

## LADIES DEPARTMENT



### LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

#### *Women in Mission - Zion Lutheran Mission Valley*



#### **Bible Study times each month....**

Esther Circle-2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month-9 am  
Ladies Aid-1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month-2 pm  
Rebecca/Ruth Circle-1<sup>st</sup> 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, November 10,  
2025, at 9:00 a.m. for its regular monthly meeting.  
Present were Darla, Gail, Cass, Irene, Eva, Kay,  
Darlette, Bettye, Iris, Carolyn, Priscilla, Barbara,  
Michelle and Sherilyn

**Bible Study** was led by Cass.

**Hostesses** were Eva and Cass.

**Business: Sewing** will be November 18. **Zion's  
Christmas Dinner** will be Sunday, December 14,  
following Christmas Program. Tickets are \$12 each.  
Chicken Fried Steak from Werner's will be served.  
**Cookies for STCH** are due December 7 with 18 doz.  
from each circle. Sherilyn, Iris, Cass, Michelle, Kay  
and Darla will provide 3 doz. each. **Ladles of Love**  
will be served on December 6. Sherilyn-Turkey,  
Cass-Dressing, Green Bean Cass-Priscilla,  
Cranberry-Darla, Rolls-Michelle, Sweet Potatoes-  
Eva, Dessert-Bettye and Iris. **Esther Christmas  
Party** will be December 7 beginning at 4 p.m. at  
Sherilyn & Calton's home. Each member is to bring  
their favorite dish or snack. Chinese Christmas will  
be held...limit \$30 on each gift.

**Cards** were sent to Richard Gisler and Diane  
Lassmann.

**Offering:** \$139.00

All ladies of Zion are invited to join *Esther* on the  
second Tuesday of each month as we study the Word  
of God!

Sherilyn Arnecke, Secretary/Treasurer

#### REBECCA/RUTH CIRCLE

Rebecca/Ruth Circle met on Monday, November  
3, 2025, with 4 members present: Seda Weaver, Jo  
Nell Martin, Debbie Meyer, Winona Klacman. We  
had our meeting at Seadrift. Thank you, Jo Nell, for  
driving us. It was so nice and fun having our Bible  
Study outside looking out at the water at your son's  
beach home.

Debbie led the Bible Study, "Sharing Our Gifts as  
We Work for the Lord," from Woman's Fall Quarterly  
Magazine. We opened Bible Study with prayer and  
Debbie read the verses from the song, "We Give  
Thee But Our Own". Closed meeting with prayer and  
reading LWML Pledge.

**Business Meeting:** Rebecca/Ruth did Ladles of  
Love Saturday, November 1, 2025, and delivered  
15 plates; Cookies for STCH are due December 7<sup>th</sup>,  
18 dozen from each circle: Seda, Winona, Jo Nell,  
Debbie, will make cookies (need 3 more people);  
Monday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Rebecca/Ruth Christmas Party.  
Debbie will let us know where party will be. Chinese  
Christmas Gift Exchange gift \$20; Voters' Assembly  
meeting Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>; Altar Guild clean-up Dec.  
13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am; Christmas Luncheon Sunday, Dec.  
14<sup>th</sup>; Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Dec 24<sup>th</sup> at  
6pm.

We enjoyed lunch at La Terraza in Seadrift.

All women are invited to come and join us  
for Bible Study and Fellowship on the first Monday  
of each month at 10am at the church.

Secretary, Winona Klacman.

#### LADIES AID

No report.



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 **December** LWML is **Package or box of cornbread mix (like Jiffy, any flavor)**. 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 & Irene Heinold, Chairpersons

**Thank you, thank you. For the month of October, 77 lbs. of 1# bag of Pinto Beans were collected for VCAM!**



### SEWING DAY

On Sewing Day, November 18<sup>th</sup>, we had 8 ladies tacking the quilts: Shelley Sharp, Kay Lagal, Winona Klacman, Judy Faulkner, Darlette Mathisen, Priscilla Dornburg, Irene Heinold, and Eva Cooke. It was so good to have Priscilla join us. Lots of laughs and fellowship.

