SCHOOL

S

CHURCH

GELICAL LUTHERAN

Z

NOIZ



The Christmas season is fresh in our minds as we enter into January and a new year, 2021. During the Christmas season, I enjoy singing Christmas hymns and carols. Some give us Biblically accurate information about the history of Jesus' birth. Others romanticize details based on legend. I always enjoyed the Christmas carol—"We Three Kings of Orient Are." It was written in 1857 by John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

Here is the text, both verses and chorus:

 We <u>Three Kings</u> of <u>Orient</u> are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, Moor and mountain, Following yonder <u>Star</u>.

#### **Chorus**

O star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty bright, Westward leading, Still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.

## Gaspard

2. Born a <u>King</u> on <u>Bethlehem</u> plain, <u>Gold</u> I bring to crown <u>Him</u> again, King for ever, Ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

#### Chorus

O star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty bright, Westward leading, Still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.

#### Melchior

3. <u>Frankincense</u> to offer have I,

<u>Incense</u> owns a <u>Deity</u> nigh:

<u>Prayer</u> and praising

All men raising,

Worship Him <u>God</u> on High.

#### Chorus

O star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty bright, Westward leading, Still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.

#### Balthazar

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing,
Bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

#### Chorus

O star of Wonder, Star of Night,
Star with Royal Beauty bright,
Westward leading,
Still proceeding,
Guide us to Thy perfect Light.



# COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Communion is
offered regularly on the
1st and 3rd Sundays of
each month, and the
Wednesday that
precede that Sunday.
Individual Cup will be
available at the
Sunday Communion
Services. Individual Cup
will be available at the
Wednesday
Communion Services.

**&** Wed., Jan. 13 Sun., Jan. 3 & Jan. 17

# AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Please join us for an afternoon worship service on the second Tuesday of each month.
Individual cup communion will be served.

1:30 p.m., Tuesday January 12

#### WELLSPRING

Zion conducts
worship services at The
Wellspring
Lutheran Home on the
3rd and 4th Wednesday of each month.
Services begin at
10 a.m. The
Wellspring
Lutheran Home is located at 1236 S. Monroe St.

January Schedule: Due to Phase 4 COVID-19, NO SERVICES Although I enjoy singing the Christmas Carol—"We Three Kings of Orient Are," there is much that is not Biblically accurate. Since the Christian church celebrates Epiphany (January 6th) - the coming of the Wise Men, it is important that we know accurate information about the Magi and their gifts to the Christchild. So you may want to look over the Christmas carol and compare it with Matthew 2:1-11. Even better, plan on being a part of the worship services at Zion for the first three weeks of January. For there, we will study the Biblical account of who they were, why they came, when they arrived, and what they brought. The Magi came to Jesus bringing their gifts:

Sunday, January 3—Gifts of Gold Sunday, January 10—Gifts of Incense Sunday, January 17 0 Gifts of Myrrh

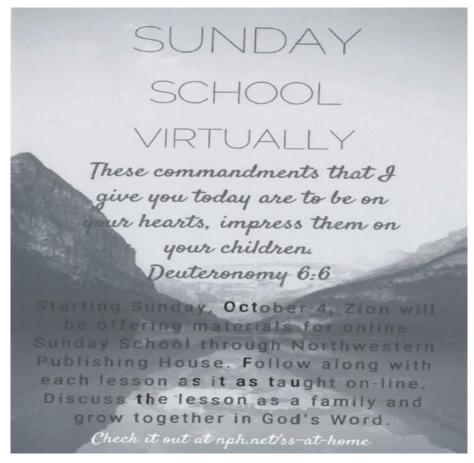
Worship services for January will continue to be on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Please join us for this sermon series based on Matthew 2:1-11. May God be glorified and may we be blessed as we follow the Magi to the Christchild:

O star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty bright, Westward leading, Still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.

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# **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**





**LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** — Zion started a school in 1858. Currently we teach students from Preschool through 8th grade. Our staff of five teachers are both certified and experienced to provide instructions in all academic areas, but especially in God's Word. They are:

Deanna Schneck — Preschool

Stacey Sordahl—Kindergarten

Michelle Roth — Grades 1 & 2

Kurt Nielsen — Grades 3, 4, & 5

Bryan Schneck — Grades 6, 7, & 8 and Principal

# PRINCIPAL REPORT

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions we were not able to have our usual in—person Zion School Christmas Service.

The children did do a program that is available online for you to watch at your convenience. All you have to do is go to the Zion Lutheran Church and School Website (www.zionmonroe.org). Once on the website just scroll down on the front page and the service is ready for you to watch.

