the offering; 3) Two signatures on checks are required on expenses over \$5000 (the Administrative Assistant and someone approved by the Church Council); 4) A photo inventory of the items in the church has been done by Rev. Knoblauch, Fern Dewert, and Donna Bocklage; 5) Fern Dewert & Rev. Knoblauch have met with our insurance agents to review the insurance policy. Sue Leicht of the Audit Committee reported that even though no outside accounting firm is willing to do the audit it will remain in the Audit Handbook in case there is a company in the future that may be willing to do the audit.

New Business:

2026 Proposed Expense Plan (Budget) - Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the 2026 Budget. Norma Klemme expressed the importance of giving to OCWM and to CUE. She reported that both of those are down this year conference wide and we should consider individually increasing our gifts to these two important ministries.

Election of Church Council Members - The Leadership Development Committee presented the following names for consideration to serve on the Church Council: Alvera Heeger (1st term), Susan Newman (1st term) and Jim Vemmer (1st term). Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept these newest members to the Church Council.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

- Connie Thompson, Church Council
Recording Secretary

(approved by the Church Council
on November 17, 2025.)



Kid & Youth NEWS

December 2025

Throw on your pajamas and join us at our annual

POLAR EXPRESS *dinner train* Wednesday, December 10, 6 PM

Dinner, Hot Chocolate & a reading of
The Polar Express Story Book.

Parents & Grandparents Night

Please RSVP to the church office



Winter Care Packages

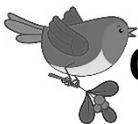
We are assembling winter care packages for the
LITTLE FREE PANTRY on

Sunday, December 14

During the Intergenerational Sunday School Hour

Please help us fill the packages by bringing in items.
Drop them off in the lower commons Little Free Pantry
Donation Basket.

Items Needed: gloves, hand warmers, hand lotion,
ChapStick, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, pocket-
sized Kleenex packs, chocolate Christmas candy,
oatmeal packets, breakfast bars, granola bars, beef
jerky, dried fruit, applesauce cups, nuts, trail mix, soup
(with pop tops), Chef Boyardee, mac & cheese cups



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 14th during worship

Christmas Birds in Zion

All children and youth are invited to participate!

Rehearsals:

Sunday, November 30th (during the Advent Workshop)

Wednesday, December 3rd (during LOGOS)

Sunday, December 7th (during the Sunday School hour)

Wednesday, December 10th (during LOGOS)



NO SUNDAY SCHOOL December 28th

Faith Quest

Meet in Bible Max Theatre

Ages 3 to 1st grade

2nd grade – 6th Grade

Middle/High School

Meet in the Senior High/Middle School Room

7th – 12th grade Youth

(For Confirmed and Not Confirmed Youth)

Intergenerational Sunday School

2nd SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Faith Quest, Middle School/High School, and all our Zion families and friends meet in the fellowship hall for a Intergenerational lesson.

Join us the **FIRST TWO WEDNESDAYS**
of EACH MONTH



December 3

Advent

December 10

POLAR EXPRESS

*It's an evening full of Games,
Bible Stories, Music and Dinner.*

5 PM to 7:30 PM

**Everyone is invited to join us for a
FAMILY STYLE DINNER at 6 PM**

*A minimum of \$5 donation suggested to help
support Zion's LOGOS dinners.*

Everyone is invited!



THE GIVING TREE



*This year's Giving Tree has Christmas
wishes from 20 children in our area.*

**The tags will be available for pickup beginning
November 24th.**

**Grab a tag off the giving tree and return it unwrapped
with the tag by Wednesday, December 10th.**

Puzzle!

The Christmas Story

Unscramble each set of letters to form a word from the Christmas story. One letter in each set doesn't belong. Write each extra letter below, on the line above the correct number. Then answer the question: What did we all receive at Christmas?

- (1) TGLBEHHEME _____
- (2) NEAGLO _____
- (3) NRMEDAG _____
- (4) ODEKSNY _____
- (5) AMGYR _____
- (6) OHESJIP _____
- (7) EFJSUS _____
- (8) ITEENMSW _____
- (9) SPHHDSREEO _____
- (10) EMCFAL _____
- (11) TLSRA _____
- (12) CSSNUEO _____
- (13) HEVSPE _____
- (14) ENIN _____



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12 13 14

Answers: Bethlehem (G), Angel (O), Manger (D), Donkey (S), Mary (G), Joseph (I), Jesus (F), Wise men (T), Shepherds (O), Camel (F), Star (L), Census (O), Sheep (V), Inn (E): God's gift of love



Notes from the Music Director

Time for Advent. Time for carols, reflective songs, and anticipation. I've discovered that

I'm getting pretty picky about what goes on my holiday playlist the older I get. I'm not into "All I Want for Christmas Is You", or pop singer arrangements of carols, or even Chipmunks. (Although I confess, I feel a rebellious thrill every time I hear "The Chipmunk Song", because it drove my mom crazy when I was a kid.)