We did 3 quilts and Shelley showed us the panels she purchased with the grant money. We gave Winona a quilt to give to a homeless veteran that goes to her church that sleeps on an outside bench there.

Our next regular Sewing Day will be **Tuesday, January 20, 2026** at 9am in the multi-Purpose Room. **There is no Sewing Day in December.**

Eva Cooke & Irene Heinold, Chairpersons

### LADIES' DAY SHOPPING



Darlette Mathisen, Irene Heinold, Eva Cooke, Cass Martignoni



Cass looking for a bargain

Zion Ladies' November trip was to Goliad Market Days. We had so much fun being together while searching for "treasures." We enjoyed a barbecue lunch sponsored by Schroeder Volunteer Fire Department and had a visit from their mascot. →→→→→





### LADLES OF LOVE

**Esther Circle** is in charge of Ladles of Love in December. If you would like to participate in a group or form your own group, please talk to Sherilyn Arnecke.

Sherilyn Arnecke, Chairperson

### Cookies



### COOKIES FOR STCH

LWML is asking the congregation and circles to bring cookies for South Texas Children's Home Ministries (STCH) on **Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**. All kinds are welcome. Please label and put in kitchen no later than **December 7<sup>th</sup>**. The LWML supports this project annually. The children enjoy this treat as part of their holiday celebration. Thank you.



### 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. 30-Feb. 1, 2026

**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](mailto:registration@camplonestar.org).

\*Please note: Cancellations prior to Jan. 16, 2026, 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 on October 30, 2025!**

## YOUTH DEPARTMENT



There will be **NO** Sunday School/Adult Bible Study on **December 28<sup>th</sup>**. Classes will resume on **Sunday, January 4, 2026**. Please join us at 9am.

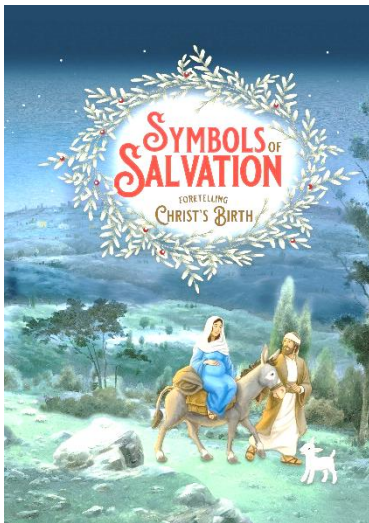




### SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP FACEOFF DAY

**Fellowship Faceoff Day** will not be meeting in December and January because of the Sunday School Christmas Program and Megan on vacation, but will resume the **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday February 8, 2026**, during the Sunday School/Adult Bible Study at 9am.

For any questions, see Megan.



Children's Christmas Program  
"Symbols of Salvation"  
Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am  
Fellowship Hall

- *Play Practice during Sunday School & Costume fitting: **December 7<sup>th</sup>**,*
- *Christmas Program: **December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9am and get into costumes at 9:30am.***  
**Christmas Program w/worship at 10am.**

All children are welcomed and encouraged to participate!



### **Honor Student**

Congratulations Landen Finn on making the A Honor Roll at West High School. Landen is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and son of Dianna Zmeskal and David Finn.



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**



### **ALTAR GUILD**

Want to remind all ladies that on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30am we will have our semi-annual Altar Guild clean up. This should not take us long. Look forward to seeing everyone there. If that morning doesn't suit you, you can come at your convenience before that day, just tell me what you did so we won't overlap that project. Thanking you in advance.

