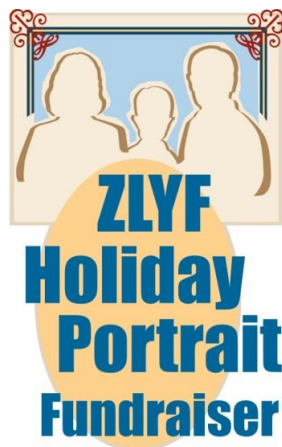


Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

November 2024



ZLYF Holiday Portraits Fundraiser

Tristina Rodriguez

ZLYF will be hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, November 16th. We will be offering studio style portraits for families, couples, groups and individuals at a discounted cost. Sessions will be available between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. You will have a choice between 3 different backgrounds. Prices vary. Cash payments only. You will be purchasing the digital images to print and/or share as you would like, delivered to you via email. Portraits will be taken in the church conference room.

Come support Zion's youth group while capturing cherished memories. All proceeds go to ZLYF. Call or text Tristina Rodriguez (photographer) at 760-646-3224 with questions or to make a reservation.



THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 at 7:00 P.M.

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Shellee Zillner

Thank you to everyone who attended this year's Oktoberfest celebration. Thank you especially to Edy Busch for helping me set up and to Chuck Knapp for cooking the brats for us. Food and fellowship were in full swing during the potluck.

Fellowship will host the annual Thanksgiving Pie Social on Wednesday, November 27, This in the conference room following the Thanksgiving Eve service. Coffee, hot chocolate, and paper goods will be provided. Come join us in celebrating all of God's blessings, even if you cannot bring a dessert to share. Come and enjoy the fellowship.

Finally, we will be celebrating our annual Christmas Progressive Dinner on Friday, December 13. We begin with appetizers at 5:30 PM. Three homes are needed to host. Remember, host families are NOT responsible for providing all of the food, just the paper goods, drinks, and location. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Shellee Zillner at 760-686-4025. A sign-up sheet for those wishing to attend will be in the church narthex beginning November 27th.

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31



Read the Bible in 2 years

Today's Light

Lani Sanders

Week 45 begins November 4 with Psalm 12
Week 46 begins November 11 with Psalm 48
Week 47 begins November 18 with Psalm 83
Week 48 begins November 25 with Psalm 119
(For more information contact Lani Sanders.)

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Petal Pushers

Tristina Rodriguez

ZLYF has reserved 20 spots for Petal Pushers on Monday, December 30th, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00.p.m. Come decorate the Rose Parade floats with us. Anyone 13 and older is welcome. You need to sign up prior to our registration date. You must wear a Petal Pushers shirt and/or sweatshirt. Buy your own on site or borrow one of ours. Contact Tristina Rodriguez 760-646-3224 if you have any questions or would like to sign up.



Linda Bowers

For the month of **November** the Community Services Board will be collecting **items for holiday dinners**. The following items will be greatly needed and gratefully accepted: broth, canned cranberries, canned fruit cocktail and apple sauce, Jiffy bread mixes, instant potatoes, boxed stuffing, canned corn, beans and olives, instant and canned gravy, and canned yams. Please place your donations in one of the collection boxes placed near the Preschool office, each Day School classroom, and in the Narthex **by Sunday, November 17**. Funds will be collected for pies, and for gift food certificates of \$20.00 to be given to seniors who can not use a full turkey meal.

Please remember outdated items cannot be accepted.

The Homeless Shelter needs diapers and baby wipes. Donations of these items will be delivered there.

Thank you!

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Save the Date

Tiffany Rodriguez

This year ZLYF will be hosting the Annual Christmas Bake Sale. Come support our church youth group on December 21st and 22nd. We will be accepting donations of both baked goods and craft items. Plan now what you might like to donate. Also if there is a favorite baked good you would like to see at our bake sale let us know. Contact Tristina 760-646-3224 with any questions.



ZLYF Nerf Battle

Tristina Rodriguez

Come have some fun with us on Saturday, November 9th, from 1-4 p.m. Bring your Nerf equipment or borrow ours. Enjoy fellowship with other ZLYF members. Invite a friend. All students in 6th through 12th grade can be a part of ZLYF. We also meet every Sunday morning during Sunday School for Bible study and fellowship. Come join us! Have questions? Call or text Tristina Rodriguez at 760-646-3224.

