

life together

THIS WEEK'S NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

WEEK OF DECEMBER 15-21, 2024



ZION
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

today - 3rd Sunday of Advent

CHRIST CARE PRAYERS...We rejoice with Levi Wurm as he receives his First Communion.

THANK YOU RECENT RADIO BROADCAST FUND SUPPORTERS

- Judy Bendiske in memory of Bob Kimball
- Lyle & Marlene Willock
- Bev Fraser in honor of Dottie Carlson's 97th birthday
- Mike & Arlene Kelly in memory of Bob Kimball
- Mitchell Miller
- Chaplain David Holmes in memory of Lyle Anderson and Phil & Ellen Clark

ADULT FORUM - Luther Seminary Update

TODAY | 10-11 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Rev. Dr. Rolf Jacobson, Luther Seminary Dean of the Faculty, Professor of Old Testament and The Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology, & Ministry. Come hear Rolf give us an update of what's going on at Luther Seminary. Note: NO Adult Forum December 22, 29 and January 5.

PRAYER TEAM 4

TODAY | 11:00 AM | FIRESIDE ROOM

YEAR-END GIVING

Financial contributions for 2024 should be postmarked by December 31 or delivered to the church office by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31. Thank you for your generous and faithful stewardship in 2024.

POINSETTIA GARDEN - LAST DAY

Today is the last day to submit your request to help decorate Zion's Sanctuary by donating to the poinsettia garden in memory or in honor of someone special. Memorials are \$20 each. Envelopes are available at the front desk. We will print the complete list in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship bulletins.

LEFSE - AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
TODAY | 8 AM-NOON | WELCOME DESK
\$10/package, cash or check only.

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHING:

Pastor Sue Wallager

ASSISTING:

- 5 PM Deb Oas Koepsell
- 8 AM Pr Connie Tiede
- 9 AM Pr Connie Tiede
- 11 AM Pr Mike Pancoast

READERS:

- 5 PM Greg Bergeron
- 8 AM Marcia Wilson
- 9 AM Ron Gray
- 11 AM Jill Arendt

For safety reasons we kindly ask that parents and guardians attend to their children at all times in our church building.

Please silence your cell phone. Thank you.

Welcome Guests!

Thank you for worshipping with us today. To learn more about Zion please fill out the information below and give to an usher or pastor as you leave or place in the offering plate. Or use this QR code.→ Information bags are available at the Welcome Center on the lower level.



Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

- I'm looking for a church home I wish to join Zion Please have a pastor call me Invite me to the New Member Orientation

this week

PASTORS

Pastor Connie Tiede
Lead Pastor

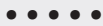
Pastor Sue Wallager
Pastor for Spiritual Care

Pastor Mike Pancoast
Pastor for Adult Education

Ken Johnson
Visitation Minister

Michael Busbey
ELCA Missionary in Central America

Steve & Kim Blewett
Missionaries in Papua, New Guinea



We welcome you exactly as God created you.

We worship God with everyone who chooses to participate, including the youngest of God's children who make noise to praise God in their own way. We find strength in our diversity, and strive to be united by our common humanity, while celebrating our differences.

We welcome people of all: races, ethnicities, backgrounds, generations, socio-economic status, political affiliations, physical and mental abilities; sexual orientations, gender identities, and their families.

All are welcome and encouraged to be involved in all aspects of our life together.

"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love."

