



Zion Lutheran Church

435 Oak Street
Manistique, MI 49854
906-341-5427

A church of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America - ELCA

www.zionlutheran-manistique.org

or like us on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

~ December 2018 ~

Saturday – Worship and Holy Communion – 5:00 PM

Sunday – Worship and Holy Communion – 10:30 AM

Office Hours – Monday-Thursday – 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Terry Frankenstein, Pastor

zion.pastor.terry@gmail.com

CONTACT US:

Zion Lutheran Church
435 Oak Street
Manistique, MI 49854
906-341-5427

www.zionlutheran-manistique.org or find us on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

Rev. Terry Frankenstein, Pastor

zion.pastor.terry@gmail.com
Office: 906-341-5427
Cell Phone: 906-241-3311

Secretary: Shirley Leitgeb

shirley.leitgeb@zionmanistique.org

Musician: Linda Levin

Choir Director: Rebecca Peterson

Sunday School Coordinator: Sheila Clark

Custodian: Pat Toennesen

Congregation Council:

Linda Levin, President
Cathy Knudson, Vice President
Kay MacGregor, Secretary
Marie Bellville, Treasurer
Cyndee Miske, Financial Secretary
John Barry
Clyde Johnson
Frank Leitgeb
Jon Maline
Julie Malloy
Kathy McDonough
Donna Mott
Larry Peterson



A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

My Internship Supervisor, Pastor Warren Geier, was known for saying that in the month of December, we are dealing with two, mostly separate, holidays: secular Christmas and sacred Christmas. On the one hand, Secular Christmas is our commercialized holiday which begins right after we put away the Halloween decorations and continues with Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday, and Giving Tuesday. On the other, Sacred Christmas brings us the Christian seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, as we anticipate Jesus' birth, rejoice that he has come to live among us, and celebrate his revelation to the Magi.



It's a rare person who isn't attracted to various aspects of secular Christmas. I know I'm looking forward to buying and wrapping gifts for my grandchildren (who are quite excited about Santa Claus), making (and eating!) special foods, and attending a couple of parties (including a Swedish Glogg gathering!). Provided we don't over-do the commercial and consumer-driven side of Christmas, it's not so bad to participate in these ways because they can bring us the chance to experience fun and fellowship and help us to show goodwill toward others.

My hope is that we'll also be drawn to experience Christian community during the month of December. There are many opportunities to share the story of the greatest gift of all: Jesus Christ – Emmanuel – God With Us: Lessons & Carols at the Catholic Church; Nordic Fest, Sankta Lucia and the Sunday School Christmas Program at Zion, Christmas Caroling at Heritage House, the Medical Care Facility, and Woodland; and the Longest Night Service at the Presbyterian Church. All of these opportunities lead up to our Family and Candlelight Christmas Eve services on the 24th, after which we celebrate the twelve days of Christmas!

May the blessings of the season be with each one of you and your families. As we look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth, let us also rejoice that Christ is with us now and will one day return when the fullness of his kingdom arrives.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Terry

Nordic Heritage Churches Project

Zion recently submitted a final grant application to Partners for Sacred Places in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, after being selected in May to participate in their Nordic Heritage Churches Project. The purpose of the program is to preserve and restore historic architecture and art found in Scandinavian churches throughout the upper Midwest. Zion is planning initially to clean, conserve and restore two of our historic altar paintings and to replicate the original decorative painting and stenciling in the chancel area of the sanctuary, as seen in early photographs of the church interior. Zion has been working with Kenneth Katz, a highly respected painting conservator from Conservation and Museum Services in Detroit. Mr. Katz visited Zion and examined our paintings during October and has submitted his recommendations for conservation.

The altar paintings planned for cleaning and conservation include August Klagstad's, "Christ in Gethsemane," and Jonas Olaf Grafstrom's "The Ascension." Klagstad was a Norwegian native who emigrated here from Norway in 1873 at the age of five. He grew up in Manistique and was in Zion's first adult confirmation class in 1885. "Christ in Gethsemane" was Klagstad's very first altar painting and was completed in the summer of 1893 when Klagstad was vacationing here from Chicago. The painting first adorned the altar of the Norwegian Lutheran Church in Manistique, which later became the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The painting was later donated to Zion and hangs in the foyer off the narthex. Klagstad, whose paintings have been described as "sermons on canvass" went on to produce over one thousand altar paintings for congregations across the nation and overseas.

