

Our Christian Stewardship: NOV. 23 – **TRADITIONAL:** 248 **THANKSGIVING EVE:** 118
General: \$10,406.82 **Mission:** \$70.00 **Debt:** \$625.00
Matching Debt Funds (to be matched): \$100,008.74 **Operating Debt Balance:** \$53,411.59

SERVANTS– Nov. 30
TIME 8:00am PAX

GREETERS Willie Wesemann
 Susan Warneke

ELDER Rick Sirek

USHERS Emily & Natalie Endorf

ACOLYTES Parker Suckstorf
 Hannah Hickman

PASTOR Pastor Jacob Tuma

LAYREADER Jerald Wachter

SERVANTS - December 7
TIME 9:00am PAX

GREETERS Mark & Bev Luebe

ELDER Jerald Wachter

USHERS Camassia White
 Kaelyn Halsey

ACOLYTES Lenox & Logan Beacom

PASTOR Rev. Bernhard Huesmann

LAYREADER PAX Group

Website:
www.zionlutheranpierce.com
Zion Lutheran School:
402-329-4658
Church office: 402-329-4313
Zion Lutheran School email:
zlsoffice@zionlutheranpierce.com
Church office email:
churchoffice@zionlutheranpierce.com

Advent Services:

December 3rd: 12:15pm & 7pm

December 10: 12:15pm & 7pm

December 17th: 12:15pm & 7pm

December 24th: 7:00pm

December 25th: 9:30am



November 30, 2025

First Advent Sunday

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod

520 E. Main Street Pierce, NE

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Mari Ortmeier, Nate Bolling, Shawn Dozy, Dawn Tucker, Lavonne Fleer, Dawn Flinn, Rayleen Wesemann, Pastor Birtell, Addie Voelker, Les Richmond, Natalie Retzlaff, Darrel Garber, Josie Richmond, Parker Suckstorf

LUTHERAN HOUR: November 30. "Rise and Shine". Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Belief in the resurrection of Jesus is no siesta. It's a 5am wake-up call, a jolt out of bed that will turn your world upside down. (Romans 13:11)

PASTOR INSTALLATION: Our interim Pastor, Pastor Bernhard Huesmann, will be installed on Sunday, December 7th, at 9am.

SOUP SUPPER AND PAX CHRISTMAS: The Zion Lutheran School PTLS and Zion Lutheran Church Youth Group invite everyone to join us for a special evening of food, fellowship, and Christmas celebration at our Sounds of the Season event on Sunday, December 7th, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The evening will start with a Free Will Donation Soup Supper from 5:00pm–6:45 p.m., featuring warm soups, good company, and the welcoming of our Interim Pastor, Pastor Bernhard Huesmann. Following the meal, the ZION PAX Team will present their annual Christmas concert, "Light of the World!" — a joyful celebration of Christ's birth through music and message.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: The youth students will be once again hosting their yearly Christmas card sale to fundraise for their various events and trips during the four Sundays in Advent, which begins today, November 30th, so please look for our table in the narthex if you need to re-fill your supply of Christmas cards this year. Christmas cards can be purchased during the week, starting December 1st, by speaking with Mr. J.

PIERCE COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE: Tuesday, December 9th, from 12:00pm-6:00pm. The last blood drive of the year is at Christ Lutheran's fellowship hall. Please contact Lori Wragge at (402) 860-1441 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Pierce to schedule an appointment.

CONFIRMATION: Reminder, Confirmation classes for public school 7th and 8th grade students will resume this Wednesday, December 3rd, and continue through December 17th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you have announcements or upcoming events you would like posted or announced, please contact the church office **by noon on Wednesday**. Also, if anyone has updates to their address, phone number, email, or member status, please notify the church office of any changes.

SCRIP: Mrs. Anson is still taking orders for scrip. They are due every Monday by midnight. If she doesn't have what you need on hand, orders may take up to one week before they are available.

HEARING IMPAIRED PARISHIONERS: Personal hearing receivers are available in the guest book podium. Please take the case with you and remember to put them back in their case and return them to the podium, or usher, when you are done. If you are having a problem with one of them, please turn it in to an Elder or Usher and let them know of the problem.

TUITION ASSISTANCE: If you would like to donate to the tuition assistance account at Zion Lutheran School, please send donations to the school marked for tuition assistance. Any questions contact the school office at 402-329-4658. Thank you for helping students have a Christian education!

COOKIE AND CANDY FUNDRAISER: Need cookie and candies for Christmas? Let us help! We are proud to announce that the Fusion Youth Group will be offering the Christmas Cookie and Candy Fundraiser once again this year. As before, we will be taking pre-orders by calling Derek Jareske (402-385-8381) by December 3rd, and we will have these items available for pickup on either December 13th, 10AM-12PM in the Zion kitchen, or December 14th, following the 9AM church service and the 2PM Children's Christmas service in the narthex. Only a limited number of pre-made platters will be available for those who do not pre-order. All funds will go toward paying for youth activities. For more information about how this can be completed, and our varieties, please check the flyer on our church website or call Derek Jareske.

