

# Zíon & Carpío Lutheran Newsletter December 2024

Zion Lutheran Church 413 Dewey Street PO Box 98 Berthold, ND 58718 Phone: 701-453-3650

Carpio Lutheran Church 200 2nd St W Carpio, ND 58725 Phone: 701-468-5941

#### Pastor:

George Schuessler (701) 453-3121 (701) 720-6839

Carpio Worship: 9am Fellowship/S.S.: 10am Zion Worship: 11am

Our Mission is to proclaim the good news of God to all people so that, they will become disciples of Jesus Christ

# HAVE A "MARY" CHRISTMAS! Rev. George Schuessler

"So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart." (Luke 2:16-19) Do you think Mary was comfortable?

Imagine a young girl's expectations and dreams of being engaged to a handsome carpenter who lived in a beautifully crafted house in Nazareth. Then the sudden realization of being with child, an out of the blue command to journey to Bethlehem for a Census, a late arrival that heard that "there was no place for them in the Inn." Her first born son being birthed in the cold of a strange stable among animals with only an animal feeding trough as a crib and the kindness of strangers to assist her delivery. Do you think Mary was comfortable?

What are you imagining? What expectations and dreams do you have for what is to be? Real life is seldom as beautiful as our view of the Christmas Gospel seen through rose colored glasses. Truth is Mary was not comfortable on the first Christmas. Truth is you too may have some unmet expectations and questions in your journey of life. Like Mary, God may not meet your expectations and dreams. Like Mary, God may move you beyond your own dreams.

The question before each of us at Christmas is, "Can you trust God?" The Bible notes that Mary "treasured all these words" and she carefully considered,

"pondered them" in the depths of "her heart." Scripture describes a young maiden named Mary as one who is living her faith. In humility she gives human expectations and dreams over to God who replaces them with his dreams, plans, and vision for what life is to be. Mary in faith is imagining God's vision for what is to be even though it may not be comfortable, but she is trusting that God's way will always be better!

Who could have imagined what we have all journeyed through since November 2015? Some of the changes made have not been comfortable, but none the less, God was always with each of us on the journey. In fact He continues to be incarnate among us in His vision of what makes life better for us all even now! The truth about life is not the realizations of our expectations and dreams, but is anchored in the Word & Will of God through the love of Jesus.

Mary in faith journeyed from Bethlehem to the foot of the cross and through the light of the resurrection of Jesus to become the Mother above all mothers in the unimaginable joy of life eternal with her son and our Lord and Savior.

Amid all that takes place in life, we like Mary journey in Faith and are better for it. We can trust God, for truth and joy are not fulfilled in our expectations and dreams, but in the Word & Will of God through the love of Jesus, the true treasure. Ladora and I have been privileged to humbly serve Christ Jesus in a ministry with you, a true treasure. This Christmas brings once again the Word & Will of God through the love of Jesus that moves us in a journey that is even better than before. May each of us have a "Mary" Christmas and unimaginable joy! Amen!

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#### ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is every Sunday at 10am unless otherwise noted



12/1	Christmas Program Practice
12/8	Christmas Program Practice
	SS & LL Christmas Program at 12pm
12/11	Early Out from School – Christmas Program Dress
	Rehearsal in Carpio with Pizza
12/15	Christmas Program in Carpio 10am
	All students should be in Carpio by 9am for a quick

Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> is an early out. We will be having a joint Christmas Program Practice at Carpio. If your child rides Nikki Bloms' bus, please let her know that your child is to be dropped off at the Church. Other kids that need rides can gather in the commons area at the school – there will be a few adults that will drive them down to Carpio for practice and back to the Berthold School. Please plan to pick up your kids from either the Carpio Church or the Berthold School by 4-4:15.