1 John 4:7-8

Welcome Statement adopted by
Zion's Church Council,
October 2022

MONDAY, DEC 16

Global Health Ministries

9:00 AM | OFFSITE

Open Pickleball

2:00 PM | CLC

Scouts - Pack 233

6:30 PM | VARIOUS ROOMS

TUESDAY, DEC 17

Open Pickleball

9:00 AM | CLC

Quilters

9:00 AM | ART ROOM

Church Council Meeting

6:30 PM | LIBRARY

WEDNESDAY, DEC 18

Knit One, Purl Two

1:00 PM | FIRESIDE ROOM

Ringmasters

6:00 PM | HANDBELL ROOM

Worship Team Rehearsal

6:00 PM | SANCTUARY

Adult Choir

7:00 PM | CHOIR ROOM

THURSDAY, DEC 19

The Gathering

9:30 AM | YOUTH ROOM

Caregivers Support Group

10:00 AM | FIRESIDE ROOM

Open Pickleball

2:00 PM | CLC

FRIDAY, DEC 20

SATURDAY, DEC 21

Choral Worship Service

5:00 PM | SANCTUARY

SUNDAY, DEC 22

Traditional Worship Service

8 AM | SANCTUARY

Choral Worship Service

9 AM | SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM

SUNDAY, DEC 22 - cont'd

Holy Shenanigans Sunday School

10:00 AM | CHAPEL

Kid City Sunday School

10:00 AM | THEATER

Worship Team Jingle Worship Service

11:00 AM | SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM

Prayer Team 5

11:00 AM | FIRESIDE ROOM

thank you

NOISY OFFERING UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who brought in their Noisy Offering for December! We gathered \$444.20 which will go toward our camp ministries. The next weekend our Noisy Offering buckets will be out is January 4/5.

FARE FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all those who helped with *Fare for All* last Thursday. Our next *Fare for All* is Thursday, January 23.

CARING TREE DONATIONS

Thank you to all who donated gift cards to the Caring Tree which supports 5 local agencies: Alexandra House, Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center, Bridgeview Drop-in Center at Lee Carlson Center, Family Promise and Stepping Stone Emergency Housing. Gift cards totaling almost \$5000 were distributed to the agencies for use by families this Christmas.

DECOR TEAM

Thank you to all who helped set-up the Christmas trees and to those who helped decorate them. They are beautiful!

"A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM"

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make "A Night in Bethlehem" a success.

coming up

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SERVICES

• TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

SUN, DEC 22 | 8 AM | SANCTUARY

• CHORAL WORSHIP

SAT, DEC 21 | 5 PM | SANCTUARY

SUN, DEC 22 | 9 AM | SANCTUARY

Both the Adult Choir and Ringmasters will lead the Choral Worship featuring a variety of Advent and Christmas-themed anthems. Our focus this advent season is "Love Begotten" and it will be the focal point of that Sunday.

• "WORSHIP TEAM JINGLE"

SUN, DEC 22 | 11 AM | SANCTUARY

This year we are starting something new—a seasonal worship service with the band! Wear your best ugly Christmas sweater and join in the cheer of singing our favorite contemporary holiday songs.

MATTHEW BAG MINISTRY

We are currently collecting donations of men's adult-size crew socks. They can be dropped in the Matthew Bag donation bin at the Welcome Desk.

JESK KIDDING

Ben, a 4-year-old, was riding with his grandparents and while they were driving around looking at Christmas decorations, they saw several Nativity scenes. Grandma pointed out the different characters including Baby Jesus in the manger. The next day when Grandpa was taking him to preschool on the same route taken the previous night, Ben saw one of the Nativity scenes and excitedly shouted, "Hey Grandpa, there's another one of those Jesus forts!"

MISS A SERMON?

Zion's sermons are available each week in audio form. Find us on Spotify - search Zion Lutheran Church - Anoka MN.

CREATION CARE GIFT WRAPPING SUGGESTIONS

Zion's Creation Care Team invites you to stop by the Christmas tree in the upper commons right outside the Sanctuary. All of the gifts under this tree are wrapped either in recyclable paper (most gift wrapping paper, ribbons, and bows are NOT recyclable), repurposed items (notice the gift wrapped in an old road map!), or reusable materials (metal boxes; a dishtowel; fabric; even a "pillowcase," of sorts). There is even a small gift there that was wrapped without ANY tape at all—a quick search on YouTube for "tapeless gift wrapping" will provide you with several examples of how to do that!

