

Zion News



Grace
Lutheran Church

Mr. Jerald Wachter, together with the Call Committee, Elders and Congregation of
Zion Lutheran Church
520 E. Main Street
Pierce, NE 68767

October 19, 2025

Dear Jerald, and members of Zion,

Dear friends in Christ,

I write to you today to officially notify you that God has very clearly spoken in response to the Divine Call you have extended me to be your Transitional Interim Pastor.

It is with joy and excitement that ***I accept this Call***, knowing deep in my heart that God has ordained this.

There is much to do now, as I prepare to conclude my ministry here in Florida, and so I ask for your ongoing prayers.

I, together with President Snow and others, am in the process of determining when my installation at Zion will take place, as well as all the details of my getting up to you in there in Nebraska. We know, and are confident that our Lord will lead, guide, and provide all we need to accomplish these tasks.

The signed acceptance of the Call Documents and Contract will be forthcoming.

I look forward to working together with you as you transition into God's will for you for next ministry chapter at Zion!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rev. Bernhard J. Huesmann".

Rev. Bernhard J. Huesmann

Where God's people gather...to worship, grow, care and

**Zion Evangelical
Lutheran Church
LCMS**

520 E. Main Street
Pierce, NE 68767



www.zionlutheranpierce.com

**[https://www.youtube.com/
@zionlutheranchurchpierce3283](https://www.youtube.com/@zionlutheranchurchpierce3283)**



Church Office.....402-329-4313
School Office.....402-329-4658

Church

churchoffice@zionlutheranpierce.com

DCE

dcejareske@zionlutheranpierce.com

School

zlsoffice@zionlutheranpierce.com

Principal

principal@zionlutheranpierce.com

Worship:

Time: 9:00am (rotating Sundays
with PAX and Traditional)

PAX (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)
Traditional (2nd & 4th Sundays with
Communion)

Pastor Bernhard Huesmann
Interim Pastor starting December

Mr. Derek Jareske
Director of Christian Ed

Mr. David Beikmann
Principal

Mrs. April Anson
School Secretary

***Prayer
List . . .***



*Mari Ortmeier
Addie Voelker
Nate Bolling
Shane Dozy
Dawn Tucker
Lavonne Fleer
Dawn Flinn
Rayleen Wesemann
Pastor Birtell
Les Richmond
Natalie Retzlaff
Darrel Garber
Josie Richmond*

STATISTICAL REPORT

Baptisms:

08/15/25 Nora Luna Arnold
09/14/25 Russell David Fleer

Funerals:

09/05/25 David Ruge
09/24/25 Sheryl Kruger

Transferred In:

08/11/25 David Beikmann
08/11/25 Diane Beikmann
08/11/25 Cadence Beikmann

Transferred Out:

08/04/25 Pastor Gordon Bruce
08/04/25 Angie Bruce
09/08/25 Dottie Ahlers
10/06/25 Joyce Reicks
10/06/25 Edward Reicks

Marriages:

08/16/25 Tyler Arnold & Ilaria
 Angelini
10/04/25 Jadon Wagner & Kaitlin
 Young
10/18/25 Nevada Claussen &
 Leah Pritchett

Dates to keep in mind:

November 10th-November 26th:

-Zion Lutheran Church & School Food drive

November 14th:

-Trivia Night at the Pavilion. Doors open at 6pm. Trivia starts at 7:30pm.

November 18th:

-Church Care Team will meet at 6pm to prepare for Advent. Anyone is welcome to join!

November 23rd:

-Zion Students K-8th sing/play handbells at 9am
Traditional worship

November 26th:

-Pre- Thanksgiving service at 7pm
-**NO** Faith Weavers and **NO** Confirmation

November 27th:

-**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!** The church office will be closed all day.

November 29 & 30:

-Church Care Team decorating for Advent. Anyone is welcome to join!

November 30th:

-First Sunday in Advent
-The service will be at 8am, instead of 9am. Sunday School will follow the service.

