



### **Welcome Rev. Gene Wickman!**

Thank you to Rev. Gene Wickman for presiding over today's service. Please give him a warm welcome!

### **In Our Prayers This Week**

It is so important that we remember one another in prayer. During this week, please focus your prayers on the following members who were picked randomly: Heidi Beland; Matthew Hellerman; Shawn, Emily, Elsa and Sophie Limberg; Joan Nowakowski; Don and Jo Schutt.



### **Flowers**

The flowers for Sunday are given by Sharon and Colin Schmidt and are in loving memory of Walter Johnson and Donald Schmidt.

Please call Zion's office (715-735-7898) or send an email ([Zion@newbc.rr.com](mailto:Zion@newbc.rr.com)) if you would like to sponsor the flowers for a specific Sunday. The cost is \$15.

### **What's Around the Corner?**

- Dec. 10: Second Sunday of Advent, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With guest pastor Rev. Gene Wickman. With special music by Barb Grom and Karen Sylvester.
- Dec. 17: Third Sunday of Advent, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary Service. SPARK program.
- Dec. 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With Special music by Johanna Zuehls
- Dec. 24: Nativity of our Lord, 8 p.m. worship and via Facebook Live. With special music by Zion's choir, candlelight and Holy Communion.

### **Ruth Circle Group**

The Ruth Circle Group will meet December 19th at 1 p.m. at the church to carpool to their annual Christmas luncheon at Luigi's Pizza and Pasta in Peshtigo.

### **Tithes & Offerings for Dec. 1-4**

General Fund: \$1,817

Altar Flowers: \$15 Christmas: \$105 Advent: \$90

Poinsettias: \$15 Boiler Fund: \$55 Bell Fund: \$5

Memorial Fund for Carol and Kevin Kolstad: \$25

Capital Improvement Fund: \$40

*Thank you so very much for your continued giving and generosity. Every little bit helps. You are making a difference! Again, thank you!*



## **A Note From The Financial Secretary for VANCO users!**

If you have changed your donation for 2024 make sure you go to the VANCO website and change it there. You can make a new entry but make sure you have it start 1/1/24 and stop this years by entering 12/31/23.

If you have questions please call our office at 715-735-7898, and I will call you back as soon as I can! This will alleviate any issues for next year. Thank you for your help!

Marissa Tharp, Financial Secretary



### **Birthday Blessings to You**

December 11: John Radloff

December 13: Larry Nelson

December 15: Rachel Kuhn

December 16: Dean Schoen

## **Thank you to our Worship Assistants!**

Thank you to Sue Baxter for serving as our lector; to Deb Mylener for serving as our communion assistant; to Carol Johnson for setting and cleaning up communion; to Dave Johnson for serving as our usher; and to Presley Schroeder for serving as our acolyte on Sunday.



The volunteers for next week are Karen Dill as our lector, communion assistant and she will be setting up and cleaning up communion; Deb Mylener as our usher; and Nik Williams as our acolyte!

If you'd like to volunteer to serve as lector or usher please contact Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017. The readings for the particular Sunday will be shared with you days in advance and a copy will be printed for you to use. Thank you for your consideration!



### **December Eternal Light**

The Eternal Light for the month of December is sponsored by Dave and Lori Despins and is to praising God for the gift of his son Jesus, the light of the world.

## **Baking with the Bishop Youth Ministry Event**

Menominee Valley Conference Youth between 7th-12th grade are invited to Bethel Lutheran Church, 1309 14th Ave., Menominee, on Sunday, December 10 from 3 to 6 p.m. for a Baking with the Bishop Christmas Extravaganza! Bishop Katherine Finegan of the Northern Great Lakes Synod will be joining us for cookie baking, games, crafts, and an afternoon of spreading Christmas cheer. Please RSVP to Stefanie at [youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org).



## **December Donation Collection**



Zion is Called to Go Where Jesus Leads and our Social Ministry Committee is committed to showing our congregation ways to live out that calling in our community. During the month of December, we will be collecting items for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

St. Vincent de Paul Society's food pantry is located in their thrift store on Main Street in Marinette. They are the largest pantry in our area and serve both Marinette & Menominee counties. Their weekly food distribution is each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The food pantry is always happy to gain new volunteers. Stop by the store to pick up a volunteer application today or learn more about our local St. Vincent de Paul Society here: <https://www.svdpmarinette.com/>

Most Needed Items after the Holidays are:

- Jarred spaghetti sauce
- Jams & jellies
- Pancake syrup
- Cornbread / corn muffin mix
- Boxed stuffing & cranberry sauce (yes, even after the holidays!)
- All other non-perishable food items are most certainly welcome as well!



### **Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays this Week**

December 14: Ethan Schomaker

December 15: Alexandria Cording

December 17: Nila Krenos

### **SPARK Bible Story**

The SPARK Story Bible reading for today is found on page 234; "John the Baptist Prepares the Way" based on the reading from Mark 1:1-8.



### **Notes of Thanks!**

I Would like to thank everyone who offered prayers, get well wishes and cards during my recent illness. I never once felt alone during the whole thing just knowing my Zion family was there supporting me. Thank you all once again, and may God bless you all.

Jack Heimbuch



## **"Stepping in Faith" Stewardship Initiative**

Pastor Christine Olson introduced me to the following insight.

"Make no doubt about it, the ability to listen to another, to sit silently in the presence of God, to give sober heed, and to ponder is the nucleus of spirituality. It may, in fact, be what is most missing in a new century saturated with information but short on gospel reflection. The Word we seek is speaking in the silence within us. Blocking it out with the static of nonsense day in and day out, relinquishing the spirit of silence, numbs the heart in a noise-polluted world." - Joan Chittister, *The Rule of Benedict*.

Lord God, help us to sit quietly in your presence waiting to hear your voice in the silence. We are such a noisy, constantly moving people; we seem to have forgotten what it means to sit and quietly reflect on your blessings. Help us, little by little, to reconnect with you, to quiet ourselves, and enjoy the silence we hope to experience. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

## **Upcoming Events at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp**

- **Senior Days**

Fortune Lake has announced their 2023-2024 Senior Day schedule. There will be a Senior Day on January 15th, March 11th, and May 13th!

Each Senior Day begins at 10 a.m. and wraps up by 2 p.m. The program varies but generally includes the following:

10:00 a.m. – Arrival and check-in, coffee and fellowship time

10:15 a.m. – Devotion & announcements

10:30 a.m. – Presentation morning session

12:00 p.m. – Lunch

1:00 p.m. – Presentation afternoon session

A \$10 donation per participant is requested and attendees are asked to RSVP by the Friday before the event to (906) 214-2267 or [hospitality@fortunelake.org](mailto:hospitality@fortunelake.org)



**FORTUNE LAKE**  
*A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI*

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**A member of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**