



# Zion Live Life in Christ Lutheran

## Panther Paws

Worship Opportunities

Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30am

Contact Information

School 618-635-3060 ext 1  
Daycare 618-635-3060 ext 2  
Church 618-635-2880  
email [Office@zion-school.org](mailto:Office@zion-school.org)

*The mission at Zion Lutheran School is to guide students toward academic excellence and to be Christian Leaders!*

**November 21, 2024**

### Bible Verse of the Week

“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,  
And into His courts with praise.  
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.”  
Psalm 100:4

### From the Principals Dek

Dear Zion Family,  
As we approach Thanksgiving, my heart is filled with gratitude for the many blessings we share as a school. Each day, I witness the love of Christ reflected in our students, the dedication of our teachers and staff, and the partnership of our families. These moments remind me of the verse from Psalm 107:1: “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.”

Thanksgiving is a time to pause and reflect on God’s goodness in our lives. Whether it’s the laughter of our students, the joy of learning, or the strength of our Zion Family, we have so much to be thankful for.

As you gather with loved ones this Thanksgiving, I pray that your homes are filled with joy, love, and the peace that comes from our Lord. Thank you for being an integral part of our Zion community and for trusting us to guide your children on their faith and academic journey.

Happy Thanksgiving from our Zion family to yours!

In Christ’s Love,  
Jamie Crouch

### Announcements:

#### Cold Weather Reminder: Bring Your Winter Gear!

As the weather gets colder, please remember that students will need coats and other winter gear to go outside for recess on cold days. When the wind chill is especially cold, a winter coat will be required.

Tomorrow, **Friday, November 22nd**, students will be outside for recess as the gym will be in use for planned activities. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather!

Thank you for helping keep our students warm and ready to enjoy their recess time!

#### Monday, November 25-29 No School.

Thanksgiving Break. Daycare will be open on November 25-27 only. Daycare is closed on November 28 and 29th for Thanksgiving. A sign up sheet is on the front desk. Please be sure to sign up your child if you need care.



Zion Lutheran School will be presenting “Light a Candle” this unique children’s

service involves the lighting of candles to

represent the good news of God's love, shown for us in the gift of His son on that first Christmas. This program will include our pre-K4 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and will take place Sunday, December 15 at 1:30pm, in the church sanctuary. A second program will be held Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in the church sanctuary. There will not be any make-up dates should the program be canceled due to weather.



### **Preschool/Daycare through 2nd Grade**

Our next family night will take place on Wednesday, January 22 at 6pm. Please

watch for more information and a sign-up form to come home after Thanksgiving Break.

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

**NOTE ATHLETIC DATES ARE LISTED UNDER SPORTS**

**Mon. 11/25-Fri.11/29:** Thanksgiving Break

**Weds. 11/28:** Thanksgiving Eve Service 3:30 and 7:00

**Sun.12/1:** Live Nativity Zion Lutheran Church 5:30-7:30

**Mon. 12/2:** Classes Resume

**Sunday 12/15:** Christmas Program 1:30

**Friday 12/20:** Christmas Program 9:00am

### **November Birthdays-Happy Birthday!**

11/20: Ansley Alexander

11/21: Henry DeGama Rose

11/23: Charlie DeGama Rose

11/26: Abigail Cooper

11/27: Katie Ogden

11/29: Mila Griffith

### **In our prayers this week**

- Birthday blessings to Ansley, Charlie, Henry, Abigail, Katie and Mila.
- Prayer of gratitude for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

- Prayers for safe travels to all those traveling to be with family and friends this Thanksgiving holiday.

### **Lunch Bites**

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> Lunch:** Beef Nachos, Refried Beans, Cooked Apples, Milk

- December lunch menu will be sent out before we return from Thanksgiving break. Please keep an eye out for that email.

### **Lunch Volunteers for the week of Dec.2- Dec.6:**

**Mon.12/2:**

**Tues.12/3:**

**Weds.12/4:** Heather France

**Thurs.12/5:**

**Fri.12/6:** Tim Seelbach

*If you have an hour of free time, please consider volunteering to help serve lunch to our students and staff. Please sign up here if you are able to help:*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044AA5AC29A2FA7-50706609-serving>

### **Student Council**



We will be having "face painting" for \$1.00 at all home games. This not only supports our teams but will also promote school spirit!

With the money that we were able to raise from our most recent fundraiser the student council purchased a Pickleball set , basketballs, dodgeballs, soccerballs and footballs for the students to use during recess.

