

## 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: Robert and Sue Baxter; Scott, Sandy, Sam, and Alex Gressel; Victoria Johnson; Bruce Oleson; Don and Jo Schutt.



## Flowers

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. 18: Choir, 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 22: Fourth Sunday in Advent. 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special music by Karen Sylvester and Matt Hellerman.

Dec. 24: Nativity of our Lord, 8 p.m. worship and via Facebook Live. With candlelight and Holy Communion. Special music by the Zion choir, Hannah Grom, and the Limberg family.

Dec. 25: Office closed. Merry Christmas!

Dec. 29: First Sunday of Christmas 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special service based on Carols. Pastor Doug's last Sunday. Coffee hour to follow worship.



## Birthday Blessings to You

December 26: Jacob Marzahl

## Thank you to our Worship Assistants!

Thank you to Kathy Heimbuch for serving as our lector and communion assistant; To Barb Grom for setting and cleaning up communion; to Dave Johnson for serving as our usher; to Henry Zuehls and Sharon Powilaites for handling AV; and to Adison Rosenfeldt as our acolyte on Sunday.



The volunteers for the Christmas Eve service are Dave Johnson as our lector; Johanna Zuehls as our communion assistant; Carol Johnson will be setting and cleaning up communion; Mark Swenson as our usher; Henry Zuehls and Gage Schutt will be our AV team; and Sophie Limberg as our acolyte.

The volunteers for next Sunday are Karen Sylvester as our lector and usher; Carole Boerner as our communion assistant; Jane Landenberger will setting and cleaning up communion; Cheryl Maxwell and Sharon Powilaites as our AV Team; and Daniel Zuehls as our acolyte!

If you'd like to volunteer to serve as a worship leader, please contact Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017. Thank you for your consideration!



## **Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays this Week**

December 23: David Despins

December 26: Hope Goes, Philip Strohl

December 28: Gail Melgary

December 29: Randall Schroeder II

## **Tithes & Offerings for Dec. 10-16**

General Fund: \$3,203.50

Altar Flowers: \$25

Poinsettia Flowers: \$15

Boiler Fund: \$5

Bell Fund: \$5

Advent: \$30

Christmas: \$50

Sanctuary Candle: \$15

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



## **Christmas Eve Worship**

We will celebrate the Nativity of Jesus on Christmas Eve at 8 p.m. The service will be a candlelight service with Holy Communion, special music by the Zion Choir, Hannah Grom, and the Limberg Family. Celebrate the Nativity of Jesus with us.

Live streaming via Facebook Live will be available!

## **Office to be Closed**

Zion's office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25th, due to the holiday. Please plan your visits accordingly and thank you for understanding!



## **SPARK Bible Story**

The SPARK Story Bible reading for Sunday is found on page 202; "Mary Visits Elizabeth" based on the reading from Luke 1:39-55.

## **Upcoming Coffee Hour**

There will be a Coffee Hour on Dec. 29 and January 5th! The December 29th coffee hour will be a farewell gathering for Pastor Doug. Our January 5th coffee hour will be a welcoming gathering for Pastor Amanda.

Coffee Hours are held directly after service but are only held if someone sponsors it. If you would like to sponsor or hold a coffee hour, call the office at 715-735-7898 to reserve a date!





## **Flowers and Sanctuary Candle for 2025**

Monthly sanctuary candle and altar flower dates for sponsoring in 2025 are available. Both are on a first come, first serve basis. Sponsoring the candle is \$13 and altar flowers are \$15; plus you can take the flowers home with you!

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

If you have changed your donation for 2025 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 1/1/25 and stop this years by entering 12/31/24. This does not apply to you if you do not use VANCO.

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

## **Upcoming Retreats at Fortune Lake**

### **“Renew and Restore” Young Adult Retreat**

- Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp is hosting its annual young adult retreat February 21-23, 2025. The retreat is open for people age 18-30. The weekend will feature time to relax and recharge in a self-guided retreat model, opportunities to worship and spend time in nature, and discussions about burnout. And, the first 30 people to register only pay \$30 to attend if they use the code YA2025 during registration. To learn more and to register, people may go to [fortunelake.org](https://fortunelake.org)

### **“Sacred Waters” Youth Retreat**

- Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp is hosting a youth retreat April 4-5, 2025. The retreat is open for kids in grades 3-6. The retreat will feature bible studies, campfire worship, camp games and songs! To learn more and to register, people may go to [fortunelake.org](https://fortunelake.org)

### **“In The Body” Retreat**

- Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp is hosting a retreat for middle and high schoolers April 11-12 2025. This retreat is facilitated by Rachel Kurtz who is a singer, songwriter, speaker, and storyteller who has been performing for almost 20 years and has performed at 6 ELCA Youth Gatherings. The retreat will feature bible studies, worship, an adult leader workshop, and camp style games and songs. To learn more and to register, people may go to [fortunelake.org](https://fortunelake.org)

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