LADIES DEPARTMENT

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Women in Mission - Zion Lutheran Mission Valley



Bible Study times each month....
Esther Circle-2nd Tuesday of the Month-9 am
Ladies Aid-1st Wednesday of the Month
Rebecca/Ruth Circle-2nd Monday of the Month-10 am. Each Bible study group or circle has ongoing activities they are involved in, such as the kits, quilts, Ladles of Love, etc. *But to participate, you do not have to belong to a circle…*



ESTHER CIRCLE

Esther Circle met on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for its regular monthly meeting. Hostesses were Shelley and Judy. Those attending were Sherilyn, Darla, Michelle, Cass, Darlette, Shelley, Eva, Carolyn, Iris, Judy, Pam, Dorothy, Shirley, Irene, Gail, Kay, and new member Carol Watkins. Cass led the **Bible Study**: "*Humble Service"* from the Fall 2026 Lutheran Woman's Quarterly.

Business consisted of: Cost for **Lutheran Woman's Quarterly** is $6.50 and is due now. **Election of Officers:** President – Eva Cooke, V-President – Iris Heller, Sect/Treas – Sherilyn Arnecke. Cass will continue as Bible Study Leader. Members signed up for monthly refreshments. **LOL** was delivered on October 3 to 18 recipients and consisted of Mexican Casserole and side dishes. **MITE Ingathering & Church Service** was held Sunday, October 11. **Sewing** will be Tuesday, October 20. **Fall Rally** will be October 24 in Edna. **LWML General Meeting** will be held October 27 with election of officers and approval of new budget and projects. Esther will provide refreshments consisting of chips, dips, cookies and brownies.

Cards were sent to JoNell Martin, Jennifer Mayfield, Priscilla Dornburg, Carol Watkins, Rusty Willemin, Julie Heinold and Mai Harwell. **Offering** was $112.03.

Esther Circle meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Educational Building. All ladies are invited to join us on Tuesday, November 10! **Hostesses** will be Eva and Cass.

Sherilyn Arnecke, Secretary/Treasurer

REBECCA/RUTH CIRCLE

Rebecca/Ruth Circle met on October 12, 2026, at 10am with 7 members present: Denise, Seda, JoNell, Sherri, Winona, Sheron, Pat and two visitors, Presley Bluhm and Reda Bagnall. Glad they came to join us. Pat was our Bible Study leader, "Humble Service" from the Fall Woman's Quarterly. We read "Praying the Psalms" on page 1 before starting the Bible Study. Opened Bible Study with a prayer and closed Bible Study with reading the hymn, "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service".

Business meeting:

- October 20th Sewing Day at 9:00am
- October 24th LWML Fall Rally at St. Paul Lutheran Edna. Guest Speaker will be Melissa Briseno sharing information on Billy T. Cattan Recovery Outreach Center in Victoria. Ingathering items bring travel size toiletries.
- October 27th LWML General Meeting 6:45pm. Rebecca/Ruth will have devotions and Denise will do it.
- November 1st Daylight Savings Time Ends Fall Back
- November 7th Ladles of Love: Menu will be Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Broccoli Salad, Cranberry Sauce, Desserts, Treats, Rolls.

Rebecca/Ruth Circle officers will stay the same and Sherri will do Cards of Endearment.

Cards were sent.

Rebecca/Ruth will meet on November 9, 2026 at 10:00am at the church. Denise will be Bible Study leader, and Bible Study is on Page 18 in the Fall Quarterly.

Everyone is invited to come and join for us Bible Study and Fellowship

Closed meeting with Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Winona Klacman

LADIES AID

Ladies Aid met on September 30, 2026 for October meeting. Gail Woytasczyk was hostess and Kay Lagal was Bible Study leader on "Stressed Out". She gave us all a worry stone to carry with us to hold in our hand and rub out our worries.

Business: October 11th – LWML Mite Ingathering Service; October 20th – Sewing Day, October 27th – General LWML meeting.

Cards sent to: Thinking of You – Julie Heinold & Mai Harwell, Sympathy – Carol Watkins, Jennifer Mayfield & JoNell Martin.

Eva Cooke, President



LADLES OF LOVE

Rebecca/Ruth is in charge of Ladles of Love in **November.** If you would like to participate in a group or form your own group, please talk to Sherilyn Arnecke, Chairperson.



