



# The Herald

1300 Edgewood Drive, Lima, Ohio 45805  
419-224-9951 [www.zionlima.org](http://www.zionlima.org)

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## **HOLIDAY WORSHIP TIMES**

**Christmas Eve Eve and Christmas Eve**

**Saturday, December 23 - 5:00 pm**

**One Combined Service on December 24**

**Two Candelight Services on December 24**

**5:00 pm & 10:00 pm**

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**New Year's Eve Eve & New Year's Eve**

**Saturday Worship - December 30 at 5:00 pm**

**Combined Worship - December 31, 10:00 am**

**Lessons & Carols**

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**December 2017**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Zion has been through many changes in the past 163 years. Each has challenged this congregation in one manner or another and some have been more difficult than others. But the constant that has always gotten Zion through is the faith of each congregation in God's guidance. Whatever the need, God has provided in His time.



As we face the current changes, we are only asked, as in the past, to “keep the faith” and to continue trusting not only in God's grace, but also in the strength of this congregation to persevere...to continue moving ahead in its mission to Welcome, Grow, and Serve. We are blessed with many strong leaders, generous servants, faithful believers in this church.

As your Church Council, our focus will be, first, to support the ongoing work of the various teams/missions of Zion. We believe that, as we move toward calling a new pastor, candidates will appreciate the strength of a faithful, forward-minded congregation. Secondly, we will do all within our power to move through the transition process as quickly as humanly possible, knowing that God is ultimately in control of the timing.

We will keep you updated on the progress and ask for your input and prayers throughout the months ahead. In the meantime, we simply ask that you continue in your support and participation in the mission and activities of Zion, that you consider other areas where you can make a contribution, and that you remain faithful in the knowledge that “God's got this.”

With sincere, deep appreciation for your commitment to Zion,

Matt Young

Cindy Linton

Kim Manning

Jackie Loescher,

Lisa Price

Jim Raabe

Terry Boop

Kurt Knott

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1300 Edgewood Drive  
Lima, Ohio 45805

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Return Service Requested

**Congregational Meeting**

On December 11<sup>th</sup> at around noon (or slightly before) is our semi-annual congregational meeting. The only item of business council has approved for this meeting will be to approve the proposed budget/projected expenditures for 2016 (available at back of church).

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**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** - Congratulations to all Zion Prayer Shawl Members! Our Prayer Shawl Weekend could not have happened without all of you stepping up to complete shawls this year. We can be very happy with the success of 2016. We want to thank the Endowment Board and all people that have supported us. As most already know, we do not meet in December. Keep those needles busy as possible and let me know if you need more yarn. **We will see you on January 10th at 1:00 p.m. in the library. Have a wonderful Christmas!**  
**Blessings - Marie Lawrence and Sally Parker**

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This year our **Children's Sunday School offerings** will go to **ELCA Good Gifts** for the purchase of barnyard animals. Our goal is to start with a pig (\$20), and if we are able to purchase more, try to get a hive of bees (\$20.00), then a goat (\$50.00), and use any remaining money for chicks (\$1.00 ea). When children bring an offering to Sunday School, we will take care of the donations to ELCA Good Gifts and keep the children informed of our progress. Thanks to Teacher Pam Raabe for organizing this way to help others.

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**OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH - December 21st at 11:45 a.m. (note time change)**  
**we will be meeting at Apollo Garden Cafe, 3325 Shawnee Rd.** Come join us for fun and fellowship with your Zion Family. Sign up at Sign-Up Central, located in the North Exit Hallway or call Stan or Marie Lawrence, 419-225-7071

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**End of Year Offerings**

The following guidelines will be used to determine the recognition of contributions in the appropriate tax year.

To be included in the current year's income:

Contributions must be in the church office no later than Sunday, December 31.

Contributions can also be mailed to the Church and will be included for 2017, as long as they are postmarked by December 29 (regardless of the date on the front of the offering envelope).

Electronic contributions must show an effective date of December 31 or prior.

Contributions that do not meet the above criteria will be included in the donor's giving record for 2018. Thank you all for your faithful support of Zion.



**Financial Update:**

At the end of October, the budget expenditures are anticipated to be at 83.3% or less in each budget category. The total budget expenditures through October are at 78.3%. However, two categories are trending higher this month.

