

life together

THIS WEEK'S NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

WEEK OF DECEMBER 29 - JANUARY 4, 2024



ZION
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHING:

Pastor Sue Wallager

ASSISTING:

SAT Deb Oas Koepsell

SUN Pr Connie Tiede

READERS:

5 PM Kathy Johnson

8 AM Marlene Gray

9 AM Bill Travis

11 AM Sylvia Goldman

today - 1st Sunday of Christmas

CHRIST CARE PRAYERS...We pray for the families of August (Duke) Grosslein and Leila Syverson, mother of Patti Hiatt who mourn their deaths.

COMMUNION...Please let an usher know if you would prefer communion to be served to you in the pew.

THANK YOU RECENT RADIO BROADCAST FUND SUPPORTERS:

- Dianne Carlson

NO ADULT FORUM TODAY - Resumes January 5

NO HOLY SHENANIGANS SUNDAY SCHOOL - Resumes January 12

NO KID CITY SUNDAY SCHOOL - Resumes January 12

NO WEDNESDAY PROGRAMMING - Resumes January 8

YEAR-END GIVING

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

BUILDING CLOSED

The church office will be closed Wednesday, January 1 (New Years Day). If you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please call the Zion's main number, 763-421-4656 and the messaging service will reach the pastor on call.

GREEN PRAYER CARDS are available in the pew holders for you to write a prayer request. Place them in the wooden prayer collection boxes located in the Sanctuary, Chapel or at the Welcome Desk. All prayer concerns or thanksgivings are confidential and are shared only with the Prayer Team.

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

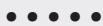
Pastor Sue Wallager
Pastor for Spiritual Care

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 30

Open Pickleball

2:00 PM | CLC

TUESDAY, DEC 31

Open Pickleball

9:00 AM | CLC

WEDNESDAY, JAN 1

New Years Day

Building Closed

THURSDAY, JAN 2

The Gathering

9:30 AM | YOUTH ROOM

Caregivers Support Group

10:00 AM | LEGACY ROOM

Sons of Norway Book Club

10:00 AM | LIBRARY

Open Pickleball

2:00 PM | CLC

FRIDAY, JAN 3

SATURDAY, JAN 4

Traditional Worship Service

5:00 PM | SANCTUARY

SUNDAY, JAN 5

Traditional Worship Service

8 AM | SANCTUARY

9 & 11 AM | SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM

Adult Forum

10:00 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Prayer Team 6

11:00 AM | FIRESIDE ROOM

Worship at Farmstead

1:30 PM | OFFSITE

JUST A REMINDER

New registrations for Zion Kids ministries (Sundays and Wednesdays) are welcome throughout the school year. For more information go to our Children's Ministry page at zionanoka.org/registration-events/.

ZION: BUILDING STRONG CONNECTIONS. REACHING FURTHER. TOGETHER - THANK YOU!

Thank you to all those who have made commitments to our congregation for 2025 through our Stewardship campaign, *Building Strong Connections. Reaching Further. Together.* As of December 26, there have been 510 commitments to the General Fund totaling \$1,100,066 and 338 commitments to the Building Fund totaling \$318,281. We have also received many generous gifts for the Technology and Building fund, totaling \$76,200. These gifts will be matched by the Zion Foundation. We look forward to announcing our first renewal project soon. Thank YOU for all the ways you support the life and work of our congregation!

BOUNDARY WATERS MISSION TRIP REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Registration deadline for this summer's mission trip to the Boundary Waters is January 8 – please register online to guarantee a spot on the trip! This year we are partnering with Camp Wapo's Wilderness Canoe Base. For youth who have completed grades 8-12, by summer 2025, the trip will be an exciting blend between service work at the canoe base and an outdoor adventure canoe trip. No experience camping or canoeing is necessary but do expect to paddle to our campsites and sleep in tents. Please register on Realm.



JEST KIDDING

Three year old Ellie was playing with the nativity set. As she moved the pieces around she recounted the story as she remembered it - identifying the mommy and the daddy and the angels. She then picked up the robed wise men carrying their urns and announced, "And then came the ladies with the coffee!"

coming up

NOISY OFFERING

The Noisy Offering buckets will be out again January 4/5. All proceeds go to our camp ministries. Thank you for supporting our children and youth.