The altar painting by Jonas Olaf Grafstrom, "The Ascension," has been a treasured focus of worship in our sanctuary for over a century. Grafstrom was a Swedish born artist who was noted for his landscape paintings. In 1897 he became head of the Art Department at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. It was then that he also became known for altar paintings, many of which can be found in Augustana Synod congregations. These were usually completed on location during the summer months when the college was out of session. The painting in our sanctuary is considered an excellent example of his work. It is oil on canvass adhered to plaster. Zion's painting was undoubtedly created on site soon after the church was built.

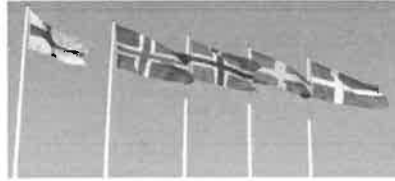
We are also seeking to restore the chancel area of the sanctuary interior to the original presentation dating back to 1906. Specifically, we seek to restore and/or replicate the original decorative painting and stenciling apparent in early photographs of the church interior. The first step is to expose the underlying original colors and stencil. Once the original stencils and colors are revealed they can be restored or duplicated.

We eventually hope to conserve and restore the Isabella painting of the Resurrection which was completed by an unknown artist and which hung in the Bethany Lutheran Church sanctuary for over a century.

Should you have any questions about this project, please see Larry Peterson.

Zion Happenings

Scandinavian Festival within a Sacred Space



Zion will be hosting a Scandinavian festival on December 13th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, in conjunction with Sankta Lucia Day. The event will showcase Zion's Nordic heritage as well as display works from talented artists, past and present and future, in our community. Zion is partnering with the Schoolcraft County Historical Society, Lake Effect Community Arts, the Manistique High School Art Department and the Manistique Women's Club. Scandinavian music and food items will also be featured. A suggested donation of \$10.00 per person will be applied to match anticipated grant funding to conserve and restore Zion's altar paintings and the decorative art in the chancel area of the sanctuary.



Sankta Lucia will be celebrated on **Saturday, December 15th, at 10:00am.** There will be a Continental breakfast served. Please tell a friend and come and enjoy this wonderful tradition!

The **Sunday School Christmas Program** will be held on **Sunday, December 16th**, during our regular worship time. Come and

enjoy our young people who will be sharing an “Incredible Christmas” with us!



We will be Christmas Caroling on **Sunday December 16th**, from 4:00 to 6:00pm. There will be a Schoolcraft County Transit Bus so that we can all go together. Afterward, we will come back to Augustana Hall for a pizza dinner. All are welcome to come and join us!!



Christmas Eve worship times:

Family Service—3:30pm

Candlelight & Carols—9:00pm

Please note: the Church Office will be open on Christmas Eve and on New Year's Eve from 9-12:00pm.



Zion members will participate in **Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Jack's Fresh Market on Saturday, December 1st**. Thank you to everyone who will be coming out to support an organization that brings great benefit to those in need.

The **54th Festival of Lessons and Carols, "Go Tell It"** will be on **December 9th, at 3:00pm** at St. Francis de Sales Church. What a wonderful way to start the Christmas season!



The Longest Night worship service, sponsored by the Manistique Ministerial Association, will be held on **Friday December 21, at 6:00pm**, at the Church of the Redeemer with Pastor Jan Reed presiding.

This service recognizes that there are those among us who have lost loved ones, whether in the recent past or decades ago. Such losses can make the holidays a difficult time. Please consider gathering with others for a service of hope in the midst of the longest night of the year.



Dear Pr. Terry & "Kitchen Ladies", A sincere Thank You to all for a very successful potluck supper on Oct. 13. Always so nice to enjoy a meal and meet new friends. Sincerely, Betty Denessen
p.s. Where else can one go and get such a tasteful variety of food??

+++++

This Wonderful season is for counting our Blessings and thinking Thankful thoughts of people like You.
Your Friends at Good Neighbor Services

+++++

Thanksgiving Baskets

Thank you to everyone who provided the items needed for the Thanksgiving baskets. We were again able to fill six baskets for families in need. Below are a couple of Thank You notes we received:

"I just want to thank you from the bottom of my heart! May God bless you and keep you. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family."