Per Zion's constitution: *Review and communication of budget financial performance to Church Council and congregation. This includes identifying budget line items that exceed 5% of the expected month-to-date amount and an exception explanation provided to Church Council for their monthly meeting. Should an entire category exceed 5% of its annual budgeted amount, the congregation will be notified in the newsletter with explanation. (C13.05 - Finance Board)*

200 Utilities is at 85.5% due to Line items 203-Water and Sewer at 83.8% and 204-Telephone/Communications which is at 119.2% primarily due to expenses related to internet accessibility issues.

500 Serve is at 85.2% due to Line item 506-Churchwide Mission Support (Synod tithe) which is at 90.7% of the budgeted allocation.

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**WHAT'S UP AT CUP?**

CUP pantry is very grateful to Zion for the continued generous monthly support and for being chosen as one of the year-end special projects. Many people took advantage of the recent Meijer sales of canned vegetables and with other donations, so we've had boxes of food items to deliver to the pantry.

You might like to know that 99% of the people who use CUP are very grateful for the help. Of those who use the service, many are grandparents on limited retirement income with grandchildren, and sometimes great-grandchildren, living with them or others do to lack of education or other conditions, having low paying jobs that cannot stretch far enough for rent and food. One of the saddest things I hear when I ask for an address is that they are living at the Royal Motel with limited cooking and other conditions, which is literally being homeless. There are others whose visits are months, and even a year apart, and who make it clear they only come when absolutely necessary.

Those who work at the pantry or have visited know the building shows its age, especially the floor which looks awful. The board wanted to spruce things up a little but had a bid of ever \$3500 to strip and clean the floor professionally. But now we have a bright, clean floor thanks to Master Maintenance, who did the job pro-bono!

Submitted by Janice Comeskey

# Christmas Poinsettia Sale

Fill in the order blank below and place in the offering plate or send to the church office.

Payment must accompany orders.

Please make checks payable to:  
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

**Complete the order blank below and return by  
December 10, 2017**

**You may pick up your poinsettias after the  
10:00 pm Christmas Eve Service**

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No. of plants @ \$6.00 each :            Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Red \_\_\_\_\_    White \_\_\_\_\_    Pink \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

In Loving Memory of (Deceased)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of (Living)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

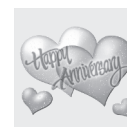
Below is a list of members who are unable to participate in worship and other activities here at Zion. If you would like to extend caring wishes to them, we're certain that they and/or their families will be very appreciative.

Brendan Daily Shawnee Manor 2535 Ft. Amanda Road Lima, OH 45804	Janice Lones Shawnee Manor 8B 2535 Ft. Amanda Road Lima, OH 45804	Maddie Kolsky 100 Red Oak Circle Cridersville, OH 45806
Glenna Jennison Luther Pines 82-D 807 S. Mummaugh Rd Lima, OH 45804	Dave McCormick 352 Red Wing Court Cridersville, OH 45806	Gene Morris 2075 N. Eastown Road Lima, OH 45807
Marilynn Rupert 1655 Arlington Dr. Lima, OH 45805	Virginia Snow 105 Barnsbury Dr. Lima, OH 45804	Jan Leonard
Marcia & John O'Keefe		

Also, here are current addresses for most of our former seminary interns, should you like to extend wishes to them.

Rev. Rita Bair	17877 W. State Route 579	Martin	OH	43445-9753
Rev. William Leitch	851 Niles Cortland Rd NE	Warren	OH	44484-1002
Rev. John G Mileski	1950 Athens St. #2A-B	Boulder	CO	80302
Rev. Cindy & Tom Ritter	4214 Deer Run	Oregon	OH	43616
Rev. Ron & Esther Philabaum	3924 Muhlenburg Court	Burlington	NC	27215

## December Celebrations



### Wedding Anniversaries

Day		Years	Day		Years
8	Mike and Sarah Murphy	4	20	Bob and Carol Gibson	13
15	Dan and Sue Fifer	43	23	Stan and Joanna Vanemark	38