Pauline Janak, Chairperson



In November, the Call Committee contacted four pastors identified as a potential fit for Zion from the list of names provided by the Texas District. One pastor said he could not consider a call at this time, so video conference calls were scheduled with the remaining three on Nov 10<sup>th</sup> and Nov 17<sup>th</sup>. One pastor then informed us he had received calls to two other churches, so his conference call was cancelled. The Call Committee met with the other two pastors as scheduled and determined one pastor was not a good fit and one pastor should be presented to the congregation for consideration. Zion's Constitution requires the congregation be presented with a minimum of two candidates, so the Call Committee is now working with our District Circuit Visitor to identify additional candidates so that at least one other pastor can be submitted to the congregation.

Submitted by David Miller



## Board of Fellowship



Dorothy Smith

On Sunday, November 2, 2025, the Board of Fellowship welcomed a new member with cake and punch.

## CONGREGATION NEWS



### VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING

Zion's Voters' Assembly Meeting will be held on **Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**. The meeting will be held immediately following the Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall. If anyone or organization would like to put something on the agenda, please let Council know.



### CHRISTMAS CARD BOXES

The Christmas card boxes are set up in the Narthex and ready for your Christmas greetings starting November 30<sup>th</sup>. Please check your folder each Sunday.



### CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Hey Folks, it's that time again! The Board of Fellowship will host the Annual Christmas Luncheon on **December 14<sup>th</sup>** 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. Please pay ahead to Michelle Wendel or Seda Weaver for count before **deadline December 7<sup>th</sup>**. Make checks payable to **Zion Lutheran Church**.

## WELCOME New Member



We welcome into our membership Dorothy Smith. Please introduce yourself to her. Her address is: 215 Kingwood Forest Dr., Victoria, TX 77904



**There will be no mid-week Wednesday night Advent Services.**

Sunday, November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Worship 10am
Sunday, December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Worship w/Communion 10am
Sunday, December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Worship 10am
Sunday, December 21 <sup>st</sup>	Worship w/Communion 10am
Wednesday, December 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6pm
Sunday, December 28 <sup>th</sup>	Worship 10am <b><u>No Sunday School/Adult Bible Study</u></b>



On Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, we recognized our veterans and those presently serving during worship. Thanks for your service.



Irene, Darlette, Bettye

On Veterans Day at the VFW over 700 veterans were served. Helping serve were Irene Heinold, Darlette Mathisen, Bettye Pribyl and Barbara Schmidt.



### **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.



# ATTENDANCE

## 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.



## RECYCLING 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.



WE'RE ON  
FACEBOOK!

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](http://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.**



## VISITATION

If you are in the hospital or would like a home visit, please call an Elder or Church office.



Sick and  
Hospitalized

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.



## 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.



## SHUT-INS

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

Dalhardt & Rose Goebel  
3100 S. River Road  
Cuero, Tx 77954

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

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

Dan & Doris Nugent  
5404 FM 236  
Victoria, Tx 77905



\*\*\*\*\*PRAYER REQUESTS\*\*\*\*\*

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

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS

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. Maudi Garcia – friend of Jacki Cooke
9. Jeanette Laza – cousin of Irene Heinold
10. Lisa Roman – niece of Cass Martignoni
11. Kamryn McDavid – granddaughter of Pribyl's
12. Mai Harwell
13. Rose & Dalhardt Goebel
14. Allie Faulkner – Faulkner's granddaughter
15. Julie Heinold
16. Alissa Blount
17. Jodie Schaefer – friend of Barbara Schmidt
18. Becky Debore – friend of Irene Heinold
19. Glennie Bednorz – friend of JoNell Martin
20. Travis Weaver – brother of Ronny Weaver
21. Ava Soliz – Ann Heller's friend's daughter
22. Jim Krause
23. Priscilla Dornburg
24. Pauline Janak
25. Emily – friend of Ann Heller
26. Charles Krueger – Cass Martignoni's brother
27. Gail Hogan – Barbara Schmidt's cousin
28. Kenneth & Nancy Hahn – Faulkner's friends
29. Cindy & Jennifer Henderson – Randy Carter's sister & niece
30. Alan Wendel – brother of Mark Wendel
31. Jana Ragsdale – niece of Julie Heinold
32. John Miles – Arnecke's friend
33. Pam Ficklen – niece of Barbara Schmidt
34. Kim Gisler – relative to Jacki Cooke
35. John Meharg – Calton Arnecke & Darlette Mathisen's cousin
36. Marvin Janak
37. Randy Kersten – Peggy Polster's brother
38. Janie Bolten – Jacki Cooke's friend
39. Kimberly Ramirez
40. Landen Finn
41. Ryan Aaron – friend of Cooke's

