

# Zion Lutheran Church

## November 21, 2021

### A Community Service of Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021, 7:00 P.M.

The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration  
6909 Maryland Avenue • Braddock Heights

The evening's offering will go to support  
Middletown Valley People Helping People

All current mitigation measures will be followed, including masked singing by  
both choir and congregation

### Zion's Weekly Schedule

#### Saturday - 11/20

8:30 a.m. One God One Voice  
9:00 a.m. Altar Guild Meeting  
5:00 p.m. Worship Service

#### Sunday - 11/21-Christ the King Sunday Noisy Offering

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
10:00 a.m. Faith Connection Time  
10:00 a.m. Adult Forum-Facing the  
End of Life  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Thanksgiving  
Service-Church of the Transfiguration

#### Monday - 11/22

6-8 p.m. GriefShare

#### Tuesday - 11/23

8:30 a.m. Zion's Quilters  
1:30 p.m. Frederick Conference Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Zion Knitters-  
Garden's Edge  
7-8 p.m. CoDA Meeting  
(Conference Room)

#### Wednesday - 11/24-Church Offices Closed

7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting

#### Thursday - 11/25-Happy Thanksgiving!

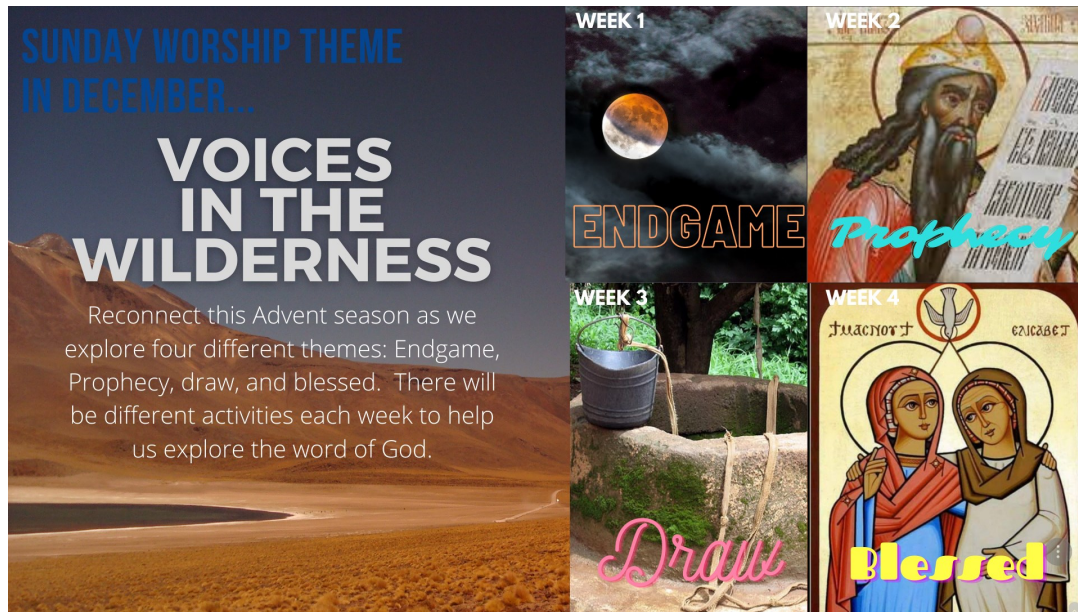
#### Friday - 11/26-Church Offices Closed

#### Saturday - 11/27

8:30 a.m. One God One Voice  
5:00 p.m. Worship Service

#### Sunday - 11/28-First Sunday in Advent

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
10:00 a.m. Faith Connection Time  
10:00 a.m. Adult Forum  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting



**Special Adult Forum Today at 10:00 a.m.**

Join Pastors Diane and Matt during a special adult forum class at 10:00 a.m. today as they talk about faithful practices we can all take around grief, dying and being prepared. In 2021, our faith community was rocked by some untimely deaths. During the month when we spend our worship time talking about the end of time and celebrating the lives of the saints who are no longer with us, let us also talk about how we can be better prepared for death.

**Poinsettia Orders and Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Monetary Gifts**

The Altar Guild will be accepting poinsettia orders and LWR monetary gifts through November 28, 2021. All poinsettia orders and LWR gifts must be in by November 28. You may pick up order forms for poinsettias and LWR gifts outside the Church Office or in the ramp area. Please complete the appropriate form and mail it with your check to the Church or drop it off at the office on Saturday evening or Sunday morning.

