

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1300 Edgewood Drive  
Lima, Ohio 45805

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# The Herald

1300 Edgewood Drive, Lima, Ohio 45805  
419-224-9951 [www.zionlima.org](http://www.zionlima.org)

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## Epiphany of our Lord January 6



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## January 2019



**“May God’s amazing  
surprises fill your New Year.”**

## **FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR**

*“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.” Isaiah 60:1-2*

Epiphany—it is a wonderful story. Magi (sages whom we might call mystics or scholars) travel from an exotic far-away land to Jerusalem to honor the one who was born to be “King of the Jews.” Upon arriving in Jerusalem, they locate the present king, Herod, anticipating that he would be aware of this great event. Herod, however, hasn’t a clue. Yet, once he becomes aware, his curiosity is piqued. He asks the magi to report back to him what they find, so that he too might go worship this king. But—despite his declarations to the contrary—Herod is up to NO GOOD!

Through God’s messengers of dreams and angels, both magi and Joseph are warned that Herod intends harm to Jesus. What follows—after Herod realizes the magi have bypassed him on their return trip—is the most difficult part of the Christmas story: the slaughter of the innocents. Caught up in jealousy, rage and suspicion, Herod orders the death of all boys born in the preceding two years in Bethlehem and its surroundings. All those lives cut short—while Jesus is rushed out of the country to safety—is enough to make one shudder. Yet Herod and his kind are still with us today, although not always so easily identified.

How often do children pay the penalty for the political, social and economic rivalries of the powerful and even the not so powerful? Whether it’s a school in Colorado, Connecticut or Richmond, IN or refugee camps in Africa or the Middle East or our own southern borders, or the sweatshop industries around the world, it is often the children who are most at risk. Note how children are so frequently the battleground for estranged parents. Various television shows—dramas, news magazines and documentaries—have depicted individuals and groups who are committed to work to protect the most vulnerable of children. In recent years we have instituted such measures as Megan’s Law, the Amber Alert System and the A.L.I.C.E. program of lockdown and evacuations in our schools to safeguard our children, thus underscoring the reality that our children are still at risk.

Children, of course, are not alone in this. Jesus often uses children as a sign of all who are vulnerable in society, and for whom the Church is called to stand up and care. One way we as the Church can do this is by supporting Church and community agencies that care for children and families—Family Crisis Network, Community Action Partners and other governmental youth and family services agencies; C.U.P., our Zion Community Meal and other church feeding programs; child care programs like our Zion Child Care; Lutheran social services agencies such as Wernle Youth & Family Services or Oesterlen Services for Youth or the ELCA Hunger Appeal & Disaster Response. These Church and community agencies are where, if you will, those who have lived in darkness are able to see light. May all our efforts as God’s people be about this kind of Epiphany—breaking down barriers that separate us so that the Light of Christ can shine brightly into the darkness of today’s world.

Peace, Love and Joy in your Journey with God this New Year, *Pastor Chuck*

## *Contact Information, etc.*

### **Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**

1300 Edgewood Drive, Lima, Ohio 45805  
419-224-9951 Fax: 419-224-1279

**Toll-free message:** 1-877-470-1910

**e-mail:** churchoffice@zionlima.org

**web site:** www.zionlima.org

**Facebook:** zionlima

**Childcare phone number:** 419-224-7719

### **Worship:**

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 8:30 & 10:45 am

**Lead Interim Pastor:** Charles Boomhower

**Assisting Interim Pastors:** Don Pletcher and Sam Payne

**Administrative Coordinator:** Diana Schneider: diana@zionlima.org

**Church Secretary:** Norma Penn: churchoffice@zionlima.org

**Church Treasurer:** Diana Schneider: diana@zionlima.org

**Stephen Ministry Leaders:** Carrie Schepman & Diana Schneider

**Contact:** Carrie Schepman (419-233-9081)

**Children’s Sunday School Coordinator -**

**Organist:** Mary Jane Eichelberger

**Adult Choir Director:** Marilyn Roth Basinger

**Bell Choir Director:** Jonathan Lischak

**Saturday Night Music Leader:** Open

**Childcare Director -** Lesa Brown, zionchildcare45805@gmail.com

### **Scheduled Activity**

Men’s Breakfast

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

### **Contact Person**

Stan Vandemark

Marie Lawrence

### **Phone Number**

419-909-9310

419-225-7071

### **Church Council:**

**President –** Cindy Linton

**President-elect –** Kim Manning

**Secretary –** Jim Raabe

**Members-at-Large:** Terry Boop, Linda Wensole, Mike Leppla, Stan Vandemark,  
Pastor Chuck Boomhower

**NEWS FROM CUP:**

Changes are being made at the food bank, and as a result, CUP has been purchasing more food from Rulers, Aldis, and Save-A-Lot. Because funds are running low during this time of year, the CUP board is now asking for monetary donations from the participating churches. Donations can be placed in the church offering plate and will be forwarded to CUP. Also, canned fruit has been in short supply, along with canned soup. Personal hygiene items are always appreciated.