## **Mark your calendars: Choir Dates**

"Joyful Noise" 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade

"Praise Him" 4yr PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> grade

- December 15, Christmas Program
- December 20, Christmas Program

## **Sunday School Classes are every Sunday from 9:30-10:15**

In addition to adult classes, we have classes for Early Childhood (3 years old-1st grade), Elementary (2nd- 5th grade), and Youth Bible study (6th-12th grade). Early Childhood classes will meet in Mrs. Kleckner's Preschool room (off the gym). Elementary classes will meet in Mrs. Meadors classroom (on the main floor). The 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth bible study class will meet in Mrs. Cook's classroom (on the main floor), and the adult class gathers in the school cafeteria (lower-level). Please consider joining us this fall!

## **Chapel Offerings**

Every Wed. the students/staff attend chapel service at 8:30am in the church. Parents and friends are invited to join us as well. Offerings are collected weekly and given to a selected charity per quarter. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter offerings will be donated to Lutheran Disaster Response.

## **Youth group**

### **God's Kids (3rd-5th grade)**

On Sunday, December 8 we will have our Christmas party for God's Kids at the school from 1-3pm. We will have pizza (a member of the church has graciously donated the funds for this) soda and cookies provided. Each child attending is asked to bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift for an exchange. The gift should be something for a boy or a girl. (Ideas might include candy, food, socks, seasonal items, a couple of fun dollar tree finds, etc. Be creative and have fun with your gifts. We will play a game to exchange our gifts.

**Please contact Pam Kleckner with any questions.**

## **MS/HS YOUTH GROUP 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)**

**Sunday 11/24** – MS/HS 3pm-6pm

Come celebrate "Friendsgiving"!

Please bring a snack item to share with the group.

## **Glow Up to Support Zion Youth**

Our Zion youth continue their efforts to raise money for their upcoming trips to the LCMS Youth Gathering, YouthLead, and the 8th grade retreat. We are hosting a Facebook Fundraiser with Mary Kay Independent Sales Director and DCE Faith Spelbring. Our youth will bring in 50% of every purchase made with our unique link:

<https://marykayapp.page.link/Hv4u>

**(See the flyer below for more info.)**

## **Sports/Activities Schedule**

**Sports Physical:** Any student wanting to play a sport will need a sports physical. Please note 6<sup>th</sup> graders may use their health form as a sports physical



### **Cheer**

Coaches: Michaela Martintoni, Stephanie Diamond

### **Practices:**

**Thurs. 11/21** 6:00-7:15



## **BASKETBALL**

### **Girls**

Coach: Ryan Henke and Tim Seelbach

### **Practices:**

No Practices Enjoy Thanksgiving Break!

### **Games:**

**Thursday 11/21** @ Unity, East St. Louis 6pm A

**Boys:** Coach: BJ Davis and Andrew Robertson

**Practices:** No Practices Enjoy Thanksgiving Break!

### **Games:**

**Thursday 11/21** @ Unity, East St. Louis 6pm A

PTL



### **Christmas Shoppe**

"Each year Zion PTL hosts a Christmas Shoppe for our Zion

students to shop for presents for their loved ones. This year we will be hosting the event on Friday, December 13th.

We need Christmas Elves! Our elves assist students with their shopping or wrapping presents. If you can help for any time at all, please sign up at this link. Full shifts are not mandatory, any time you can volunteer is much appreciated. We may also need assistance with breakdown and inventory after the event."

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48AAAF2DA1FEC61-53197307-ptlchristmas>

### **School Apparel Shop** Your NEW 24/7

Zion Lutheran School Sideline Store is officially up and running. Get out there and cheer on your team. Go Zion Lutheran School!

**Visit the Store Here:**

<https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/illinois/staunton/zion-lutheran-school>

### **Restaurant Fundraiser Dates**

Please support our local merchants.

A percentage of your meal will be donated to support Zion! Thank you to our local merchants!

#### **Dairy Queen Fundraiser Nights**

1st Monday of Every Month

#### **EL Indio**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month

#### **Little Italy's Fundraiser Nights**

3rd Wed. of the month

#### **Asian Bistro- (dates to be announced)**

### **RaiseRight (Formally Scrip)**

Go to RaiseRight.com or download the new RaiseRight app on your phone to get started. The Zion enrollment code is FC3ALE174778. program.

Orders may be placed on line at [RaiseRight.com](https://www.raise-right.com) or you may also call Michelle (618-660-5044) or e-mail her at [michrant@gmail.com](mailto:michrant@gmail.com). You may drop off scrip orders and payments at the school, daycare, or church office during their regular hours. All orders placed by noon on Monday will be available for pickup by Thursday of each week. Orders may be available sooner if items requested are currently in stock. For immediate purchases, scrip is available during school office hours. We continue to carry our local retailers and our most popular national retailers in inventory. If you have additional questions, please contact Michelle Rantanen.