Please take this time to reflect on the season. Seeing and hearing the message through the children.

Have a blessed New Year.

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**ZION 1ST CALL MEETING**—Zion's first Call Meeting for an Associate Pastor will be **Sunday, January** 17, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. All voting members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

**POINSETTIAS:** Thank you to everyone who donated to beautify our sanctuary with poinsettia plants this year. Please feel free to take home your plant.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2021** will be available soon in the school hallway. If you don't see your envelopes, please contact the office.

**2020 CONTRIBUTIONS** — The financial secretary will close the books on 2020 on December 31, 2020. To receive credit for 2020, all contributions must be received by that date.

**ALTAR GUILD FOR 2021** — There is a sign-up sheet in the west foyer for Altar Guild volunteers for 2021. We really do appreciate all the help we get through the year with this service of love. If you haven't ever done Altar Guild, please consider helping out. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS TAKE DOWN—We are planning to take down Christmas Decorations in the sanctuary beginning on Monday, January 11 through Wednesday, January 13, 5:00 p.m.. If you are able to help, please join us. THANKYOU.

SCRIP PROGRAM: What is Scrip? It is "in lieu of cash", basically, it is a gift card! There are hundreds of gift card options! Why should I buy? Scrip purchases the cards at a discounted price. When you purchase them at face value Zion earns money. This money can improve the school/church or even be used towards tuition. When and How? Scrip is an ongoing fundraiser. If you have been purchasing already, great! We appreciate your participation. If you are new to the program then you have a couple options. You can pick up a form in the school hallway. Then, follow the instructions on the bulletin board and once you are registered you will be able to purchase gift cards online or continue to fill out the forms manually. Orders are placed on Mondays and usually arrive back on Thursday or Friday. If you would like to register yourself to get started now. Go to: <a href="https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Login/Enroll">https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Login/Enroll</a> and enter LC3EFD7E341L and follow the steps to set up your account. If you have any questions please contact Kathie Robinson at <a href="mailto:jrobinson 2@charter.net">jrobinson 2@charter.net</a> or our office 734-242-1378. Thank you for Supporting Zion!!

ZION 1ST CALL MEETING—SUN., JAN. 17 @ 2:00 P.M.

OPEN FORUM—Sun., Jan. 24 @ 9:30 a.m.

QUARTERLY VOTER MEETING—Sun., Jan. 31 @ Noon

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

- 1) While we are not mandating the use of masks for worship, we encourage those who want to wear them to do so. Please feel comfortable whatever your sensitivities.
- 2) We are roping off the pews so that social distancing can be maintained. Please recognize what seating is available and what is not available.
- 3) Make sure to sanitize your seat and surrounding area. Wipes are available in the back of the church on both sides. Please make use of them.
- 4) Pastor Ulrich will be keeping his distance from everyone. Although he would like nothing better that to shake your hand or give a hug, it is not wise to do so at this time. Please abide by this for now.
- 5) Please call church (734)242-1378 to reserve yourself a seat for worship. This is especially helpful, preparing the number of bulletins, etc. . . THANKYOU.

THANK YOU FOR DOING THESE COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR NOW.

Installation of New Church Council Positions — Newly elected councilmen will be installed at the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 3, 2021. They are: Vice-President—Jeff Grubb; Recording Secretary—Ben Husby; Assistant Financial Secretary—Bill Salow; Education Chairman—Erich Freiny; Elder Chairman—Mark Kipf; Trustees Co-chairman—Corey and Kevin Kohler

# THANK You!

**TAPE MINISTRY THANK YOU** — We would like to take this opportunity to thank our faithful volunteers who deliver tapes to our sick and shut-ins on a regular basis throughout each year. Thank you to:

Barb Fitzgibbon, Carol Pitcher, Chris Pitcher, Larry and Delores Simmons and Joyce Trowbridge.

**CRADLE ROLL—CAROL PITCHER**—Thank you to Sandy Henry for her many, many years of service and to Carol Pitcher who has faithfully volunteered to do take over the Cradle Roll at Zion.

**THANK YOU** — The faculty and staff of Zion would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the Christmas greetings and gifts from our family of faith: on behalf of our office coordinator, Amy Vanisacker; teachers, Mrs. Schneck, Mrs. Sordahl, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Nielsen, Mr. Schneck, and Pastor Ulrich — thank you for your expressions of well wishes and love.

