**Special Music**

Thank you very much to Miriam Gaunt for the special music during communion this morning.

**Congregational Financial Report**

The budget we adopted together in June 2018 requires weekly contributions of $7,183.  The offering receipts for the first 17 weeks of this fiscal year have fallen short of this target amount by an average of $1,150 per week or $19,550 total during that period.  Drawing the congregation's attention to this now will hopefully enable us to correct our situation prior to the end of the fiscal year in June 2019.  During the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas season, let us be mindful of God’s blessings to us individually as well as Zion Lutheran Church and School.  The Lord has blessed our members with what we need to meet Zion's needs.  May God enable all of us to show thankfulness and trust toward Him by regularly giving the first percentage of our income to support our work together.   Dana Daniels, Chairman

**Poinsettia**

We will be using poinsettias decorate our Church this Christmas season.  If you wish to provide a poinsettia, the cost will be $12.  To avoid confusion, please place your money in an envelope and turn in to the church office. Checks should be made out to Mary Martha.

**Food Collection**

Zion will collect food items during the month of November to help supply Kearney agencies who assist the needy. There are grocery carts in the narthex and school area to gather these items. Non-perishable items only please.

**Stewardship Note –**

**Heb. 10:14** – **“For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.”** Our Lord Jesus has provided the one offering for sin. What we offer to the Lord is not a sacrifice for sin; we cannot buy our way into heaven with our money, works, or effort. Rather, what we give to the Lord's work in the Church is a thank offering, a sign of our dependency on God and all He has given us.

**Announcements – November 18, 2018**

Please remember...to silence your cell phone upon entering the sanctuary.

Zion’s sanctuary is equipped with a **HEARING LOOP**. Please switch hearing aids to T-coil mode.We have 2 headsets and receivers that persons without hearing aids can use. Ask an usher for assistance.



**Forgot your offering? Don’t have your checkbook or cash? Today or any day you can give in a new way! Visit our website at zionkearney.com and click on the “giving” tab. Or, text “zionkearney” (one word) to 77977. You’ll receive a text back with instructions to start giving.**

**Office Closed**

The Church Office will be closed Wednesday through Friday of this week. If you will need in the church these days please make arrangements in advance to check out a key.

**Our Senior Citizens…**will meet tomorrow, November 19 for their monthly pot luck dinner. All are welcome!

**Thanksgiving Eve Worship**

We extend a very special invitation to you and your family to come and worship with us on Wednesday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m. For those who have guests visiting, we also invite them to come and worship with us.

**You Are Invited!**

Following the Thanksgiving Service on Wed. Nov. 21, please stop by our home at 3510 14th Ave. in Kearney! We would like to thank you for your many prayers, gifts, and words of encouragement. We will be serving snacks and beverages. Please bring nothing but yourself. Feel free to come and go as your schedule allows any time until 10:00 pm!

Pastor, Carol, Abigail, & Zach

**Quarterly Voters Meeting –Next Sunday**

Our Quarterly Voters Meeting will be held Sunday, November 25 at 10:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Business will include election of officers and board members for 2019.

**PLASTIC BAGS**

The Zion sleeping mat group is always in need of plastic shopping bags. Don’t throw them away bring them to the Zion office. The bags are made into sleeping mats and donated to the orphan grain train.

**BookNook**

Please stop by the BookNook and see what they have to offer. It was recently restocked with a variety of greeting cards (sympathy, birthday, Christmas, thank you, Thanksgiving etc.) They also have special occasion dinner napkins.

We have available copies of Pastor Allwardt’s 3 devotion books (Messages from the Coast, Rattlesnakes and Rainbows, and More Rainbows than Rattlesnakes) available for $12 each. They are nice for personal devotions or gifts.

A more complete list of items available is posted on the window of the BookNook.

**Zion Family Thanksgiving Dinner**

Thank you to Mary Martha for serving the delicious Thanksgiving meal last Sunday. Meals were served to around 165. Donations will go to help support our Zion students studying for full time church work.

**TEACHING POSITION**

Zion Lutheran School will be looking for a new first grade teacher for the 2019-2020 year.  Miss Erickson signed on for the current year as she also is completing her Masters’ degree in Library Sciences.  At the conclusion of this school year she will be looking for a position in the world of libraries.  As it can be difficult to fill this grade level, we will beginning our search early.  If you or someone you know has had a successful experience teaching in the lower elementary grades, please contact Mr. Splittgerber.  Please continue to pray for our school as we look to fill this position for the 2019-2020 year.   Thank you, Mr. Splittgerber

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School News

**Quiz Bowl Wins!**

The Zion Middle School Quiz Bowl team took first place at the Amherst Quiz Bowl on November 15. Zion won all 6 contests in a round robin tournament against Amherst, Anselmo-Merna, Cedar Hollow G.I., Elm Creek, Gothenburg, and Overton.

The Zion Elementary Quiz Bowl team took second place at the Amherst Quiz Bowl on Nov. 6. This was also a round-robin tournament with five schools. Zion’s team had the most points overall, but lost in a tie-breaker to Amherst.

Soli Deo Gloria; To God be the Glory!

**2019-2020 ENROLLMENT**

Zion will begin enrollment for returning families and Zion members only on December 3, 2018. Enrollment will open to the public on January 3, 2019.

**GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE**

This year Zion Lutheran School will be participating in the Give Where You Live Campaign. It will be December 6 (giving day), but donations will be accepted beginning November 1st. To participate/contribute online go to: [www.givewhereyoulive.net/zionlutheranschool](http://www.givewhereyoulive.net/zionlutheranschool)

If you would rather donate in person feel free to stop by the office.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Mark your calendars. The Zion School Christmas program will be Sunday, December 9th at 4:30 p.m. This is for students in Kindergarten-8th grade.

**BASKETBALL**

Basketball practices for boys and girls will begin soon for 5th-8th grades. Since this is a club team, all Zion members in grades 5-8 who attend public school are welcome to be on the team. Please contact Mr. Splittgerber for more information.