



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

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

December 5, 2024

Bible Verse of the Week

"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it" 1 Corinthians 10:13

From the Principals Desk:

Character Trait of the Month-Giving

Dear Zion Family,

This month, Zion is focusing on the character trait of *giving*. Giving isn't only about material things—it's about offering our time, kindness, and compassion to those around us. We are encouraging our students to look beyond themselves and see how they can make a difference in the lives of others, whether through small acts of kindness, being a good friend, or supporting someone in need.

In our daily announcements, we have been sharing Bible verses that highlight the joy and importance of giving, such as Acts 20:35, which reminds us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." We want our students to understand that giving is a reflection of God's love, and while it brings joy, we know that all good things, including the ability to give, come from God alone. At home, you can support our focus on *giving* by encouraging your child to think about ways they can be generous within your family or our town. This could be as

simple as helping a sibling, making a card for a friend, or even donating a small amount of their allowance to a charity of their choice. We hope these conversations and actions will help us all reflect on how we can give freely and joyfully, just as God has given to us.

Thank you for your continued support and for being a vital part of our Zion Family. Let us all work together to model and nurture the spirit of giving in our children.

In His Service,
Jamie Crouch
Zion Lutheran School
Principal

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

Preschool/Daycare through 2nd Grade
Our next family night will take place on Wednesday, January 22 at 6pm. Please look for more information and a sign-up form to come home after Thanksgiving Break.



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 8th grade students and will take place Sunday, December 15 at 1:30pm, in the church sanctuary. A second program will be held Friday, December 20th at 9:00am in the church sanctuary. There will not be any make-up dates should the program be canceled due to weather.

Zion's Worship Schedule



Saturday: 5:00p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Advent Services

12/11: 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

12/18: 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services at 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service: 10:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Service: 7:00 p.m.



Metro-East Lutheran High School is now accepting applications for new students for the 2025-2026 school year.

Apply online by clicking

on the "Admissions" tab on our website at melhs.org. For more information, email admissions@melhs.org. Apply today for your student to be a part of our growing school community!

Important Upcoming Dates

NOTE ATHLETIC DATES ARE LISTED UNDER SPORTS
Thursday 12/12: Christmas Shoppe Set up in the gym

Friday 12/13: Christmas Shoppe

Sunday 12/15: Christmas Program 1:30

Tuesday 12/17 8th grade Basketball and Cheer Night

Friday 12/20: Christmas Program 9:00am

Monday 12/23-Monday 01/06 Christmas Break

December Birthdays-Happy Birthday!

12/02 Pam Kleckner

12/02 Alice Weindel

12/05 Avery Brunsworth

In our prayers this week

- Birthday blessings to Pam Kleckner, Alice Wiendel, and Avery Brunsworth.
- Zion leadership, teachers, staff and congregation.

Lunch Bites

Lunch Volunteers for the week of Dec.5-Dec.12:

Thurs.12/5: Ashley Sanks

Fri.12/6: Tim Seelbach

Mon 12/9:

Tues. 12/10: Pam Hagarty

Weds. 12/11:

Thurs. 12/12:Heather France

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



Christmas Tree Auction: Each grade at Zion has been asked to decorate a miniature Christmas tree to be auctioned off with the proceeds going to the student council. Christmas trees are on display in the school front lobby and bidding will end Sunday, December 15th following the Christmas program. See the flyer below to see a few of the trees that are available. Trees will be in the narthex at the church this weekend to view.

Mark your calendars: Choir Dates

“Joyful Noise” 3rd-8th grade

“Praise Him” 4yr PreK-2nd 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 6th-12th 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. 2nd 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 6th-12th)

Sunday, December 8 2:00-4:00

Bowling at Airport Plaza Bowl

Meet at Zion at 1:30. We plan

to be back by 4:30. Price will

be dependent on how

many attend.

Sports/Activities Schedule

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



BASKETBALL

Girls

Coach: Ryan Henke and Tim Seelbach

Practices:

Thurs. 12/5: 3:00-5:00

Mon. 12/9: 3:00-5:00(A)

Mon. 12/9: 3:00-4:30(Co-ed)

Thurs.12/12:3:00-5:00(A)

Thurs.12/12:3:00-4:30(Co-ed)

Games:

Fri. 12/06-Sun. 12/08_Trinity Edwardsville Tip-Off Tournament

Fri.12/06@ MELHS A 5:15

Sat.12/07@ MELHS A 8:00/TBA

Sun.12/08@ MELHS A TBA

Tues.12/10 Home vs. Trinity, Edwardsville
C/A 5:00/6:00

Boys

Coach: BJ Davis, Andrew Robertson

Practices:

Thurs.12/5: 5:00-7:00

Mon. 12/9: 3:00-4:30(Co-ed)

Thurs.12/09:5:00-7:00

Thurs.12/12:3:00-4:30(Co-ed)

Games:

Thurs. 12/05 Home game vs FCBA
C/A 6:00-7:00

Tues.12/10 Home vs. Trinity, Edwardsville
A 7:00

Thurs. 12/12@Good Shepherd
B/A 6:00/7:00



Cheer

Coaches: Michaela Martintoni, Stephanie Diamond

Practices:

Thurs.12/12: 6:00-7:15

PTL

Sunday 12/08 at 5:00p.m. The PTL will meet for a business meeting. All are welcome to attend.