SEWING DAY

The Sewing group met on Tuesday, November 20th with seven ladies. We tacked one quilt and organized several others. Present was Judy, Shelley, Eva, Winona, Darlette, Kay and Irene.

Our next Sewing Day will be **Tuesday, November 17th at** 9am in the multi-Purpose Room.

Irene Heinold & Darlette Mathisen, Chairpersons



Each month the ladies of the church are collecting a different item as one of their projects for Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM). For the month of **November** LWML is collecting **packages of Corn Bread.** We are asking the congregation to help with this project. It would be very much appreciated. There is a box in the **Narthex near the Ladies Restroom** for your donated item. Please help restock the shelves at VCAM. If any questions, contact Eva Cooke, project chairperson.

Want to thank everyone for contributing food for all these people in need.

Eva Cooke, Chairperson

Thank you, thank you. For the month of September, 81 lbs. of 1# bags of Pinto Beans were collected for VCAM!





The Mite Ingathering was held during church service on **Sunday, October 11th.** Various members took part in the worship service as well as the actual collection.

A very special **"Thank You"** goes to Shelley Sharp for displaying all the beautiful, colorful banners hanging in church from the previous past years.

I would like to thank each Zion member for your support and participation in the recent Ingathering Mite Service. **Total of Mite offering was $739.00.** Your enthusiasm to help me with this important mission for God is noted by our good God and the congregation. Thanks again,

Sherry Hornstein, LWML Vice President



WOMEN'S RENEWAL RETREAT

The Women's Renewal retreat is time set aside for ladies to reflect on God's Word, connect with our sisters in Christ, and explore the beauty of His creation.

Join us as we experience renewal both physically and spiritually, growing in our faith and deepening our relationships with new and longtime friends!

Dates: Jan. 29th - 31st, 2027
Location: La Grange Campus
Ages: 18 years or older

Cost: Retreat Center Housing: $249/participant or Cabin Housing: $159/participant

Retreat Center: $249/participant
• All rooms have a variation of Queen, Twin and Bunk Beds
• No one will be put on a top bunk unless requested
• Each room has a private bathroom
• Pillows, blankets, bed and bath linens are provided

Retreat Center rooms will have up to 3 attendees per room, or more if requested.

Cabins: $159/participant
• Each cabin has six Twin Bunk Bed sets
• Each cabin has a shared bathroom with two private showers and restroom stalls
• Pillows, blankets, bed and bath linens are NOT provided

Cabins will have up to 6 attendees per cabin, or more if requested.

Cabin mate requests can be made through the registration process. Our system will allow you to list 2 cabin mate requests; if you would like to request more than 2 ladies to room with, please email registration@camplonestar.org.

*Please note: Cancellations prior to Jan. 15, 2027, will receive a full refund minus a $25 cancellation fee. Cancellations after this date will result in the forfeiture of all payments.

Registration will open the end of October.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT





Please join us for Sunday School at 9am for Pre-K thru 6th grade.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Adult Bible Study resumed back and meets in the Junior High Room H at 9am. Bible Study is watching "The Chosen" mini-series and having a short Bible Study on each episode.



JUNIOR CONFIRMATION CLASS

Junior Confirmation classes meets **at 9am** every Sunday in the Bible Study Room. Pastor Jerry will be teaching this class.



The Children's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, November 13th, in the Fellowship Hall with worship at 10am. There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex starting November 1st for those who want to read and participate in the nativity scene.

- ***Sunday, November 29th*** *Costume fitting for PreK-5th at 9am during Sunday School*
- *Play Practice* ***Saturday, December 5th at 9am*** *with Costume fitting and practice*
- *Christmas Program:* ***December 13th at 9am and get into costumes at 9:30am. Christmas Program w/worship at 10am.***

All children are welcomed and encouraged to participate!

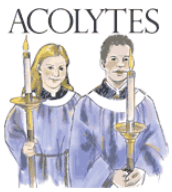
Any questions, please contact Kathy Harryman





Elizabeth Clay will be in *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, December 5th at the 7:30pm showing.

So incredibly proud of Elizabeth for being part of *The Nutcracker* this year! Watching you work hard, grow, and follow your dreams is one of the greestest joys of my life. Keep dancing, keep dreaming, and always remember how loved you are. She is the daughter of Jacky and Candice Clay.