#### CARPIO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is every Sunday at 10am unless otherwise noted

12/1	Christmas Program Practice
12/8	Christmas Program Practice
12/11	Early Out from School – Christmas Program Dress
	Rehearsal in Carpio with Pizza
12/15	Christmas Program in Carpio 10am
	All students should be at the church by 9am for a
	quick rehearsal





#### CONFIRMATION

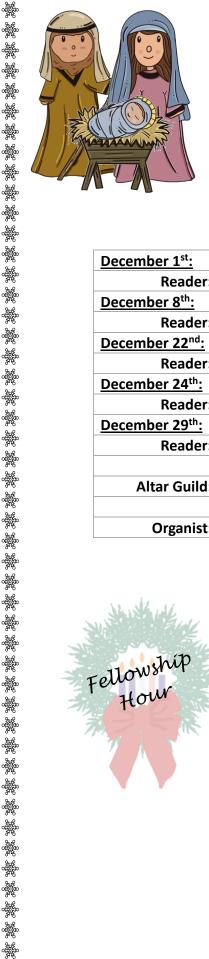
Class location alternates every week between Carpio  $\mathcal{E}_{T}$  Zion All Class times are 6:30pm unless otherwise noted

,			
Date	Location Lesson		Memory Work
12/4	Carpio	Session 14: Revelation to John	Revelation 21:3-4
12/11	Zion	Session 1: Justification by Faith	Romans 3:28
12/18	Carpio	Session 2: The Cross of Christ Jesus	Colossians 2:13-14
12/25	No Class	Christmas Break	None

### <u>LUTHER LEAGUE</u>

The Luther League is hosting a Christmas party for the Sunday School on December 8th following worship. We will be having lunch, decorating cookies, making Christmas cards, assembling care packages, and a Christmas craft! All Sunday school and Luther League kids are welcome to come!





# SERVING IN DECEMBER AT CARPIO

Usher:	Altar Guild:
Austin Moen	Cathy Armstrong



#### SERVING IN DECEMBER AT ZION

December 1 <sup>st</sup> :						
Reader:	Jill Brown	Usher(s):	Needed			
December 8 <sup>th</sup> :						
Reader:	Barb Cooper	Usher(s):	Needed			
December 22 <sup>nd</sup> :						
Reader:	Laurie Gathman	Usher(s):	Needed			
December 24th:						
Reader:	Lyle Gorseth	Usher(s):	Needed			
December 29th:						
Reader:	Bob Grant	Usher(s):	Needed			
Altar Guild:	Altar Guild: Ginger Lautenschlager & Darla Schweitzer					
Organist: Kristin Berg						



# Zion Fellowship during the month of December will be served by the Lutheran Men.

12/1	Jim Haaland						
	Frank Shelkey						
	Seth Gravesen						
12/8	Lyle Gorseth						
	Alan Lee						
	Bob Grant						
12/15	No Church at Zion						
	SS Christmas Program at Carpio, 10am						
12/22	Todd Finke						
	Chad Schweitzer						
	Kyle Schepp						
12/29	Wes Hagen						
	Marvin Heller						
	Myron Rovig						

#### <u>ZLCW</u>



A huge thank you to everyone who donated items for the raffle, and for those who sold tickets and bought tickets for this fundraiser. We truly appreciate your support!

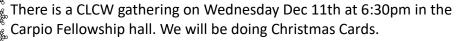
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am – ZLCW Christmas Party. All women are welcome to attend. Come for food, fellowship, and maybe a skit or two!

