

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP • GROW • SERVE

Altamont, Illinois



† CHRISTMAS I †

DECEMBER 31, 2023

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

- Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod -

5534 E. 600th Ave., Altamont, IL 62411

zionaltamont.org

Pastor – Rev. Marcus Manley (712) 880-2452

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CHRISTMAS 1

DECEMBER 31, 2023

Today's Worship

Order of worship:

Matins - p. 219

Hymns:

389, 364, 391, 386

Ushers serving in December: Jason Suckow & John Wohltman

Reserve: Brandon Beccue

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.

Prayer Before Worship: O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen.

Prayer After Worship: Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week

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

Serving in the military: Cole Stuemke, Brandon Voelker

Imprisoned: Alex Beccue



Happy Birthday to Jeanine Wendling on Saturday (01/06).

January Birthdays & Anniversaries*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

New Year's Eve (Zion) – with Holy Communion – Sun., Dec. 31, 5:30 P.M.
New Year's Day (Beth.) – with Holy Communion – Mon., Jan. 1, 9:30 A.M.

Installation of 2024 Elected Officers will be held during the service next Sunday, **January 7**. 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 Steve Suckow or 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 for your information as well as a reference point throughout the year to direct any questions, comments, or concerns to the appropriate person.

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.

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:

Fri., Dec. 22 – Tues., Jan. 2 – No School – Christmas/New Year's Break

Wed., Jan. 3 – Students Return to School

Thought for the week...

Luke 2:39 – “And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned ... to their own town of Nazareth.” The Law of God is good. Of course, it always shows us our sins, but that is good, too! We need to be driven back to the forgiveness of Christ. And the Law also shows us the truly blessed way to live. As Mary and Joseph found their joy in a godly life, so should we see the Law as a guide for Christian living and as the roadmap for saying thank you to the Lord for all His grace and mercy to us.

ATTENDANCE

12/24 – 8am	42
12/24 – 5:30pm	65
12/25	30

OUR CURRENT GIVING

Weekly amount needed:	\$ 1,200.00
Received 12/24 – 8am	\$ 1,548.00
Received 12/24 – 5:30pm	\$ 957.00
Received 12/25	\$ 256.00
Received YTD:	\$ 63,609.75
Difference in actual needed YTD:	\$ + 1,209.75

Missions budget goal:	\$ 2,000.00
Received 12/24 – 8am	\$ 0.00
Received 12/24 – 5:30pm	\$ 0.00
Received 12/25	\$ 0.00
Missions received YTD:	\$ 1,694.00



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.

The Seed of David Comes to His Temple

A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Is. 11:1–5)—the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam. 7:1–16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Gal. 4:1–7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be “*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel*” (Luke 2:22–40). Christ has enlightened us in baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.

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. Several of her books are available on cph.org. She has received several awards and recognitions and is a regular guest on Issues Etc. and KFUO.

STUDY GOD’S WORD IN 2024... LCMS Stewardship has encouraged Lutherans to spend 1% every day (14 minutes) in God’s Word and prayer. The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily, 15-minute, verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon is currently leading a study on the Book of Colossians. You can listen at thewordendures.org, the LPR mobile app or your favorite podcast provider.

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