December 3rd:

-Cookie/Candy preorder deadline
-7th-8th Grade handbells at 7pm Advent service

December 7th:

-Pastor Huesmann Installation at 9am
-PTLS & Youth Group hosted Soup Supper at 5:00pm-6:45pm
-PAX Christmas at 7pm

December 13th:

-Cookie/Candy pickup 10am-12pm in church kitchen

December 14th:

-Children's Christmas service at 2pm
-Cookie/Candy pickup **after** 9am service & **after** Children's Christmas service at 2pm

December 3,10,17:

-Advent services at 12:15pm & 7pm

Advent devotion booklets will be available in the church office & NARTHEX starting on November 24 if you'd like one!
Advent starts on **Sunday, November 30!**



If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or to the Glory of God, there will be a sign up sheet in the church office in **December!**

Zion Lutheran School Principal Message



Continuing to Make A Grateful and Joyful Noise All Year Long



One goal of Zion Lutheran School for our students is to make disciples for life, which fits in well with Proverbs 22:6 to train up a child. Part of this discipleship is being thankful for what God has given us. This past month we have been working on being grateful and generous in realizing the gifts God has blessed us with.

It seems that we spend a lot of time trying to acquire things- especially as we think about the upcoming Christmas season. From an early age, we ask children what they want for their birthday. We also ask what kind of elaborate themed birthday party we can throw them. Then of course, there is Christmas! The request lists we ask kids and other family members to provide can get quite lengthy. There is also the convenience of online shopping, which makes it very easy to “click” our way to a variety of purchases. What a blessing it is, however, to be able to grant Christmas and birthday wishes for our children. What a blessing it is to be able to give both needed and special request items to family and friends. We have an abundant God who blesses His people beyond measure, and in turn allows us to be a blessing to others through our generosity.

Every November, we pause for a National Day of Thanksgiving in our country, and rightfully so — for we are blessed with many freedoms, and we enjoy liberties that other countries and cultures do not experience. We will begin our Thanksgiving break with a 12 pm dismissal on Wednesday, November 26th. Our second graders will hold a special chapel on Wednesday, November 19th.

For a believer, it is a natural response to “give thanks to God” for all His goodness to us. Christians sing songs of thankfulness and praise to God at this time of year (and throughout the year), knowing that all good gifts come from a loving God. We continue to make a joyful noise in response to His gifts.

As parents, we are quick to teach our young children to say, “thank you,” when they are given a gift or experience a special surprise. We want to instill in them the ability to express their appreciation in a genuine manner. We hope that if a child learns to express gratefulness at an early age and that it will become a lifelong habit.

When we are fortunate to be on the receiving end of a gift, there is always someone on the other end doing the giving. When you are a child, it is often a parent or other family member doing the giving. As one grows older, it might be a friend or significant other who becomes a giver of gifts. As we grow in faith as lifelong disciples, we discover that there is great joy in giving, and our perspective can shift from wanting to become a “getter” to becoming a “giver.”

As the people of God, we have received the greatest gift from our heavenly Father in His Son, Jesus, who died on the cross for our sins. He then rose from the dead to give us the assurance of eternal life. We didn't ask for this gift, it was freely given. It was the gift that required the highest level of sacrifice — a willingness to intentionally die for someone else. Talk about givers — God the Father giving us His only Son; and Jesus, living a perfect life and then dying on the cross to give us the gift of eternal life! Wow!

At this time of year, as we celebrate all that God has given us, may our thankfulness be expressed in our love toward family and friends and in gratefulness to God. This Thanksgiving, may our hearts reflect a loving God, who first loved us, so that we can in turn love others with thankful hearts.

Our students will have our annual Christmas program on **Sunday, December 14th @ 2 p.m.** This year we are sharing the events of the year before Christ was born. We invite you to come and hear the loving message of Christ's birth through " 'Twas the Year Before Christmas".

Respectfully,

David Beikmann

Make a
joyful noise
unto the LORD

DCE Message

*“... but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
Romans 5:8*

We recently took a group of 17 people, 14 youth students 6th through 8th grades and 3 adult leaders, to Kearney, NE for the Nebraska District Middle School Youth Gathering, and our theme verse, the verse we worked to consider for the two days of the event, was the one listed above. With that in mind, I thought we could all, as a congregation, work to consider this verse, as well. I'm never one to leave anyone out, and maybe if we're all a little bit on the same page, it will make it easier to discuss this trip with the individuals who attended in the future.

That said, as we worked to dive deeper into this verse, our discussions primarily centered on the theme of SHOW. What do we show people? How do we show up? Why do we show off? Why do we hide ourselves and resist showing people certain things? These questions, and more, were points of conversation for the 700 participants at this event, and now I pose them to you. What do you show people, and why do you choose to show them those things?

