



# 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!*

**February 27, 2025**

### Bible Verse of the Week

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."-John 3:16*

### From the Desk of the Principal: Celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week!

Next week, Zion Lutheran School joins 1,800+ Lutheran schools nationwide in celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week (NLSW)! This year's theme, "Endure" (Hebrews 12:1-2), reminds us to run the race of faith with perseverance, keeping our eyes on Jesus.

Each day, our students will focus on a faith-building theme:

- Monday – Setting Aside Hindrances (Letting go of distractions to our faith)
- Tuesday – Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus (Keeping Christ at the center)
- Wednesday – Enduring the Cross (Remembering Jesus' sacrifice)
- Thursday – The Joy Set Before Us (Rejoicing in God's promises)
- Friday – Running the Race (Persevering in faith)

We are grateful for our Zion Family, where students learn, grow, and endure in Christ every day. Thank you for your prayers and support as we celebrate God's work in our school!

In Christ,  
Jamie Crouch

### Announcements:

### Important Upcoming Dates:

#### NOTE ATHLETIC DATES ARE LISTED UNDER SPORTS

**Sunday 03/02:** "Praise Him" Choir 10:30

**Monday 03/03-Friday 03/07:** NLSW

**Wednesday 03/05:** Prek4-8<sup>th</sup> Edisons Trip

**Wednesday 03/05:** Ash Wednesday Service

**Friday 03/07:** Special Friends Day

**Friday 03/07:** Early Dismissal 12:00

**Tuesday 03/18:** Pre-k and Kindergarten open house 7pm

### This Weeks Birthdays:

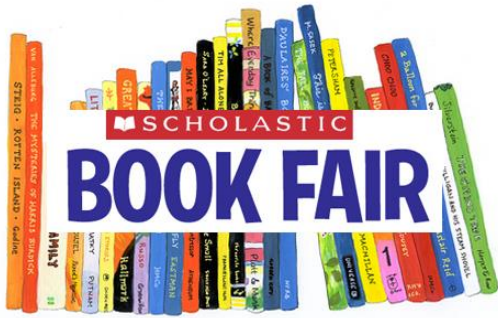
Joshua Wells  
Shaun Wells  
Claire McCalla  
Colton Griffith  
Gryffin Hardesty

### In our prayers this week

- Birthday blessings to Josh, Shaun, Claire, Colton and Gryffin.

### National Lutheran Schools Week 2025

- Monday 3/3: PJ Day
- Tuesday 3/4: Blackout Day
- Wednesday 3/5: School Spirit day
- Thursday 3/6: Be who you want to be day. Special Friends Day(Prek3)
- Friday 3/7: Special Friends Day (Prek4-8<sup>th</sup>)



This year's book fair will be held on Thursday March 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday March 7<sup>th</sup>. We are still in need of a few volunteers to help with set-up and take down as well as to help with checking out student purchases. If you would like to help, please sign up with the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E4DA9AD2DA1FA7-55321626-book>

### **Kindergarten Open House**

Kindergarten Open house for Zion will take place on Tuesday, March 18 at 7pm. This will also be an open house for NEW preschool students. If your child is already attending 3-year-old preschool, they do not need to attend this open house.

### **Zion Lutheran Church**



The Way of the Cross... this is the Lenten theme for this year that we are gathering around. Historically, the season of Lent was a time of penance, and a time for doing

things remembering what Jesus has done for us. This year, Pastor and the Board Evangelism are inviting you to join us in celebrating the 40 Days of Lent by gathering items for OWL (Overnight Warming Locations) in Granite City, Alton, and Edwardsville, as well as Oasis Women's Shelter in Alton. Each worship service, a new item will be requested and at the end of the Lenten season, these items will be

distributed to these organizations that seek to help care for "the least of these".

Please Join Us Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 and 7:00 for Ash Wednesday Service. We will be collecting boxes of Kleenex for "OWL" and Oasis Women's Shelter.

### **Join Our Team!**



Zion Lutheran School is searching for a head cook to join our team. The Head Cook is responsible for planning, preparing, and serving nutritious, balanced meals to

students and staff, while maintaining a clean, safe, and welcoming kitchen environment. Previous experience in food preparation, kitchen management, or similar roles preferred but not required. Applications can be picked at Zion Lutheran School in the main office, or you can email your resume and cover letter to [office@zion-school.org](mailto:office@zion-school.org) by March 7, 2025.

