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## ANNOUNCEMENTS – September 21, 2025

### This Week at Zion

#### Sunday, September 21 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m. Classic Worship – Sanctuary/ with communion  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Youth and Adult Bible Study  
11:00 a.m. Cont. Worship – MMC

#### Monday (9/22)

*[Pray for unbelievers to trust Jesus.]*

7:30 Children's Ministry Team

#### Tuesday (9/23)

*[Pray for all those caught in sin, that they might confess and find relief in the forgiveness of sins!]*

10:00 a.m. Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study  
6:45 p.m. Men's Tuesday Night Bible Study

#### Wednesday (9/24)

*[Pray for the Spirit to amend sinful lives.]*

9:00 a.m. Forest-Aires

#### Thursday (9/25)

*[Thank God for the Church.]*

#### Friday (9/26)

*[Pray for those that have stopped attending church.]*

#### Saturday (9/27)

*[Pray for Christian parents.]*

#### Sunday, September 28 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m. Classic Worship – Sanctuary  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Youth and Adult Bible Study  
11:00 a.m. Cont. Worship – MMC/ with communion  
12:15 p.m. Youth Gaming  
4:00 p.m. Pre-confirmation

### From The 66...

#### Luke 16:8b

**"For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light."**

The sons of this world know that they should use their wealth wisely to provide for their future. Shouldn't we, as "sons of light," know that the wealth God has allowed us to manage should be managed for God's purposes in roles He has given us to play in church, home and society?

### & the book of numbers.

#### LAST WEEK:

##### God's People Assembled: (as of 9/14/25)

Classic 8:30 am: 76

Contemporary 11:00 am: 114

Online: see us on Facebook and [zionlc.org](http://zionlc.org) (worship tab)

Children's Church Total: 17

Christian Education Youth: 25 Adults: 30

##### God's People Give with *Treasure* (as of 9/14/25)

Offering: \$17,702.00

##### God's People's Response through July 2025:

Giving: \$321,430 Expenses: \$302,167

Budget: \$323,708

To hit stewardship forecast for 2025: \$11,561/ week

For ways to contribute please go to our website  
[www.zionlc.org](http://www.zionlc.org) and look under the "Give" tab.  
Thank you for your continued support!

### Happy Birthday!

### Happy Anniversary!

For the safety of our members and friends we have blocked out this section. If you'd like a copy in full, please contact Zion, [office@zionlc.org](mailto:office@zionlc.org). Thanks!

"TAKING THE CROSS OF GRACE AND PEACE..."

## Looking Ahead. Giving Back. Noting an Opportunity.

Our staffed **Nursery** is for children ages 3 and under. The nursery is downstairs in the children's ministry area. Parents are welcome to keep their kids in the service, but if they have the wiggles, the nursery is for you. Would you like to help out in the nursery? If you would like to be on the sub list, contact Carolyn Remmele ([carolyn.remmele@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.remmele@gmail.com)).

**September Sermon Series: Bonfire Stories** -- Big Idea: This four-week series "brings us around the fire," retelling the stories of significant events that happened around fires in the Old Testament. This series focuses on crucial ways God shows up and reveals his presence, power, provision, protection, and the purification of his people.

**Fall Bible Study** -- Are farmers the only people who work out in the field? Are church workers the only people who can be a witness of Christ? The answer to both of these questions is a resounding NO! In our upcoming Sunday morning Bible Study, "Witnessing in the Field", we will be discussing what it looks like to be a witness to Christ in the world, using Mark Wood's Book *Connected to Christ: Witnessing in Everyday Life* as a guide for our study and discussion. **Please join us in September and October as we learn to be farmers for Christ!**

**Maddux News** - Due to a generous gift from one of our Women's bible study groups, we are only in need of stocking up on two things: FRUIT CUPS and PACKS OF COOKIES. Thank you again for your wonderful support.

**Help Build Hope** -- Join us for a service opportunity on **October 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Nagel Middle School** as we join Help Build Hope in assembling wall frames for the Cincinnati Habitat for Humanity. This opportunity requires no previous experience and is open to all people aged 5 or older. So, bring your friends and your family and join us in this opportunity to share the love of Christ by serving our neighbors! If you would like to help even more, or are unavailable to serve on Saturday, there will also be a lumber cutting event for those 16 and older on October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30-8:00 p.m. You can sign up at the following link: <https://form.jotform.com/250159050719051>

Sign in instructions for accessing "Member" information on our Zion Church Website are located on the Information Table in the Atrium. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Shaffer, Zion Business Manager at [Businessmanager@zionlc.org](mailto:Businessmanager@zionlc.org) or 513-231-2253.

**Eat. Pray. Wii** -- Join me (Julia) for an evening of food, fellowship, and Wii Sports with other young adults (age 18-30) on **Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** (subject to change if needed). Details and RSVP: <https://forms.gle/4XB93Kt42B5avbfx7>. Contact Julia Witt with any questions.

**The Upper Room** is a digital gathering place for young adults at Zion Lutheran Church in Cincinnati! Here, you can connect with other young adults, catch the verse of the day, read devotions, share prayer requests, and keep up to date with any activities or ministry opportunities at Zion. Join the Discord Server at: <https://discord.gg/tgD8xM2knc>

**Youth Notes — Gaming Day** (grades 6-12), **Sunday, September 28, 12:15 p.m.-4:00 p.m.** Bring \$\$ for lunch and your favorite game to play! \*\* **Oktoberfest**, Saturday, October 18, 4:00-8:00 p.m. Hot dogs and brats, root beer tasting, games, and more! @ St. Mark's Lutheran Church. \*\* **Ohio District Sr. High Youth Gathering**, November 21-23. Registration information was e-mailed to families with high school youth and also placed in their church boxes. \*\* Please RSVP for all events. Contact Chris Graves with questions and RSVP's.