In our sins, it can be easy to want to hide parts of ourselves. We all have secret shames, desires, and thoughts that we would never want to see the light of day. We keep parts of our personalities a secret because we fear no one would love us if they knew how broken we truly are. Like Adam and Eve in the garden, we even try to hide ourselves from God by avoiding worship and rationalizing that if we don't do it in God's house, maybe He won't be aware that we're doing anything wrong at all. This, of course, could not be farther from the truth.

You see, it is impossible to hide from an all knowing, all powerful, and infinitely present God. God knows us down to the very number of hairs on our heads which means He also knows our every thought, desire, and action, depraved and otherwise. In our sin, this is a very scary thought to be known this intimately, but when we consider these things in the light of the verse above, with the help of the Holy Spirit, it can maybe be quite freeing instead.

Think about this, God already knew every sin you would ever commit, and yet Jesus still died on the cross for you. In Christ Jesus, God adopted us as His dearly beloved children through the waters of Baptism, and now our identify in Christ says that we are lovable because He loved us. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, our God given faith consistently uncovers and shows us that Jesus is better than we could ever hope or imagine, and although we certainly do not deserve it, God generously pours out His gifts on us. What reason could we have to hide!?!

Unfortunately, people still do. Instead of coming to church to confess their sins in faith, receive forgiveness, and stand in fellowship with those who seek to encourage and support them, they continue to hide away in the darkness. We might feel sorry for them as we consider ourselves far from them, yet sometimes we allow our own gifts to languish in the dark.

Of course, every good Confirmation student knows that we do not do works to save ourselves because none of our works can ever accomplish what God has already done in Christ Jesus. As Jesus fully and totally completed the work of salvation on the cross, we have nothing we need to do, and yet God still calls us to serve Him and our neighbor. Why? Because that's how we can show the love of Jesus to others. Although we do not hope to shine on our own, we reflect that great love that was first shown to us into the lives of other people. This is a response to the gifts we have received. Simply put, we show grace, mercy, and compassion because God first showed us grace, mercy, and compassion. We show up because God first showed up for us.

All said, we have been given abundantly more than we could ever hope to understand through Jesus, and now God has called us by the Gospel to show everyone how great of a Savior we have.

DCE, Derek Jareske

Faith Weavers

Faith Weavers takes place every Wednesday evening from 5:15PM-6:45PM as long as school is in session, or otherwise announced. If your child is between Kindergarten and 6th grade, please consider having them join us for the faith building, fun, and fellowship!! Parents can find more information and register on our church website under “Educational Ministries” and “Faith Weavers.” Reminder, if children are planning to attend, please make sure to complete this registration, so we have all needed student and contact information in case of an emergency.

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 with Faith Weavers this year, week to week, please contact Kim Baumann, Suzie Wachter, or Mr. J (402-329-4313) in the near future. Volunteers can be 7th grade and older. As always, adding a group of new volunteers would be beneficial to the continued success of this ministry, and even if you would be willing to substitute for one of our group leaders from time to time to get started, this would be greatly appreciated. At this time, we are specifically looking for, at least, one new volunteer to assist in the kitchen with cooking, several volunteers to help by serving the meal, without cooking, and several volunteers to assist with our various stations. For more information, please contact Mr. J to inquire.

Also, if you would be interested in donating to support this program, besides monetary donations, included below is a list of some consistently needed food items. As always, your support and encouragement is greatly appreciated!

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.

Needed Food Items:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Regular jars of pizza sauce | 2. Regular packages of hamburger buns |
| 3. Bags of shredded mozzarella cheese | 4. Regular bottles of ketchup |
| 5. Rolls of 85/15 or 80/20 ground beef | 6. Regular bottles of mustard |
| 7. Regular cans of peaches | 8. Large packages of frozen chicken nuggets |
| 9. Regular packages of hotdog buns | 10. Packages of frozen french fries |
| 11. Regular cans of mandarin oranges | 12. Regular cans of corn |
| 13. Packages of brown sugar | 14. Cans of green beans |



May the sure hope that comes from the knowledge of the forgiveness won by Jesus Christ's glorious death and resurrection comfort and preserve you.