### Birthdays

Day		Day		Day	
1	Buzz Long	10	Terri Miller	17	Benjamin Heffner
1	Bob Sielschott	11	Jack Spratt	18	Carrie Schepman
2	Alice White	12	Melissa Jennison	21	Jim Guy
6	Barbara Hawk	14	Don Comeskey	21	Scott Wolery
8	Dave Miller	14	Carol Kiley	22	Amanda Carrington
9	Philip Shafer	15	Fawn Shulz	23	Brandon Behnfeldt
9	Sabrina Stambaugh	15	Ann Torbet		

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If we've missed your anniversary or birthday, or if we have the wrong date, please call the Office - 419-224-9951

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>December 2017</b>						1 2 <i>Advent Begins</i> 8:30 am <b>Men's Breakfast</b> 3:30 pm <b>Praise Team Practice</b> 5:00 pm <b>Worship Service</b>
3 <i>Advent Begins</i> 8:30 & 10:45 am <b>Worship Service</b> 9:30 <b>Bell Choir practice</b> 9:30-10:30 am <b>Sunday School</b> Noon — <b>Potluck</b>	4	5 6:00 pm <b>Welcome /Bldg &amp; Property</b>	6	7 7:00 pm <b>Choir practice</b>	8	9 3:30 pm <b>Praise Team Practice</b> 5:00 pm <b>Worship Service</b>
10 <b>Prayer Shawl Sunday</b> 8:30 & 10:45 am <b>Worship</b> 9:30 <b>Bell Choir practice</b> 9:30-10:30 am <b>Sunday School</b>	11 5:30 pm <b>Finance Committee</b>	12 7:00 pm <b>Council Mtg</b>	13 Noon <b>Out to Lunch Bunch at Casa Lu Al</b>	14 7:00 pm <b>Choir practice</b>	15	16 3:30 pm <b>Praise Team Practice</b> 5:00 pm <b>Worship Service</b>
17 <b>Congregation Meeting at noon</b> 8:30 & 10:45 am <b>Worship Service</b> 9:30 <b>Bell Choir practice</b> 9:30-10:30 am <b>Sunday School</b>	18 <b>January Newsletter Deadline</b>	19 7:00 pm <b>Childcare Christmas Program</b>	20	21 7:00 pm <b>Choir practice</b>	22	23 3:30 pm <b>Praise Team Practice</b> 5:00 pm <b>Worship Service</b> 10:00 pm <b>Worship Service</b>
24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship Service</b> 5:00 & 10:00 pm <b>Candlelight Services</b>	25 <b>Merry Christmas</b>	26	27 7:00 pm <b>Endowment Board</b>	28	29	30 3:30 pm <b>Praise Team Practice</b> 5:00 pm <b>Worship Service</b>
31 <b>New Year's Eve</b> 10:00 am <b>Lessons &amp; Carols</b>	1 <b>Happy New Year!</b>	2	3	4	5	6
Please note: No Children's Sunday School on Dec. 24 & Dec. 31.						

**SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS !** We continue to collect **Chief's Receipts**. Remember that the receipt must say **COMMUNITY CASH** across the top. These may be placed in the bin on the table inside the north entrance. Thanks to Linda Wensole who takes care of this project for us.

Serve Team is also continually collecting Campbell's Soup Can labels, used postage stamps, eyeglasses, and used ink cartridges. The rebates on these items allow the Serve Team to donate to various missions.

### A Message From Childcare

December is such a busy and exciting month for all of our little ones at Zion. We have many special activities planned throughout the month.

During this special month, we will talk about Santa but focus on the real meaning of Christmas – the birth of Christ. The first week of December we are focusing on Bible stories related to this season of the year. We are also having our Polar



Express Day that helps us believe in the child-like magic of Christmas. In addition, our annual Christmas Party will provide the children with special crafts and games. With all this activity, we have decided to forego the traditional evening Christmas pageant and instead have a shorter daytime program for the younger students.

The transition over the past couple of months has had some challenges, but, thanks to our wonderful staff and the caring support of church staff, the Childcare Board, Church Council and the congregation, we feel very confident about the months ahead. The collaborative relationship between Childcare and the church has become a vital component of our culture. Thanks so much to everyone for your prayers and enthusiastic support.

We wish all of you a very blessed Christmas season !!