Thank you, Zion, for your continuing support.

Sandra Knarr, CUP Board member

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**“The Year of Scripture” Study Groups**

In 2019 our Northwestern Ohio Synod is extending a challenge to all congregations to participate in “The Year of Scripture.” If you are interested in reading through the Bible in a year and/or forming a Bible in A Year Study Group, please talk with Pastor Chuck or contact the church office..

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**Community Meals**

Our monthly meals continue to meet a need in this community. Those who come here to enjoy a delicious dinner are very appreciative. It’s because of the caring generosity of our volunteers that those we serve always leave with a smile and looking forward to the next month when we welcome them back.

So many of our volunteers have become “regulars” - showing up every month to help in whatever way they can. They not only serve with joy, but there is wonderful interaction among them as they take the opportunity to also get better acquainted with each other. It really is a fun and rewarding experience. Please consider making this one way you can reach out to your neighbors in an easy but impactful way !! Meanwhile, please keep this ministry and all those who are touched by it in your prayers.

The schedule for the next 5 months is:

- January 22
- February 26
- March 26
- April 23
- May 28

The time each month is 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

We will be taking the summer off and plan to resume in September.

**Epiphany of Our Lord - Begins January 6**

**This Radiance Marks Our True Home** (from Sundays & Seasons)

“Humans have an almost universal longing for home. We long for those memories of security or comfort, we long for familiar paths and sidewalks and the old oak tree in the back yard. We long for what was, knowing we can never return once we have been changed by life. For some this means we live forever as wanderers and refugees. In the gospel text, Jesus and his family are refugees far from their home in Galilee. Shortly after the events in this text they will leave for Egypt, fleeing from Herod’s persecutions and becoming political refugees.

Still, no matter where we are or how far we travel, as Christians we are always home. Even secular notions of home are more about what physical location *means* to us, rather than mere location. This is particularly true for us as God’s people. For the children of God, home is less place than it is *experience* of the presence of God. It is the glory and wonder of a restored Jerusalem, and as Isaiah promises: “Then you shall see and be radiant” (Isa. 60:5). Home is being in the company of God’s people gathered from the ends of the earth and dining together. Home is that holy place in the presence of God where everyone has a place at the table and all are treated equally.

This is a home everyone can recognize and everyone can experience. This is a home for those whose families are broken, a home for those who are homeless, a home for all people. This is the place Jesus creates for us. So we travel on, with a star to guide us, until finally that star shines down on our home. We enter slowly, maybe even with trepidation, and are overwhelmed with joy. What else can we do but offer Jesus the best we have: our very lives?”

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**The Baptism of Our Lord - January 13**

**Breath of God** (from Sundays & Seasons) “Breath figures frequently in Scripture. God’s breath or Spirit hovers over the chaos in creation in Genesis. Breath or Spirit enters the nostrils of the created in the story. Breath and Spirit is breathed onto the disciples by Jesus when he appears to them after his resurrection. In the gospel text, as Jesus rises from the waters, the Spirit, the breath of God, descends like a dove. Jesus, having held his breath under the water, rises as a model of death and life for us, breathing in the life of the Spirit. He is a risen and claimed by God as the beloved with whom God is pleased.

Of course, breathing is two things, breathing in and breathing out. You can hold your breath, but there is no way to hold it forever. Consider how this reflects the Spirit’s power in Jesus and then in our baptism. In baptism, the gift is not just one of repentance and forgiveness, but, as the Acts text emphasizes, also involves the Spirit living and acting in the baptized. While it is a gift for our own lives, like the gift of breathing in, it is also encouragement and life, a breathing out of the Spirit into the world. Baptism is both for our own sake and for the world. In our baptism, we breathe in forgiveness and reconciliation and breathe out the Spirit in our life and works. That’s the full life of the baptized disciple.”

**SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!** We continue to collect **Chief's Receipts**. Remember that the receipt must say **COMMUNITY CASH** across the top. These may be placed in the bin on the table in the Hospitality Room. Thanks to Linda Wensole who takes care of this project for us. Serve Team is also continually collecting old eyeglasses, and used ink cartridges. The rebates on these items allow the Serve Team to donate to various missions.



**OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH** - We will be meeting January 16 at 12:00 noon—*Old Barn Out Back*, 3175 West Elm Street. Come join us for fun and fellowship with your Zion Family. Sign up on the Red Board in the North Exit Hallway or call Stan or Marie Lawrence, 419-225-7071



**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** - Congratulations to all Zion Prayer Shawl Members! Our special Prayer Shawl Weekend could not have happened without **God's Blessing and our hard work**. We will meet on **January 8 at 1:00 pm in the library**. Hope all can attend as we begin another year.  
**Blessings - Marie Lawrence and Sally Parker**

**CALL PROCESS UPDATE:** The Call Committee has completed the 14-page Ministry Site Profile, submitted it to Zion's Council for approval, and then submitted it to the Synod. On December 12, the committee met with our Call Facilitator, Pastor Stonerock, for an orientation. In January, the committee will participate in a practice interview session, after which the Synod will match us with possible candidates. As the process progresses, the committee will continue to pray for guidance and to trust in the Holy Spirit to lead us and the person who will become our new pastor. Please keep the committee and the process in your prayers as well.

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** If you or a loved one is admitted to an area hospital and you would like to have pastoral care during the stay, please let the hospital know to call the church office. Be sure to specify that it is Zion in Lima, not in Lafayette. We also appreciate knowing if you would like to have us add you to Zion's prayer chain. We have a sizeable group of "prayer warriors" who want to lift up prayers for healing and other life issues.

## Worship Helpers

Position	Jan 5-6	Jan 12-13	Jan 19-20	Jan 26-27
<b>Saturday Asst.</b>	Mary Smith	Diana Schneider	Bud Linton	Carrie Schepman
<b>Asst. Minister 8:30</b>	Diana Schneider	Matt Young	Chuck Eichelberger	Diana Schneider
<b>Asst. Minister 10:45</b>	Darrell Ball	Cathy Lehman	Richard Schneider	Carol Gibson
<b>Greeters Saturday</b>	Cindy Linton Kim Manning	Ted & Mary Smith	Dan & Sue Fifer	Kim Manning
<b>Saturday Offering Assistants</b>	Cindy Linton Kim Manning	Ted & Mary Smith	Dan & Sue Fifer	Kim Manning Deb Nolte
<b>Projection Input</b>	Dave Miller	Dave Miller	Diana Schneider	Diana Schneider
<b>Outdoor Sign</b>	Nan Maley	Nan Maley	Nan Maley	Nan Maley
<b>Head Usher 8:30</b>	Dave Hieneman	Roger Fessler	Dan Schulz	Dave Hieneman
<b>Ushers 10:45</b>	Stan Vandemark Curtis Young Luke Best Sam Bassitt Katie Lucente	Jim Maley Darrell Ball Mark Cellar Chase Dotson Richard Schneider	Stan Vandemark Dave Morman Darrell Ball Sam Bassitt Ed Baden	Jim Maley Curtis Young Chase Dotson Mark Cellar Richard Schneider
<b>Bread Bakers</b>	Phyllis Simon	Kathy Radabaugh	Kathy Radabaugh	Pam Raabe
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Linda & Callee Young, Sandra Knarr, Sue Fifer (Sat)	Linda & Callee Young, Sandra Knarr, Sue Fifer (Sat)	Linda & Callee Young, Sandra Knarr, Sue Fifer (Sat)	Linda & Callee Young, Sandra Knarr, Sue Fifer (Sat)