ACOLYTES

Remember, it is **very** important that in the event you **cannot** acolyte on your assigned Sunday, that you find someone to replace you. *Youth ages 6th grade thru 2nd year confirmation are required to acolyte*. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Church office.

It's that time again!! Registration for Summer 2027 will open on November 17, at 8am!

Summer Camp at Camp Lone Star!
Youth ages 7–18 are invited to join our church's Pioneer Group!! Enjoy a classic camp experience, discounted registration, and time to connect and grow together. More details coming soon!

Please contact Ann Heller if you have questions or if you're interested in your child attending for the Summer of 2027.



If your children have any news like school recognitions, honors, sports, achievements this year that you would like to share, please submit them to the church office. Throughout the year, please submit special happenings. We love to hear about our children.

COMMITTEE NEWS



ANNUAL REPORTS

It's that time again to start working on Annual Reports! **All Boards, Committees and Organizations of Zion** should have their Annual Reports in the Church Office **no** later than Friday, **November 6th**. Your report should include activity from November 1, 2025 to October 31, 2026.

Board of Outreach



Board of Outreach scheduled a South Texas Blood Tissue Drive at Zion on Sunday, September 27th.

Thank you again for bringing another life-saving blood drive to the community. These events remind us of how important every blood donor and supporter can be for patient care. Many individuals and families are grateful for your help!

Results and the most-requested event details:

- 0 people signed up.
- 13 heroes showed up!
- 1 Deferral (very low) - resulting in 12 successful donations!
- 1 new donor!
- 13 units were collected, on a goal of 11 for 118%
- Enough blood was collected to potentially help 39 patients!
- This was the 5th largest collection of blood in all of South Texas on Sunday!
- This event also had the 2nd highest percentage on their goal collection!
- This was y'alls second largest blood collections in 7 years!

Amazing job to all and thank you for always inspiring everyone to make a difference!

Joby Stortz, Regional Account Mgr.
South Texas Blood & Tissue

Outreach minutes of 10-5-26

Meeting opened with prayer. The agenda was sent to each member via text. This helped to move the meeting along quickly. We are anxiously awaiting Pastor Cotner to join us for input and to review/ revise our goals.

Committee discussed the plans for our next scheduled event on church calendar **for Saturday, November 14th**. Details include a Worship Night with hot dogs, fixings, and refreshments.

Chilifest was preliminarily planned for Saturday, Feb 6. Time tba. We are advertising for a chili cook. Tim, our award-winning chili cook, may be away due to birth of new grandbaby. Therefore, we are needing a stand-by cook for that "just-in-case moment." Thanks for your consideration here. More details are yet to be formulated about this event but note, we wish to sponsor this again for Chilifest 2027!!

We are considering December 13th for our next Blood Drive since there will be many people present; however we are awaiting clearance of that date because the mobile units are doubled booked for that date. The coordinator will get back with more information.

Next scheduled Outreach meeting is January 25th or 26th, 2027. We are allowing Pastor to choose a day for meeting.

As of January 1st, Ann Heller will become Outreach Chair. It is a new church year and we will begin afresh.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.
Judy Faulkner, outgoing Outreach Chair



Board of Outreach is hosting a Worship Night with hot dogs, chips and drinks on **Saturday, November 14th from 5-8pm.** Please sign up so we can plan for attendance. Thank you and hope to see you there. Any questions, contact Ann Heller.



The Nomination Committee is seeking nominees for Council President, Council Elder, and a Board of Endowment member to be voted on at the December Voters' Meeting. **If there is any other Boards that are seeking members, please contact David Miller.** Please prayerfully consider serving in one of these roles. If you would be willing to serve or know someone who would, please contact David.

CONGREGATION NEWS



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour on **Sunday, November 1st**, as Daylight Saving Time ends.



OUR SYMPATHY

Our sympathy & prayers to the family & friends of Steve Watkins who passed away on October 5, 2026. He was the brother-in-law to Kay (Bill) Lagal.

OUR SYMPATHY

Our sympathy & prayers to the family & friends of Larry Martin who passed away on October 6, 2026. He was the father to Jennifer (Clayton) Mayfield and the grandfather to Tyler & Conner Maroney.