Writing this message in November, Reformation is past, and Advent is quickly approaching. Standing on the edge of a new church year, I am always amazed by how fast the seasons fly by. Although thoughts of Christmas usually go hand in hand with thoughts of a new year, we here in the Zion youth planning department are not quite ready to close out the year yet. Don't get us wrong, we are absolutely excited about the prospects of fun in the new year, but before that, we still have many things planned for the rest of November and the month of December. With that in mind, we hope that our youth students take some time amidst all of the studies and practices to join us for some upcoming events and meetings. If, on the other hand, you haven't joined us lately and need a bit of catching up before jumping back into things, let us give you a quick recap. To that end, enclosed are a few reminders and a summary of a few things that have happened in regards to youth ministry lately.

First, as we prepare to look toward the winter season for activities, a few reminders about games and events would be appreciated by the people who love to show our support and encouragement. For families that are especially involved, any reminders about dates and times would be great because, even though we have the event calendar in our offices, there are always changes in which you are better aware. Speaking of calendars, we hope you will continue to add our upcoming events to your calendar, especially as we work to plan an abundance of opportunities month to month. As always, we would love to see as many youth students as possible, and we hope our youth would like to share the fun by bringing a friend as well!

Speaking of events, we have several planned for the near future. First will be our Fusion Youth Group meeting for 7th through 12th graders planned to take place every month, usually the second or third Sunday of the month, usually from 5PM to 7PM at Zion Lutheran Church.

Second will be an additional planned youth activity for 7th through 12th grade students to take place each month either here at Zion or at another destination, depending on the activity. As these types of events have differing schedules and time frames depending on what we are doing, and where we will be going, please make sure you are checking the weekly church bulletin, receiving our messages, and checking the website regularly. Third, we have a variety of planned fundraisers throughout the year as we continue to fundraise for our various initiatives. We would love to have your help!

As always, we would highly encourage everyone to regularly review our more consistent means of communication, namely weekly church announcements, our church Facebook page, emails, text messages, and our church website. If, for some reason, you are unable to receive updates presently, please let us know, so we can work to correct this issue.

With all that said, here is a brief recap of a few unique events and fundraisers from the past few months. For starters, in the month of August, the students who attended the LCMS Youth Gathering oversaw the church service on Sunday, August 17th, and then they provided a breakfast for the congregation as an opportunity to share their experiences from the trip. In September, the youth students gathered together to help paint and decorate the new youth room, which was formerly the Zion school 5th/6th grade room, and in October we held a movie event for both families and the youth students. Finally, in the month of November, we took a group of 17 individuals, 14 youth students and 3 adult leaders, to Kearney, NE for the Middle School Youth Gathering over the weekend of November 8th and 9th. This was a very fun opportunity for our students to gather with other youth groups from around the state of Nebraska to focus on the theme of SHOW. Also in the month of November, St. John's Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church are planning to hold a combined fall youth event for youth students from both churches with games, food, a devotion, and plenty of time for fellowship.

In terms of fundraisers, during the months of September and October, we worked to sell discount cards for many local area businesses. As always, I would like to thank the youth who work hard to manage each of these events, and the parents who give of their time and money to make these events work so smoothly. We would also like to thank this congregation for their generosity in supporting the youth programs of this church.

We, of course, fundraise with a purpose. Our main goal for this year is to continue to hold a variety of fun and enriching events and initiatives for our various youth students, such as the recent Middle School Youth Gathering, so that all students can have an opportunity to have fun and dive deeper in their faith journey. As before, we continue to set aside money for the LCMS Youth Gathering because even though we just returned from this trip this past summer, another Gathering is always right around the corner.

Again, all of these types of events are in addition to our monthly Fusion Youth Group meetings in which we typically gather as a group, share a meal, discuss a Bible Study lesson, plan future youth initiatives, and have fun through fellowship activities. To round out our program offerings for youth, Sunday School classes are taking place currently for any youth students who would like to continue our study and discussion of the Bible on Sunday mornings. Anyone in 7th through 12th grade is welcome!

Finally, if any confirmed youth would be interested in serving as an usher, or assisting in the sound booth, during this next year, please speak to Mr. Jareske in the near future, so we can get your name on our list of volunteers. Although the sun goes down early each evening, the future is bright at Zion Lutheran Church!

Sunday School

Sunday School classes for all grades resumed beginning on Sunday, September 7th, and they continue at our usual time of 10:00AM to 10:50AM each week. As in the past, we like for the students to start in the Zion Lutheran Church gym, so they can pray and then wait for their teacher to take them to their classroom.