"We really appreciate all that you do. It really helps out. Thank you for your time that you put into everything."

*Gifts to our congregation have been given in
memory of*

Kathy Selling

- Doris Ribblet—Pew Cushions
Mike Asp & Bev Willour—Paint fund
Cindy & John Erickson—Paint fund
Betty DeSautel—Quilters
Jeanne Gundersen—Altar Guild
Kathy Peterson—Backpack Program
Bill & Donna Mott—Pew Cushions
Dick & Linda Mason—Memorial fund
Carol Carlson—Memorial fund
Bernie & Greer Fish—Memorial fund
Nancy Whaling—Memorial fund
Mary Louisa Kolch—Memorial fund
Jim & Janice Jackson—Memorial fund
Bruce & Rita Rossier—Memorial fund
Dorothy Brandstrom—Memorial fund
Keith & Mary Rochefort—Memorial fund
Gregory & Dana Turan—Memorial fund
James & Laurie Kleveno—Memorial fund
Harold & Patricia Toennessen—Memorial fund
Kathleen Wood—Memorial fund
Earl & Dorothy Johnson—Memorial fund
Kathy Broullire-Redd—Memorial fund
Charlie & Julie Richey—Memorial fund
Marilyn Larson—Memorial fund
Randy & Cindy Olli—Memorial fund
Patricia Hewitt—Memorial fund
Beth Nelson—Memorial fund
Larry & Julie Roscioli—Memorial fund
Kevin Thorell—Memorial fund

Join us for Bible Study and Conversation



The Wednesday morning Lectionary conversation continues at 10:30am through December 12th.

The Monday night group will be meeting on December 10th only, at 6:30, and will watch a video by Rob Bell. A Bible study on the book of Revelation will be starting in January.

If you have questions about either of these opportunities, please see Pr. Terry.

Circle News

The **Sarah Circle** will meet Monday, December 2nd, in the conference room at 1:00pm.

The **Joy Circle** does not meet in December, but will meet in January and have their annual Auction.

The **Priscilla Circle** will be going to lunch at Big Boy on Tuesday, December 18th, at 12:15pm.

The **Ruth Circle** will be meeting on Wednesday, 11:30am at Big Boy for lunch.

The members of the **Hope Circle** will meet on December 20th at 6:00pm.

NOISY OFFERINGS

**November 2018—Manistique Ministerial Association
\$114.47**

Upcoming Scripture Readings

December 2 —First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13,
Luke 21:25-36

December 9—Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4, Psalm Luke 1:68-79, Philippians 1:3-11,
Luke 3:1-6

December 16—Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Psalm Isaiah 12:2-6, Philippians 4:4-7,
Luke 3:7-18

December 23—Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a, Psalm Luke 1:46b-55, Hebrews 10:5-10,
Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

December 24—Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

If you would like to order a Poinsettia to help decorate our church for Christmas, the suggested donation is \$10.00.

Please use the forms that will be available in the church office, and note whether your gift (of any dollar amount) is *"In Honor Of"* or *"In Memory Of"* someone, if it is a special occasion, or if you are making your gift to the Floral Fund. Please see Shirley if you have any questions. Orders need to be in by Sunday, December 16th.



Darren Hicks – Eagle Scout

Congratulations to Darren Hicks who recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, a significant accomplishment in the life of a Boy Scout. Darren's Eagle Scout project was twofold: making and setting up benches at the Bishop Baraga Shrine and reconstructing the artifact display case at the Shrine. Darren is a member of Troop 400 which meets at Zion Lutheran Church. He serves as the youth representative on Zion's Church Council and is the son of Dave and Mary Hicks. Great job Darren!

Alma Over Finlandia – Tyler and Nick's Final Game



from left to right: Tyler Kangas, Steve Knudson, Nick Knudson, and Coach Todd Kangas

Todd Kangas coached all three young men while they were in high school. This was Tyler's last game with Finlandia and Nick's last game with Alma. Congratulations to the winning team, Alma College!