OUR SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and prayers for the family & friends of Richard Gisler who passed away on October 14, 2026. He had numerous family members and friends. His family were starters of Zion Lutheran Church of Mission Valley.

OUR SYMPATHY

Our sympathy & prayers to the family & friends of Brenda Pantel Janak who passed away on October 13, 2026. She was the sister to Curtis (Ann) Pantel.



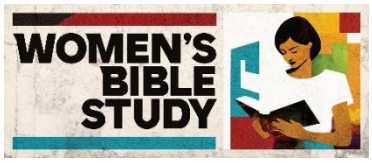
ATTENTION VETERANS!!

There is a listing in this month's Messenger of our veterans. Please notify the church office if any corrections or additions.



APPECIATION LUNCHEON

On **Sunday, November 1st** after worship, we will have a Farewell & Appreciation Luncheon for Pastor Jerry McNarama. His last Sunday to be our supply pastor before our new pastor, Pastor John Cotner, starts on November 8th. **We are having a potluck luncheon and asking the congregation to bring a meat dish and/or a side dish.** The Board of Fellowship will have a cake and ice cream for dessert. Everyone is invited.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We meet the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. Next month's meeting is November 4th. Please read the book of James and be prepared to explore his scripture. We are moving mountains one spoonful at a time by reading and understanding the books of the Bible. Kristy Zarate



Pastor John Cotner will be installed as our new pastor on **Sunday, November 15, 2026, at 3pm**. He will be installed by our Circuit Visitor, Pastor Scott Heitshusen. Cake & punch will be served after the service in the Fellowship Hall.



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Mark your calendars! Decorating the church and Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, November 22nd** after worship. Volunteers are needed for both men and women to help.



POINSETTIAS

Zion is selling poinsettias which will also add enhancement to the beauty of our Christmas Eve Service. You can take your poinsettias home after the 6pm Candlelight Service on Thursday, December 24th. Please complete an order form starting **Sunday, November 8th thru deadline November 22nd** that will be in Sunday's bulletin and give to Seda Weaver along with your payment of **$7.** Please make check payable to **Zion Lutheran Church.**



CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Hey Folks, it's that time again! The Board of Fellowship will host the Annual Christmas Luncheon on **December 13th** right after the Children's Christmas Program. Christmas meal will be catered by Werner's at **$12** per plate, Chicken Fried Steak w/gravy, Mashed potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Roll, and Tea. Ice cream for dessert by Bd. of Fellowship. **Sign-up sheet will be in Sunday bulletins starting November 15th.** Please pay ahead to Michelle Wendel or Seda Weaver for count. Make checks payable to **Zion Lutheran Church.**



Our Church Picnic was held on Sunday, September 27th. A Big **THANK YOU** to Darla Sifford, Cass Martignoni, Peggy Lee and Michelle Wendel who volunteered for this year's picnic for a FUN, SUCCESSFUL Annual Picnic! Also, thank you to all who helped from set-up to take down, donating your time and talents, serving and clean-up or whatever you did to have a successful picnic. Also, a thank you to everyone that came.

Proceeds:

Silent Auction	$2,671.50
Freewill Offering	$ 643.00
Total picnic income	$3,264.50
Expenses	$ (441.50)
Net profit	$2,873.00

This year's Church Picnic collection was decided by Zion's congregational members. The committee selected the following noteworthy local organizations as a recipient to receive these gifted Zion dollars. Donation dollars were distributed between these organizations as per your response.

- Promise Pointe $1,207.00
- Food Bank of the Golden Crescent $862.00
- Restoration House $804.00

WOW. Very successful picnic. Y'all did a great job

See insert.

UPDATES FOR GROUPME COMMUNICATION TOOL

With the new GroupMe communication tool, most members were able to receive the group messages by text. GroupMe recently made changes to their system that has removed the ability for most users to receive messages by text. To continue using the tool, each member needs to download the GroupMe app and create an account within the app. Creating the account is free. Once you have created your account, you should see the Zion Connect group and its associated messages. To have the GroupMe messages pop-up on your phone, go into Settings, click on Notifications, scroll down and click on GroupMe. Make sure the Announce Notifications option is turned on. If you need assistance, contact David Miller.



Due to the privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify pastors when a member is admitted or treated. If you know of anyone being taken to the hospital (emergency or otherwise), or who is especially ill, please call an Elder or contact the church office.