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

2nd 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. 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!



Thanksgiving Feast 2024



Thank you to Ms. Tammy, Darla Jorn and Karen Brown for preparing the delicious meal and to all the volunteers that helped with serving the meal and cleaning up.



Holiday Service Schedule at Zion:

Midweek Advent Services: Wednesdays at
3:30pm & 7pm, December 4th, 11th & 18th

Christmas Programs: Sunday, December
15th at 1:30pm & Friday, December 20th at
9am

Christmas Eve Services: Tuesday at 7pm &
Candlelight Service at 10pm



Christmas Day Service: Wednesday,
December 25th at 10am

New Year's Eve Services: Tuesday,
December 31st at 10am and 7pm

Weekend worship will remain the same, Saturdays 5pm
and Sundays 8:00 am & 10:30 am

**CHRISTMAS TREES ARE ON DISPLAY IN
THE SCHOOL FRONT LOBBY AND BIDDING
WILL END SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
FOLLOWING THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**



City of Staunton HOLIDAY WALK

Fri. Dec. 6th, 4-8pm

Visit Staunton's Participating Businesses & Open Store with Specials & Refreshments.
Live Nativity at Bush Park
At 8pm Watch the New Christmas Tree Lighting & Presentation of Staunton's 2024 Citizen of the Year!

SNACK WITH SANTA

Sat., Dec. 7th, 10am-2pm

at Ottmann Community Center
Visit Santa & Enjoy Cookies. Experience the Horse Drawn Carriage & Face Painting. Plus Story Hour Starting Every Hour at the Staunton Public Library!

FREE ADMISSION!

WINE & WALK BISTRO



WINE & WALK BISTRO
December 7th at 9:00 AM
on Main Street

UPCOMING CONCERTS

<p style="color: yellow;">Community Christmas Concert</p> <p>December 8th, 3:00pm</p> <p>St. Paul United Church of Christ 225 S. Laurel Street</p>	<p style="color: yellow;">Staunton High School Concert</p> <p>December 8th, 7:00pm</p> <p>at Staunton School</p>
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Dec. 6th & 7th - Fun! Slides, Food Trucks, Craft Fair & More!
Events Sponsored by the Staunton Chamber of Commerce & The City of Staunton and its Community.
Bring a Canned Good Item for the Food Pantry!

Trinity-St. Paul Walther League would like to invite all 7th-12th 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



December 2024

ENTRÉE ALTERNATE: Peanut Butter & Jelly

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Beef Nachos Tortilla Chips Refried Beans Cooked Apples Milk V: Jim Blessman	3 Turkey Sliders Roasted Potatoes Broccoli w/ Cheese Pineapple Fluff Salad Milk V: Pam Hagarty	4 Biscuits and Gravy Sausage Patty Tater Tots Mandarin Oranges Milk V: Heather France	5 Chili w/Crackers Peanut Butter Sandwich Fruit Cocktail Milk V: Ashley Sanks	6 Lasagna Casserole Garlic Bread Corn Chocolate Pudding Milk V: Tim Seelbach
9 French Toast Sticks Country Ham Breakfast Potatoes Yogurt w/Fruit Milk V:	10 Chicken Pot Pie w/ Biscuits Mozzarella Cheese stick Apple Slices Milk V: Pam Hagarty	11 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy Green Beans Cake Milk V:	12 Chicken Patty Sandwich Maccaroni & Cheese Peas Pears Milk V: Heather France	13 Chicken Crisпитos Mexican Rice Lettuce salad Fruit Milk V: Tim Seelbach
16 Riblet Sandwich Baked Beans Corn Applesauce Milk V: Ashley Sanks	17 Hot Dogs Loaded Tater Tots Carrots Fruit Cocktail Milk V:	18 Roasted Chicken Scalloped Potatoes Peas Peach Crisp Milk V: Heather France	19 Chef Salad Bread Stick Orange Sherbert Cup Milk V:	20 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Cut Up Veggies Cookie Bar Milk V: Tim Seelbach

