



Zion Reformed Church – Floodlight 2025



PASTOR'S P O S T S

Dear Zion Family,

Advent is a time of anticipation, reflection, and renewal. As we await the celebration of Christ's birth, we are invited not merely to remember an event, but to open our hearts to deeper spiritual growth. The prophet Isaiah speaks of people "walking in darkness" who have "seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2). Advent reminds us that Christ, our Light, comes to meet us where we are and leads us into greater maturity in faith.

This season calls us to slow down, pray intentionally, and seek the Lord with fresh expectation. Spiritual growth does not happen by accident; it is nurtured through daily surrender, Scripture meditation, and acts of love. As Christ draws near, may we allow His light to illuminate the dark corners of our lives, shaping us into His likeness. Let this Advent be a journey of renewed hope, deeper trust, and transformed hearts.

In Christ,
Pastor Petri



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



**Sunday,
Dec. 7
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 elder & deacon.



**2026 WOZ Books will be placed
in your church mailbox.**



Women of Zion

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16 What an incredible gift God have given to us!

I'm sharing a devotional that says it so well this time of the year! Have you been part of a white elephant gift exchange? It can be a riot, and sometimes you get lucky and take home a fantastic gift. Or maybe you got an old statue or a box of expired candy.

Christmas is about the greatest gift the world has ever known. The gifts we give to each other are a small reflection of what God did for us. He gave us His beloved and precious Son, even knowing how we would mistreat Him. The Father knew that the "good news of great joy that will be for all the people" would mean the ultimate sacrifice—Jesus was born to die. Still, God gave His gift freely and joyously because of His relentless, unwavering love for humankind. His sacrificial gift was necessary for our salvation.

How beautiful it must be to the Lord when we embrace his gift, his Son, with the same enthusiasm children have on Christmas morning. For parents and grandparents, all the frustrations of standing in line, finding the right color, and everything else it cost fade into distant memories as they delight in watching in giving to their children and grandchildren. "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" (Mat 7:11) God is the ultimate gift giver.

So as you gather around the tree and the annual gift giving frenzy commences, take a moment to give thanks for the best present you've already been given. The real Christmas miracle didn't happen on 34th Street, but in a

little town called Bethlehem, when God came to be with us.

A few reminders: December 6th is the WOZ Christmas program, installation of officers, business meeting, and luncheon. All women of the church are welcome to come. Please bring a salad to share. Prayer Pals will be revealed. Thanks to the food committee: Ann Lupkes, Cheryl Schnoes, Carol Stock, Diane Hughes, and Heather Koenen; the program committee: Bev Moore, Janette van Rooyen, Tonya Halsne, Judy Crom, and Carma DeVries. A big "Thank You" to Marsha for taking care of the new WOZ booklets for 2026! Also, thank you to the visitation committee for packing the Christmas boxes to give to the shut-ins for Christmas.

Merry Christmas and many blessings in the new year!

Yours in Christ,
Sonna McMahon, WOZ President



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 Megan Oehlert know by Dec. 7. Reminder that if you have a prayer concern and you would like those on the prayer chain to be praying, please contact Megan Oehlert megan.oehlert@gmail.com or 515-368-2233 and she will begin the prayer chain.

WOZ SPIRITUAL LIFE

Praying with a Purpose: The **ACTS** Model

Prayer is a vital conversation with God, but sometimes it can be difficult to know where to begin. The **ACTS** model provides a simple and effective framework to guide your prayers and deepen your connection with God.

A: Adoration. Adoration is about praising God for who He is and all that He has done. It's a time to be reminded of God's immense power and His faithfulness in your life. As you begin to pray, reflect on His character—His love, grace, mercy, and wisdom. Consider the ways He has worked in your life, providing for you, protecting you, and guiding you. This focus on His greatness shifts your perspective from your problems to His power, strengthening your faith.

C: Confession. Confession can be a difficult, but incredibly freeing part of prayer. It's an act of humility, where you honestly admit your sins, shame, and guilt to God. Rather than hiding or making excuses, you bring these things into the light, acknowledging your need for His forgiveness and grace. You

can also confess the sins of the world and others, asking for God's healing and mercy. If you're unsure what you need to confess, simply ask God to soften your heart and reveal it to you. This act of admitting your shortcomings is not just about guilt; it is a profound step toward healing and spiritual cleansing.

T: Thanksgiving. After confessing, take a moment to be grateful. Thankfulness is a powerful way to recognize God's constant presence and provision. Thank Him for the blessings in your life, both big and small—your family, your health, your home, and the simple joys of each day. Give thanks for how He is working in your life, your spouse's life, or the lives of your children. A heart filled with gratitude acknowledges God's goodness and reminds you of His abundant love.

S: Supplication. Supplication is simply making your requests known to God. This is the time to bring your personal needs and desires before Him. However, don't stop there. Expand your prayers to include others. Pray for your church leaders, your government, your children's teachers and schools, and those in your community. Remember all the people you've promised to pray for and lift up their needs to God as well. Supplication demonstrates a reliance on God and a love for others, bringing their concerns to the one who can provide true help and comfort.

