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ANNOUNCEMENTS – January 18, 2026

This Week at Zion

Sunday, January 18 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

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

9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Youth and Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship – MMC

Monday (1/19)

[That God would raise up indigenous pastors, deaconesses and other church leaders.]

Tuesday (1/20)

[For the Synod's partner churches around the world.]

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

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

7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting

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

Wednesday (1/21)

[With thanksgiving for all past missionaries.]

9:00 a.m. Forest-Aires

Thursday (1/22)

[That God would raise up more missionaries.]

Friday (1/23)

[That the Lord would open up the hearts and minds of people around the world.]

Saturday (1/24)

[For discernment, that we might heed God's call to serve in His name.]

Sunday, January 25 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 a.m. Classic Worship – Sanctuary

9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Youth and Adult Bible Study

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

From The 66...

John 1:29

"The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'"

The Israelites of old offered a lamb to God at Passover so that death might pass over them and do no harm. Over those long centuries of sacrifice, did they understand that this was actually God's gift? That God would be the true Giver of the true Lamb? Truly, we can never out-give God, for all that we have is His.

& the book of numbers.

LAST WEEK:

God's People Assembled: (as of 1/11/2026)

Classic - 8:30 am: 80

Contemporary - 11:00 am: 125

Facebook & Instagram: www.zionlc.org (Worship Tab)

Children's Church Total: 16

Christian Education Youth: 18

Adults: 30

God's People Give with *Treasure* (as of 1/11/2026)

Offering: \$12,946.00

God's People's Response through November 2025:

Giving: \$530,879 Expenses: \$463,947

Budget: \$508,685

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.

Zion's Staffed Nursery -- is for children ages 3 and under. Located 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 available 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).

Red Letter Challenge (RLC) – SERVING challenge 2026 – **Started January 4, 2026.** In the near past we highlighted the Red Letter Challenge, the red letters of Jesus, through a 40-day devotion and sermon series. *Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving, Going.* In 2023, we talked about BEING. 2024 - FORGIVING. In 2026, we are going to drill down into the SERVING challenge. In it we will be discovering 5 aspects of serving like Jesus. Such aspects come from a response to Jesus' grace to us and the joy we have in following Him. Books are in the atrium. If we need more, let PJ know. Questions about the series, ask PJ. Ask Julia about missional community connections/ possibilities and Chris about involving the children and youth.

Youth Notes --. **Youth Lock-in** – 6th-12th grade: 1/30/26 - 7pm-8am, \$10 for food, Nerf War, Snacks, Games. **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 (to Chris) for all events.**

Appalachian Mission Trip – **July 27-31st** we will be returning to Appalachia with Thirst Missions for mission trip. Please fill out the following form if you are interested in serving: <https://forms.gle/zbK53Fnui3jwSXgT9>. Reach out to Julia with any questions.

Provoking Proverbs – Get ready to be poked and provoked! In our upcoming Sunday morning Bible study, we will be looking at the book of Proverbs through the lens of the Ten Commandments using Rev. David Coe's book "Provoking Proverbs", and will learn to fear, love, and trust in God because he first forgives, loves, and treasures us.

The online flower chart for 2026 is now ready to access. Here is the link to use:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548A5AA2FA6FC1-61293095-2026> Just be sure to click on the chart for 2026. You can also sign up using the paper flower chart. Thank you to all who donate flowers to glorify God's Altar.

Maddux News – Thank you for all your generosity in giving to support A Caring Place! Please consider bringing in juice boxes. Thank you again for your wonderful support.

Sign In instruction 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.

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.

Worship Bags — We have "quiet" bags for kids ages 0-10. They are planned for different age groups: 0-3, 4-6, and 7-10. The materials are intended to help kids grow spiritually: coloring and activity books about Bible stories, white board for taking sermon notes or illustrating one of the Bible readings, Bible story books to read, etc. Feel free to use them if they will help to keep your child engaged during the worship service. When the service is over, just put the contents back in the bag and put it back on the rack. The rack is located in the atrium between the sanctuary and the MMC, near the kids' table.