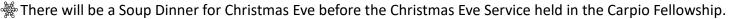
#### **2024 ZLCW Raffle Winners**

Pk-Blue Quilt	Blenda Burkhart	Red Tin Basket	Susan Finke
Cenex Gift Basket	Kim Bloms	Dish Towels	Susie Olson
Ceramic Nativity Set	Char Demaria	Black & Red Quilt	Justin Hagen
John Deere hat & race car	Barb Cooper	Dish Towels	Dawna Helfrich
Pumpkin Decoration	Carey Burke	Grey Sweatshirt	Gayle Hanna
Green/Blue Quilt	Jeri Novak	Seasoning Basket	Marie Brown
Crocheted Nativity	John Bryantt	Caterpillar Toy	Ashley Brown
Red Throw	Nettie DeBilt	Soup Mix Basket	Kylin Bryantt
Harvest Basket	Joyce Tudahl	Lefse – 1 dozen	Sierra Wirtz
Christmas Sweatshirt	Deb Hagen	Lefse – 1 dozen	Helen Grant
Big Fall Goody Basket	Lorelei Chapin	Snowman	Brenda Enga
3 Tin Trees	Eleanor Seiffert	Merry Christmas Sign	Carmen Seaver
<b>Christmas Quilted Hanging</b>	Natalie Helfrich	Framed Butterfly Pic	Janna Idland
Framed Locomotive Pic	Jarrod Borud	Framed Flower Pic	Jenna Deaver
Wooden Flag	Sandy Heller	Sheep & Flower Canvas	Cheri Seiffert
Pillow Cases	Sharolyn Molnar	Pillow Cases	Connie Hagen

## <u>CLCW</u>

There will be a CLCW Meeting held on Dec 8th at 10am in the Church Fellowship hall









#### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you to everyone who donated shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child. We donated 22 boxes this year. This simple gesture will truly help to make Christmas Magical for children in need this year.

Year	Shoeboxes Donated
2022	20
2023	19
2024	22

#### శ్వేక్తు డ్వేక్టు డ్మేక్టు డ్వేక్టు డ్వే ZION CHURCH COUNCIL

#### November 13, 2024, 7pm Zion Church Council Meeting

Meeting called to order by President Chad Schweitzer. Pastor George led a word of prayer.

🗯 Council Members present: Drew Bryantt, Nicki Shelley, Klint Hanson, Chad Schweitzer, Rachel Schieve, Curt 🕷 Schumacher, Pastor George, Kylene Hornberger. Absent: Corine Christman, Gary Gathman, Alechia Neubauer.

Read and reviewed the monthly council meeting minutes from the previous meeting on Oct 9, 2024. Motion by Drew to approve the minutes as written, Second by Curt. Motion carried. Read and reviewed the Special Zion meeting at the Joint Council meeting. Rachel motion to amend the minutes in the last paragraph to read "at 11:00am on Nov 24, 2024", Second by Nicki. Motion carried.

Kylene Hornberger 🝇 FINANCIAL REPORT:

**October** 

General Fund beginning Balance: 56,640.30 October Income: \$ 4,459.07 \$ October Expenses: 7,243.82 \$ General Fund ending Balance: 53,855.55 \$ Pastoral Account beginning Balance: 736.82 \$ Pastoral Account ending Balance: 599.32

#### Discussion:

Motion to approve the financial report by Curt, Second by Rachel. Motion Carried.

**TEAM REPORTS:** 

Worship & Music: Curt Schumaier & Klint Hanson

Songs picked out till the first week in January 2025.

Evangelism: Nicki Shelkey

Nothing to report.

ဳ Stewardship & Finance: Alechia Neubauer

Nothing to report.

🏶 Board of Ed.: Rachel Schieve & Drew Bryantt

Pumpkin painting & bowling went great.

Met with Carpio Board of Ed about having a joint Christmas program at Carpio Dec 15 @ 10am. Motion made by Drew to have Joint Christmas program on Dec 15 in Carpio at 10am. Second by Curt. Motion carried.

Gary Gathman & Klint Hanson

Corine Christman 💒 Luther League:

LL annual bake sale on Nov 24, during fellowship. Charity Shopping right after church that day.

Maintenance & Property:

Fix fan in the women's bathroom.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Oct 1-31: 110 in person contacts.

Oct 4th: Visitation at Elwood Vista & Thompson-Larson Funeral Home in Minot

Oct 5th: Wedding preparations for Bauer/Hanlan Oct 18th, 2025. Wedding in Zion.

Oct 7th: Officiated the Gary Springer funeral at Carpio.

Oct 9th: Chaired the Ecumenical Council meeting at Zion.

Oct 19th: Officiated the Burke/Bachmeier wedding at Zion.

Took a tree out of parsonage backyard, which had fell over.