No, my list now needs reflection. The beauty of Mahalia Jackson's "O Holy Night". Julie Andrews or Alison Kraus and "The Wexford Carol". And in some strange way, the arrangements by Mannheim Steamroller bring about the beauty of the seasonal anticipation. Strangely enough, the Monkees even recorded the Spanish carol "Riu, Riu, Chiu", a capella, with clear, strong harmonies. I've also included Irish instrumental arrangements and, of course, recorder arrangements. Streaming platforms such as Apple Music make having an eclectic selection right at your fingertips a reality.

Our Chancel Choir is preparing anthems for Advent that have touched the hearts of the members as they rehearse. That is what church/Christmas/Advent music is meant to be: not a showpiece to get applause, but a means to touch the human spirit during this holiest of seasons.

As you prepare for the Advent season, may you find your own special playlist that brings you and your loved ones closer to the spirit of the season in your own personal ways.

- Karen

Little Free Pantry and Union Food Pantry

Thank you for the great support in keeping the Little Free Pantry going! A list of the most needed items is posted on the bulletin board in the lower commons. Monetary donations can also be given – contact the church office.

Likewise, there is also a list of items most needed for the Union Food Pantry posted on the bulletin board in the lower commons with a barrel for your donations. Or you may also give a monetary donation to support the Union Food Pantry.

Called to Care Team Request

The Called to Care Team is asking that if you or someone you know would like a visit from the team or our pastor, please contact the church office. If you or members you know are in nursing homes, homebound, or staying close to home please contact the church office. Our mission is to minister to and care for the entire community of Zion Church, whether able to be present in worship or not. Thank you!

Mark Your Calendar for the January LOGOS Adult Educational Forum: Caring for Missouri's Watersheds

The Green Team invites everyone to a special LOGOS Adult Educational Forum on Wednesday, January 7th at 5:00 p.m. Guest speaker Cheri Becker from the Missouri Department of Conservation will share insights about Missouri's watersheds and explain how citizens can get involved with the Missouri Stream Team program.

Following the presentation, dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP for dinner by emailing Alysha at apetry@zionunion.org or by calling the church office.

Join this informative evening to learn how small actions can make a big difference in protecting Missouri's streams and natural resources. Thank you!

Up to Date Info?

Does the church have your **updated contact and household information** (change of address, college students moving out, etc.)? If you are not sure, give the church office a call at 636-583-2814 or email cthompson@zionunion.org. Thanks for keeping us up to date!



DECEMBER

Zion United Church of Christ
 115 S. Washington Ave.
 Union, MO 63084
 636-583-2814

www.zionunion.org

9:00 a.m. Worship
 (No Childcare)

Rev. Nicholas Knoblauch, Pastor
 (knoblauchnicholas@gmail.com)
 Fern Dewert, Church Council President
 Connie Thompson, Adm. Assistant
 (cthompson@zionunion.org)
 Alysha Petry, Minister to
 Youth & Families
 (apetry@zionunion.org)
 Mandy Frick, Coordinator of
 Elementary Youth
 Karen Stafford, Music Director
 (kstafford1985@gmail.com)
 Brenda Herring, Church Organist
 Joy Bradley, Church Custodian

Thank You to November Volunteers

Zion Church acknowledges and appreciates the work done by the following volunteers for the month of November.

Liturgists: Sallie Hancox, Carla Kilgore, Fern Dewert, Colleen Simons

Special Music for Worship: Chancel Choir, Kirk Hancox

Ushers: Connor Muller, Karen Tucker, Alan & Sharon TenEyck

Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Ron & Pam Griffin

Greeters: Lee & Susan Newman, Carl & Jane Ridder, Bill & Fern Dewert, Linda Kinworthy, Kevin Vorderbruegge,

Sound System Tech: Dan Mossoney

Camera Techs: David Bean, Dan Mossoney

Newsletter Helpers: Candy Ronsick, Donna Bocklage, Karen Tucker, Kirk Hancox, Ken Rohrbach, Carol Rohrbach

Church Attendance from November

(3 out of 5 Sundays)

Nov. 2 – 101

Nov. 9 – 124

Nov. 16 - 87

Faith Quest/Adult Education Attendance from November

(3 out of 5 Sundays)

Nov. 2 – 6 (youth); 2 (adults)

Nov. 9 – 30 (Intergenerational Sunday School)

Nov. 16 – 12 (youth)

“These Days” Devotional Books

Every quarter Zion receives “These Days” devotional booklets. The devotionals offer each day a spiritual reading along with a short scripture and prayer. These are free and can be found in the literature rack in the upper commons or if you would like one mailed to you please contact the church office. The booklet is a wonderful resource to use in your daily Christian life. Enjoy!