"THE CHOSEN" - SEASON 2 STARTS JANUARY 6

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 guides are available at www.zionanoka.org/ziondocumentcenter/ select *Adult Ministry*.

ADULT FORUM - Epipha - What?

SUN, JAN 5 | 10 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Come join our own Dr. Jonathan Campbell—he'll be talking about the season of Epiphany, how it fits into the liturgical year and the new year, as well as playing some examples of sacred choral music and hymns inspired by the season—a season of light and new beginnings. The word "epiphany" means "to have a sudden realization." So beginning with the Day of Epiphany (always January 6), we hear the story from Matthew 2, the Visitation of Magi, and with each weekly text, we are invited to ponder exactly WHO this Child born in Bethlehem really is! This identity of Jesus and its meaning also points us to the road Jesus will walk toward Jerusalem and his cross.

GRIEF SUPPORT

TUE, JAN 7, 14, 21 & 28 | 11 AM

All are welcome to attend this grief support group. For more information or if you have questions contact Pastor Sue at swallager@zionanoka.org.

PASTOR MIKE'S INSTALLATION

SUN, JAN 12 | 8, 9 & 11 AM SERVICES

Pastor John Hulden will be installing Pastor Mike as Associate Pastor. Please join us as we celebrate with cake and coffee on Cornerstone following each service.

BAPTISM CLASS

SUN, JAN 12 | NOON | LIBRARY

If you are expecting, have had a baby or adopting and would like to know more about baptism this class is for you. Contact Kristine at kjohnson@zionnoka.org for more info or to sign up for this class.

MEN'S GROUP

THUR, JAN 16 | 10 AM - 12 PM | CLC

The Men's Group will be hosting Corn Hole (Bean Bag Toss) in the CLC. Following the games, we will all be going out to lunch. If you have a Corn Hole Game, please bring it along (in case we need it). No need to sign up!

LUTHERAN LATE NIGHT

FRI, JAN 17 | 7-10 PM | VARIOUS ROOMS

Join us for Lutheran Late Night! This event is for middle and high school students and functions like a lock-in, but you go home at the end of the night. Snacks will be provided, and night games will be played. Friends welcome, register at <https://cutt.ly/llnjan>.

LIVESTREAM

SUNDAY 9 & 11 AM

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

or

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

(Available anytime)

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CABLE TV

Metro Cable Network
Channel 6

SUNDAY | 10 AM & 5 PM

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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.

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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.

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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.

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ELECTRONIC GIVING

Go to:

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



growing in faith together

UPCOMING GOSPEL READINGS

JANUARY 4/5
Matthew 2:1-12

JANUARY 11/12
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

JANUARY 18/19
John 2:1-11

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

From our mother's womb you have known us, O God. You call us to follow you through all our days and seek us even when we wander. As we advance in years, clothe us with your love, that we may grow in grace and find favor in your sight; through 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.

Reading: Luke 2:41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Over 300 Anoka County residents are served a hot meal every weekday through the Meals on Wheels program. Meals are picked up at the Meals on Wheels Coon Rapids office and delivered to recipients' doorsteps by volunteers. Volunteers are needed and welcomed! Please contact Suzanne at sgaboury@zionanoka.org or 763-421-4656 to be added to Zion's list or call the Meals on Wheels Office at 763-264-4041.

SNACKS FOR KIDS

Lincoln Elementary School for the Arts is in need of some snacks to have on hand for students. Individually wrapped items like Goldfish, Veggie Straws, Pirates Booty, granola bars without nuts, Rice Krispies Treats, Scooby Snacks, cheesy sandwich crackers and any allergy friendly/gluten free options (brands like Partake or Made Good) are some examples of foods that work great for most of our students. Drop your donations off at the front desk.

HELP ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH SAVE ON PRINTING & POSTAGE:

In our ongoing efforts to be good stewards of both our resources and the environment, we are asking you to consider two simple, yet impactful changes that can help our church save valuable funds: subscribing to our Herald Newsletter electronically and giving your offerings electronically. How to Switch?

1. Sign up for the Electronic Herald by calling or emailing Kristine Johnson at kjohnson@zionanoka.org.
2. Set Up Electronic Giving by calling or emailing Tracy Kinn at tkinn@zionanoka.org.

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