**THANK YOU** - The following have concluded their terms of service for our Church Council as of Dec. 31, 2020: Jeff Grubb—Vice-President; Jeremy Robinson—Financial Secretary; Jeff Heusman—Board of Education Chairman; Mark Kipf—Board of Elders Chairman; Corey & Kevin Kohler Co-Chairs of Trustees. We thank all of the aforementioned for their faithful service for Christ and our flock, Zion Lutheran Church and School.

Well done, good and faithful servant! Matthew 25:23

# MINISTERIAL ACTS



Funeral — Dannie Younglove passed away on Dec. 6 and funeral services were conducted @ Zion on Dec. 17.

# MEMORIALS (GIVEN TO GENERAL FUND, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

## In memory of Howard Pitcher

From

Barb Fitzgibbon Mary Lou Gautz Russ & Mona Vitale
Kathy Wozniak Jim & Sally Pritchett Dick & Eileen Hutchison
Frank & Kris Tomczak Bari & Wendy Waltz Jim & Kathy Vanisacker
Annetta Miller Marty & Leisa Nadeau Diane & Tim Ewing

Zion Class of 2001 & Katherine Bennett & family

In memory of loved ones Ken & Mary Ann Havekost

In memory of Dannie Younglove

From

Mary Lou Gautz Jim & Kathy Vanisacker Beth Nied
Tim & Nancy Chalupka Annetta Miller and family Charles Younglove
Joe & Ruthanne Elmer David & Nancy Younglove Darlene Younglove

# OUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS From December 17, 2020 Council Meeting

# Council Meeting Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chairman Sordahl

- I. The meeting was opened with a devotion by Pastor Ulrich "JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"
- II. M/S/C to approve the council minutes from 19-NOV-2020 (Krueger, Grubb)
- III. M/S/C to approve the submitted Pastoral Report from 17-DEC-2020. (Krueger, Grubb)
- a. Jeff Heusman and Jeremy Robinson will depart the church council this year, we thank them for their service
- b. Flyers/Postcards that detail our worship schedule for the Christmas season, this is in partnership with St. Pauls Monroe
- c. Rob Krueger will prepare a bulletin blurb addressing the Synod Mission shortfall
- d. No membership changes
- e. Worship schedule is recommended to remain unchanged through the January council meeting
- f. Call meeting on Jan 17
- g. January 3<sup>rd</sup> is installation at 10:30 service
- IV. M/S/C to approved the Principal Report of 1-DEC-2020 as printed and submitted (Grubb, Krueger)
- a. Enrollment is at 74
- b. Potential to add a new pre-schooler
- c. Pastor Fager has volunteered to assist with a school musical in the Spring
- d. Basketball is still on hold
- e. Mr. and Mrs Schneck plan to travel to Alaska 21-28 DEC
- f. Christmas service recordings are underway
- g. Christmas break will be 21-DEC thru 1-JAN
- V. Board Reports

A M/S/C to accept Board of Ed report as printed, submitted, and distributed. (Grubb, Robinson)

- a Curtains will be installed in the spring
- Kurt Nielsen will finish his Masters degree
- c CEA plans to reimburse Kurt's Masters degree test for approximately \$450, approval was previously to approve the cost of the test not exceeding \$150, will manage in new business

B M/S/C to accept the 4Q2020 and Statistical verbal report from Board of Elders. (Grubb, Feurstenberg)

- Recommend that worship schedule remains unchanged
- b No in-person Bible study still, online is a possibility and is being investigated

C Board of Outreach – verbal report (Grubb, Krueger)

- a Mailers are available for distribution
- D Board of Service & Fellowship verbal report, blurbs are out

E Board of Stewardship report – no report

F Board of Trustees – No report

- I Kevin and Cory Kohler are sick with COVID
- II Cottage activities, power restored?
- III Steve Sordahl will check with Brenda about restoring power

VI. M/S/C to accept the Treasurer's Report: Balance Sheet NOV 2020, P&L Comparison for NOV 2020, Budget vs. Actual for JAN-NOV 2020, P&L by class for JAN-NOV 2020, P&L by month Jan-Nov 2020, as printed and submitted, and included in the handout packet (Krueger, Schneck)