Electronic Giving

Would you like to be able to give electronically to Zion Church and know that your donation is secure? Besides online banking the other option is on Zion’s website - www.zionunion.org at the top right corner of the page a “Donate” button. Just follow the easy to navigate instructions!



Financial Report for October 2025

	Oct. 2025	Year to Date (YTD)
Income	\$30,606.00	\$305,350.00
Expenses	\$33,338.00	\$328,285.00

Our Church’s Wider Mission (given YTD) - \$7,098.00
 Chicago, United, Eden Seminaries (given YTD) – \$1,593.00
 Detailed financial reports are available by contacting the church office. Thank you.

Prayers Requested

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring
Phyllis Olson
Carolyn Donoho
Charlotte Ellison
Kevin Vorderbruegge
Hettie Becker
Bruce Crane (at New Haven Care Center)
Anne Parker (at Aspen Valley Fox Crest in Washington)
Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)
Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)
Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)
Tammy Wettling (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Eric Heitman (nephew of Jim Doehring)
Heather Gooch (great niece of Charlotte Ellison)
S (Karen Stafford's CASA buddy)
Carol Mossoney (mother of Dan Mossoney)
Bob Truel (husband of Shirley Truel)
Heather Frederick (niece of Marilyn Freiermuth)
Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)
Josh & Tricia Pardee-Jacka (friends of Charlotte Ellison)
Mike Bailey (husband of Leslie Bailey)
Cindy Roach (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Glenda Foster (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Vanessa Dobsch (niece of Charlotte Ellison)
Mary Dobsch (sister of Charlotte Ellison)
Aubrey Reed (granddaughter of Charlotte Ellison)
Pat Pappas (sister of Jim Doehring)
Vivian Diener (cousin of Hettie Becker)
Marilyn Fish (aunt of Carla Kilgore)



Kim Gallagher (friend of Chris & Dawn Robinson)
Trish Kennedy (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Allen Coffman (friend of Shawn Pehle)
Marissa Schollenberger (friend of Tom & Gayle Williams)
Aaron Dixon (nephew of Dan Mossoney)
Mike Meyer (friend of Mandy Frick)
Brenda (friend of Hettie Becker)
Britt Fassler (daughter of Nancy Kossmann)
Willie Beckett (nephew of Vicki Hooper)
Dasha Musante (granddaughter of Marilyn Stahlman)
Erica Sterling (friend of Amy Dewert)
Sammie Baker (friend of Brenda Viehland)
Sharon Birke (sister of Ron Griffin)

Various Concerns:

Prayer for our country and those actively serving:
Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class
Hunter Grafrath (son of Lindsay & Greg Traffas, grandson of Mike & Lynne Elliott)
Ross Groenke (son of Cindy & Dale Groenke)

Notes to Zion

*There's a miracle of friendship
that dwells within the heart.
And you don't know how it happens
or where it gets to start.
But the happiness it brings you,
always gives a special lift.
And you realize that friendship
is God's most perfect gift.*

Thank you to all of my church family for all the love you sent me through the cards, thoughts, and prayers when my daughter Laurie died. - Hettie Becker

+ + + +

Dear Rev. Knoblauch & Zion Church,

Thank you so much for including my husband Bob Cantrell in your memorial service on November 9th. It is not possible for me to attend but it will certainly be in my thoughts and prayers. It has been almost a year since he passed. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness. - Ruth Cantrell

+ + + +

I want to say thank you to my Zion family for making my 80th birthday such a joy. It's so good to have a loving family. Thank you!

- Bruce Templer

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Hettie Becker & family on the death of her daughter Laurie Becker.

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Linda Kroeter Skip Buehrle Susie Andell
Jake McNiell (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Ronald Dobsch (nephew of Charlotte Ellison)
Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)
Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)



Council Notes **Zion Church**
Council Minutes -
October 2025

Zion United Church Council met on Monday, October 20, 2025, with the following in attendance: Fern Dewert, BJ Cooper, Paul Brinker, Barb Cox, Kathy Reed, Bruce Templer, Donna Bocklage, Brad Parker, Rev. Knoblauch and Connie Thompson. BJ Cooper opened with prayer and President Fern Dewert called the meeting to order.