COMMUNION AND/OR VISITATION

During our absence of a pastor, if you or know someone in the hospital or would like a home visit and/or want communion, please contact David Miller, head Elder, or call the church office, 361-578-5447 or contact Seda.



SHUT-INS

Please continue to keep our shut-ins in your prayers and enliven their lives through visits, letters, and cards or phone calls.

James Morris, Sr.
3472 FM 447
Victoria, Tx 77905

Dan & Doris Nugent
5404 FM 236
Victoria, Tx 77905

Alissa Blount
Arboretum of Winnie
1215 TX-124
Winnie, Tx 77665

Rose Goebel
(Unknown address)



PRAYER LIST

To add another person's name to our prayer lists, you must be a member or active worshipping guest of Zion and identify yourself as the one requesting prayer for someone else. It is your responsibility to gain this permission! The church office reserves the right to edit prayer requests for publication.

Please check names on the Prayer List. Please let the office know should someone be removed.

*****PRAYER REQUESTS*****

1. Bill Lagal
2. Cole Ohrt – friend of Zion
3. Holly Corey
4. Loma Chandler – Karen Wood's sister
5. James Morris, Sr.
6. JoNell Martin
7. Ann Pantel – wife of Curtis Pantel
8. Lisa Roman – niece of Cass Martignoni
9. Kamryn McDavid – granddaughter of Pribyl's
10. Mai Harwell
11. Rose Goebel
12. Julie Heinold
13. Alissa Blount
14. Jodie Schaefer – friend of Barbara Schmidt
15. Becky Debore – friend of Irene Heinold
16. Glennie Bednorz – friend of JoNell Martin
17. Ava Soliz – Ann Heller's friend's daughter
18. Jim Krause
19. Priscilla Dornburg
20. Emily – friend of Ann Heller
21. Charles Krueger – Cass Martignoni's brother
22. Kenneth & Nancy Hahn – Faulkner's friends
23. Jana Ragsdale – niece of Julie Heinold
24. Cindy & Jennifer Henderson – Randy Carter's sister & niece
25. Pam Ficklen – niece of Barbara Schmidt
26. Kim Gisler – relative to Jacki Cooke
27. John Meharg – Calton Arnecke & Darlette Mathisen's cousin
28. Janie Bolten – Jacki Cooke's friend
29. Ryan Aaron – friend of Cooke's
30. Robert Kaiser – friend of Arnecke's
31. Bea Fuchs
32. Darryl Heller
33. Jan Foerster – friend of Karen Wood
34. Leslie Thigpen Hanslik – friend of Cooke's
35. Peggy Polster
36. Eva Cooke
37. Marvin Janak
38. Karen Wood
39. Randy Kersten
40. Kaleigh Newman – friend of Keeleigh Cooke
41. Becky
42. Narmina – Faulkner's friend
43. Rusty Willemin – JoBeth's husband
44. Garland Dentler
45. Shelvy Schneider

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES FOR NOVEMBER

November 1 – Melissa Karnei
November 2 – W.A. Afflerbach, Iris Heller
November 5 – J.R. Bishop
November 10 – Corey Gras
November 18 – Derrick Miller
November 19 – Stephen Lester
November 20 – Reagan Weiser
November 22 – Layla Dornburg, Leighton Bues
November 24 – Ava Dornburg, Cindy Dornburg
November 25 – Abagayle Faulkner
November 29 – Mai Harwell, William Webel



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

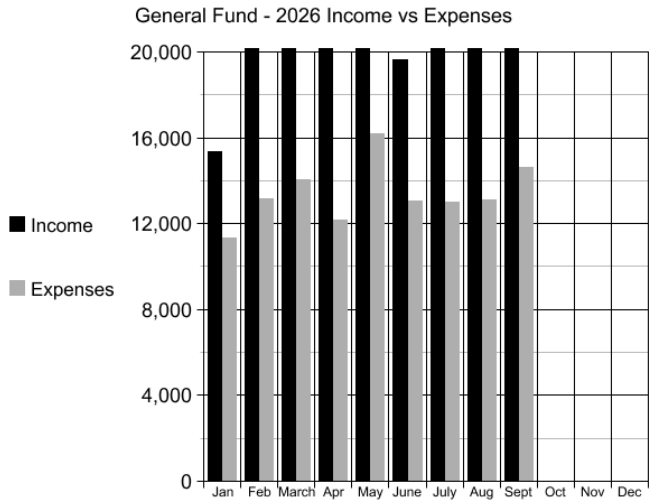
November 2 – Terry Depine
November 3 – Douglas Bluhm
November 9 – Joy Alex, Conner Maroney
November 13 – Johnathan Clay
November 15 – Rose Goebel
November 20 – Sherita Miller
November 26 – Stacy Hickman
November 27 – Melanie Pantel
November 28 – David Pribyl, William Webel, Alissa Blount