Lesla Brown, Interim Director



## Worship Helpers

Position	Dec 2-3	Dec 9-10	Dec 17-18	Dec 24-25	Dec 31 Jan 1
<b>Saturday Asst. 5:00 pm</b>	Carrie Schepman	Bud Linton	Sue Fifer	Cathy Lehman (5:00) Darrell Ball (10:00 pm)	Diana Schneider
<b>Asst. Minister 8:30</b>	Diana Schneider	Matt Young	Diana Schneider		
<b>Asst. Minister 10:45</b>	Carol Gibson	Cathy Lehman	Curtis Young	Chuck Eichelberger (10:00 am)	Carol Gibson (10:00 am)
<b>Greeters Saturday</b>	Garry and Rose Theis	Linda Boop	Dixie Coffman	Cindy Linton	Ted Smith
<b>Saturday Offering Assistants</b>	Garry and Rose Theis	Linda Boop Ellen Joseph	Tom and Carrie Schepman	Cindy Linton Sue Fifer	Ted Smith Kim Manning
<b>Projection Input</b>	Cindy Linton	Diana Schneider	Diana Schneider	Dave Miller	Dave Miller
<b>Outdoor Sign</b>	Nan Maley	Nan Maley	Nan Maley	Nan Maley	Nan Maley
<b>Head Usher 8:30</b>	Roger Fessler	Dan Schulz	Dave Hieneman		
<b>Ushers 10:45</b>	Gary Howell Mark Cellar Joel Perrin Darrell Ball Stan Vandemark	Gary Howell Jim Maley Curtis Young Dave Morman Richard Schneider	Gary Howell Mark Cellar Stan Vandemark Joel Perrin Dave Morman	Gary Howell Joel Perrin Stan Vandemark Richard Schneider (10:00 am)	Gary Howell Ed Baden Stan Vandemark Richard Schneider Sam Bassit
<b>Bread Bakers</b>	Dixie Coffman	Dixie Coffman	Phyllis Simon	Phyllis Simon	Pam Raabe
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Linda and Suzy Young Janice Schneider Kim Manning (Sat)	Linda and Suzy Young Janice Schneider Kim Manning (Sat)	Linda and Suzy Young Janice Schneider Kim Manning (Sat)	Linda and Suzy Young Janice Schneider Kim Manning (Sat)	Diana Schneider Becky Scott Sue Fifer (Sat)

10:00 pm Christmas Eve Ushers:

Gary Howell, Jim Maley Ed Baden, Stan Vandemark, Sam Bassitt, Curtis Young

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Ushers: TBA

## *General Information*

### Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

1300 Edgewood Drive, Lima, Ohio 45805  
419-224-9951 Fax: 419-224-1279

**Toll-free message:** 1-877-470-1910

**e-mail:** churchoffice@zionlima.org

**web site:** www.zionlima.org

**Facebook:** zionlima

**Childcare phone number:** 419-224-7719

### **Worship:**

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 8:30 & 10:45 am

Sunday School - 9:35 am

Tuesdays-12:00 pm: Live on-line Worship

### **Pastor:**

**Administrative Coordinator:** Diana Schneider: schneider.diana@rocketmail.com

**Church Secretary:** Norma Penn: churchoffice@zionlima.org

**Church Treasurer:** Diana Schneider: schneider.diana@rocketmail.com

**Stephen Ministry Leaders:** Carrie Schepman & Diana Schneider

**Contacts:** Carrie Schepman (419-233-9081)

**Children's Sunday School Coordinator** - Carol Gibson (567-204-0985)

**Organist:** Mary Jane Eichelberger

**Adult Choir Director:** Marilyn Roth Basinger

**Bell Choir Director:** Jonathan Lischak

**Saturday Night Music Leader:** Open

**Childcare Director** - [Lesa Brown](#):

### **Scheduled Activity**

Men's Breakfast

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

### **Contact Person**

Gary Howell

Marie Lawrence

### **Phone Number**

419-236-7275

419-225-7071

### **Church Council:**

**President** – Matt Young

**President-elect** – Cindy Linton

**Secretary** – Kim Manning

**Members-at-Large:** Jackie Loescher, Lisa Price, Kurt Knott, Jim Raabe, Terry Boop