**Save the Dates! - Midweek Advent Meals & Worship**

Join us on Wednesday evenings during Advent for our midweek meals, worship and children's lessons! 2021 dates: December 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd. We will gather for a meal beginning at 6:00 p.m. Worship services begin at 7:00 p.m. During worship, youth of all ages are invited to Advent lessons, crafts and activities during worship.

**Irene Eistentrout's Memorial Service—December 1st**

Irene Eistentrout's memorial service will be held on Wednesday, December 1st at 10:00 a.m. This is a mask required service.

### **MVPHP Adopt-A-Family**

Middletown Valley People Helping People will be collecting gift cards so families can purchase the gifts. PLEASE also include the activation slip with the card. Gift cards from Walmart, Target, Amazon, Safeway, Giant Eagle, and Weis Markets are acceptable. Cash donations are welcomed so we can purchase the gift cards. A donation box will be located on the desk in the church office here at Zion. The families will pick up their cards on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, between 3 to 6 p.m.. If you need Christmas assistance, please call MVPHP 301-371-3119 before November 22, 2021. Leave a clear message and phone number. Many thanks for your generous support. Any question, please contact me at 301-371-5139. I take calls til 8pm. Thanks again Donna Jean Brandenburg.

### **COVID Taskforce Update**

The COVID taskforce continues to regularly meet to monitor the pandemic progression and make decisions about Zion's operations. It is a tedious balance in considering returning to normal and being mindful of the burden of disease to our members.

The following questions have been asked:

- **Why are all the windows open in the balcony during the services (despite the weather)?** Multiple studies have shown that good ventilation is one of our best assets in promoting a healthy space and preventing the spread of COVID. This practice will continue so you may want to consider wearing an extra layer to church services.
- **Should latex gloves be worn by those administering the communion elements?** Research studies show that COVID is transmitted by air droplets and rarely by hand/fomite methods. Use of hand sanitizer before distribution is adequate.
- **Why is there such variation in mask usage?** Our governing agencies do not fully agree on this. CDC recommends mask usage in indoor settings. However, our local government has no mandates. Mask usage needs to be based on vaccination status, risk of severe disease to an individual and personal comfort level.

Currently the incidence of COVID has plateaued, however most experts feel that a fall/winter surge will occur due to indoor living, increased family gatherings, and waning vaccine effectiveness.

### **Christmas in the Valley - Volunteers Needed**

Join us in celebrating the beginning of the holiday season at Middletown's annual Christmas in the Valley celebration, **Saturday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m.** We need approximately 10 adult volunteers to help at the church. If you can help please contact Wendi Kishimoto: wendik@zionmiddletown.org or 301-371-6500, ext. 203



**Office Hours-Thanksgiving Week**

**The Church Offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday from Wednesday, November 24th—Friday, November 26th. If there is a pastoral emergency, call the Church Office and follow the instructions on the voicemail.**

**Worship Services**

**Saturday:**

**5 p.m. Informal Worship**

**Sunday Services:**

**9 a.m. Contemporary Worship**

**11 a.m. Traditional Worship**

**Zion Worship Service Viewing Options:**

To view our weekly recorded worship service any time during the week, you can just click on the webpage link at [www.zionmiddletown.org](http://www.zionmiddletown.org) and it will take you directly to the video. The link for the livestream of each service is on the website, click the link and it will take you directly to the video.



**Zion Stewardship**

**2022 Pledge Report as of November 15, 2021**

<b><u>Total # Received</u></b>	<b><u>\$ Pledged</u></b>	<b><u>Goal of \$ Pledged</u></b>
113	\$334,385.19	\$442,567.00

**Budget/Income Information– YTD as of October 31, 2021**

YTD proposed budget income \$492,358.16. vs YTD Actual Income \$435,748.24.

YTD proposed budget expenses \$500,467.08. vs YTD Actual Expenses \$469,718.59

**\*\*Actual income is less expenses by \$33,970.35 \*\***



**Have you signed up for Constant Contact?**

Zion recently discontinued the weekly email letter that was emailed to all members on Wednesdays. We have a Constant Contact weekly email that comes out on Fridays. If you aren't getting it and want to sign up call or email the Church Office: 301-371-6500 or [office@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:office@zionmiddletown.org)