**OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP DURING ADVENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Dec. 5 | 5:30 pm7:00 pm | Meal by7 & 8th GradersAdvent Service- |
| Dec. 9 | 4:30pm | School Christmas Program |
| Dec. 12 | 5:30 pm7:00 pm | Meal by Board of EducationAdvent Service- |
| Dec. 19 | 7:00 pm | Advent Service-  |
| Dec. 24  | 7:00 pm | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service |
| Dec. 25  | 10:00 am | Christmas Day Worship |

**Thank You…**to all who visited me or called after my recent surgery. A special thank you to my mother, for all of her help and care during my recovery. God’s Blessings, Cinda Ward

**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.

**Stewardship Note –**

Luke 19:31 – **“If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’ ”** Consider the faithfulness of that man who owned the donkey and colt. All he needed to hear was, “The Lord has need of it,” and he willingly gave. The Lord has given each of us various callings in life – in our homes, in the Church, and in our communities. In each calling we have good work to do, and that comes from the Lord’s hand. The Lord has need of us in each calling. How is He calling you to generous giving in each of your vocations?



**Announcements – December 2, 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.**

**Advent**

Today is the first Sunday in Advent. We will have special mid-week Services Dec. 5, Dec. 12 & Dec. 19 at 7:00 pm each evening. We are also planning to serve a meal before the Dec. 5th and 12th Advent Services beginning at 5:30.

This Wednesday, December 5th, the Zion 7th & 8th grade classes will serve a variety of soups in our fellowship hall. There will be a freewill offering.

![merry_christmas[1]]()**CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS REHEARSAL**

The rehearsal dates for the Children’s Christmas Eve Service will be 12/8, 12/15, and 12/22. The rehearsals will begin 9:00 am.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Next Sunday, December 9, our kindergarten through 8th grade school children will present “What Child is This” at 4:30. All are welcome to join us and stay for refreshments following the service.

**Quarterly Voters Meeting –Rescheduled**

Because of the snow storm last Sunday, our Quarterly Voters Meeting is rescheduled for Sunday, December 9 at 10:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Business will include election of officers and board members for 2019.

**Year End Reports**

The Chairman of each Zion board and organization is asked to turn in a Year End Report to the Church office. The most convenient way to receive these is by email. school@zionkearney.org

**Reed Sander…** former principal of our school, continues to struggle in his battle with cancer. If you have a memory or story about Reed's time in ministry or a word of encouragement that would brighten his day, please share it with him.

(6720 NW 3rd St, Lincoln, NE 68521) (reedsander@aol.com)

**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.

 **Mission Project-**

For the rest of this year we will be collecting mission gifts for our college and seminary students who are studying for full time church work.

Your Mission offering, which is above and beyond your regular offering, will be given to support Matthias Wollberg who is in his fourth year of study at Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne and Abigail DeLoach and Taylor Zehendner who are both in their first year of study at Concordia, Seward,to become Lutheran school teachers. There are special Mission Envelopes in the Narthex that may be used. All gifts should be clearly marked and placed in the offering plate. **The treasurer has asked that all gifts be given by December 23 so she can distribute to the students while they are home for Christmas.**

School News

**Enrollment for the 2019-2020 School Year…**is now open to our Zion families and returning families. We will open enrollment to the public on January 3rd. Enrollment forms are available at the office or on our website.

**Holiday Light Festival**

Our School will participate in the Kearney Holiday Light Festival.

Various Kearney organizations will decorate the walk at Yanney Park between Peterson Activity Center and the Gottschalk Tower.

 Activity nights are Dec. 8, 11, and 14 from 6:00-8:00 pm. There will be refreshments and fun activities in addition to looking at the lights.

Dec. 9, 10, 12, 13, and 15 are nights to enjoy the lights only.

Thank you to Rachel Strong for planning and organizing the decorations for the area assigned to Zion.

**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!