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>: Met with Rev. Brad Dokken in Bismarck.

Oct 28th: Visitation at Mountrail Bethel Home in Stanley.

Oct 29th: Visitation at Souris Valley Care in Velva.

Oct 30th: Visitation at Somerset Court in Minot.

Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>: Attended "Luke's Gospel" in Bread of Life Church in Minot.

Nov 13th: Will Chair Ecumenical Council meeting at Zion. Julie Deaver will take over in Jan. 2025

Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>: Will teach 1<sup>st</sup> Communion class for the Parish in Zion from 10am to 12pm.

Nov 29th: Will officiate the Walker Gene Neshem baptism at Zion (son of Cale & Kayla)

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Tufto window: Council is asking for the Women of Zion to decide the best placement.
- 2. Inspiritus (Twice Blessed) grant application for the Berthold Food Pantry and backpack program no word yet. Ladora is in contact with them. (Inspiritus grant for Zion Food Pantry & backpack program was approved).

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Need a motion to receive Pastor George's resignation letter. Motion by Curt. Second by Rachel.
- 2. Brandi Marum has asked to transfer out of Zion to Lebanon Lutheran of Amidon, ND. Motion by Klint. Second by Nicki.
- 3. Information: 2025 Zion Church Calendar Bookings Make priority after vote.

Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 5pm Ecumenical Soup & Prayer Services at Zion.

Jun 14<sup>th</sup> Shirley Ann Morrison Memorial/Burial at Wildrose Cemetery, back-up at Zion (Sheri Meier cell phone, (605) 381-7419)

Sep 20<sup>th</sup> Clay Hornberger & Madison Bartsch wedding at Zion (Madison 701-509-3284)

Oct 18<sup>th</sup> Ally Bauer & Trever Hanlan wedding at Zion (Ally 701-509-7821)

- 4. A New Facebook page for Zion Lutheran Berthold has been created. An Instagram page has been created but having trouble getting them to connect with each other!!
- 5. Pastor George relayed that Heather Feland is leading bible study on Thursday morning, doing the bulletin, and worship on the Nov 17<sup>th</sup>. Pastor wants our permission to sit out of these things. Motion made by Klint to allow Pastor to have Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> off to allow Heather to lead the following above, except for emergency. Seconded by Rachel.
- 6. Bernhard & Laura Wold Mission 2024 list was discussed. \$7,500 is approved by the budget that is supported through Harvest Festival Offerings. Motion made by Klint to let Kylene add money to each recipient if extra funds are received. Second by Drew.
- 7. Kids Academy Berthold Community calendar ad is \$60. Motion made by Curt to have the ad in the calendar. Second by Rachel.

Next Zion Council Meeting will be held on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:30pm. Joint Council Meeting will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in Carpio.

Meeting was adjourned & closed with The Lords Prayer.

#### BERTHOLD ZION FOOD PANTRY

The Berthold Food Pantry is open the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month

Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm and 5pm-7pm

If the above times do not work for you, you may make an appointment for an alternate day and time by calling:

Ladora Schuessler – 701-562-0041 or 701-453-3121 or Carol Rovig – 701-720-6028

In light of Pastor's retirement and pending move, we need a volunteer or two to assist Carol in operating the Food
Pantry, please call Carol Rovig with your interest. Thanks!



#### ZION CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 11/24/24

A Congregational meeting was called to order by President Chad Schweitzer. The meeting was held at the beginning of the regular church service.

The purpose of the congregational meeting was to have the congregation vote to help guide the Zion Church Council on how to proceed with calling a minister.

Discussion took place regarding what the direction would consist of.

Chad stated that the church has 3 options:

- Traditional Call a new pastor out right
- Enter in the TEEM program
- Enter in the SAM (synod authorized minister) program

Heather Feland was asked to come forward to speak on each option and what it would entail.

Questions from the congregation were answered and a ballot was given to each voting member.

The ballots were counted and President Chad read the vote.

- 18 in favor of traditional calling of a pastor
- 22 in favor of entering into the TEEM program
- 19 in favor of entering into the SAM program

President Chad thanked all members for their input on assisting the council in the direction of Zion/Carpio churches.