So far all of our classes have been going really well this year, and we have been having very good attendance across our older grades. As we look toward the second half of the year in the coming weeks, let's continue to make Sunday School a priority for our students.

As before, we are continuing to look for several substitute teachers to assist in the event of teacher absences, so if you are interested in helping with Sunday School during this year, or you would just like to inquire at this point, please let Mr. Jareske know, as soon as possible. He can be contacted at the church by phone (402-329-4313) or email (dcejareske@zionlutheranpierce.com).

For our parents and adults, our guest pastors are continuing the Adult Bible Class, so if you are looking for a new study to start, here is your chance. This class takes place during our regular Sunday School time in the fellowship hall.

For 7th through 12th grade youth students, Mr. J will be continuing his Sunday School class over the next semester during the regular Sunday School time, and he would love for you to join the group. As we head into high school, college, and beyond, it can get harder to find our place, navigate our direction, and see how the Bible fits into the equation. During this class, we will look at discussing these very ideas by reviewing the Bible lessons that speak to the enduring questions that people have had across all generations. This class is continuing currently, and we typically meet in either the Zion gym or Vicar's office.

Children's Christmas Service

The Zion Lutheran School is looking forward to offering their yearly Children's Christmas Service again this year on Sunday, December 14th, 2025 at 2:00PM. If any public school students who are Zion Lutheran Church members would like to be involved with this endeavor, they should make sure to let Mr. Jareske know, as soon as possible. Parents can let the church know which students would like to participate by calling our church phone number (402-329-4313) or by emailing Mr. Jareske (dcejareske@zionlutheranpierce.com) at your earliest opportunity. Reminder, though, all students interested in participating should be registered by Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025, at the absolute latest, so we can work to assign and organize your part.



*Zion Lutheran Church Youth Group
Annual Cookie and Candy Fundraiser*



**Need cookies or candies for neighbors, friends, relatives or Christmas parties, but don't have the time or want the mess?
Let us help you out!!**

Zion Lutheran Youth Group will be selling an assortment of homemade decorated sugar cookies, molasses sugar cookies, chocolate mint cookies, and candies.

To guarantee best selection and quantity, pre-orders can be made by calling Derek Jareske @ (402) 385-8381 by December 3rd.

Pick-up times will be Saturday, December 13th, from 10am-12pm in the church kitchen, and Sunday, December 14th, following the 9am church service and the 2pm Children's Christmas service in the church narthex.

A limited number of pre-made platters will also be available for those that did not pre-order. All funds go towards Zion Youth Group activities.

Items available include:

*Cookies: Decorated Sugar Cookie Cutouts, Molasses Sugar Cookies, and Chocolate Mint Cookies

*Candies: Caramel Chex Mix, Peppermint Almond Bark Pieces, Dipped Pretzel Rods, Chocolate Fudge, English Toffee, and Oreo Balls.

**We will also offer baked, undecorated, sugar cookie cutouts by the dozen by pre-order only.

*Dozen Decorated Sugar Cookies: \$15, Pre-Orders: \$12

*Dozen Undecorated Sugar Cookies Only Pre-Orders: \$10

*Large Platter Cookies and Assorted Candy: \$45, Pre-Orders: \$40
(Consists of 6 Pieces of Each Candy and 6 of Each Cookie)

*Small Platter Cookie and Assorted Candy: \$35, Pre-Orders: \$30
(6 Pieces of Your Choice of 4 Candies and 3 of Each Cookie)

***Some **dairy free cookie choices** can be made available as a pre-order option, only. Base prices will be increased for this option as dairy free items require special ingredient alterations.

Cards and Christmas Cards

The youth group has recently restocked our large variety of available cards in the church office, so if you have been waiting to buy your cards from us, the wait can be officially over! We have also started to supply a greater selection of birthday cards for all ages, so hopefully everyone will be able to find the right box of cards for their needs. If anyone needs cards in the next several weeks, or months, payment can be placed in the lockbox on the card assortment shelf. Checks can be made payable to "Zion Youth."

In addition, the youth students representing the Fusion Youth Group will be, once again, selling Christmas cards in the church narthex following our Sunday morning church service on the four Sunday mornings in Advent to help fundraise for our various events and initiatives. Please come check out our selection starting at the end of November as we all work to prepare for the Christmas season.