ATTENDANCE CARD

Members & Guests, please fill out an attendance card for each worship service attended and place them in the offering plate. These cards help us to keep accurate records and assist with pastoral care. Please list each individual's name attending if in a family. That way each one gets counted.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE	
Sunday, September 27th	126
Sunday, October 4th	86
Sunday, October 11th	84
Sunday, October 18th	75



In the above chart, you can see our expenses and offerings. We share this with you so you are aware of how this is continuing to impact our overall ministry. Even as we continue to thank God for the many blessings He gives to Zion, including those of the financial offerings of His people, the Church Council and Church Office are being as mindful as possible about the stewardship of the church budget.



RECYLING INK CARTRIDGES

How do we get rewards for recycling ink cartridges? As a Reward Member of Office Depot, the church gets $2 back in program rewards for each ink cartridge that we recycle, up to 10 cartridges per month. Qualifying purchases include any product or service purchase made in store or online. All brands of ink qualify for recycling rewards. This helps with the rising cost of supplies for the church. There is a basket on a shelf in the Narthex between the Men's & Ladies' Restrooms for your cartridges.



HEARING ASSISTANCE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

To assist anyone to hear the discussion at meetings in the Fellowship Hall, the Fellowship Hall is now equipped to use the same hearing assistance devices that are used in the sanctuary. Just bring one of the devices from the sanctuary to the Fellowship Hall. Contact David Miller or David Pribyl for any assistance.



Entire Service on: Zion's Facebook page
http://www.facebook.com/zionmissionvalley/

*******We are trying to "boost" our social media (Facebook) and internet presence. If you are a Facebook user, go ahead and give us a "Like" at facebook.com/ZionMissionValley. We are posting several times a week with various memes, quotes, Q&A, and interesting articles. "Like" and share what you see, whether it's Sunday's service or a goofy meme! Also, be sure to click on the church webpage, https://zionlutheranmv.org/ and let it load up. You don't even have to read it! It drives the algorithms to keep us closer to the top when people do searches for churches in the Victoria area.**

VICTORIA CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

Visit our website at: www.vcamvictoria.org or our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/vcam.org/ for VCAM services or news.

MONTHLY UPDATE
October 2026
September Services

Total Households Served – 1531
Total Number in Households – 3671
Food Boxes – 1335
Basic Needs - 4249
Home Delivery - 32
Homeless Served – 181
Homeless Visits - 920
New VCAM Households Served – 92

Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM) and Food Bank of the Golden Crescent (FBGC) are creating a 40th Anniversary Commemorative cookbook featuring favorite recipes from our staff, volunteers, donors, clients, and other supporters. These cookbooks will be professionally published and are sure to be a treasured keepsake for us all. Money raised will be used for direct client services. We anticipate a great demand for our cookbooks, and we want to be certain to order enough. To reserve your copies, email Kathy Hunt at kathyhunt@suddenlink.net with the number of cookbooks you will be purchasing. The slip below may also be dropped off at the VCAM or FBGC offices. Cookbooks will be available for $20.00. Order deadline is **November 15.**

I want a cookbook! Please reserve _____ cookbook(s) for me.
Name:_____
Email: _____
Phone: _____
Return this slip to: VCAM or FBGC offices. Or you can email your reservation to kathyhunt@suddenlink.net
Order deadline is November 15.

Now that Fall weather (supposedly) is here, it will be time to start preparing for the holidays. For you, that may include considering your annual tithings. For the "umpteenth" consecutive year, VCAM will see an increase in households & homeless served. With 40 years of our ministry almost behind us & economic conditions not forecast to improve in the near future, help VCAM serve beyond the next 40 years. One of the things to consider: have we outgrown our current home? Is it time to considering finding a new, larger environment or property to build on & better serve the community? That may be in VCAM's future. Nonetheless, the needs are expanding, so help us continue to provide hope for our community.