#### MOUNTRAIL BETHEL HOME

The MBH Auxiliary thanks the people of Zion Lutheran Church for their donation of \$552 for the MBH Auxiliary Bakeless Bake Sale. The Auxiliary's mission is to do things just for the residents of MBH. Our funds to do things for the residents all come from our Fundraisers and donations. Now as they are building the new addition for resident's rooms we have a bigger list to help with the Resident's needs.

Our next Fundraiser is February 12<sup>th</sup> - our Love Luncheon. We serve roast beef sandwiches, salad and pies and also have a raffle drawing. This is held at the Stanley Seniors Citizens.

## <u>A MERRY CHRISTMAS EXTRA!</u>

Through the generosity of Marvin & Sandy Heller, Myron & Carol Rovig, with the Help of their Thrivent Cards for charity purchases, and your Food Pantry we are able to provide Hams and all the fixings for a Special Christmas Dinner for the first 20 families who use the Food Pantry on December 10<sup>TH</sup>. This will be extra and not count toward maximum weight.



Thanks to all who donate to the Food Pantry to help people have a Merry Christmas!

Chad Schweitzer – President	Gary Gathman	Ale	chia Neubaue	r	
Curt Schumaier – Vice President	Klint Hanson		ki Shelkey		
Corine Christman – Secretary	Rachel Schieve	Drew Bryantt			
·			•		
General Account Beginning Balance				\$	56,640.30
INCOME:					
	Offerings:				
	10/06/2024	\$	1,512.00		
\$3,922.00	10/13/2024	\$	1,082.00		
Offering Total	10/20/2024	\$	457.00		
	10/28/2024	\$	871.00		
Carpio Utilitie		\$	241.81		
Simply Giving		\$	290.40		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	d Trust – Interest	\$	4.86		
TOTAL INCOME				\$	4,459.07
EXPENSES:					
Western ND Synod		\$	392.20		
Church Mutual – Insurance		\$	687.50		
MDU (Church - \$44.72; Parsonage - \$39.55)		\$	84.27		
SRT (Church - \$95.62; Parsonage - \$113.44)	- <b>\</b>	\$	209.06		
City of Berthold (Church - \$45.25; Parsonage - \$55.95	o)	\$	101.20		
Xcel Energy (Church - \$218.70; Parsonage - \$74.48)		\$	293.18		
Farmers Union Oil – Wasp Killer Spray		\$	12.77		
Concordia Publishing House – Kids Lutheran downloa	30	\$	19.99 20.25		
	Marketplace Food – Communion Wine				
1517 Media (Baptism Cert – Sponsors & Child)			47.72 350.00		
Curt Schumaier (Custodian)  Kylene Hornberger (Treasurer)		\$	650.00		
Kershawn Michel (Secretary)		\$	500.00		
Kershawn Michel (Reimb. stamps \$10.10 & office sup	nlies \$15 58)	\$	25.68		
Kristin Berg (piano) – Sep.	7piles \$15.56)	\$	225.00		
Kristin Berg (piano) – Sep.  Kristin Berg (piano)		\$	75.00		
Dawna Helfrich (piano) – Sep.		\$	75.00		
Dawna Helfrich (piano)		\$	150.00		
Julie Deaver (piano)		\$	75.00		
George Schuessler (Reimb. cable Jul-Sep)		\$	150.00		
Transfer to Pastor Account		\$	3,100.00		
Total Expenses		т		\$	7,243.82
	General Accou	ınt En	ding Balance	\$	53,855.55
	0000	25	^		

# <u>PASTOR PAYROLL ACCOUNT</u> (JOINT WITH CARPIO) OCTOBER 2024

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Pastor Acct Beg	inni	ng Balance	\$ 736.82	
Zion Deposits	\$	3,100.00		
Carpio Deposits	\$	3,100.00		
Total Deposits			\$ 6,200.00	
Expenses:				
Portico (Pastor's Benefits)	\$	1,762.37		
Pastor George Payroll – October	\$	4,575.13		
Total Expenses:			\$ 6,337.50	
Pastor Acct		\$ 599.32		

#### CARPIO LUTHERAN CHURCH IS LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP

Carpio Worship is on the **Zion & Carpio Lutheran Churches FACEBOOK Page**.