Kids in grades 4-6 are invited to a preparing for confirmation activity on **Sunday, September 28**. We will do some Bible activities, play some games, and eat a snack! 4:00-5:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Chris Graves.

Come join us in fellowship while we create **Fidget Mats** for local Memory Care/Alzheimer's patients! At: Messiah Lutheran Church, 10416 Bosse Lane (Green Hills near Winton Woods). On: **September 24 (Wednesday) 10 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** Freewill lunch will be provided. No experience necessary. Bring your friends and meet new ones. All supplies are ready to go. Questions: Deb Cropp (Christ Lutheran rep) Text: 513-604-8191 or [debcropp1952@gmail.com](mailto:debcropp1952@gmail.com) Sponsored by the Cincinnati Federation of Lutheran Churches Auxiliary Committee.

**ZION PR: Be Seen!** Have questions about ZION's PR? No problem, we have you covered! Please visit [www.zionlc.org/zion-pr/](http://www.zionlc.org/zion-pr/) for the information you seek! Where to send it? What do I need to do? When are Deadlines for publishing? What is proper content?

**Flowers given for the Glory of God** are provided by Noel and Donna Fenner, In Loving Memory of Parents.  
If you happen to have a building-related issue, please contact: Patty Varney -- Trustee

**"TAKING THE CROSS OF GRACE AND PEACE..."**

# Praying. Asking. Seeking. Knocking.

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING; JOYS IN GOD'S + WORK AND WILL

We pray for...

- **Teachers, students, aides, helpers, leadership in local schools.** May they learn Your world, Lord. May they also find ways – be given ways – to learn of You and Your love for them in Christ.
- **Colleges and those that attend.** May they find ways to deepen their faith.
- **Medical and first responders** – all in our communities who make it work and thrive.
- **Those who protect and serve** in our lives (governmental, law enforcement, military, many more). For officers mourning the recent loss of one of their own and for peace for our community.
- **The mission of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Cincinnati, OH.**

## IMMEDIATE NEEDS / PETITIONS

We pray for . . .

- **Those that are lost and separated from God's loving embrace.**
- **For those affected by natural and man-made disasters.** God, grant peace and the resources they need for body and soul.
- **For the forgotten, pushed aside, and marginalized.**
- **For a deeper appreciation for whole-life, God-gifted stewardship** – financial, relational, physical, and spiritual.
- Relief of pain, strength, and healing for **Karen Vollbracht, Sheryl Childress** (upcoming surgery), **Bill Spies, Jean Stratton, and Linda Jenkins and other family/ friends** in need of healing.
- **Those in Care Centers/ Those at Home:** Debbie Rose Howard, Bill Siegel, Janet Brunner, Vera Zimmerman, Anna Moynahan, Ty and Michele Arendall, Bob and Sharon Ruppel, Vida Musselman, Jean Stratton, Jody Wiebe.
- **All families walking through the valley of death's shadow.** Comfort and strength in *the* Resurrection.
- **Those who suffer with no voice, place, or advocate.**

## Telling the Stories

Last week, I attended the men's bible study on Tuesday evening. To be honest, I had forgotten how much fun it was to simply sit in on a bible study.

The guys laughed and got to know one another during the first few minutes of the intro. The schedule was unfolded. The topic was discussed. The video was cued up. The bibles were opened. Prayer was spoken. St. Luke was our focus.

Listening to these men discuss these passages of the first chapter of this book gave me such joy. They added insights to the passage from their own walks. They marveled at the faith on display. They gave testimony to the way God has worked in them. They were inspired by the promise and providence of God even in Ch. 1.

I know this is not an anomaly. And I know these kinds of insights aren't just found in the Tuesday men's study. It just gave me joy to sit in and to know that we are endeavoring as a church to be about getting into scripture, taking in what it says about God's savior, and then putting it to work in our lives. *Thanks be to God!* -PJ

## Devoting Ourselves to the Word

*So he decided long ago to adopt us. He adopted us as his children with all the rights children have. He did it because of what Jesus Christ has done. It pleased God to do it.* Ephesians 1:5 (NirV)

One of my favorite music videos is by the group Third Day. The song is “Children of God”. The song by itself is great, but the video is even more powerful.

The video starts by talking about adoption and what a wonderful blessing it is for children and parents. A speaker says, “An adopted child is no less a son or daughter than my natural born children.” True!

Then the band starts playing and they sing about how the blood of God’s Son, Jesus, makes us His children. We are *all* adopted! I won’t spoil the video by giving away the ending, but by now you can probably guess! You can watch the video here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6jO7xhU\\_Pw&list=RDV6jO7xhU\\_Pw&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6jO7xhU_Pw&list=RDV6jO7xhU_Pw&start_radio=1)

Adopted into God’s family, by the blood of Jesus. Baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – washed and welcomed into God’s family. We are God’s sons and daughters.

Christians sometimes disagree about baptism: Can an infant be baptized? Does someone need to be re-baptized at some point during their life? Well, can an infant be adopted? Yes! Does someone ever need to be re-adopted at some point? No! Baptism is God’s action. When you are baptized, you are brought into and welcomed into God’s family. You are His son or daughter and receive all of the good things that a Father gives to His kids. What can God give His children? In the words of Han Solo, “I can imagine an awful lot.” God can offer you more than even Solo can imagine! Earthly riches? No, not promised at all. A life free from pain? Nope, that’s not part of the promise, either. Life with God that lasts forever? Yes, and priceless.

We are called children of God. We call each other “brothers and sisters in Christ”. We are all part of the same family – God’s family. Through Jesus. Through the waters of baptism.

-- Chris Graves

## Letting the Little Ones Come to God (Draw us something)!

Drawing Prompt: Draw a picture of your family!