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Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

– Philippians 4:6-8

Blessed November! This month, as we do every year, we pause our hectic lives and remember the goodness of God. Our observance of Thanksgiving Day presents us with a perfect opportunity to refocus our priorities and to reorientate our perspectives on life. Indeed, God is good, he knows us and cares for us, and he promises to work all things together for our good. (Cf. Romans 8:28)

Still, this is easier said than done. Paul, in the reading above, both acknowledges this common struggle and encourages us to strive to trust God. Paul begins by urging us to lay our real-world anxiousness aside, putting it into the hands of God. Paul writes: ‘Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.’ (v6) Here Paul indicates that the answer to ‘anxiousness’ is thanksgiving, that is a heart that remembers that God is the one provides for all our needs. As Paul says elsewhere: ‘[It is God who] gives everyone life and breath and everything else. (Cf. Acts 17:24-27) A thankful heart puts everything into perspective. (Cf. Matthw 6:25-34; Luke 12:22-31) And even if, and when, the worst happens we know, from experience, that we can trust him. As the David writes: ‘God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.’ (Psalm 46:1-3)

Paul continues saying that as we do this, as we place our trust and confidence in God, God himself will bless us his peace. Paul points to this blessed result when he writes: ‘And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.’ (v7) This peace of God is deep and abiding and it ‘transcends’ our fallen exceptions. Still, for the people of God, this is God’s promised reality. As Jesus said in one of our Gospel readings in October, ‘With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.’ (Mark 10:27)

Paul concludes by sharing his ‘recipe’ for fighting this real-world battle writing: ‘Finally, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, focus on these things.’ (v8) This, I suggest, is where our Thanksgiving celebration comes in. Again, at Thanksgiving we turn our hearts toward God and we remind ourselves of his goodness, we ‘refocus our priorities and we reorientate our perspectives on life’ (above). We turn to God with thanksgiving. (v6)

Pastor Busch

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LORD, hear our prayers

Lani Sanders

Please remember...

- ...**Charlene Perry**, recovering from heart surgery (in rehab in Redlands)...
- ...**Frieda Gudmundson**, recovering from a stroke (in rehab)...
- ...**Margarite** (mother of Norma Gomez). hospitalized with as she story with multiple health issues...
- ...**Joann Asta**, in rehab with ongoing medical problems...
- ...**Richard Waiwood** (brother of Rob), recovering from surgery for brain cancer....
- ...**Gary Sinclair** (son of Ruth Reynolds), who is fighting a blood infection...
- ...**Doris Hinojos** (former member of Zion), who has been diagnosed with breast cancer...
- ...**April O'Hara**, suffering with health issues...
- ...**Bob Dunnerman**, on hospice and suffering with heart problems...
- ... **Lerma Bockhorn** as she continues on dialysis...
- ...**Jonah Dimas**, recovering from a medical procedure....

Let us offer Praise and Thanksgiving for...

- ...**Mark Bowers** test results...



★ **Veterans Day:** ★
Thank You for Your Service!

Glad Tidings

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Support the **ZLYF Holiday Portrait Fundraiser**; don't miss the opportunity to have family and individual **portraits** taken just in time for the holidays, and support ZLYF at the same time.

Pack a shoebox gift for **Operation Christmas Child**! Details in your narthex box, in brochures in the narthex display, or online at www.samaritnaspurse.org. Bring your box to church by Sunday, November 18.

Come join us at our annual **Pie Social** following the Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service, together celebrating all of God's blessings.

Our annual **Christmas Progressive Dinner** will be December 13. Look for the sign-up sheet in the church narthex beginning November 27th. We need 3 homes to host.

Circles of Friends are close small group faith families forming friendships to support and encourage faith in each other's lives. Sign-up now!

Please join us on Wednesdays after chapel as we **pray for Zion Lutheran School** together.

Support Zion Lutheran Church's mission—Zion Lutheran School. **Adopt a class** to faithfully pray for, every student and the teacher, by name for the school year. Pick up your class list in the narthex now.



A Lutheran school provides so much more than a standard education. Academics thrive as life is lived intentionally in faith and trust in God.

