

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP • GROW • SERVE

*Altamont, Illinois*



† THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD †

JANUARY 7, 2024

# ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

- Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod -

5534 E. 600<sup>th</sup> Ave., Altamont, IL 62411

zionaltamont.org

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THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

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## Today's Worship

Order of worship: Setting Three with Holy Communion - p.184

Hymns: 405, 596, 397

**Ushers serving in December:** Dwayne Beccue & Jason Suckow

Reserve: John Wohltman

**We welcome our visitors** in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ! We pray that your time of worship with us today will be a blessing to you. Please introduce yourself to our members and our pastor. If you are interested in learning more about Zion, membership, or our teachings, please don't hesitate to speak with Pastor Manley or an Elder.

## In Our Prayers This Week

**Comfort** for the family of David Wolf

**In need of healing:** Barbara Clifton, Heather Davis, Darren Feldkamp, Florence Leppin, Myrna Suckow, Howard Voelker, Mildred Wolf

**Serving in the military:** Cole Stuemke, Brandon Voelker

**Imprisoned:** Alex Beccue



## January Birthdays & Anniversaries\*

Charlotte Murray (19th), David Suckow (24th), Jason Suckow (26th)

**HOLY COMMUNION:** *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.*

*Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Installation of 2024 Elected Officers** will be held during the service today. Those being installed are: Mark Suckow – Elder, Dwayne Beccue – Elder, Rick Conway – Elder; John Wohltman – Trustee (Missions); Dennis Stuemke – Trustee (Building/Cemetery); Lloyd Alwardt – Chairman; Morris Suckow – Secretary; Jenna Murray – SS Superintendent; Jason Suckow – Chief Usher; Dean Biggs – LCC Executive Board; Herb Stuemke – LCC Full Board; Dwayne Beccue – ALIS Board; Brock Murray – ALIS Board; Gary Wendling – LLL Rep.

*The Zion General Treasurer position is open. If any Zion voter is interested in learning more about the responsibilities and skills necessary for this position, please speak with a member of the Council.*

**2024 Zion Ladies Aid Officers:** Jeanine Wendling, President; Linda Suckow, Vice President; Beverly Suckow, Treasurer; Imogene Clark, Secretary

**2024 Zion LWML Officers:** Anita Alwardt, President; Imogene Clark, Collections  
*The full list of officers will remain posted in the Narthex as a reference point throughout the year to direct any questions, comments, or concerns to the appropriate person.*

**Christmas Undecorating – TODAY** at 1:30 PM. Please come help undecorate the church. All help is appreciated.

**Zion Sunday Brunch** is Sunday, January 14, immediately following church service. Menu includes assorted breakfast casseroles, biscuits & gravy. Free will donation for ALIS tuition for Zion students.

**LCC Full Board and Congregational Meeting** will be held on Monday, Jan. 22, at 7 PM in the Family Gathering Center.

**Zion's Quarterly Voters Meeting** will be held on Sunday, January 28. The Council will meet at 1:30 PM, the Voters will meet at 2 PM.

**Vandalia Holy Cross Lutheran - Ladies Society** will be hosting their annual Chili/Soup Luncheon on Sunday, January 21, from 11:30 AM -1:00 PM. This is a **DRIVE THRU ONLY** event. Cost is a free-will donation. The menu includes homemade Chicken Noodle Soup, Chili; Chicken Salad or Peanut Butter sandwiches, hot dog; Chocolate sheet cake, Carrot sheet cake, or Angel food cake. Pick-up at the Parish Hall off the alley, follow the signs! Enter from the alley from Taylor St. (in front of the Fayette County Hospital from the EAST ONLY). You can also walk in the North Education Wing doors for carry-out. See the announcement on the bulletin board for more details.

### **ALIS News/Upcoming Events:**

**Mon., Jan. 15** – No School – Martin Luther King Day  
**Mon., Jan. 15** – School Board Meeting – 7 PM

### **Thought for the week...**

**Matthew 3:14** – “John would have prevented him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?’” John is right — what Jesus is doing makes no sense! But this is the upside-down, outlandish grace of God: the innocent Jesus takes our sinner’s place. This is the greatest act of giving the world has ever known or will know: the Father gives His Son to die in the place of sinners.

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**ATTENDANCE**

12/31 – 8am	30
12/31 – 5:30pm	32

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**OUR CURRENT GIVING**

Weekly amount needed:	\$ 1,200.00
Received 12/31 – 8am	\$ 592.00
Received 12/31 – 5:30pm	\$ 264.00
Received YTD:	\$ 64,465.75
Difference in actual needed YTD:	\$ +865.75

Missions budget goal:	\$ 2,000.00
Received 12/31 – 8am	\$ 100.00
Received 12/31 – 5:30pm	\$ 0.00
Missions received YTD:	\$ 1,794.00

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**The following Lectionary Summary**, provided by the LCMS, serves as a guide to help understand the theme of the readings for each Sunday as well as how they fit into the particular season of the Church Year.

***In His Baptism, Jesus Takes His Place with Sinners***

Our Lord Jesus is baptized “to fulfill all righteousness” (Matt. 3:13–17). He partakes of a baptism for sinners in order that He might be our substitute and bear the judgment we deserve. In the water, Jesus trades places with us. Our sin becomes His sin. His righteousness becomes our righteousness. Our glory, therefore, is in “Christ Jesus, who became to us . . . righteousness and sanctification and redemption” (1 Cor. 1:26–31). Jesus is the “chosen” One sent from the Father to release us from the prison house of sin and death (Is. 42:1–7). Baptized into Christ, we also become the chosen ones, beloved of the Father. We cross the Jordan with Jesus (Joshua 3) through death into the promised land of new life with God.

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**Join author Katie Schuermann** at her home church, Grace Lutheran Church, 109 N. Locust St., Strasburg, IL, on January 7, 2024 from 2-4 PM where she will be signing copies of her latest novel, *The Saints of Whistle Grove*. There will be books, cookies, fun, and fellowship. You can learn more about Katie by going to [katieschuermann.com](http://katieschuermann.com). Several of her books are available on [cph.org](http://cph.org). She has received several awards and recognitions and is a regular guest on Issues Etc. and KFUE.

**KFUE - 850AM / KFUE.org** – Programs are archived for 24/7 on-demand listening **Issues, Etc.** broadcasts live weekdays from 3:05 to 5:00 P.M. Central.

**UNANSWERED BIBLE QUESTIONS...** Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: [talkback@issuesetc.org](mailto:talkback@issuesetc.org), Facebook: [facebook.com/issuesetc](https://facebook.com/issuesetc), or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**Bulletin Announcements** E-mail [zion.altamont@gmail.com](mailto:zion.altamont@gmail.com) or call/text Tonya at 618-780-7732. Please submit announcements by 12 P.M. on Friday.