

December

Zion Reformed Church – Floodlight 2022



PASTOR'S P O S T S

Faith, Hope and Love...

One of the crucial things parents and teacher do is to teach children the different colors. Different colors have influence on our perception, mood and even emotions. We even use different colors to make people alert of things around them. Think about a red stop sign or a red traffic light. We see red we know exactly what to do. Not long after birth, we begin to distinguish between colors. For the rest of our lives, then, we were surrounded by color. No wonder we teach our children to color from an early age. Their colorless coloring books should come to life with the help of color crayons.

Unfortunately, many of us pack away our color crayons when we grow up. Every day we have to color some people's lives with the warmth of love. We often need to do something special for someone, which will make her or him feel loved. When someone sees or experiences only darkness, we should also encourage them with the bright colors of hope. We also need to constantly invite one another into God's brightly lit world of faith. All the colorlessness around us lacks day by day the life-changing colors of faith, hope, and love.

1Corinthians 13:13

I pray that you have a Christmas season filled with a lot of faith, hope and love.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Petri



**Sunday,
Dec. 4
10:30am
BRING
Own
pencil!**

ANNUAL MEETING OVERVIEW

- 1- Meeting will begin directly after worship service. Everyone should report to the fellowship hall to sign in, take a packet and grab a snack/drink.
- 2- The roll of the members will be taken by consistory.
- 3- Meeting will begin as shown on Agenda.
- 4- Deacons & tellers will distribute the ballot for election of elders & deacon.



Consistory Highlights

**NEXT CONSISTORY MEETING:
THURSDAY, DEC. 8;
6PM ELDERS/DEACONS
7PM CONSISTORY**

***IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A
MEMBER; PROFESSION OF FAITH;
BAPTISM, PLEASE SEE AN ELDER***



I want to thank everyone who encouraged me and helped me in any way as WOZ President this past year. We had a busy, wonderful, blessed year. As I reflect on 2022, WOZ accomplished many things. Here are a few that come to mind:

- We had a few ladies begin attending Circle meetings with us this past year.
- The countertops and faucets for our upstairs kitchen were replaced with help from a private donation, WOZ funds, and our churches funds.
- We hosted World Day of Prayer at Zion on March 5th with ladies from United Methodist Church and Zion Lutheran Church in Sheffield joining us.
- We had a wonderful Lenten Breakfast on March 26th.
- We hosted Spring Conference for the Pleasant Prairie Classis. It went very smoothly with so many ladies pitching in and helping that day.
- We enjoyed our May Program on May 7th.
- We helped purchase and present Bibles to our seniors graduating from high school—Carl Barkema and Sydney Buseman.
- We baked and furnished pies for Relay for Life of Franklin County.
- We hosted the Franklin County Tractor Ride on July 12th providing refreshments for the tractor drivers.
- We assigned and took part in cleaning the church this fall.
- We held and celebrated Zion's 50th Bazaar on October 1st . God blessed us with a nice day, lots of fellowship and another very successful bazaar.
- We provided visitations for our shut-ins throughout the year.
- We had a delicious soup luncheon for Zion's Over 60's group following church one Sunday this fall.
- We provided money for South African Bible Society and for new wells in Sudan in addition to our many other missions.
- WOZ paid for window cleaning at Zion.

▫ WOZ purchased a new double oven for the upstairs kitchen in November.
▫ On December 3rd, WOZ will kick off the Christmas season with our WOZ meeting, installation of officers for 2023 and a Christmas program to get us in the Spirit of Christmas. Please plan to join us on Saturday, Dec. 3rd, bring a salad to share!

Yes, it's been quite a year. We are truly blessed to have so many women here at Zion who are active and willing to help out. Thank you and God bless!!!

Diane Hughes,
WOZ President

WOZ 2023 OFFICERS:

Carma DeVries, President
Judy Crom, Vice President
Pauline Barkema, Secretary
Diane Hughes, Treasurer

2023 WOZ Books will be placed in your church mailbox.



It is time to update the prayer chain! If anyone (women, men, youth) would like to be added by email or the calling tree, please let Shelly know by Dec. 4. Reminder that if you have a prayer concern and you would like those on the prayer chain to be praying, please contact Shelly at jsbuseman@gmail.com or 515-571-4034 and she will begin the prayer chain.



