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ANNOUNCEMENTS – November 9, 2025

This Week at Zion

Sunday, November 9 – Twenty-Second 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

Monday (11/10)

[Thank God for forgiveness. Pray for the strength to forgive those who have sinned against you.]

Tuesday (11/11)

[Thank God that He leads us out of temptation.]
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 (11/12)

[Thank God that He delivers us from evil.]
9:00 a.m. Forest-Aires

Thursday (11/13)

[Thank God that He hears our prayers for Jesus' sake.]
6:30 p.m. Elders Meeting
7:00 p.m. Monthly Council Meeting

Friday (11/14)

[Thank God that He is the God who saves.]

Saturday (11/15)

[Thank God that His name is trustworthy.]

Sunday, November 16 – Twenty-Third 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
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Game Night

From The 66...

Mark 12:44

For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

From Old Testament times right through to today the Lord has urged us to give to His work in the Church in proportion to how He has blessed us. He has also called us to sacrificial giving, that is, giving that actually costs us something. That's the shape of true Christian generosity.

& the book of numbers.

LAST WEEK:

God's People Assembled: (as of 11/2/2025)

Classic 8:30 am: 128

Contemporary 11:00 am: 96

Online: Facebook, Instagram and X ; www.zionlc.org

Children's Church Total: 9

Christian Education Youth: 25 Adults: 30

God's People Give with Treasure (as of 11/2/2025)

Offering: \$10,191.00

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 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. 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).

November Sermon Series: I Give Thanks -- Big Idea: This series looks at the thanksgiving prayers in Paul's epistles and uses four different points of thanks that Paul offers to God as a way to help inspire gratitude and praise in our hearts as we enter the Thanksgiving and holiday season.

Sunday Bible Study – In the season of thanksgiving, how do you find the time to give thanks? Has griping become too easy a habit? In this season, how do you allow a sense of thanksgiving both to God and to others to climb in your life? *Gratitude* is a five-session study that explores ways to slow down, find the joy in the life, and reminds us of God's grace. The study continues through December 7. - PJ

Young(er) Parent Bible Study – Sundays Starting November 2nd; Tony Evans' - "Raising Kingdom Kids" from RightNow Media. A 5-week study to talk about practical examples to help parents grow their children in faith by using prayer, wisdom, trials, self-control, patience, service and most importantly the Love of God's Word.

Zion's Children's Ministry is looking for some volunteers to support the program by doing some simple but important tasks. We could use another person or two to work at our Sunday School check-in table. We could also use a person or two (or three) to wash toys in the nursery. Contact Chris Graves if you would be willing to do these things.

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: HOT CHOCOLATE PACKS and RAVIOLI/SPAGHETTI SMALL SINGLE SERVE. Thank you again for your wonderful support.

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 or 513-231-2253.

Youth Notes — 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. ** 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!) ** **Please RSVP for all events.** Contact Chris Graves with questions and RSVPs.

Kentucky Mission with Thirst – In October, a small team of Zion folks went on a mission trip with an organization called *Thirst Missions*. The goal was to see if they would be a good entity through which to work in order to expand our mission endeavors to include trips to various places for all the people of Zion. If you'd like to hear about that trip, the group that went will unpack the trip at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 9th.

Young Adult Friendsgiving Potluck - Bring your favorite food and/or beverage and join me and other *Young Adults (18-30)* on *November 21st at 6:00 p.m.* for a Friendsgiving celebration! We'll enjoy food, fellowship, devotions, and more as we give thanks to the Lord for everything He gives us! **RSVP@:** <https://forms.gle/9tQoYxSQ1FAHMaKW8>

Community Service Survey - Julia Witt is organizing a church community service day in January; Please take the time to do a brief survey that asks a few questions that will aid in planning the event. A QR Code is available on the Missional Communities bulletin board and Fellowship Hall bulletin board.

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.

Poinsettias – Please consider ordering a poinsettia to beautify the Zion altar. The price has not changed from last year; they are \$12.50 for one poinsettia. They will be in a 6-inch pot with red and green foil around the pot. Last day to order will be Sunday, December 7.

Flowers given for the Glory of God are provided by Robin Greene, In Remembrance of Donna Utzinger; Todd and Mary Thorbahn, In Celebration of Their Wedding Anniversary.
If you happen to have a building-related issue, please contact Zion Trustee - 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 blessings that we see and for those that we don't.** Great is God's faithfulness!
- **The veterans of our country.** We are thankful for their service!
- **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 Bethany Lutheran Church, Erlanger, KY.**

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 **Larry Neack, Linda Geisselbrecht, Laura Mikow, Sharon Ruppel, 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



Today (11/4/25) I did something fun and stretching. I went with a dear friend and shopped. She mentioned to me many times how she could never be married to me. (That's OK, Kara is 'my person' and she has hers, but I know what she means.) What she meant was, 'we shop differently, think differently, and pretty much process life differently.' Admittedly, no statement could be truer, but that's why I like doing things with her. She's fun and she stretches me.

Still, the best part of these few hours we spent together wasn't the friendship or the laughter in the middle of 'Buddy's Kroger' (known as such because of one of the employees there). The best part was assembling two carts full of supplies for SEM foodbank – paid for by the people of Zion. It was debating about the cost of cereal as we loaded it up for those who needed it. It was the looks of people who asked if we were donating this – and why. It was kidding with the cashier – about stressing him out with numerous cereals and diapers and soaps and shampoos and toothbrushes. This was all great! I had a bunch of fun being stretched by God.

Most of all, I appreciated seeing people I knew and didn't know asking 'why' and I got to say something like, "We're blessed to do this." It was an inefficient use of my time that yielded big benefits not just for families that need it, but for a lowly sinner like me who through this act, got to experience the lavish gift of God's grace once more for me. See, He took the time to do so much more than shop and He did it for my salvation. He died on a cross – having in no way shape or form – fun. He stretched Himself out painfully on 'the tree' because of my sin. And He – did that for me.

So I can be stretched and say I'm blessed – because of Jesus. I hope these groceries and needed items do indeed bless people with the satisfaction of needs – the greatest of which is their need and mine for salvation. That last need is met in Christ alone. God, may the hands that pass these things on speak of Jesus and His love for them. I will pray toward that end. Thanks, Joy, for shopping with me. Thanks, Jesus, for saving me. I had fun being stretched today in faith. (PJ)

Devoting Ourselves to God's Word

Dear Zion Family:

I (PJ) found this and wanted to share...

'Counting Your Blessings' Leads to Better Health

According to author Richard Beck's book, gratitude is a simple practice. You don't need to dance in a Holy Ghost conga line to do this. One of my favorite studies about gratitude is the "Count Your Blessings" study conducted by the psychologist Bob Emmons. I remember singing the old gospel hymn "Count Your Blessings" as a child. The admonition of the song seemed so simplistic and trite:

When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God has done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your many blessings, see what God has done.

Turns out those lyrics are cutting-edge science. In his "Count Your Blessings" study Emmons had participants do the simplest thing: At the end of each day take a moment to count your blessings by writing them down in a journal. And you know what happened? At the end of the study the participants who engaged in this simple practice of thanksgiving were healthier—emotionally and physically—than the control group. Simply counting your blessings made people healthier and happier. That's the cheapest therapy you're ever going to find. Prayer, as a practice, is a constant posture of thankfulness. Prayer is the mindful discipline to act out of an experience of gift rather than scarcity. So count your blessings. Name them, one by one.

Source:

Richard Beck, "Reviving Old Scratch" (Fortress Press, 2016), Pages 158-159

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

Drawing Prompt: How does God comfort you when you are sad?