Please consider setting yourself up for recurring donations to assist VCAM in the expanding needs of the community. Staple inventory items always in dire need in the pantry:

Rice (1 or 2 lbs. bags – uncooked), Dry beans (1 or 2 lbs Bag), Can fruit (8 to 15 oz. cans), Can Green Beans Or Corn (8 to 15 oz. cans)

Check your pantry, if they are undented, undamaged, we can determine the shelf life of items that are suitable for distribution. Leading into the holiday season, this is great way for your church, school, business, civic organization or even your family to give back to the community.

Blessings…***Marc***

Clients come on a once-a-month basis, while our homeless population is served on a daily basis.
All services are provided free.

Please continue to refer those who require our services to VCAM & please continue to support.

"Providing hope when things seem hopeless…"



ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

The Messenger Staff wants to correct any errors and/or omissions. Please let the church office know promptly.

FAITHFUL WITNESSES



Many churches observe All Saints' Day on November 1, a time to remember believers who have died in the faith and give thanks for their faithful witness.

The story of Christianity is filled with ordinary people who held fast to Christ in both joyful and difficult seasons. Across the centuries, countless believers have followed Jesus with courage, and many have even given their lives while bearing witness to God's love and the saving grace of Christ. Even today, Christians in some parts of the world continue to face persecution for their faith.

On this day, take time to remember our Christian heritage with gratitude. Give thanks for those who remained faithful before us, and ask God to help us follow Christ with the same courage, hope and steadfast faith.



A THANKSGIVING PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Almighty God, our Creator, Redeemer and eternal Companion, we come before you overwhelmed by the boundless goodness you bestow upon us.

On this special day, we remember how you blessed those who came to this land seeking the freedom to worship without restraint or hindrance.

We are immeasurably grateful for our heritage. We pray that our faith may be as fervent as the faith of those who left everything familiar to journey to a strange land, where they themselves were strangers.

We gather as grateful beneficiaries of your faithful servants who paid a costly price to glorify you and serve you. Mindful of the first Thanksgiving meal shared by newcomers and Native peoples, we now gather around our own tables with family and friends.

We come before you with love and deep appreciation for your constant grace and abundant gifts. The beautiful food before us is a visible reminder of your generous provision.

Ever-giving and ever-loving God, we humbly thank you for all your blessings. We ask for one gift more: the honor of your presence. Be our Guest, so that we may enjoy fellowship with you and with one another.

We pray in the name of your greatest gift to us, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen



THE JOURNEY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Advent begins on Sunday, November 29, in 2026. In many Christian traditions, Advent also marks the beginning of the church year. Rather than starting with a new calendar, the church begins by preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Advent leads to Christmas, followed by Epiphany, traditionally observed on January 6, 2027, to remember the revelation of Christ to the nations and the visit of the wise men. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10, and guides believers toward Holy Week and Easter Sunday, March 28.

Forty days after Easter, Christians observe Ascension Day on May 6, remembering how Jesus "was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9, ESV). Pentecost follows on May 16, 50 days after Easter. On that day, the Holy Spirit empowered Christ's followers and united them for the church's mission.

The season after Pentecost continues until Advent arrives once more, inviting the church to begin the sacred journey again.

HONORING FAITHFUL SERVICE



Each year on Veterans Day, we pause to give thanks for the men and women who have served our country with courage, sacrifice and devotion. Their willingness to defend freedom reminds us that service often comes with great cost.

As Christians, we are called to honor those who serve and to pray for veterans, active-duty military members and their families. We also remember that true peace comes from God, who is our refuge and strength.

May this day lead us to gratitude, prayer and renewed commitment to serve others with humility, courage and love.