Acolyting and Ushering

All 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students are needed for another year of service during Sunday morning church services as we work to feature acolytes each week. During our pastoral vacancy, we have recently gone down to just one church service a week, taking place on Sunday mornings at 9:00AM, so only two individuals will be needed on these mornings. We are also opening up the possibility to assist with the slides for one individual each week if you would prefer to work behind the scenes. With that, we have recently begun a self-scheduling initiative wherein which families are able to look through all possible dates within a three month period and then sign up for the date, and the service opportunity, that works best for them. At this time of reduced services, families only need sign up for one week within a three month period, and if any dates are not filled, we fill then randomly assign any unassigned students to cover those dates. As always, the church will not facilitate trades and switches, so if families find that a week does not work for them after signing up, they should work with other families to get that week covered. If we do not have your current information, please take some time to update your email address, phone number, and mailing address with our church secretary as these are the primary ways in which we contact families.

In addition, if any newly confirmed, or previously confirmed, youth students would be willing to assist during church services on Sunday mornings, please call 402-329-4313 to let the church office know. We are currently looking for both ushers and technology booth assistance, and training will be provided for anyone willing to serve in either capacity. For youth students currently assisting, the usher schedule will also be self-scheduled.

We are currently looking for both ushers and technology booth assistance, and training will be provided for anyone willing to serve in either capacity. For youth students currently assisting, the usher schedule will also be self-scheduled, and the new sign up will also open on September 11th

Confirmation

Confirmation classes for public school 7th and 8th grade students are currently taking place on Wednesday afternoons, from 4:00PM to 5:30PM. These classes will continue at that time on most Wednesday evenings into the spring, unless otherwise announced. A quick reminder, if the public school does decide to cancel school for any reason, it is our policy to be likewise closed for Confirmation classes on that Wednesday. In addition, there will be no

Confirmation classes for public school 7th and 8th grade students on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 26th, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. As of now, the 7th and 8th grade students will be learning from our DCE, Derek Jareske, in the old 5th/6th grade school classroom. Both 7th and 8th grade students should bring a copy of Luther's Small Catechism for class each week, so if students have not yet received a copy of this resource, it can be purchased from the church for \$20 a copy. Families should also work to complete a registration sheet and pick up a few information sheets if they have not done so already. For more information, please contact the church office.

Cune College Trip

If any high school age students, especially juniors and seniors, would be interested in possibly taking a group college visit to Concordia University Nebraska (CUNE) in Seward during this next year, please speak to Mr. Jareske in the near future to receive information about visit costs and waivers. CUNE is one of the universities in the LCMS university system, and they have a variety of programs of study, including several opportunities for those considering church work.

High School Youth Meetings

Coming off of our LCMS Youth Gathering planning meetings last year and the Gathering itself this past summer, we have decided to begin offering a regular youth meeting specifically for 9th through 12th grade youth students. Each month we gather to share a meal, study the Bible, and engage in a little fellowship, and we would love to see you there! Monthly meetings tend to move around based on other events taking place on the calendar, so please make sure to check the weekly church announcements, our Facebook page, church website, and the monthly church calendar to keep up to date about meetings and other youth events. That being said, we have been, to this point, meeting in the Zion youth room from 5PM to 7PM each month, but if a different time would work better, we are open to suggestions. Otherwise, if you are considering joining us for this new opportunity, consider bringing a friend along, as well! A meal is typically served, and no money is needed for this portion of the meeting.

🎵 Sounds of the Season at Zion 🎵

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 5:00–6:45 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.

All are invited to attend and share in the fellowship, faith, and joy of the Christmas season. Come hungry, come joyful, and come ready to celebrate the true Light of the World! ✨

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

FOOD DRIVE

HELP FILL OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY



OUR LOCAL PANTRY IS IN NEED OF:

- CLEANING PRODUCTS
- DISH SOAP
- TOILET PAPER
- BODY WASH
- TOMATO JUICE
- CANNED VEGGIES
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT

(ANY NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS--
NOTHING PAST DATE OR HOME CANNED)

NOVEMBER 10TH TO NOVEMBER 26TH

STUDENTS MAY DROP OFF ITEMS TO THEIR
CLASSROOM. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE
COMMUNITY CAN DROP OFF ITEMS AT THE
SCHOOL OR CHURCH OFFICE.

"SERVE ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE--GALATIANS 5:13



THANK YOU!