**Remember, a percentage of all of your scrip purchases will be deducted from your monthly tuition!**





The holidays are just around the corner. As you begin to do your holiday shopping consider purchasing gift cards through the RaiseRight program. There are 100's of gift cards to choose from. Your favorite stores, restaurants and entertainment spots including many local businesses such as Mayfields, Blackbird Bakery, Bills IGA, Cavataios and R&B's Family Restaurant are a part of this program to name a few. You can help Zion PTL raise money and receive money off of tuition all while using your gift cards for your everyday spending. Don't forget birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and any special occasion that comes your way! Plenty of travel scrip cards available as well.



## *Glow Up to Support Zion Youth*

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<https://marykayapp.page.link/Hv4u>

Join the Facebook group that we created for this event, "Zion Staunton Youth MK Fundraiser." There, Faith will share skin care tips and makeup trends on our Facebook Group from Monday, 11/18 through Friday, 11/22. She will have a live demonstration of the latest age-fighting goodies Mary Kay has to offer on Thursday, 11/21 at 7pm. You'll also get to see awesome MK Christmas gifts available for this Christmas season. Consider shopping for your skin care, cosmetic, and gifting needs this coming week! You can participate there, or skip the Facebook fun and shop using the link above.

Here's how you can support this event:

1. Shop using our unique shopping link: <https://marykayapp.page.link/Hv4u>
2. Invite your friends to shops using this same link.
3. Invite your friends to join our Facebook group, "Zion Staunton Youth MK Fundraiser"

Remember, 50% of all sales, that is 100% of the profit, will go right to our youth fundraising efforts!

Why is this so important? Events like the LCMS Youth Gathering demonstrate to our students that they aren't alone in the world. They will learn beside and worship with tens of thousands of teens from all over the country and the world! They will be challenged in their faith, connect as a group, and watch what our powerful God does through His church! YouthLead is a training ground for youth who want to grow into leaders in God's kingdom, and specifically in our church! This event equips teens to be leaders of Bible studies, prayers, and people! Younger members of our youth who get to go on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade retreat will get away from regular life and find refreshment in God's Word and Christian company! Memories are made and faith grows through these events. Thank you for all the support you give to help our youth attend them!

Thanks  
Kristi Cook  
Kindergarten Teacher  
Youth Leader  
Staunton, IL

**ENDURE**

HEBREWS 12:1-3







## Live Nativity

Free drive-thru nativity scene with live actors!

## Advent Prayer Vigil

Church doors will be open!

**Sunday December 1st 5:30pm-7:30pm**



\*If you would like to volunteer for one of the two shifts (5:30-6:30pm or 6:30-7:30pm), please contact Barb Brackman (618-315-3589) or any member of the Board of Parish Education\*

Zion Lutheran Church  
309 Elm St  
Staunton, IL 62088  
[www.zion-luth.org](http://www.zion-luth.org)



Live Nativity Sunday, December 1st  
5:30-6:30

Inn Keeper: Rich Henry

Mary & Joseph: Heather and Rob France

Angels: Aleah Wyatt, Anna Mosser, Abby Mosser,  
Ansley Alexander, Lily Girardin  
(2 More Needed)

Shepherds: Aaron Wyatt and Brent Ruehrup  
(2-3 More Needed)

Stable

Mary and Joseph: Elisabeth and Scott Wyatt

Shepherds: Tim Seelbach and Brady Seelbach  
Kings:(3 More Needed)



Zion will be hosting a Drive Through Live Nativity Scene and Prayer Vigil Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-7:30. We are still in need of some volunteers so that this event can be a success. If you would like to volunteer for one or both shifts, please contact Barb Brackman at (618)315-3589, or any members of the Board of Parish Education.

***\*Reminder: All volunteers need to arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of your shift to get dressed.***

Live Nativity Sunday, December 1st  
6:30-7:30

Inn Keeper:(1 Needed)

Mary & Joseph:(1 Mary and 1 Joseph Needed)

Angels: Winnie Bartony, Anna Machota  
(4 More Needed)

Shepherds: Drayvin Bartony, David Girardin  
(2-3 More Needed)

Stable

Mary and Joseph: Maryia and Quentin Bartony

Shepherds: Maclean Bartony, Henry Paul, Dennis Brackman

Kings:(3 More Needed)



 **Zion  
Lutheran**  
Church | School | Early Childhood



Trinity-St. Paul Walther League would like to invite all 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth to a fun fellowship event. Please join our youth for the Ugly Sweater English Country dance and light meal. A caller has been hired for the dance. He walks youth through the steps. So, it's perfect for beginners and seasoned dancers. Youth should dress modestly and comfortably.

**When:** Sunday, December 8th

**Where:** Trinity Lutheran Parish Hall 512 Main St., Worden, IL

**Time:** 3-7pm Cost: \$5 per attendee

-Peace IN Christ, Eliza Askins Walther League Parent

## UGLY SWEATER PARTY

