



1175 Birney Lane • Cincinnati, OH 45230 • (513) 231-2253 • [www.zionlc.org](http://www.zionlc.org)

Facebook: @ZionLutheranChurchCincinnati • Instagram: zionlc\_cincinnati

Jason Hoerth, Pastor: [jhoerth@zionlc.org](mailto:jhoerth@zionlc.org) • Office: [office@zionlc.org](mailto:office@zionlc.org)

Chris Graves, Children, Youth: [cgraves@zionlc.org](mailto:cgraves@zionlc.org) • Prayer Chain: [prayer@zionlc.org](mailto:prayer@zionlc.org)

Julia Witt, Deaconess Intern: [jwitt@zionlc.org](mailto:jwitt@zionlc.org) • PR: [announcements@zionlc.org](mailto:announcements@zionlc.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – November 30, 2025

### This Week at Zion

#### Sunday, November 30 – First Sunday in Advent

8:30 a.m. Classic Worship – Sanctuary / with communion

**NO** Sunday School or Bible classes

11:00 a.m. Cont. Worship – MMC / with communion

#### Monday (12/1)

*[For hearts that imitate the generosity and graciousness of Jesus.]*

#### Tuesday (12/2)

*[That the Lord would Preserve His Word and Sacraments.]*

10:00 a.m. Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

6:45 p.m. Men's Tuesday Night Bible Study

7:15 p.m. Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study

#### Wednesday (12/3)

*[That the people of God would be faithful in their attendance.]*

6:00p.m. Church Decorating Party

#### Thursday (12/4)

*[That all people would fear God and find hope.]*

7:00 p.m. Monthly Trustees Meeting

#### Friday (12/5)

*[For all who do not believe in Jesus, that they might hear the Gospel and believe.]*

#### Saturday (12/6)

*[For all Christians, that we might repent of our sins.]*

12:00 p.m. Church Christmas Party

#### Sunday, December 7 – Second Sunday in Advent

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

### From The 66...

#### Matthew 21:3

**"If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once."**

Just a colt and her foal. How significant could they be? Could they really be used by the Lord for some great, heavenly purpose? This is one facet of stewardship we often forget: the blessing it is to us to be of service in the Lord's Kingdom. What honor the Lord bestows upon us by using our gifts for His goals!

### & the book of numbers.

#### LAST WEEK:

##### God's People Assembled: (as of 11/23/2025)

Classic 8:30 am: 81

Contemporary 11:00 am: 114

Online: Facebook & Instagram; [www.zionlc.org](http://www.zionlc.org) (Worship Tab)

Children's Church Total: 12

Christian Education Youth: 20

Adults: Assembly Meeting

##### God's People Give with Treasure (as of 10/23/2025)

Offering: \$5,460.00

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

Giving: \$361,704 Expenses: \$350,585

Budget: \$369,953

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)).

**Sunday Bible Study** – In the season of thanksgiving, how do you find the time to give thanks? *Gratitude* is a study that explores ways to slow down, find the joy in the life, and reminders of God's grace. The study goes thru December 7. - PJ

**Young(er) Parent Bible Study** – Our Next & Last Session will be on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Tony Evans' - "Raising Kingdom Kids" from RightNow Media. No Study today.

**Youth Notes** — **\*\* Youth Quake, January 9-11, Holiday Inn Eastgate.** Registration info was sent to families. For middle school and high school youth. **\*\* Save the dates:** lock-in – January 30, spaghetti dinner – February 14, OH District Jr. High Youth Gathering – March 13-15 (watch for registration info soon!) **\*\* -- \*\*Camp Restore Detroit servant event – June 21-27 – Additional details TBA. Please RSVP for all events.** Contact Chris Graves with questions and RSVPs.

**The Giving Tree** – We have shifted gears to Christmas! We will be supporting IPM Christmas drive. Take an ornament from the tree, bring it to church unwrapped, or order from amazon (use code on handouts in Narthex). GIFTS MUST BE TURNED IN BY DECEMBER 14.

**Zion Photo Updates** -- Everyone loves to put a face with a name. Please, if you'd like, update your profile picture in the "Member's" directory on the Website. All you need to do is click on the gray profile icon...click "Choose File" to upload the image. After selecting a photo, click "Accept". If you have any questions or need any help, contact Nancy Shaffer at 513-231-2253 or [Businessmanager@zionlc.org](mailto:Businessmanager@zionlc.org).

**Advent Devos** – On table in the atrium. There are various ones for youth, children, and families (first come first served). There are two choices for adults. One by LHM and the other by Rev. Dr. Joel Heck. Blessed Advent!

**November 23, 2025 – January 4, 2026 Advent Schedules** – Available on the *Information Table*.

**Annual Cookie Pack** -- The Women's Auxiliary Cookie Pack will be **Monday, December 8 @ Christ Luth. Church**. If you would like to carpool, contact Denise Brown (513-520-8586) or Dorothy Surdick (513-675-7044). We will be leaving Zion at 8:45 a.m. **\*\*Cookie donations may be left in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen on December 7. Please no nuts or bar cookies.**

**Zion Advent & Christmas Events** -- The Christmas season is upon us, and we have several upcoming fellowship opportunities to help us get into the Christmas spirit! The **first is our decorating** event on **Wednesday, December 3 from 6-8 p.m.** at Zion. Help us beautify the sanctuary, MMC, and atrium for the Christmas season.