Lakeview Ministries provides incredibly faith-fill experiences for kids of all ages. Coming to camp builds life skills and reduces levels of stress and anxiety. It allows for deeper friendships, and most importantly, lets you experience Jesus in a way that connects with your everyday life. **Registration for summer camp opens on February 2 and for other camp programs on February 9.** www.lakeview.camp or call 812-342-4815. Come and experience the joy of camp this summer!

Zion Puzzle Library -- The jigsaw puzzle library is located just beyond the door to the Sunday School wing. Feel free to borrow one or two and return after completion. The puzzles range from 300 to 1500 pieces.

Message from Laura Mikow -- I want to thank my brothers and sisters in Christ for all the prayers, calls, emails, cards, and the Christmas Carolers (you know who you are! 🙏). My back surgery went well, thankfully. Now for the recovery which will take several months. Please keep my recovery in your prayers. I am so blessed to call you "family."

Flowers given for the Glory of God are provided by Elizabeth Hoffmann, In Memory of My Birth Mother. If you happen to have a building-related issue, please contact a Trustee for January: Todd Thorbahn

Praying. Asking. Seeking. Knocking.

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

We pray for...

- **The Red Letter Challenge – *Serving Challenge*** – Its work in our midst.
- **Gratitude shown through stewardship** – financial, relational, physical, and spiritual.
- **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.
- **Madalyn Graves and David Colson's engagement! Josh Cooper and Tina Vance's engagement!**
- **The mission of St. Marks Lutheran, Milford, 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.
- Relief of pain, strength, and healing for **Debbie Rose-Howard, Karen Vollbracht, Linda Berlier, Laura Mikow, Bill Spies, Stephani Sink, and Linda Jenkins and other family/ friends** in need of healing.
- **Those in Care Centers/ Those at Home:** Janet Brunner, Vera Zimmerman, Anna Moynahan, Ty and Michele Arendall, Bob and Sharon Ruppel, Vida Musselman, Doris Motley, and Jody Wiebe.
- **The Siegel Family (Bill died 1-6-26) 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

Last weekend, eight youth from Zion attended the Quake youth gathering at the Holiday Inn Eastgate. The theme was "Anchored" and was based on Hebrews 6:19a: "*We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.*" Anchored in God's promises. God who cannot lie and will always do what He says He will do. God who made Jesus our great high priest. God who is bringing all of us to spiritual maturity.

The kids were encouraged to grow in their faith. "Pray now" and "wear out your Bible" were two specific challenges that the speaker gave to the kids. We often say we will pray for someone, but then never do. So ... pray for them right now! We wear out our iPhones and AirPods, so why not wear out our Bibles, too? Anchor ourselves in the Word of God which gives us hope.

Here is what our kids had to say:

- Don't simply talk about doing things, act now. – Addison Blankenship
- I loved seeing my peers experience and be passionate about the love of God. – Leah O'Grady
- Through the hardships of life, keep your relationship with God strong because He will help us through those times. – Ellen Robey
- I learned not to take Jesus for granted. – Avery Sink
- I would come to this event again because I loved the feeling of being connected! – Abbi Wood
- The sermons were interesting and the food packaging (service project) was definitely a highlight. – Elias Buckingham
- I know God. I love my friends so much! -- Lillian Plourde
- I was able to see a new definition of "hope" and "wish", where hope is anchored in reality and wish is fictitious. The Bible was written to give me hope and anchor my faith. – Hayden O'Farrell

Devoting Ourselves to the Word

“The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.”-Psalm 121:5-6

I know that in the middle of January, it is hard to imagine the relentless beating of a hot sun. Perhaps you would find it easier right now to imagine a bitter cold wind on a dark night. Either way, I want you to take a moment to imagine yourself outside, with the full force of the elements surrounding you. Now imagine that you have found some sort of a shelter, perhaps a lean-to or a large tree. How much better does it feel to be under the protection of that shelter?

When the Psalm says, “the Lord is your shade on your right hand”, it means that the Lord is our shelter. The Lord is the one who protects us from the harsh elements. Of course, we still live in a broken world, and we face the harsh elements of sin, death, and the devil every day. But we also know that Christ has defeated all these things, and that he guards us from their reach, heals us from the wounds they leave behind, and someday will bring us home to a place where we are safe from the elements for eternity.

- Julia Witt

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

Drawing Prompt: How can you serve your family?

“TAKING THE CROSS OF GRACE AND PEACE...”