It will also be posted to be viewed at any time that you choose. For those who choose to use the ONLINE version of worship, your OFFERINGS may be mailed to the Financial Secretary of your congregation.

#### **CARPIO FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

Erica Moen PO Box 129 Carpio, ND 58725

#### **ZION FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

Connie Hagen 6101-310<sup>th</sup> St NW Berthold, ND 58718

# The Berthold School Music Department proudly presents



The Elementary School Christmas Program
Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>
2pm

The High School Christmas Concert Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 7pm

Both events will take place in the old gym and are free to attend.



# PARISH BIBLE STUDY

Meeting only once this month on December  $5^{TH}$  at 10am in the Carpio Fellowship Hall. All are welcome as we discuss the Bible readings for the  $2^{ND}$  Sunday of Advent.



General Account Beginning Balance	\$ 40	,866.03	
Current Special Fund Balance		,975.00	
Thrivent Endowment Fund		,606.60	
Thrivent Contingency Fund		,127.78	
INCOME			
Offerings			
11.3.24	\$ 1	,066.50	
11.7.24	\$	218.00	
11.10.24	\$ 1	,725.00	
11.17.24	\$	455.00	
Total Offering:	\$ 3	,464.50	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3	,464.50	
EXPENSES:			
Electric (MDU)	\$	89.60	
Internet/Phone (SRT)	\$	95.86	
Water (NPRWD)	\$	73.93	
1517 Media	\$	63.04	
Cathy Armstrong (Secretary)	\$	400.00	
Heather Feland (Treasurer)	\$	400.00	
Greg Feland (Custodian)	\$	400.00	
Pay to Zion Church for Pastors Account	\$ 3	,100.00	
Dakota Fire Extinguisher	\$	34.79	
Western ELCA Synod	\$	500.00	
Metigoshe Ministries	\$	200.00	





#### MEALS ON WHEELS - CARPIO

The Meals on Wheels is every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11am-1230pm at the Carpio Senior Citizen's Center. You can call Heather Feland at 701-721-4595 or Tyrell Jung at 701-389-2627 to either reserve or cancel a meal. The cost to prepare a meal is \$11.41 – a donation of \$5.00 is suggested and appreciated. To Go meals are available on request.

	MONDAY		WEDNESDAY		FRIDAY			
2	Crispy Bkd Chicken Scalloped Potatoes Carrots Mandarin Oranges Bread	4	Sloppy Joes Bun Baked Beans Tater Tots Fruit Cocktail	6	Pollock Filet Rice Lettuce w/ Dressing Apple Bread			
9	Hamburger w/ Cheese Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Apricots Bun	11	Roast Beef & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Peaches Roll	13	Chicken Fried Steak Seasoned Potatoes Broccoli/Cauliflower Apricots Bread			
16	Bratwurst & Sauerkraut Mashed Potatoes Beets Fruit Salad Bun	18	Chicken Kiev O'Brien Potatoes Green Beans Pears Bread	20	Beef Stroganoff & Noodles Carrots Broccoli Banana			
23	Meatloaf Sm Baked Potato Peas Peaches Bread	25	Merry Christmas!!	27	Lasagna Green Beans Peaches Lettuce w/ Dressing Bread			
30	Spaghetti & Meat Italian Veggies Corn Fruit Cocktail Garlic Toast		Merry CHRISTMAS SHAPPY New Year	MENU	J SUBJECT TO CHANGE			

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS all who are ill.

CONTINUED PRAYERS for all nursing home residents and homebound members.

Prayers

\*\*CONTINUED SAFETY for all military personnel who are stationed around the world.

PLEASE NOTE that due to privacy issues, we cannot mention names in prayers without consent.



#### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Carpio Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion – 5pm Soup Supper to follow

Zion Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion – 7pm

#### WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

Worship Time Change is again upon us as we enter into the New Year of 2025. The New Worship Schedule will run each Sunday from Jan. 5<sup>TH</sup> through April 27<sup>TH</sup>.

Starting January 5<sup>TH</sup>: 9am ZION Worship Service 10am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School Hour 11am CARPIO Worship Service



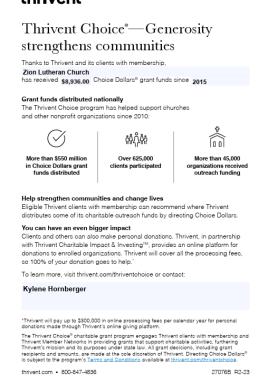


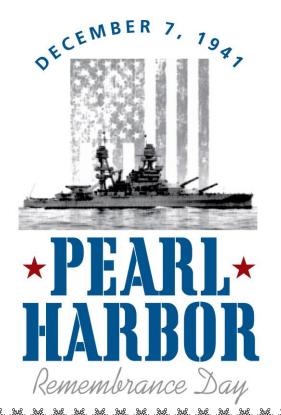
### SIMPLY GIVING® PROGRAM

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? At no cost to the congregation? Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsors a program called Simply Giving®, which offers this service for people who wish to have offerings transferred electronically to their church's

account. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with their intended offerings, and it will keep you from having to make up the difference later. The Council has approved this program for those who choose to participate in it. Contact the church office for more details.

#### thrivent.





#### FIRST COMMUNION

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, six kids from both congregations gathered at Zion for their First Communion Class. The children and their parents listened to Pastor George teach about how Communion is a sacred meal in which Christ comes to us in bread and wine. They were joined by their families during Worship on November 24<sup>th</sup> to partake in their First Communion.

The children to receive their First Communion were, from Carpio, Rhett Bloms and Bentley Leier; from Zion, Kylin Bryantt, Will Deaver, Amzee Idland, Olivia Michel and Finley Schieve.



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# THE HEARTFELT CHRISTMAS TREE

There is a special Christmas tree That lives within the heart. It isn't pine, and can't be bought At any store or mart.

Each branch holds some fond memory Of joyful Christmas cheer, Reminding us of those we love And always will hold dear.

The gifts beneath this Christmas tree Are stacked up very high With kindly deeds of thoughtfulness That one could never buy.

The Heartfelt Christmas tree expands Through every passing year With lovely gifts and blessings Having come from far and near.

Atop this tree a star shines bright, While angels sing God's praise; Rejoice! The Christ-child's Love is shared, And blesses ALL our days.

-Peggy Ferrell



December						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pam Worship at Carpio with Holy Communion 10am Fellowship/No Sunday	2 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	3		5 10am Parish Bible Study in Carpio	6 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio	<b>7</b> <b>10am</b> 4-H Club Meeting at Carpio
Pam Worship at Carpio with Holy Communion	11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	10 10am-12pm Food Pantry Open 5pm-7pm Food Pantry Open	11 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio 2pm Joint Sunday School Christmas Program Practice at Carpio 6:30pm Confirmation Class at Zion 7:30pm Zion Church Council	No Parish Bible Study	13 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio	14
Carpio - Joint Sunday School Christmas Program	16 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	17		19 No Parish Bible Study	20 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio	21 Winter Begins
10am Fellowship/No Sunday ichool	23 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	24 Christmas Eve 5pm Candlelight Worship in Carpio with Holy Communion 7pm Candlelight Worship in Zion with Holy Communion	25 Merry Christmas!! No Confirmation	<b>26</b> No Parish Bible Study	27 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio	28
Pam Worship at Carpio 10am Fellowship/No Sunday School	30 11am-12:30pm Meals on Wheels in Carpio 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	31 New Year's Eve	Worship Time Change: January 5 <sup>th</sup> through April 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2025: 9am - Zion Worship 10am - Fellowship/Sunday School 11am - Carpio Worship			