### **25'-26' Athletic Director**

Zion Lutheran School is looking for an Athletic Director for the 2025-2026 school year. The athletic director is responsible for managing the school's sports programs, including schedules, assisting the coaching staff, assigning coaches, referee schedules and helping to set up volunteer schedule. They also ensure that the school complies with athletic regulations and responsibilities. Please contact Jamie Crouch through the school office with any questions or if you would like to volunteer to help with the position.



The Metro East Lutheran High School Music Department invites you to our Winter Concert: "Hymns, Psalms, Spiritual

Songs, and Folk Songs"!

Join us on Sunday, March 2nd at 4:00 PM in

Henschen Alumni Hall for performances by our talented ensembles - Ritterchor (Honors Choir), Chorale, String Ensemble, and Concert Band. A free will offering will be taken to support the MELHS Music Department and a delightful dessert reception afterward!



### Join the Zion Scholar Bowl Team!

Do you have a passion for trivia? Are you quick on your feet when it comes to answering questions about history, math, science, literature, or pop culture? Then the **Zion Scholar Bowl Team** might be just what

you're looking for!

**What is Scholar Bowl?** Scholar Bowl is an exciting competition where teams of students face off in quick-thinking trivia matches. It's all about teamwork, knowledge, and a love for learning! Whether you're a history buff or a science whiz, there's a place for you on the team.

**Who Can Join?** This team is open to all **7th and 8th graders** who are eager to test their knowledge and represent Zion School. It's the perfect opportunity to sharpen your mind, meet new friends, and have fun while learning!

**Practices and Matches** We will have a **short season**, with only a couple of practices, so make sure to come ready to compete and improve your trivia skills!

#### Practice Dates:

- o Tuesday, March 11 from 3:00-4:00 pm
- o Tuesday, March 18 from 3:00-4:00 pm

#### Match Dates:

- **Thursday, March 20 at Zion Bethalto**
  - o 4:30 pm vs. Zion Bethalto
  - o 5:30 pm vs. Trinity "A"
- **Thursday, March 27 at St. Paul, Hamel**

o 4:30 pm vs. Trinity "B"

- **Tuesday, April 1 at Zion Staunton**

- o 4:30 pm vs. Holy Cross Collinsville
- o 5:30 pm vs. St. Paul

- **Saturday, April 5 at Holy Cross Collinsville**

- o **Conference Tournament** (starts at 9:00 am, last match ends by 11:30 am)

**How Do You Join?** Interested in being part of this awesome team? Simply attend one of the practices on March 11 or 18, and you'll get all the details you need to join the fun. We can't wait to see you there and help you shine in this exciting competition!

If you have any questions or need more info, feel free to reach out to Rachel Seelbach at [rachel.seelbach@zion-school.org](mailto:rachel.seelbach@zion-school.org)

### Lunch Bites:

During Lent there will be a fish or non- meat alternative available on Ash Wednesday (03-05) and on Fridays beginning 03/07.

#### Lunch Volunteers for the week of Feb.20-Feb.28:

**Thurs. 02/27:** Gary Hagarty

**Fri. 02/28:** Jennifer Davis

**Mon. 03/03:**

**Tues. 03/04:**

**Weds.03/05:** Edisons Day

**Thurs. 03/06:**

**Friday 03/07:** Special Friends Day

*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>

### 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.

### 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

- March 2<sup>nd</sup> “Praise Him” 10:30
- March 23<sup>rd</sup> “Joyful Noise” 8:00

### **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!

### **Youth group MS/HS**

**March youth dates:**

**March 8-11:** Youth Lead

**March 9:** MS youth 3-5 p.m./HS youth 4-6 p.m.

**March 23:** MS youth 3-5 p.m./HS youth 4-6 p.m.

### **God’s Kids (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> youth group) 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.

### **Fall Sports Pictures**

If your student played basketball or cheered this fall please hold on to their uniforms until Spring pictures in April. More information to come.

### **If you have any**



It's official! Zion will be hosting a basketball/cheer family night on February 28 beginning at 6pm. We will provide pizza and water

bottles for our basketball and cheer families. Other drinks and candy will be available to purchase at cost (\$1/item) from the concession stand. Invite your family and join in on the fun!