**to all those who supported
the Donrel Herbolsheimer
Gallery of Grace Art
auction.**



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

WILD GAME FEED

MARCH 7, 2026

5:00PM - PIERCE PAVILLION

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
	6	7	8	

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH VOTERS MEETING

VOTER'S MEETING OCTOBER 22, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Krueger.

Mr. Jareske opened with prayer.

Roll call was taken. Mike Krueger made a motion to approve and accept the new voters. Tyler Krueger seconded. Motion carried. New voters are Lynette Koehler, Holly Koehler, Brett Suckstorf, Carol Lutz, Rich Lutz, David Beikmann, Tony Svehla, Traci Collison and Beau Collison. Welcome.

Minutes from the previous Voter's Meeting and also the two special Voter's Meetings were read and Andrew Wolf made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Eric Retzlaff seconded. Motion carried.

Greg Warneke gave the General Treasurer's report. Submitted as written. Tyler Krueger made a motion to accept the report. Andrew Wolf seconded. Motion carried.

Mike Baumann gave the Mission Treasurer's report and Endowment report. Submitted as written. Mike moved to accept his report. Doug Cromwell seconded. Motion carried.

Jerald Wachter gave the Statistical report. Jerald made a motion to accept his report. Tyler Krueger seconded. Motion carried. Jerald then gave his report for the Elders. Submitted as written. Jerald moved to accept his report. Brady Bretschneider seconded. Motion carried.

Brady Bretschneider gave the Trustee Report. Submitted as written. In addition, Brady stated that there is a need to check into using the bathrooms in the old school for VB and BB games. They have been trying to get more fobs for the doors at church and school. The business that provided them has been extremely difficult to work with. Brady made a motion to approve \$4500 to cover the cost of redoing the flooring in the old preschool room and taking out part of the wall, leaving the sink area intact. Tyler Krueger seconded. Motion carried. They will use the old preschool room as a lunchroom, then the gym will not be used for lunches. The carpet has to be removed to meet code to qualify as a lunchroom. It was also mentioned that Farmers Pride and Land O Lakes have matching funds available for playground equipment. Brady moved to accept his report. Andrew Wolf seconded. Motion carried.

Tyler Krueger gave the Board of Education Report. Submitted as written. Tyler moved to accept his report. Brady Bretschneider seconded. Motion carried.

David Beikmann gave his Administrative Report on the school. Submitted as written. David moved to accept his report. Brady Bretschneider seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. J gave the DCE report. Submitted as written. Mr. J moved to accept his report. Jerald Wachter seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business. Matching funds has \$10,000 left.

Chairman Krueger thanked several members of our congregation that donated countless hours to help with asbestos removal, among many other things, which in turn saved our congregation thousands of dollars.

Gallery of Grace will be held November 1-9, with a showcase in the school gym of the various art pieces after church, November 9th until 1. All bidding will be online and the art is available to be looked at on the school website.

New Business. Election of Officers. Chairman Krueger opened the floor for any additions to the ballot. With no new additions, Brady Bretschneider made a motion to accept the ballot as written. Andrew Wolf seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman- Mike Krueger

Vice-Chairman- Andy White

Secretary- Sherri Krueger

Financial Secretary- Jan Zierke and Willie Wesemann

General Treasurer- Greg Warneke

Mission Treasurer- Mike Baumann

Board of Elders- Blaine Bockelman, Brandon Hamilton, Beau Collison, Tom Weinrich

Board of Trustees- Brady Bretschneider, Tony Svehla

Board of Education- Andrew Wolf, Brett Suckstorf, Jeff Meier

Jerald Wachter also said we need volunteers to attend District Synod Meetings and State Conventions. Looking someone to step up.

There needs to be a Wedding/Activity Coordinator type of group formed. The Trustees will look into setting this up with the necessary guidelines and volunteers will fill in to be present, especially during wedding rehearsals and the actual wedding.