Consensus Agenda:

- Minutes of September Church Council meeting – approved
- Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting (October) – approved
- Pastor's Report – no report as Pastor Nick was on vacation
- Minister to Youth & Families – approved
- Final September 2025 Financial Reports were given to the council. The reports were approved as printed.
- Time/Date for next Council meeting – November 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion Agenda:

Membership Review Committee – no report
 ByLaw Review Committee – Suggested bylaw changes from standing committees, ministry teams and the council are ready to be reviewed by the bylaws review committee.

Audit Committee – Barb Cox will be the council representative on the Audit Committee through February 2026.

Personnel Committee – no report.

Leadership Development Committee – Norma Kern has resigned from the Church Council. A replacement will be secured for her last term on the council through December 2026. Thank you Norma for your service on the council.

Properties Committee – Due to concerns about grass cutting and snow removal, the Properties Committee will be contacted to discuss options on these issues.

Safety Committee – The new cameras are installed and up and running. There are a few minor items that will be finalized by Lammert Electrical when the new wifi network is done with AQM

Finance Committee – The committee recommended an Investment Proposal. After discussion, the council approved the recommendation from the Finance Committee with 8 yes votes and 1 no vote.

Building/Contents Inventory – Fern and Pastor Nick will be meeting with our insurance agent on Monday, October 27, 2025.

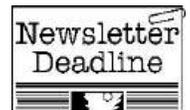
The 'draft' of the November 2025 Congregational Meeting was reviewed and accepted.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

- Connie Thompson, Church Council
 Recording Secretary

(approved by the Church Council on November 17, 2025.)

January 2026
'Spirit of Zion'
Newsletter



Articles for the January 2026 'Spirit of Zion' newsletter are due in the church office on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11TH. The newsletter will be assembled on Wednesday, December 17th at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We would like to be able to mail the newsletter before Christmas so that the church office staff may take some vacation time. Thank you for your understanding!

- Zion Church Staff

END OF YEAR **End of Year Gifts**

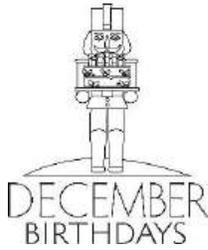


Just a reminder that end of year contributions should be submitted to the church office by Wednesday, December 31st by noon. Thank you!



December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7 pm Lower Commons classroom in use	2	3 12 Loops of Love 5 pm LOGOS 7:30 Chancel Choir	4 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 6 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	5 10 am-4 pm Lower Commons in Use 6:30 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	6 Fellowship Hall in Use
7 The 2nd Sunday of Advent/ Communion 	8	9	10 9:30 am Called to Care 12 Loops of Love 5 pm POLAR EXPRESS ! 7:30 Chancel Choir	11 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall in Use JAN 2026 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	12 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	13
14 The 3rd Sunday of Advent 9 am Faith Quest Christmas Program 10 am Intergenerational Sunday School (fellowship hall)	15 4 pm Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm Church Council	16 1:30 pm Book Club	17 10 am Jan. news. Assembled 12 Loops of Love 6:15 pm Meditative Drum Circle 7:30 Chancel Choir	18 8 am-12 noon Quilting Circle	19 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	20
21 The 4th Sunday of Advent	22	23	24  <i>Christmas Eve Worship</i> 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25  CHRISTMAS Church Offices Closed	26 7 pm Fellowship Hall in Use	27
28 The 1st Sunday after Christmas	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Church Offices will close at noon			



December Birthdays

- 1- Sandy Bailey
- 2- Melva Puls
Collin Muller
- 3- Monica Klemme
Laurel Camden
Sarah Davenport
Ana Oltmann
- 4- Georgianne McClanahan
- 5- Carol Rohrbach
Lee Parks
Kayla Quertermous
- 6- Leslie Bailey
Nate Birke
- 9- Natalie Avalos
- 10- Gail Mefford
- 14- Karen Strode
Haley Soetebier
- 15- Tom Williams
- 17- Bradley Vemmer
Brandon Yenzer
- 18- Phyliss Fink
Lindsey Titter
Lacey Elliott
- 19- Shanna Brinker
Matthew Copeland

- 20- Jon Pinnell
Henry Puls
- 21- Carolyn Donoho
Brenda Viehland
Nathan Dewert
- 22- Pat Hohl
- 26- Diane Thompson
- 27- Shannon Holt
- 28- David Brune
Annie Buehrle
- 30- Connor Muller
Beth Prince
- 31- Carl Rosenkoetter



January Birthdays

- 2- Charlee Robinson
- 3- Lanora Mossoney
Sue Straatmann
- 6- Alexis Musket
- 7- Joyce Altholz
- 8- Danielle Cooper
Dana Post
- 9- Jeff Petry