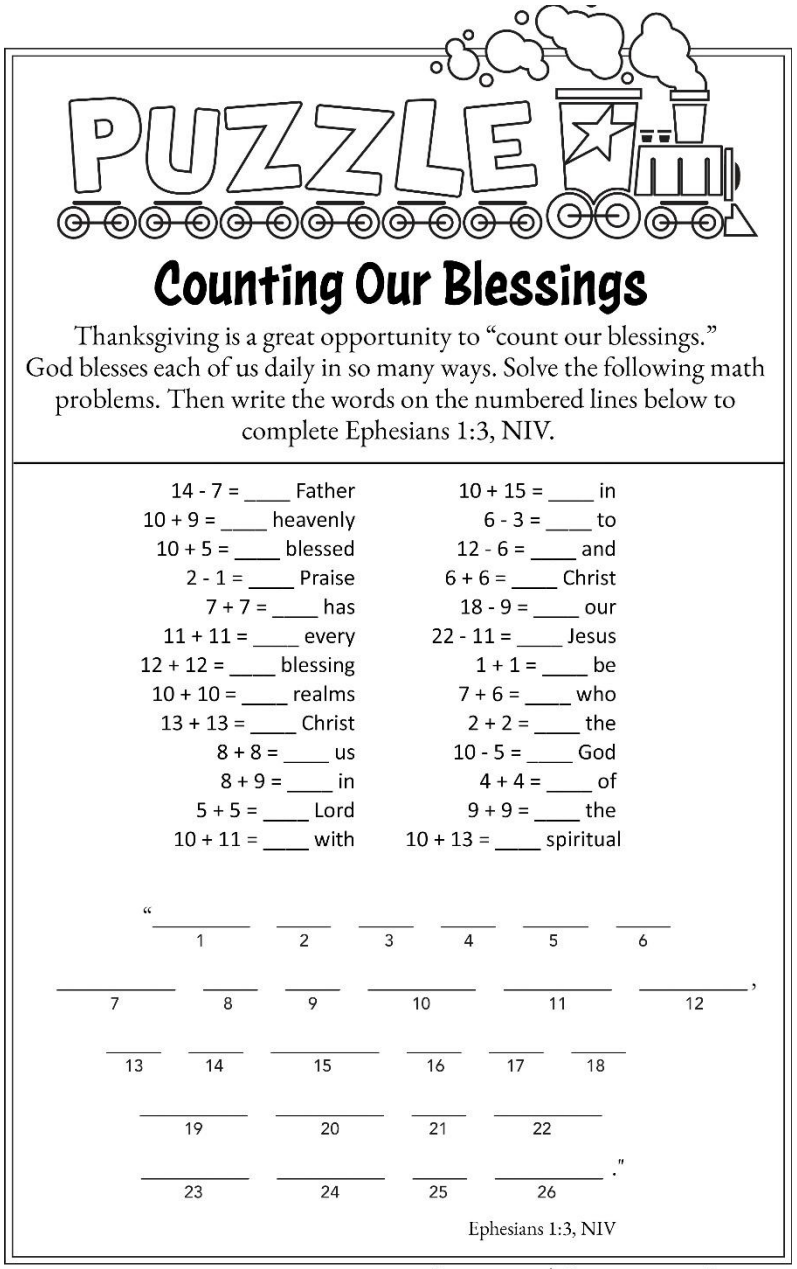
FYI

CHURCH CONTACTS

Sunday School – Board of Education/Youth
Lutheran Youth Fellowship – Board of Education/Youth
Altar Guild, Pauline Janak
Blood Drive, Church Office
Leaders Of Compassion, Eva Cooke
Judy Faulkner
Ladles of Love, Sherilyn Arnecke
Library, Sherita Miller
Memorials, Seda Weaver
LWML President, Michelle Wendel
Esther, Iris Heller
Ladies Aid, Eva Cooke
Rebecca/Ruth, Debbie Meyer
Worship/Music Bd., Hilbert Nagel
Church Secretary, Seda Weaver
Sound System, David Miller
Kitchen Cartel, Darla Sifford
Board of Elders, David Miller
Board of Trustees, Pauline Janak
Board of Outreach, Judy Faulkner
Board of Education/Youth, Jacki Cooke
Candice Clay
Board of Fellowship, Priscilla Dornburg
Security & Safety, David Pribyl

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President, Pat Zmeskal
Vice-Pres., Pauline Janak
Secretary, Terry Depine
Treasurer, Seda Weaver
Financial Sec, Teresa Boswell
Elder, David Miller
Elder, David Pribyl



Answer: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."

How do you repair a broken jack-o'-lantern?



Use a pumpkin patch.

The Messenger, November 2026