Brady Bretschneider moved to adjourn. Andrew Wolf seconded. Motion carried.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Krueger, Secretary

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSION FUND/ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT

APRIL 1, 2025 THRU JUNE 30, 2025

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION FUND	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>REMITTANCES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
BALANCE FORWARD			\$3,878.00
2ND QUARTER	\$11,407.00		\$15,285.00
NEBRASKA DISTRICT LCMS		\$14,785.00	\$500.00
SCHOLARSHIP FUND - BALANCE			\$10,796.12
ENDOWMENT INVESTMENT INCOME	\$603.56		\$11,399.68
SOUND SYSTEM FUND PHASE 1 BALANCE			\$4,319.80
SOUND SYSTEM FUND PHASE 2 BALANCE			\$3,696.53
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY FUND - BALANCE			\$1,775.40
EASTER BREAKFAST - BALANCE			\$1,622.78
FREE WILL DONATIONS	\$616.00		\$2,238.78
HYVEE WEST		\$488.94	\$1,749.84
MIDWEST BANK CHECKING ACCOUNT INTEREST			\$72.10
2ND QUARTER	\$14.28		\$86.38
TRANSFER TO GENERAL ACCOUNT		\$72.10	\$14.28
MEMORIAL FUND - BALANCE			\$3,796.51
BENEVOLENCE FUND - BALANCE			\$3,214.98
TOM'S SERVICE GAS-NON MEMBER		\$49.45	\$3,165.53
CHOIR FUND - BALANCE			\$869.30
ORGAN FUND - BALANCE			\$13,211.00
PAX MUSIC FUND - BALANCE			\$2,076.24
VICAR FUND - BALANCE			\$7,006.72
2ND QUARTER	\$1,635.00		\$8,641.72
TRANSFER TO GENERAL ACCOUNT		\$6,399.98	\$2,241.74
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND - BALANCE			\$21,216.36
ENDOWMENT INVESTMENT INCOME	\$2,910.00		\$24,126.36
ENDOWMENT MIDWEST BANK CD #2053	\$260.85		\$24,387.21
LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND #625&071	\$142.15		\$24,529.36
DIRECT DEPOSITS	\$415.00		\$24,944.36
MIDWEST BANK ACCOUNT INTEREST	\$12.90		\$24,957.26
FURNACE LOAN		\$979.62	\$23,977.64
JOHNSONS INC-HVAC MAINT. PLAN		\$1,105.00	\$22,872.64
THE GLASS EDGE-TEMPERED GLASS		\$339.00	\$22,533.64
MR SPRINKLER-IRRIGATION REPAIRS		\$450.00	\$22,083.64
BISWINGER GLASS-NEW KITHCHEN DOOR-LOCKS		\$3,576.36	\$18,507.28
NORTHWEST ELECTRIC-REFURB DIMMER		\$636.00	\$17,871.28
JOHNSON ELECTRIC-RECONNECT DIMMER		\$270.00	\$17,601.28



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

www.lhm.org

DAILY DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Lutheran Hour Ministries Daily Devotions this year are written by multiple authors and follow a weekly schedule based to the Three-Year Lectionary Series C found in the Lutheran Service Book. Try them for your family devotion time.

Listen to LHM's **Daily Devotions** at:
<https://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions>

SERMON SCHEDULE:

November 16

"The Name on the Front"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Mercy is an others-focused attitude because God is an others-first God.
(Romans 12:5-6)

November 23

"An Unlikely King"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies

Christ is the King of an unlikely kingdom. Dr. Chad Lakies describes that kingdom's seemingly upside-down, illogical logic.
(Philippians 2:5-11)

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)

LWML Agape Circle

October 8, 2025

Zion's LWML Agape Circle met on Wednesday, October 8, at the church. Jacque Falter gave a devotion " God's Word Is The Source Of Our Joy " and she also shared her church journey. DCE Derek Jareske led the bible study by Karla Koehler "We Work For The Lord ".

President Lynette Koehler called the meeting to order with 9 members present. The secretary report was read and approved. The treasurers report was read and approved.

Thank you notes were read from Mission Central and The Orphan Grain Train for the monetary donations we made to them.

There were 5 members that showed up to clean the church kitchen. We will look into picking 1 or 2 more months to clean.

The Fall Gathering In Gratitude will be on Saturday, October 18, at Grace Lutheran Church in Norfolk. Guest speaker will be Dana Wocken-fuss from The Well. Monetary donations will go to The Well.

We had election of officers and the same officers still have their positions; Vice President - Sylvia Furstenau and Treasurer - Jolene Smith.

Sign up sheet went around for next years handbook.

Since we already said the pledge during the bible study we closed with the taking of minutes and prayers. Dessert was served by hostess, Jacque Falter. Next months meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 12 at 7 p.m. at the church. Hostess will be Jolene Smith.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Koehler, Secretary





Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
520 E. Main Street
Pierce, NE 68767