# Council Meeting Highlights

- a. Lilly shortage we hope will still be balanced out with any surplus from poinsettia sales
- P&L shortfall is the lowest its been in years Salary savings from Pastor Slaughter's exit
- II. Financial Secretary's report is submitted for the month of Nov 2020 and YTD and included in the handout packet. (Grubb, Feurstenberg)
- a. In balance with treasurer
- b. Overall quiet month
  Thank you to Jeremy for years of service
- III. MSC to accept Committee Reports (Feurstenberg, Grubb)
- a. Financial Staff Committee meeting with Brenda Pyle to discuss feasibility of moving to semi-monthly payroll
- b. Budget Committee no report
- c. Nominating Committee no report
- d. Security Committee No Report
- e. Audit Committee No report  $\begin{tabular}{ll} Technology Committee new TV in basement \end{tabular}$
- IV. Unfinished Business
- a. Tenets of Leadership The Institution of Baptism
- b. New Business
- c. M/S/C to approve a call meeting on 17-JAN 2PM (Grubb, Krueger)
- d. M/S/C to approve reimbursing Kurt Nielsen for his masters test not to exceed \$500 (Grubb, Krueger)
- e. M/S/C to approve to continue the current modified worship schedule (Grubb, Feurstenberg)
- f. M/S/C to approve a conversation with the staff to get feedback around moving to a semi-monthly payroll (Robinson, Grubb)
- g. M/S/C to thank Jeremy Robinson and Jeff Heusman for their faithful service as the exit the church council M/S/C to approve the housing allowance as follows: (Grubb, Feurstenberg)

#### Section 107-2011

#### 2021 Parsonage Allowance Resolution

The following resolution was duly adopted by the church council at a scheduled meeting on <u>December 17</u>, <u>2020</u>, a quorum being present:

Whereas, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code specifies that the amount of ministers' compensation that is designated in advance by their employing church as a housing allowance is not taxable in computing federal income taxes to the extent that it is used to pay for actual expenses incurred in owning or renting a home (and for ministers who live in a parsonage and who pay some of their housing expenses) Those ministers who own their own home must not exceed the fair rental value of the home; and

Whereas, Pastor Ross Ulrich is compensated by Zion Lutheran Church exclusively for services as minister, and

Whereas, teachers Bryan Schneck & Kurt Nielsen are compensated by Zion Lutheran Church exclusively for services as teachers (ministers of the Gospel)

# **Council Meeting Highlights**

Therefore, it is resolved that of the amount paid for 2021 as listed below, includes the amount hereby designated as a housing allowance.

Ministers of the Gospel	Amount <u>Paid</u>	Housing <u>Allowance</u>
Rev. Ross W. Ulrich	<u>\$56,478.22</u>	\$12,000.00
Kurt Nielsen	<u>\$40,485.14</u>	\$9,000.00
Bryan Schneck	\$52,402.00	\$24,000.00

Be it further resolved, that these housing allowances shall apply to all future years that these (Ministers of the Gospel) are employed by Zion Lutheran Church, unless otherwise noted.

I. With no other business needing attention, a motion was M/S/C to adjourn with prayer by Pastor Ulrich at 7:58 PM (Krueger, Grubb)

Next council meeting will occur on January 21, 2021 7PM

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin Husby

# **JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS**

Mon. Dec. 28-Jan. 1	Office Closed/No School	
Wed., Dec. 30	NO Worship	
Thurs., Dec. 31	NO Worship	
Sun., Jan. 3	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship services (IC)	
	10:30 a.m., Installation of Church Council	
Mon., Jan. 4	8 a.m., School resumes	
Wed., Jan. 6	7:00 p.m. Worship Service	
Sun., Jan. 10	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship services	
Tues., Jan. 12	Afternoon Worship Service (IC)	
Wed., Jan. 13	Worship Service (IC)	
Sun., Jan. 17	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship services (IC)	
	2:00 p.m. Zion's 1st Call Meeting	
Mon., Jan. 18	No School/Office closed	
Wed., Jan. 20	Worship Service	
Thurs., Jan. 21	Church Council	
Sun., Jan. 24	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship services	
	Open Forum	
Wed., Jan. 27	Worship Service	
Sun., Jan. 28	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship services	
	Voter's Meeting	

# JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

	Jan. 3	Jan. 6 & 10	Jan. 13 & 17	Jan. 20 & 24	Jan. 27 & 31
ALTAR GUILD					
USHERS	8:30 a.m. Mark Kipf Keith McBee David Krueger Russ Vitale  10:30 a.m. Joe Koch Joe Schmeling Dave Benge Aaron Benge	Jan. 6 Mark Kipf Keith McBee David Krueger Russ Vitale  Jan. 10 8:30 a.m. Rob Krueger Martin Meier Ralph Naveaux  10:30 a.m. Alan Bober Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	Jan. 13 Rob Krueger Martin Meier Ralph Naveaux  Jan. 17 8:30 a.m. Ray Chandonnet Érich Freiny Bob Trowbridge Dave McKenzie  10:30 a.m. Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Klaus Koenig Juergan Koenig Matt McCormick	Jan. 20 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Bob Trowbridge Dave McKenzie  Jan. 24 8:30 a.m. Tony Affholter Dan Fuerstenberg Mark Fuerstenberg Tim Fuerstenberg Tim Fuerstenberg Tim Fuerstenberg Acch Joe Koch Joe Schmeling Dave Benge Aaron Benge	Jan. 27 Tony Affholter Dan Fuerstenberg Mark Fuerstenberg Tim Fuerstenberg  Jan. 31 8:30 a.m. Mark Kipf Keith McBee David Krueger Russ Vitale  10:30 a.m. Alan Bober Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL & BOARDS**