Congregation Council Highlights – November

- +The Stewardship Committee reported on the Fall Stewardship Drive. They will begin working on the budget for 2019.
- +The work in Augustana Hall is continuing. Pastor's office is nearly complete. The church secretary's office is completed. The table from the library has been moved so there is now a conference room in Pastor's old office.
- +The Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 16th.
- +The Personnel committee will update all staff job descriptions.
- +The Nordic Historic Spaces Committee continues to meet weekly. Mr. Ken Katz, a conservator from Conservation and Museum Services in Detroit, visited Zion on October 19th to look at our three Altar paintings. He sent his recommendations for the restoration work as well as prices for the work. The grant has been submitted to Nordic Historic Spaces. They will pay up to \$15,000 for the work that needs to be done, provided we provide matching funds.
- +Zion's Constitution Committee has worked on updating our congregation's constitution. The Northern Great Lakes Synod Constitution Committee is now reviewing the changes.
- +We are looking for people who like to take pictures, to share those pictures with us so we can keep our website up-to-date with the latest events going on at Zion. Please talk to any council person if you are interested.
- +December Calendar:
Sunday, December 9, 3:00 p.m. – Festival of Lessons and Carols at St. Francis

Thursday, December 13, 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Scandinavian Festival at Zion
Saturday, December 15, 10:00 a.m. – Sankta Lucia Program
Sunday, December 16, 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School Christmas Program
Sunday, December 16, 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Congregational Christmas Caroling
Friday, December 21, 6:00 p.m. – The Longest Night Service at Church of the Redeemer
Monday, December 24, 3:30 p.m. – Family Christmas Eve Service
Monday, December 24, 3:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, December 30, 10:30 a.m. – Christmas Carol Service

Pastor Terry's Office has Moved (a note from Pr. Terry)

My office has moved two doors down from my previous office space, and I'd like to extend an invitation to everyone to stop by and check out the new layout and new office furniture. I am awaiting the arrival of new chairs, and the Property Committee will need to decide how best to cover the walls, but otherwise the new space is warm and efficient. I am grateful to everyone who worked so hard to get me moved into this new office. Thank you!!

Giving Opportunity Nordic Heritage Churches Project

Please find enclosed in this issue of *The Beacon*, a special envelope that congregants may use to contribute toward the required match for the restoration of Zion's historic art and decorative painting. Zion's share of the cost for restorations is \$11,675.00. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Stewardship Update

Zion's Stewardship Drive was held during the month of October. Every member of the congregation received a letter asking for support of Zion's operational budget in **2019**. We received **55 pledges**, totaling a commitment of support in the amount of **\$84,178**. This compares with **79 pledges** for a total of **\$121,637** in **2018**. The Finance and Stewardship Committee will now begin working on a budget based on the amount pledged. ***If you have not yet turned in your commitment/pledge card, you may still do so by mailing it to Zion, turning it into the office or putting it in the offering plate during worship.***

Stewardship for Advent and Christmas

Many of us cherish everything about the Christmas season -- except those incessant advertisements telling us to buy this and by that. We ask, "Where's Jesus in all this commercialism?"

This is the right question. Though it asks us to examine every aspect of our lives, stewardship particularly challenges us to question the role money plays in our personal lives and our culture.

Christmas presents are wonderful expressions of love that make both giver and recipient feel good. At the same time, we want to be wary of advertising's lure to make us overspend, or to think that the cost of our gift is proportionate to our love.

Most of all, we need to be sure that the main point of our Christmas is not the gifts *we give*, but the gift *we receive* from God: Jesus. Here are some ideas:

- Challenge yourself to spend less for presents this year. Set a budget and stick to it.
- Attend worship regularly in Advent and Christmas.
- Give some handmade presents: A scarf or hat, a photo album, a batch of fudge, a card, a poem.
- Give your time: a concert together, a shared meal, a day at a museum, a walk in the woods
- Give service: wash a loved one's car, help clean the garage, paint a room, babysit for an evening.
- Play Christmas music that has religious themes (More "Silent Night," less "Frosty the Snowman.")
- Instead of buying a present, make a donation to a charitable organization in honor of your loved one.
- Make a generous year-end contribution to your congregation.

Our thoughtful practices for Advent and Christmas not only make for good stewardship of our time, talents, relationships and money, they also help us to draw near to Our Lord and experience God's greatest gift to us.