Options include: Dozen Decorated Sugar Cookies (\$15, pre-order \$12), Dozen Undecorated Sugar Cookies (pre-order only \$10), Large Platters of Cookies and Assorted Candy (\$45, pre-orders \$40), and Small Platters of Cookies and Assorted Candy (\$35, pre-order \$30)

Some dairy free cookie choices can be made available as a pre-order option, only. Base prices will be increased for this option to account for the extra price of dairy free items and special ingredient alternations.

A COZY CHRISTMAS: An evening of music and poetry featuring Poet Tanner Olson & Musician Blake Fleteley. Friday, December 5, at 7pm at 1C| The Sanctuary. 2200 28th Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601. Before the program, they will be serving a warm cinnamon and chili dinner from 5pm-6:45pm. Dinner will be offered for a free-will donation.

7TH ANNUAL DRIVE THRU LIVE NATIVITY: St. John's Lutheran Church in Pierce is hosting their 7th Annual Drive-thru Nativity for 2 days only. It is free and every year the theme changes. This year it is Joseph's Journey. Friday, December 5, from 5:30pm-8:30pm & Saturday, December 6, from 4pm -8:30pm.

FAITH WEAVERS: Faith Weavers takes place every Wednesday evening at Zion Lutheran Church from 5:15PM-6:45PM as long as school is in session, or otherwise announced. To that end, Faith Weavers will resume normal classes this Wednesday, December 3rd, and continue through the first three weeks in December. Also, with the season of Advent here, we are instituting a new policy that students must be picked up from the church by a parent/guardian each week. As it gets dark far earlier during this time of year, and our Advent midweek services will be once again starting in the month of December, we want to work to reduce the risk of accidents as much as possible. Otherwise, if your child is between Kindergarten and 6th grade, please consider having them join us for another year of faith building, fun, and fellowship! Parents can find more information and register on our church website under "Educational Ministries" and "Faith Weavers." We hope to see you soon!

Please put non-perishable donations in the marked bin in the kitchen with a note (from who, for who) and alert church staff about your donation. Cold items should be put in the refrigerator, and frozen items should be placed in the freezer. For more information, contact Mr. Jareske.

FAITH WEAVERS FOR DECEMBER:

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| 1. Packages of hotdog buns | 7. Packages of brown sugar |
| 2. Bottles of mustard | 8. Cans of corn |
| 3. Bottles of ketchup | 9. Jars of pizza sauce |
| 4. Cans of mandarin oranges | 10. Bags of shredded mozzarella cheese |
| 5. Packages of hamburger buns | 11. Jars of apple sauce |
| 6. Rolls of 85/15 or 80/20 ground beef | |

FAITH WEAVERS HELP: As this weekly event is dependent on the teamwork of volunteers and supporters, we are once again putting out the call for assistance. If you feel called to help this year by serving in some capacity, week to week, please contact Kim Baumann, Suzie Wachter, or Mr. Jareske (402-329-4313) in the near future. Volunteers can be 7th grade and older. We are still looking for individuals to assist with our various stations, cooking meals, and helping with serving the meals, without cooking. As such, if you believe that you might be able to help in one of these ways, please let us know as soon as possible

COOKIE DECORATING: To help prepare for our cookie and candy fundraiser, if any youth students and parents would like to help with cookie decorating, our next time to meet at the church will be next weekend, December 5th or 6th, on either Friday evening or Saturday morning. As we are still working out the details as to when would be the best day for this to take place, please contact Mr. Jareske (dcejareske@zionlutheranpierce.com) to find out more information in the near future. Thank you!

YOUTH FUNDRAISER HELP: The youth group will be working to assemble cookie and candy plates and platters on Friday, December 12th, after school on that date. If any youth and parents are available to assist, please let Mr. J know, and your help would be greatly appreciated. We will meet in the Zion kitchen.

FUSION YOUTH MEETING: A meeting for 7th through 12th grade youth is scheduled to take place on Sunday, December 14th, from 5PM to 8PM at Zion Lutheran Church. This will be our annual Christmas party meeting, and to help with this, the plan is to have everyone planning to attend contribute to a potluck to provide for the meal for this evening. Please speak with Mr. J, or check our church website, for a way to sign-up to bring a food item to help with this meeting in the near future. We will also have a White Elephant gift exchange, and although this is completely optional, if you would like to participate, gifts should be church appropriate, kind, and no more than \$20, if purchased. Homemade gifts are welcome, but please be aware of allergies when baking/buying.