How to Prepare Our Hearts for Christmas

Many of us know what it takes to get the tree, the lights, the decorations, the gifts and all the food prepared for Christmas. It takes time and usually with a few lists to

keep us organized. We take great care to start planning early and work to see all items on the list are complete.

With all the activities that beckon for our attention, it's important to prepare our hearts for Christmas. If we don't, Christmas may become a bother instead of a blessing, full of headaches instead of hallelujahs.

Mark the season using an advent calendar. Open one door a day and prepare your heart to worship God for the gift of Christ.

Read an Advent Devotional to dig into God's word daily. **Remember and Reflect** on the fact that Jesus was born specifically so that He would one day die for our sins. Remember what He went through on the cross to save us. Rejoice in the Father's love, that He sent His only Son to pay the price of our sin.

Pray. Lift up those who do not know Jesus in prayer. Pray for the lost and hurting. Ask God to open your eyes to opportunities to share the gospel with those around you.

Worship. Christmas is the perfect opportunity for worship. Worshipping God encompasses so much more than simply singing. Worship is a way of life. This Christmas, seek to honor Him with the way you live. Speak words of encouragement, not discouragement. Love people selflessly, serve humbly and Praise God with the little moments in your daily life.

December and the weeks leading up to Christmas will be busy, but it doesn't have to be a blur. Let's begin preparing our hearts this Advent for Immanuel—the God who is with us.

Lovingly in Christ~
Ann Lupkes

WOZ Spiritual Life Chairperson, 2022

White Gift Offering

Monetary donations are being accepted in the burlap container until December 4.

Proceeds will be used to provide winter coats, boots, Christmas gifts, etc. for area families currently experiencing financial difficulties. Q: See Megan M.



Order forms are by the Catch-All box. The cost is \$17.00/plant & the order/payment deadline is noon on December 4. If you want to provide your own plant – see the order form for details. Questions? See MEGAN O.



*Sounds
of the
Season*

**VOICES
NEEDED!!**

Karen Carstens has selected a piece of music for an adult choir to sing on Christmas Eve. We will begin practice on Sunday, December 4, FOLLOWING the Annual Congregational Meeting. Q: See Karen.



REMINDER: Zion's Support Group meets on a Wednesday, 2pm, every two weeks. Next date is Wed, Nov. 30, Dec. 14, Dec. 28, etc. Any person struggling with loss/grief is welcome to attend.



ZION Winter Snow Removal BIDS are being accepted until Dec. 18.
Q: See Joe DeVries

SNOW!! If you are at Zion during the week, please use the south driveway and east parking area as these will be kept clear throughout the week. The remainder of the grounds will only be cleared on Sunday mornings or for funerals.



Please tune into KLMJ (104.9) for church service/event cancellations or postponements.



Family Ministry
December 21
6:30pm
ALL AGES

JOIN
THE
Youth Group

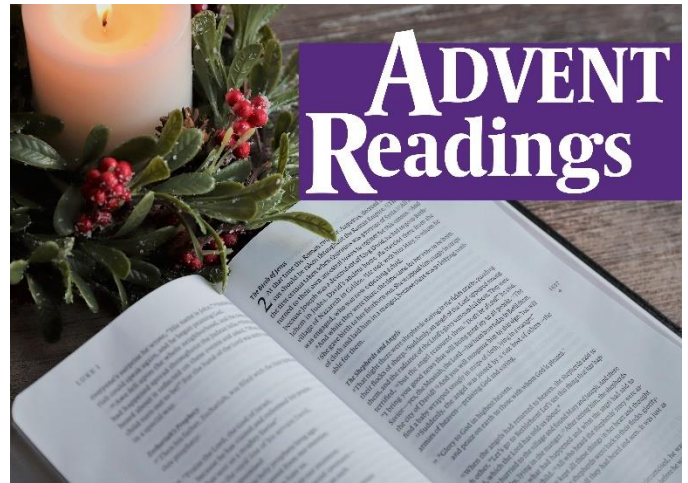
Ages 8th grade – HS are welcome!
December 7, 14, 21 @ 8pm.

Beginning January 11, Wednesday
evenings, 7pm.



Candlelight Service

December 24 @ 6:00pm



ADVENT Readings

- Sunday, Nov. 27: Phil & Rose
- Sunday, Dec. 4: Jeff & Shelly
- Sunday, Dec. 11: Jesse & Megan
- Sunday, Dec. 18: Kelly & Lisa
- Sat., Dec. 24: Vernon & Audrey



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM INFORMATION:

- Wednesday, November 30 - 7 pm
- Wednesday, December 7 - 7 pm
- Wednesday, December 14 - 7 pm
- Sunday, December 18 - right after church- Final dress rehearsal during Sunday School
- Sunday, December 18 - Students arrive by 2:40 pm for the 3:00 pm - SHOWTIME
- ALL invited to stay after to enjoy cake provided for fellowship.



CONGRATULATIONS TO GRANDPARENTS, DAVE AND DEANNA HARMS ON THE ARRIVAL OF ANITA GRACE (6LBS, 19.5 IN) AND ALEX GARY (6LBS 12 OZ, 19.5 IN) PROUD PARENTS ARE TRACI AND BEN SMITH!



Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Pat Blau. Pat passed away on November 7. The service was held at Zion on November 12 with the burial at Alexander.



FLOWERS

Flowers were left on the altar following the funeral services for Pat Blau.



Please keep the following in prayer:

Elaine Parks, Vernon VanHorn, Kinnick Campbell, Bev Moore, Beth Bretz, Dale Butson, Brian Lupkes, Jill Schade, Angie DeVries

Homebound Members: Marie Jurgens, Darlene Meints, Gordon Meyer

VISITATION TEAM



Megan M*, Heather K, Beth B, Amanda R.

Women's
STUDY
GROUP



CIRCLE MEETINGS

JOY CIRCLE - DEC 11 @ 7:00pm
Devotions/Lesson/Host: Melanie
Faith Circle - TBA

FOCUS ON: BIBLE VERSE TO SHARE ABOUT DISCIPLESHIP

Tithes  Attendance

	General	Benevolent	Attendance
Nov 6			119
Nov 13			98
Nov 20			107
Nov 23			114
Nov 27			110



	<u>AUDIO</u>	<u>VIDEO</u>
DEC 04	Jerry	Carma
DEC 11	Duane	Kolton
DEC 18	Jesse	Kendal
DEC 24	Kendal	Kolton
DEC 25	Dave	Tonya

Fellowship

Dec. 4	Consistory
Dec. 11	Ted/Diane; Arlene
Dec. 18	Lauren Moore



Children's Time during church service

DATE	NAME
Dec. 4	Kelly B.
Dec. 11	Ann
Dec. 18	Wendy
Dec. 25	Pastor



DAYCARE PROVIDERS

After Children's Time !

* If your Sunday does not work, please find a replacement. Your efforts are very much appreciated*

DATE	NAME
Dec. 4	Silas, Whit, Justin
Dec. 11	Ann, Barrett
Dec. 18	Tonya, Gavin
Dec 25	Janette, Marli



RCYF is shouting "thank you" to every person who supported our Thanksgiving supper! Thank you to those that generously donated, those that invited their friends, and to those who weren't able to make it but prayed for us. 150 breadsticks made sure our fire alarms work!

Blessings, Clayton, Mariah, and the RCYF kids



Zion Reformed Church

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 Sheffield, IA 50475 (zionref@wbrec.com)
 641-579-6186 / www.zionreformed.com
 Pastor Petri van Rooyen; 641-231-2361



CALENDAR 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>* Every Sunday * 9:15am Worship 10:30am Sunday School / Kids' Choir</p>	<p>Office Hours: M/W/TH 8am-noon (unless noted)</p>			1	2	3 10 am WOZ Christmas salad lunch
<p>4 *Food Pantry* 2nd Sunday in Advent 10:30 am Annual Church Mtg</p>	5	6	7 7pm Children's program practice 8pm RCYF	8 7pm Consistory Mtng	9	10
<p>11 3rd Sunday in Advent Pastor gone to Tennessee Mission</p>	12	13	14 7pm Children's program practice 8pm RCYF	15	16	17
<p>18 4th Sunday in Advent 3pm Children's Christmas Program</p>	19	20	21 6:30pm Family Ministry 8pm RCYF	22	23	24 6:00pm Candlelight Svc
<p>25 Our Savior is Born! Merry Christmas!</p> 	26	27	28 NO RCYF – RCYF Resumes: Jan. 11 @ 7pm	29	30	31 