

Zion Lutheran Church

December 14, 2025



Advent Pause
Hoping with Intention in a Troubled World

Wednesday in Advent

Dinner begins at 6 p.m.
Children's Activities begin at 6:30 p.m.
Worship begins at 7 p.m.



Blue Christmas Worship

A service of Healing and Hope for all who mourn at Christmas

Wednesday,
December 17 at 7pm

Zion's Weekly Schedule

Saturday - 12/13

7:30 a.m. Lions Club Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Clothes Closet Sorting
9:30 a.m. AA Group
5:00 p.m. AA Group
5:00 p.m. Casual Worship

Sunday - 12/14 FootPrints

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School-Because of Bethlehem
10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
2:30 p.m. Wedding
5:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling
6:00 p.m. Prayer Team—Zoom
7:00 p.m. AA Group

Monday - 12/15

11:00 a.m. Boyer Funeral

Tuesday - 12/16

6:00 a.m. Lectio Divina Fb Live
8:30 a.m. Zion Quilters
6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Leaders Meeting
6:30 p.m. Rhinecker-Women's Support Gp
7:00 p.m. Zion Knitters
7:00 p.m. CoDA Meeting

Wednesday - 12/17

8:30 a.m. Zion Quilters
6:00 p.m. Advent Midweek Dinner
6:30 p.m. Children's Activities
7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Worship

Thursday - 12/18

8:30 a.m. Zion Quilters
10:00 a.m. Altar Guild—Decorating
10:00 a.m. Pastor Matt Dean's Zoom Mtg
11:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Cookie Exchange
6:30 p.m. Middletown Hist. Soc. Mtg

Friday - 12/19

9:00 a.m. Organ Tuning
6:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday - 12/20 Noisy Offering

9:00 a.m. Clothes Closet Sorting
9:30 a.m. AA Group
5:00 p.m. AA Group
5:00 p.m. Casual Worship

Sunday - 12/21 Noisy Offering

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School-Because of Bethlehem
10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
3:30 p.m. 4-H Monthly Business Mtg
6:00 p.m. Prayer Team—Zoom
7:00 p.m. AA Group

CELEBRATE
CHRISTMAS
AT ZION THIS YEAR

JOIN US FOR A JOYFUL EVENING OF WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION!



FAMILY WORSHIP
AT 4 P.M.

CANDLELIGHT WITH
HANDBELLS AT 7 P.M.

CANDLELIGHT WITH CHOIR
AND ORCHESTRA AT 10:30 P.M.

Service of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 28
at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Adult Class

Because of Bethlehem Dec. 14-Jan. 4.

Book by Max Lucado.

In the back of the Chapel.

The Altar Flower Chart for 2026 is posted outside the Living Library. The cost of two arrangements \$72.00. Thank you to all the members of the congregation who donated altar flowers this year. They are always appreciated!

The **Donut Chart** is also posted with the same cost. Thanks for sponsoring this joy!

The Church Offices will be closed
December 24 to January 2, and
reopening on January 5.

Council Nominees 2026

Lois Ahalt

Sandy Bell

Sharon Boyer

Kaylyn Luther

1 Year: Bruce McIntosh

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Christmas Cookie Exchange

COME FILL UP YOUR COOKIE JAR!

December 18, 6-8 p.m. at Jamie Derr's Home

7800A Picnic Woods Rd, Middletown

RSVP to Jamie at 301-305-9796

Cookie baking
is optional, so
please come
even if you
don't bake!

For cookie
exchange, bring 5
dozen cookies of
your choice
(10 bags with 6
cookies in each
bag).



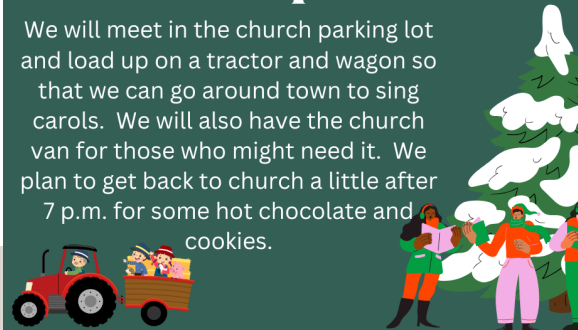
Show care for all your neighbors
this Advent season by
"Stocking the Streets" with
bags that include the items
most frequently requested
by individuals
facing homelessness.

Bring your **Stocking the Streets** bag on Christmas Eve
and place it in the box in the Chapel. After Christmas
they will go to the Frederick Rescue Mission.
Please see the Beacon for more information.

Christmas Caroling

**Sunday, December 14
at 5:30 p.m.**

We will meet in the church parking lot
and load up on a tractor and wagon so
that we can go around town to sing
carols. We will also have the church
van for those who might need it. We
plan to get back to church a little after
7 p.m. for some hot chocolate and
cookies.



Annual Reports

The Annual Report of the Congregation
will be available in print by Sunday,
January 18. In order to make this dead-
line, all reports need to be submitted
electronically by **December 31**. If your
committee or ministry does not require
disclosure of financial statements, you
can submit your report early in Decem-
ber. With limited staff in the Office, the
earlier that the reports are received,
the better. Please email reports to
macbru@comcast.net.

**Noisy Offering: December 20/21
to benefit Religious Coalition.**

Worship Services

Saturday: 5 p.m. Informal Worship

Sunday Services: 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship & 11 a.m. Traditional Worship
Christian Education: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Zion Worship Service Viewing Options:

To view our weekly recorded worship service any time during the week, you can just click on the webpage link at www.zionmiddletown.org and it will take you directly to the video. The link for the livestream of one service each week is on the website; click the link and it will take you directly to the video.



Mar-Lu-Ridge

Camp & Retreat Center

Get ready for Summer 2026!

For program descriptions, pricing information,
FAQs and more please visit:

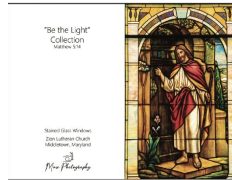
www.mar-lu-ridge.org/summer-camp

Registration opens January 1, 2026. Early bird
discount ends February 16, 2026.

We can't wait to see you this summer!

Weekend Food Program meets the needs of
students on the weekends when they do not re-
ceive food at school. **Critical Needs: December: it
is chicken noddle & tomato soup.**

**Take Zion's treasured windows
home with
you!**



Perfect Christmas
gift for friends,
family or yourself.

Keepsake box includes 12 blank note
cards (2 of each window).

Photographed by a local artist, Rean-
na Muse. \$25.00 per box. **You can
purchase the Cards in the Church**

office. All proceeds go to "With
Open Arms" Mar-Lu-Ridge
Renovation Project and Zion's
Tanzania Support Project.

Budget/Income Information-YTD as of November 30, 2025

YTD Proposed Budget income \$562,072.

vs YTD Actual Income \$468,291.

YTD Proposed Budget Expense \$587,731. vs

YTD Actual Expenses \$534,505.

Actual YTD Income is less expenses in November 2025 by \$66,214.

November Noisy Offering to World Hunger—\$230.14