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It is hard to believe that a quarter of the school year has already passed! We had lots of exciting events in October which included a trip to the fire station, Parent/Teacher conferences, First Quarter Awards, and Fall Break. We are now ready to head into Thanksgiving as we give thanks to God for all of the blessings in our school and life.

We start off this month with ITBS testing. This is a test that the 1st through 6th grade students take every year. It tells how well the students are doing in all of the subject areas. It will take us about two weeks to completely finish the testing. After testing is completed, we will have a day off of school on November 11th in honor of Veteran's Day. We thank all of the veterans for their sacrifice and service to our country.

During the week of Thanksgiving, the teachers and Pastor Busch will be attending the All Workers Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. It takes place from November 24-26th and the theme verses are Ephesians 4:1-7. This All Workers Conference occurs every three years in our district for all of our ordained and commissioned church and school workers to attend together. There will be approximately 1500 Lutheran pastors, educators (preschool through college level), school administrators, youth leaders, music ministers and more.

We also would like to congratulate Mrs. Knapp this year on being recognized as a Jubilarian during the conference. She has been in Lutheran education for 40 years! We are so proud of her and all of the work she has put in daily to teach her students about their Savior. She truly shows her students the love of Jesus through her words and actions. Congratulations Mrs. Knapp!

Hopefully you have had a chance to check out our revamped website. There is a lot of information on our church and school. If you know anyone that is interested in a challenging, Christ-centered education, send them to our website and encourage them to give us a call at 760-243-3074.

Finally, as we pause and reflect during this time of Thanksgiving, our school and staff want to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to Zion's church congregation. We are truly thankful for your support and prayers from year to year and we pray that you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

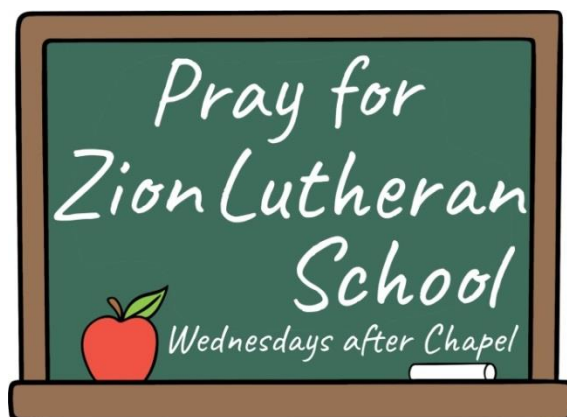
All Workers Conference theme verses:

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit - just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call - one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Ephesians 4:1-7

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Preschool News

Geoffrey Bottom

This is the season of Thanksgiving, so let's be thankful for all that our dear Lord has blessed us with and continue to pray for those in need.

Our doors will be closed on Monday, November 11, to observe Veteran's Day, honoring all our military veterans.

Operation Christmas Child National Collection Week will be held from November 18th - 25th. We hope to display a table set up in both the elementary and the preschool entries very soon; please check it out. If you have any questions please ask one of our Preschool Staff.

The week of Thanksgiving we will be closed Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th. We pray everyone has a Blessed Season of Thanksgiving!

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Zion Family Adventures with Flat Jesus



ZLYF Camping with Flat Jesus at Mojave Narrows



Coxes at Kern River



Extraordinary Women Conference
in Westlake Village



LWML Convention Hawaii



ZLYF and Flat Jesus at Gracefest

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Parents are the primary shapers of faith and life in their children... ~ Ben Freudenburg

Seven years ago we celebrated the 35th anniversary of Zion Lutheran School. Many former students came home to Zion to celebrate with us, and several who couldn't come made videos to share during the service. Hundreds of names were posted and a huge number 35 with hundreds of pictures in it reminded us of all the students—and families of students—we had touched in those 35 years. Students and families who experienced the grace and mercy of God through Christ in their life every day at school, because life—all parts of life—is lived in God's love at this school. Not perfectly, of course, but none-the-less, lived in the love of God. What a blessing to see some of the fruits of our ministry!

Zion Lutheran School is our church's mission. We have the blessed opportunity to participate in our mission in several ways. First, pray for our school, the children and their teachers! Along with praying for the school as a whole, please pick up a class list and commit to pray for each child and teacher in the class every day. What a difference those few minutes of your time will make in those lives! Also consider celebrating their learning and achievements with them occasionally by attending one of their programs or chapel (9:15 on Wednesdays in the church). They will experience God's love in our caring presence.