PRAYER TEAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As a Prayer Team member you pray, as a team, for the requests (joys/concerns) from the green prayer cards received and gathered before the 11AM service. This is also a great time to share any of your own personal prayers of concern/thanksgivings and pray for the ministry we share at Zion. The commitment would be about 6 times/year from 11 AM - 12 PM. All are invited to join. If interested please contact Pastor Sue.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ANOKA MIDDLE SCHOOL

There are always numerous volunteer opportunities for both in-school events and take-home activities. To participate, you need to complete the school volunteer application beforehand (use this QR code). Once that is submitted and accepted, you will begin receiving weekly updates of volunteer opportunities at Anoka Middle School. For more info contact GlenSemanko at glensemanko@yahoo.com.



LIVESTREAM

SUNDAY 9 & 11 AM

www.zionanoka.org
(click "Worship Online")

or

[www.facebook.com/
ZionLutheranChurch
AnokaMn](https://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)

(Available anytime)

•••••

CABLE TV

Metro Cable Network
Channel 6

SUNDAY | 10 AM & 5 PM

•••••

RADIO BROADCAST

106.1 BOB FM

SUNDAYS | 9:10 AM

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Hearing assistance units are available at the sound booth at the back of the Sanctuary.

•••••

HOME VISITS

If you would like a visit from one of our pastors or lay visitors, please call the office at 763-421-4656 and we will be happy to visit you.

•••••

TEXT TO GIVE

With Vanco's GivePlus, you can quickly and easily give to Zion using your smartphone. For more info call the church office between 9 AM & 5 PM.

•••••

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Go to:

<https://cutt.ly/ziongivetoday>
or Scan this QR code



growing in faith together

UPCOMING GOSPEL READINGS

DECEMBER 21/22
Luke 19:29-40

DECEMBER 28/29
Luke 2:41-52

JANUARY 4/5
John 1:10-18

Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

upcoming Adult Faith Learning opportunities

encouraging words

Start each day with encouraging words from Zion! Dial 763-506-8191 to hear a daily message of encouragement and hope.

prayer corner

O God of the exiles and the lost, you promise restoration and wholeness through the power of Jesus Christ. Give us faith to live joyfully, sustained by your promises as we eagerly await the day when they will be fulfilled for all the world to see, through the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

prayer request

If you have a celebration or concern you would like the prayer team to include in their prayers, email it to swallager@zionanoka.org.

"THE CHOSEN" RETURNS IN JANUARY - SEASON 2

MONDAYS | 1 PM; TUESDAYS | 8:45 AM; WEDNESDAYS | 10 AM & 6 PM

Our small group study "The Chosen" begins Monday, January 6 following our usual schedule. We will not be using a pre-published book for the new session. Instead, we'll simply be focusing on the video presentation itself along with the study guide sheets. Even if you were not a part of the Season 1 study, you are still invited, encouraged, and welcome to come. You likely know "the Jesus story" well enough simply to pick up in Season 2 and/or if you would like to catch up, you can watch Season 1 for free and commercial free at <https://watch.thechosen.tv/>. Season 1 study guide is available at www.zionanoka.org/ziondocumentcenter/ (scroll down to the "Adult Ministry" option.)

ADULT FAITH FORUM

Topics and dates is still being worked on and will be included in the upcoming January Herald. BUT to provoke your curiosity, some topics that are being efforted include a Music & Worship topic (facilitated by Jonathan Campbell); "The Art of Zion" (facilitated by Tim Sheie); and a guest speaker, Dr. Tamim Saidi from Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota who will invite us to continue in our learning of the basic understanding of Islam. Watch for more details in the January Herald.

WELCOME

God is here for you, in the word and sacraments, in the love of this community.

CONTACT

1601 4th Avenue
Anoka MN 55303
763.421.4656
www.zionanoka.org

OFFICE HOURS

MON - THU: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
FRI: 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON



ZION
LUTHERAN † ANOKA