# January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10:00 am Combined Service - Lessons and Carols	31	1 Happy New Year!	2	3 7:00 pm Choir practice	4	5 8:30 am Men's Breakfast 3:30 pm Praise Team Practice 5:00 pm Worship Service
6 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Service 9:30 Bell Choir practice 9:30-10:30 am Sunday School & Catechism Noon — Potluck	7	8 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl 5:30 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm Council Mtg	9	10 7:00 pm Choir practice	11	12 3:30 pm Praise Team Practice 5:00 pm Worship Service
13 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship 9:30 Bell Choir practice 9:30-10:30 am Sunday School & Catechism	14	15 6:30 pm Childcare Board	16 noon Out to Lunch Bunch - Old Barn Out Back	17 7:00 pm Choir practice	18	19 3:30 pm Praise Team Practice 5:00 pm Worship Service
20 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Service 9:30 Bell Choir practice 9:30-10:30 am Sunday School & Catechism	21 February Newsletter Deadline	22 5:00 - 6:00 pm Community Meal	23	24 7:00 pm Choir practice	25	27 3:30 pm Praise Team Practice 5:00 pm Worship Service 10:00 pm Worship Service
27 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Service 9:30 Bell Choir practice 9:30-10:30 am Sunday School & Catechism	28	29	30	31 7:00 pm Choir practice	1	2 3:30 pm Praise Team Practice 5:00 pm Worship Service

Zion's mission is to serve all of God's creation in faith and love.

### Bedrock Beliefs of Zion:

(Principles that we cling to in times of stress)

- \* Christ Jesus is Lord.
- \* We are saved by grace through faith.
- \* Nothing can separate us from the love of God.
- \* We trust our Lord to guide us on our journey through this life and into the next life's wonders.
- \* God hears our prayers.

### Core Values of Zion

(Positive, predictable behavior patterns that the people of Zion can reasonably be expected to model spontaneously and intentionally in life)

#### *SPIRITUALITY*

Prayer, Worshipping Together, Personal Devotions, Spiritual Growth and Sharing

#### *SERVANTHOOD*

Outreach, Think of Others First, Compassion, Love, Serving Others Anytime, Anywhere

#### *JOY*

Praise and Thanksgiving, Hope, Excitement, Enthusiasm, Sense of Humor

#### *COMMUNITY*

Acceptance, Flexibility, Trust, Respect, Communication, Diversity, Forgiveness

#### *COMMITMENT*

Eager Participation, Generous Giving, Integrity, Stewardship

#### *LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT*

Recognizing, Encouraging, Developing, Supporting, and Training current and potential leaders for responsible service.

**A Message From Childcare**

Everyone on the Childcare staff hopes you each had a wonderful holiday season. We were very pleased with the successful Christmas Program on December 18. Thanks so much to the support of the congregation - those who came to help where needed and those who donated their delicious cookies for the after-show reception.

We must now look forward to cold snow and cloudy days. But, to make the most of these months, we have lots of fun activities planned for our children throughout the winter. We will be focusing on winter crafts and continuing to work on social and listening skills.

We hope to schedule a Childcare Sunday again this year. It would basically mean encouraging our Childcare families to attend a worship service at Zion with their child(ren). The children will actively participate in the service with singing performances or in other fun ways. We will share the details when we have them.



Happy New Year to all!

Lesa Brown, Director



**Special SHARE. FEED. RELIEVE. Campaign:**

Over the course of December and January we are providing you with a special opportunity to support our Missionary (to SHARE the gospel), our local Churches' United Pantry (to FEED people in the Lima area), and Lutheran Disaster Response (to help RELIEVE people dealing with natural disasters). Our goal is to raise \$10,000 (over and above our regular offerings) for these purposes. So please prayerfully consider to what extent you feel called to support these causes in addition to your faithful regular offerings to Zion. Thank you so much!

*January Celebrations*

*Wedding Anniversaries*

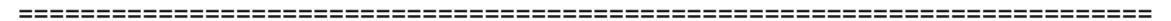


Day		Years
6	Bob and Beda Sielschott	38
12	Greg and Deb Markley	43
12	Harold and Phyllis Simon	32



*Birthdays*

Day		Day		Day	
1	Jeremy Fifer	10	Chase Dotson	24	Joe Barga
1	Callee Young	10	Shannon Schneider	25	Gene Fries
3	Sarah Murphy	15	Jean Marshall	25	Cheryl Frey
4	Hope Reynolds	18	Justin LaRue	26	Joan Baden
6	Inga Poe	20	Nikki Cellar	26	Jim Maley
8	Jan Katz	20	Adam Knott	29	Nan Maley
8	Dave Morman	20	Connor Neidemire	30	Larry Williams
9	John Kiley	22	Helen Morris	30	Chase Wilson
9	Tom Lucente	23	Alexis Patterson	31	Libbie Milks



If we've missed your anniversary or birthday, or if we have the wrong date, please call the Office - 419-224-9951