**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**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Every Month

### **EL Indio**

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

### **Little Italy’s Fundraiser Nights**

3<sup>rd</sup> 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://RaiseRight.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!**



Beginning next week, we will spotlight one of our 8th "grad" stars. Mrs. Best put together a great bulletin board all about our 8th graders and we are looking forward to sharing these amazing students with you as the 2024-2025 school year comes to a close.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on  
your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the  
one who'll decide where to go..."

— Dr. Seuss, Oh, the Places You'll Go!

On Tuesday, March 18 at 7pm Zion Lutheran School will host an open house for parents interested in learning about Zion's Preschool and Kindergarten programs. We offer a 3-year-old preschool class which meets from 12:30-3 on Tuesday and Thursdays. Our 4am class meets Monday-Friday from 8-11:20am. Children must be 3 on or before September 1, 2025 to be eligible for the 3-year-old class and 4 on or before September 1, 2025 to be eligible for the 4-year-old class. Full and part time daycare are also available for preschool age students. In order to be eligible for Kindergarten a child must be 5 on or before September 1, 2025. Zion offers full day Kindergarten with before and after school care available.

Registration forms for Preschool and Kindergarten will be distributed at the open house along with the registration schedule for preschool registration. Registration will take place on Thursday, April 3, 2025 for Preschool while Kindergarten forms can be returned anytime after open house.

Please consider attending to learn about the Christian education Zion has to offer. If you have any questions regarding open house or registration please email Pam Kleckner at [pam.kleckner@zion-school.org](mailto:pam.kleckner@zion-school.org) or call the school office at 635-3060.

Thank you,  
Pam Kleckner  
Preschool Teacher/Daycare Director

Kristi Cook  
Kindergarten Teacher



# March 2025



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>3</b> Chicken Nachos Lettuce Salad Corn Pears Milk	<b>4</b> Ham Steaks Ham & Beans Carrots Cornbread Muffin Applesauce Milk	<b>5</b> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Green Beans Apple Slices Milk  <i>Edisons Trip                      Prek4-8th</i>	<b>6</b> Beef & Noodles Bread & Butter Peas Peaches Jello Milk	<b>7</b> Grilled Cheese Veggie Sticks Mandarin Oranges Cookie Milk <i>Special Friends Day:                      Early Dismissal</i>
<b>10</b> Chicken Patty sandwich Sun Chips Carrots Apples Milk	<b>11</b> Pizza Garlic Green Beans Pears Milk	<b>12</b> Macaroni & Cheese W/Smoked Sausage Broccoli Fruit Cocktail Milk	<b>13</b> Loaded Tater-Tots Bowl Sweet Peppers Peaches Milk	<b>14</b> Chicken Crisпитos Mexican Rice Lettuce Salad Pineapple Leprechaun Treat Milk
<b>17</b> Popcorn Chicken Bowl Dinner Roll Corn Apple Sauce Milk	<b>18</b> Toasted Ravioli W/Marinera Sauce Side Salad Cheese Stick Pears Milk	<b>19</b> Pulled Pork Baked Potato Broccoli Pineapple Milk	<b>20</b> Riblet Sandwich Potato Wedges Green Beans Peaches Pudding Milk	<b>21</b> Egg & Cheese Omelet Sausage Patty Sweet Potato Fries Fruit W/Yogurt Milk
<b>24</b> Breaded Pork Sandwich Buttered Garlic Noodles Corn Fruit Cocktail Milk	<b>25</b> Spaghetti W/Meat Sauce Breadstick Carrots Pears Pudding Milk	<b>26</b> Hamburger/ Cheeseburger Tater Tots Cut-Up Veggies Mandarin Oranges Milk	<b>27</b> Tacos Lettuce Cucumber Salad Pineapple Milk	<b>28</b> Chef Salad Breadstick Cottage Cheese Peaches Milk
<b>31</b> Mini Corn Dog Nuggets Mixed Vegetables Cheese Stick Apple Slices Milk	<b>ENTRÉE</b> <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Peanut Butter & Jelly with a Mozzarella Cheese Stick	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> as well as Fridays During Lent a Fish or Meat Free Entrée will be available.		