1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, <sup>2</sup>"Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>He gathered together all the people's chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet: <sup>6</sup>You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel." <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him." 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. 11 After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:1-11

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL & BOARDS**

PRESIDENT Steve Sordahl VICE-PRESIDENT Jeff Grubb SECRETARY Ben Husby FINANCIAL SECRETARY Joe Schmeling Bill Salow ASST. FINANCIAL SECRETARY **TREASURER** John Hill CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF EDUCATION Erich Freiny CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF ELDERS Mark Kipf CHAIRMAN, OUTREACH Dan Fuerstenberg CHAIRMAN, SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP

Mark Fuerstenberg, Ken Vagt, & Mel White CHAIRMAN, STEWARDSHIP Rob Krueger Co- CHAIRMAN, TRUSTEES Corey & Kevin Kohler

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CALL MEETING— Sun., Jan. 17 @ 2:00 p.m.

OPEN FORUM— Sun., Jan. 24 @ 9:30 a.m.

QUARTERLY VOTER MEETING— Sun., Jan. 31 @ Noon THE MESSENGER is printed monthly for the members of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church for the purpose of informing them of the upcoming events along with sharing the good news of the Gospel and information about our members. It is also intended to help and inform those not in our church family.

OFFICE: 734-242-1378 FAX: 734-242-7049 E-MAIL: office@zionmonroe.org WEBSITE: www.zionmonroe.org

> Pastor Ross Ulrich 734-240-3888

Principal Bryan Schneck 907-331-7761

Steve Sordahl, Church Council President 734-770-1149

John Hill, Treasurer

Mona Vitale , Organist 734-242-8061

Ross Ernest, Organist

**Dottie Bober, Organist** 

Deanna Schneck, Pianist

Kayla Liechty, Pianist

Chris Pitcher, Prayer Chain Contact 734-241-6377

Brenda Chandonnet, Friends in Faith Contact 734-915-5477

> Sherry Fuerstenberg, Ladies Serving Groups Contact 734-654-3736

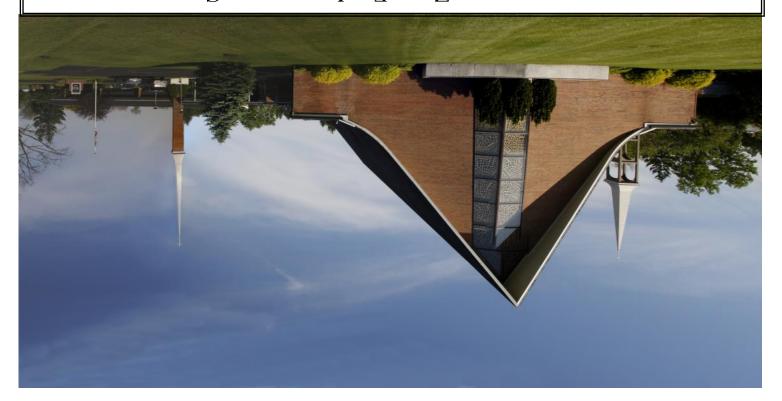
> **Amy Vanisacker, Office Coordinator** 734-790-1481

# JANUARY 2021 ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship (IC)	4 8:00 a.m. School Resumes	5	6 7:00 p.m. Worship	7	8	9
10 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship	11	12 1:30 p.m., Afternoon Worship (IC)	13 7:00 p.m., Worship (IC)	14	15	16
17 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship (IC) 1st CALL MEETING 2:00 p.m.	18 No School/ Office Closed	19	20 7:00 p.m. Worship	21 7:00 p.m. Church Council	22	23
24 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship OPEN FORUM 9:30 a.m.	25	26	27 7:00 p.m. Worship	28	29	30
31 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship VOTER MEETING NOON						



# ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 186 COLE RD., MONROE, MI 48162



Check out our website: www.zionmonroe.org



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E-mail: office@xionmonroe.org

WICHICYN 48167 WONBOE' 186 COFE BOYD

S SCHOOL SION EVANGELICAL