Chapel is only 15-20 minutes and immediately after there is a prayer meeting—where two or three are gathered together in His name—to pray together for our school. We're done by 10.

Finally, please prayerfully consider giving \$25 (or more) a month in support of our school mission. Give25 cards are available in the narthex so you can keep track of your giving.

We as God's people have been given many vocations—husband/wife, parent, son/daughter, position of employment, friend, homemaker, position of volunteer activities... and missionary: [Jesus said,] “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” (John 20:21)

[Jesus' parting words to His followers,] “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

We are Jesus' witnesses right here in Victorville, right here at Zion Lutheran Church and School.

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The Power of a Simple Gift

Lani Sanders

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Since 1993, millions of shoe boxes have been packed, shipped, and delivered across the globe.

For children around the world, a shoebox is often their very first gift. Given together with the Good News of Jesus Christ, it communicates God's love to a boy or girl in need. It is important to make sure your gift is fun, full (packed to the brim with additional school supplies and personal care items), and personalized (prayed over), and contains a note and photo, which are often the child's favorite items!

As you shop, don't forget to ask God to lead you to what will particularly delight the heart of the child who will receive the box you are packing!

National Collection Week 2024 is November 18-25. Bring your boxes to church until Sunday, November 24. Volunteers will take Zion's gifts to the local Drop-off Location on Monday, November 25.



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LCEF All Access Account

Imagine investing in a way that benefits The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), earns a competitive interest rate and gives you the access you need to your funds.

That’s what the All Access Account—an investment from Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) for LCMS individuals, congregations and organizations—is about.

LCEF’s All Access Account is an easy-access investment that builds over time with interest earned. With your All Access Account, you’ll maintain full control over your balances and enjoy convenient online access:

Optional Visa ® Debit Card, easy access to your money with the LCEF mobile app, no monthly maintenance or membership fees, free MyAccount online services, including bill pay and e-statements, plus interest is accrued daily and paid monthly.

Since 1978, we have had the honor of sup-orting LCMS church workers and ministries like yours with low-cost loans and ministry solutions. This would not be possible without investors.

We invite you to join our community of faithful investors and connect with Lutherans who share your love for Christ and His church.

My Community Online

<https://mycommunityonline.com/organization/zion-lutheran-church-92394>

Did you know you have two options available to read the Glad Tidings online? It is posted on our website in a web-friendly reading format, but it is also available on My Community Online, a service provided by our publisher, LPi. The My Community Online Glad Tidings is exactly like our published version, and includes the church calendar and the Serving Calendar. Please check it out, and subscribe if you like it! You will receive an emailed notification every time a new newsletter is submitted. LPi does not share our list, nor do they use it for any other purpose than your subscription to our newsletter.

Contributors:

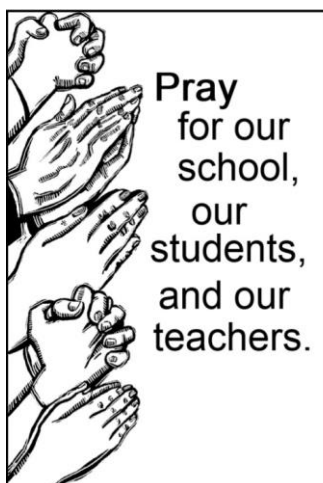
Pastor Lewis Busch
Johanna Allen
Geoffrey Bottom
Linda Bowers
Don Hays
Charlene Perry
Tristina Rodriguez
Lani Sanders
Shellee Zillner

Glad Tidings is a monthly publication. Suitable articles are welcome, and will be printed as space permits. Articles are subject to editing for clarity and length. The deadline is the 20th of each month.

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Adopt a Class



Sharing Life in Christ
is
ZLYF

Tristina Rodriguez

MEETINGS:

Every Sunday during Sunday School

ACTIVITIES:

November 9 – ZLYF Nerf Battle 1 – 4 PM

November 16 - ZLYF Holiday Portraits Fundraiser 10 AM – 4 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 21-22 – Annual Bake and Craft Sale (formerly LWML)

December 30 – Petal Pushers 8AM – 4PM

July 2025 – LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA