

WEEK OF DECEMBER 11TH, 2016

# ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Wednesday, November 30, 2016

Unified Envelopes	\$722.00
Loose	\$32.00
Memorial Fund	\$10.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$764.00</b>

Attendance: 74

## Sunday, December 4, 2016

Unified Envelopes	\$6,300.00
Loose	\$336.00
Debt	\$420.00
Facility Improvements	\$10.00
Miscellaneous	\$45.00
MLS Concert Choir	\$617.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,728.00</b>

Attendance: 265

## ONLINE GIVING

If you're ever unable to come to church, but still would like to give an offering, try out Zion's Online Giving Program! Go to ZionLutheranWELS.com, and click the "Online Giving" button that is on the home page; the site will guide you through the rest. All transactions are guaranteed to be secure through PNC Bank.

*Due to banking restrictions, we are unable to record the gifts given through this Online Giving program on the yearly offering reports that are handed out in January.*

## CONTACT US

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## Sunday, December 11

8:00 am

9:00 am

9:15 am

10:30 am

1:00 pm

## Monday, December 12

6:30-8:00 pm

## Tuesday, December 13

6:30 pm

8:00 pm

## Wednesday, December 14

7:00 pm

## Thursday, December 15

## Friday, December 16

## Saturday, December 17

10:00 am

## Sunday, December 18

8:00 am

9:00 am

9:15 am

10:30 am

5:00 pm

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Worship with Holy Communion  
Coffee Hour  
Craft and Bake Bazaar  
Sunday School/Bible Class  
Worship with Holy Communion  
Elders' Visitation

Pioneers

School, Property, and Elders Board Meetings  
Coordinating Council

Advent Service with Holy Communion

Children's Christmas Service Practice  
ZEL Meeting

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Worship  
Coffee Hour  
Sunday School/Bible Class  
Worship  
Children's Christmas Service

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

**ANNUAL BAKE & CRAFT BAZAAR:** Women Serving Christ are having the Annual Bake & Craft Bazaar in the church basement **today**, Sunday, December 11, 2016, between early and late services, as well as after the late service. Please come down and have a look around!

**INSTALLATION OF NEW CHURCH OFFICERS:** Today, during both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services, the new Church Officers elected at last week's Voters Meeting will be installed in front of the congregation.

**VOTERS' MEETING LAST SUNDAY:** Approximately 25 men attend the semi-annual voters' meeting last Sunday. It was reported that we are currently running approximately \$16,000 behind in offerings for the first 22 Sundays of the current fiscal year. The Treasurer, Joe Ruthig, reported that he still owes \$36,000 in unpaid pensions for the Called Workers. This has improved somewhat from last spring due to several large gifts which we have received since last spring. If he is able to make the pension payments on time for the next 6 months, the WELS Benefit Office, may forgive approximately \$5,000 in interest on past due payments for the pension fund. Bids have been received for the new roof on the church but the Property Board is still seeking bids. Approximately \$14,000 has been received for the new roof. Elections were held with the following results: **President** – Art Schroeder; **Elders Board Chairman** – Greg Baker; **School Board Chairman** – Bill Frelitz; **Elders Board** – Steve Lane; **School Board** – Eric Blaine, Tyler Danek; **Evangelism Board** – Dennis Peters; **Property Board** – Kirk Walker; **Adult Discipleship Board** – Bill Kaufmann; **Family Ministry Board** – Dave Mose

**MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE:** There is one more midweek Advent service during this Advent season. This year, the midweek Advent sermons follow the theme, “Jesus Came Bearing Gifts”. The theme, “Comfort for Him Who Waits” will be on Wednesday, December 14 and will be preached by Pastor Bigelow. This service begins 7:00 p.m. Join us this Advent season to prepare for the coming of our Lord!

**CANDY BAG DONATIONS:** Each year, bags of candy and other treats are put together and handed out to the children of the congregation who participated in the Children’s Christmas Program. If you would like to donate some money or candy to help make these bags, it would be very greatly appreciated! Please contact Kathy Mahoney at 989-845-2295. Thank you!

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATIONS:** There is a Scholarship Fund here at Zion for those members who are currently attending one of our four WELS worker training schools such as Michigan Lutheran Seminary. Each year, 75% of the funds are distributed to those members of Zion that make an application. If you attend one of the four WELS worker training school and are interested in applying for the Scholarship Fund, please submit a request to Pastor Thomford by December 15, 2016.

**MEMBERSHIP CLASSES IN 2017:** Pastor Thomford will soon schedule a Bible Information Class to begin in January 2017. He has not yet set the evening of the week or the time. If you know of someone who would be interested in learning about the basic truths of the Bible and possibly becoming a member of Zion, please speak with Pastor Thomford very soon. These classes would possibly be on Monday or Thursday evenings. You can contact Pastor Thomford at 989-297-1382.

**CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PRACTICES AND SERVICE:** The Zion Lutheran School and Zion Sunday School children will be performing in their annual Christmas service on December 18, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. They will have one more Saturday practice prior to the actual performance—Saturday, December 17, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. Practice will last about an hour. Our winter ZEL Meeting will take place after practice on December 17.

**ADVENT BY CANDLE LIGHT:** “Dear Sisters in Christ - Please join us at St. John's in Hemlock for our Advent by Candlelight program. We pray that our "Take Me to the Manger" program will help all of us to remember that December is a time for planning and preparing - not just our homes but our hearts as well. On Sunday, December 11, at 2:00 pm, we will be hosting an afternoon of Scripture, singing and fellowship. Please sign up by December 8.” -Women Serving Christ

**WSC CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The Women Serving Christ would like to invite the members of the congregation to join us for our annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 20 at 6:00 pm. This year we will enjoy a delicious Pot Luck followed by fellowship and a few rounds of Bunco.

**TAX-FREE IRA DISTRIBUTIONS:** As of 2016 anybody 70.5 years or older has a new option for making gifts to the Lord’s work at church, a local WELS-affiliated ministry, and/or a WELS area of ministry: your IRA! A provision of the PATH Act allows IRA distributions to charity of up to \$100,000 to be made tax-free (at the federal level and in most states). This may be an especially useful gifting tool for those who do not need their yearly required minimum distributions. To learn more, talk to one of our district’s WELS Christian giving counselors: John Graf (john.graf@wels.net, or 414-899-8173) or John Kenyon (john.kenyon@wels.net, or 414-405-9226).