By using the **ACTS** model, you can structure your prayers to be more intentional and comprehensive, covering a full spectrum of communication with God, from praise and humility to gratitude and intercession.

Megan Oehlert, Spiritual Life 2025

White Gift Offering

Monetary donations are being accepted in the burlap container until December 7.

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



Bank Open Houses:

Green Belt Bank & Trust: Bank holiday open house on Dec. 5 @ Belmond and Dec. 8 @ Iowa Falls from 9am-1pm. The bank will donate \$1.00

First Bank Hampton: Friday, Dec. 12, Hampton and Latimer, 9am-3:30pm. The bank will donate \$2.00 to our church by registering.



Order forms are by the Catch-All box. The cost is \$17.00/plant & the order/payment deadline is noon on December 7. If you want to provide your own plant – see the order form for details. Questions? See ROSE.



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.

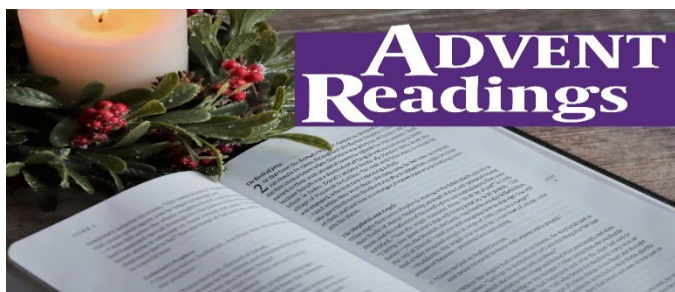


Ages 8th grade – HS are welcome!



Candlelight Service

December 24 @ 6:00pm



Sunday, Nov. 30: Jon & Judy Klink
Sunday, Dec. 7: Travis & Gabby Webb
Sunday, Dec. 14:
Sunday, Dec. 21: Adam & Molly Bird
Candlelight: John & Melissa Sifert



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Wednesday, December 3 - 6:30pm
Wednesday, December 10 - 6:30pm
Wednesday, December 17 - 6:30pm
Sunday, December 21 - right after church- Final dress rehearsal during Sunday School
Sunday, December 21 - Students arrive by **4:40 pm** for the 5:00 pm - SHOWTIME
ALL invited to stay after; PLEASE bring a goodie tray to share



	General	Benevolent	Attendance
Nov 2	\$4,146.00	\$1,080.00	120
Nov 9	\$2,059.00	\$580.00	142
Nov 16	\$2,348.00	\$585.00	123
Nov 23	\$1,679.00	\$385.00	134



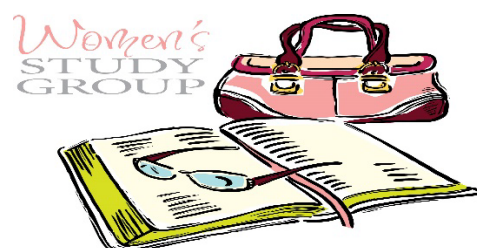
Please keep the following in prayer:

Mark DeVries, Elaine Parks, Dale Butson,
 Jon Suntken, Arlene Maifeld, Bev Moore,
 Darwin Butson, Brian Lupkes, Ted Hughes,
 Sam Butson, Morgan Ault

Homebound Members: Phyllis Nelson, Duane & Lenora Payne, LaVonne McCormick



Deanna Harms*, Sarah Dirksen, Bev Mason



CIRCLE MEETINGS

JOURNEY CIRCLE - DEC. 6

FOCUS ON: IF YOUR LIFE WOULD BE A NOVEL, WHAT WOULD YOUR TITLE BE?



	<u>AUDIO</u>	<u>VIDEO</u>
DEC 07	Dave	Duane
DEC 14	Jesse	Carma
DEC 21	Nick	Tonya
DEC 24	Jerry	Tonya
DEC 28	Dave	Molly



Suntken: Thank you to everyone who has reached out to me, shared their concerns, offered help, and most of all prayed for me since my prostate cancer diagnosis. I am so blessed to be a part of Zion's wonderful church family. Also, thank you to Pastor Petri for his visits, prayers, and words of encouragement. I have a positive outlook and with God's grace and continued prayers I am looking forward to the future.

Yours In Christ,
Jon Suntken

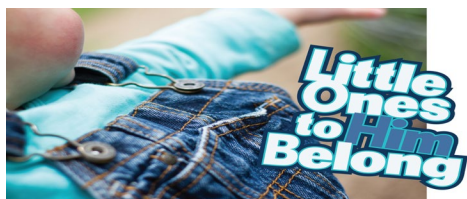
Flower Committee: The flower committee would like to thank everyone in advance who will help with decorating the church for Christmas. It's fun to work together and make our church beautiful for the Christmas season.

RCYF is shouting "thank you" to every person who supports our Thanksgiving supper! We appreciate your support.

-Blessings, Clayton, Mariah, and the RCYF kids

Faith & Fellowship

Dec. 7	Consistory
Dec. 14	Hosts are needed
Dec. 21	Hosts are needed
Dec. 28	Teresa and Micayla



Children's Time during church service

DATE	NAME
Dec. 7	Dave
Dec. 14	Molly A.
Dec. 21	Megan M
Dec. 28	Shelly



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. 7	Marli/Tenley/Morgan
Dec. 14	Megan S.
Dec 21	Sammy/Edrich
Dec 28	Shelly/Barrett



December
BIRTHDAYS



December
ANNIVERSARIES

- 03 Charlane Janssen
- 07 Natasha Smith
- 09 Duane Payne
- 10 Duane & Lenora Payne
- 11 Harlyn Janssen
- 12 Andy Sheeler
- 13 Tyler Campbell
- 16 Morgan Ault
Russell & Molly Allen
- 19 Elijah Kinseth
- 20 Lauren Stevens
Steve & Linda Wells
- 21 Tonya Halsne / Miranda Neff
- 22 Dennis & Judy Crom
Gene & Jane Elphic
- 26 Piper Bretz
- 27 Tanner Buseman /
Jean Mollenbeck
- 29 Mark & Deb Brandon
- 30 Nadine Goodwin



NEW!!!! Women's Bible Study

Starting January 7, Zion will be offering an 8 week Women's Bible study. We will be using the book Seamless by Angie Smith. Any woman is welcome to join. We will be meeting Wednesday evenings 5:30-6:30. We will not meet the week of Family Ministry Night. Child care will be available. Megan Oehlert is available to give rides to and from the church that evening. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Please indicate if you would like childcare or a ride to the church. *More details to come* **SIGN UP BY December 14!!**



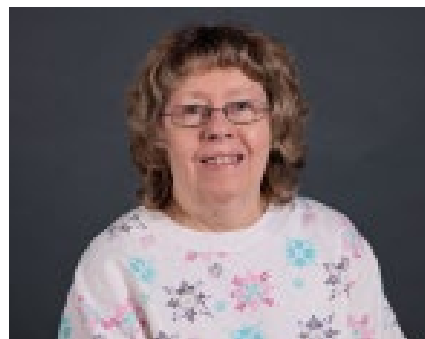
Women's Conference

The Open Bible Church in Clear Lake is hosting a Christian's Women's Conference on February 27 & 28 at the Mason City Fairgrounds.

The theme is "Created to Be". Friday's agenda: 4:00-5:30pm: Check-in; 5:30-6:30pm: Dinner; 7-9:00pm: Session 1 sermon/speaker. Saturday: 9-10:15am: Session 2 sermon/speaker; 10:15-10:30am break; 10:30am-Noon: session 3. The cost is \$70 (early bird registration until Jan 31) \$100 regular registration (open until Feb 21), optional T-shirt orders available as well. **If interested please register at Sisterhood Women's Conference 2026.**

Various women from the Faith Circle are planning to attend. You are welcome to join and sit with us at the event, reach out to Megan Oehlert if you would like a ride to the event or would like to sit with the Faith Circle group.

Zion's Family Spotlight: Janell Blau



Janell has lived in Latimer her entire life. She currently works at North Side School in Hampton in the kitchen at 71 years! She doesn't mind being called "the lunch lady". She has previously worked at a day care in Latimer and also used to run a cafe in Latimer with her sister.

She has a brother Dale and sister-in-law named June. She has two nephews, Adam and Aaron.

She usually sits by the Suntken family in church, due to the fact that Marlys Hirth is her first cousin and Tami Suntken and Lisa Bennett are her second cousins.

She loves to read books and put jigsaw puzzles together. Then she also likes to go shopping and to spend time with friends and family.

Zion was Janell's family's church and she wanted to get back to church and be with family. She loves the fact that everyone is so friendly at Zion and that she feels part of the Zion family.

A special Bible Verse for her is Psalm 41:13 - Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen

Zion Reformed Church

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 641-579-6186 / www.zionreformed.com
 Pastor Petri van Rooyen; 641-231-2361



CALENDAR 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
* Every Sunday * 9:15am Worship 10:30am Sunday School / Kids' Choir	Office Hours: M/W/TH 8am-noon (unless noted)					
	1	2	3 6:30pm Sunday School Christmas Program Practice	4 7pm Journey Circle	5	6 WOZ Christmas/ Installation
7 *Food Pantry* 8:30am Men's Bible Study 2nd Sunday in Advent 10:30 am Annual Church Mtg	8	9	10 6:30pm Sunday School Christmas Program Practice	11	12	13
14 Welcome, Travis Webb to pulpit 3rd Sunday in Advent	15	16	17 6:30pm Sunday School Christmas Program Practice	18	19	20
21 4 th Sunday in Advent 5pm Children's Christmas Program 28	22 29	23 30	24 6:00pm Candlelight Svc 31 New Year's Eve	25 Our Savior is Born! Merry Christmas! 	26	27