**\* The second event** is the **Zion Christmas party**, which will be on **Saturday, December 6 from 12-2:30 p.m.** We will start with appetizers and socializing followed by lunch and singing. This will be in the Fellowship Hall. Follow the link to sign up for an appetizer, side dish, dessert, or drink - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44A8AF2FA7FEC25-60463319-zion>.

**\* The final event** is one that we are bringing back to Zion this year - **Christmas caroling!** Join us for an evening of caroling at some local nursing homes and homes of Zion members on **Wednesday, December 17**. We will meet at Zion at **6 p.m.** and then head out to the selected locations. We will all meet back up at Graeters after caroling. Contact Halle Raicevich at 330-329-2338 if you are interested in joining.

**Sunday School Christmas Story** — The Sunday School will be presenting the Christmas Story on **Sunday, December 14, 9:45-10:45 a.m.** They will use costumes, song, and Scripture to tell the story of Christ's birth. The presentation will be in the fellowship hall. We hope you will be able to join us! **Kids' Christmas Crafts** — Kids and their parents are invited to make Christmas crafts on Sunday, December 14, 9:30 a.m., at Zion before the worship service. Each child should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. **Please RSVP to Chris Graves ([cgraves@zionlc.org](mailto:cgraves@zionlc.org)) by December 10.** Friends are welcome! And ... there *might* be Christmas cookies, too!

**Sunday School Parents** — Kids will be practicing for the Christmas Story presentation on **Sunday, December 7, 9:45-10:45 a.m.** Please be sure to bring them to Sunday School on that day! **On December 14, please come to church by 9:30 a.m. so that they can get ready and get their costumes on.** If you have any questions or to let us know that your child will or will not participate, please contact Cindy Ripak ([cabauer99@gmail.com](mailto:cabauer99@gmail.com)).

**Flowers given for the Glory of God** are provided by Bob Littman, In Memory of Walt and Jane Littman's Anniversary. If you happen to have a building-related issue, please contact: Bill Miller

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

# Praying. Asking. Seeking. Knocking.

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

We pray for...

- **The start of the Advent Season.**
- **The busyness of the season.** God grant us energy, joy, and a lessening of distractions in this holy season.
- **Teachers, students, aides, helpers, leadership in local schools; colleges and universities.** 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.
- **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 Grace Lutheran Church, Cincinnati, OH.**

## IMMEDIATE NEEDS / PETITIONS

We pray for . . .

- **Those that are lost & separated from God's loving embrace. The forgotten, pushed aside, and marginalized.**
- **Those affected by natural and man-made disasters.** God, grant peace & resources they need for body/ soul.
- **A deeper appreciation for whole-life, God-gifted stewardship** – financial, relational, physical, and spiritual.
- Relief of pain, strength, and healing for **Linda Berlier, Al Born, Larry Neack, Laura Mikow, Sheryl Childress, Bill Spies, 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, Jody Wiebe.
- **The Stratton Family and all families walking through the valley of death's shadow.** Comfort and strength in *the* Resurrection.
- **Opportunities to grow in God's Word.**

## Telling the Stories

A large, elegant, black cursive script that reads "Thank you!". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent flourish on the 'y' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'k'.

**"Thank you."** Thank you to those who give so generously with your time. There are so many that show up early, stay late, and hang around to have another conversation, make another phone call, or to straighten up another space for ministry.

**"Thank you."** Thank you who give so freely of your talents. This is a talented place. People from all walks of life that have attained many degrees and specializations in formal ways from prestigious universities and those that have received their "PhD in life". Thank you for using your talents in humble ways for the good of God's people and for the spread of His kingdom. Sometimes working with people is messy and difficult. The pay is sometimes great and sometimes low. But you do what you do for a different reason. Thank you.

**"Thank you."** There are so many who bless this ministry in material ways. If there is a need – you meet it – generously, joyfully, and without strings. Thank you.

**"Thank you."** Thank you for telling about Jesus. Thank you for doing that courageously, consistently, and creatively. Thank you for sharing your testimony so freely, because in the end it's about Him, not you and I. To God be the glory. And, in case I don't say it enough, "Thank you."

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

## Devoting Ourselves to the Word

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)*

Theologian Dale Bruner writes:

David Peterson, former pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Spokane, Washington, told about a time when he was preparing his sermon. His little daughter came in and said, "Daddy, can we play?"

He answered, "I'm awfully sorry, Sweetheart, but I'm right in the middle of preparing this sermon. In about an hour I can play."

She said, "Okay, when you're finished, Daddy, I am going to give you a great big hug."

He said, "Thank you very much." She went to the door and (these are his words) "Then she did a U-turn and came back and gave me a chiropractic, bone-breaking hug." David said to her, "Darling, you said you were *going* to give me a hug *after* I finished."

She answered, "Daddy, I just wanted you to know what you have to look forward to!"

One meaning of Christmas is that God wants us to know, through this First Coming, how much we have to look forward to in the great Second Coming.

*Dale Bruner, "Is Jesus Inclusive or Exclusive?" Theology, News, and Notes (October 1999), p. 3*

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

Drawing Prompt: What can you give God "thanks" for?

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