42. Cindy Copenhaver – mother of Kim Ramirez
43. Henry Wood
44. Gary Moses



VICTORIA CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE  
MINISTRY

Visit our website at: [www.vcamvictoria.org](http://www.vcamvictoria.org) or our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/vcam.org/> for VCAM services or news.

Services Provided for October 2025

Households Served – 1625, Total Number in households – 4137, Food Boxes – 1498, Basic Needs – 3697, Home Delivery – 23, Homeless Served – 148, Homeless Visits – 735, New VCAM Households Served – 93

Staple inventory items always in dire need in the pantry:

**Rice (1 or 2 lbs. bags – uncooked), cereals (box or bag), 1lb. bag beans, pastas, tomato sauce.**

Please consider donating these bags to VCAM. This will greatly assist in maintaining our expenses.

**VCAM IS ALWAYS IN NEED  
OF T-SHIRT BAGS FOR ALL  
PHASES OF OUR  
OPERATION  
PLEASE RECYCLE TO VCAM**



Of course, the most spiritual & practical way to give is in the form of monetary donations:



Blessings...*Marc*

Clients come on a once-a-month basis, while our homeless population is served on a daily basis.

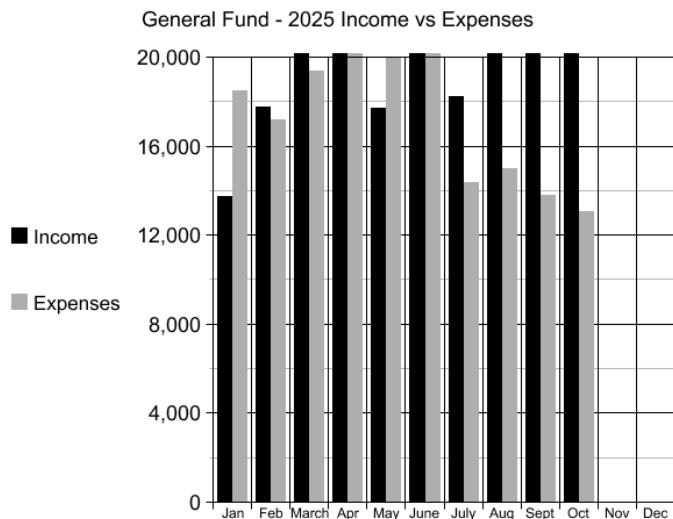
***All services are provided free.***

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

***“Providing hope when things seem hopeless...”***

CHURCH ATTENDANCE	
Sunday, October 26 <sup>th</sup>	97
Sunday, November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	82
Sunday, November 9 <sup>th</sup>	69
Sunday, November 16 <sup>th</sup>	88
Sunday, November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	101





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.



#### **BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES FOR DECEMBER**

December 2 – Judy Faulkner  
 December 3 – Terry Depine, Melanie Pantel  
 December 4 – Landen Finn, Kathy Harryman  
 December 8 – Tyler Maroney  
 December 11 – JoBeth Willemin, Rachel Palmer  
 December 13 – Kelly Arnecke, Tim Meyer  
 December 15 – Bill Matthys  
 December 18 – Jacky Clay, Jr.  
 December 19 – Doris Nugent  
 December 20 – Harvey Jaeger  
 December 25 – Gary Dement, Greg Harwell  
 December 26 – Christopher Meyer  
 December 29 – James Morris, Sr.



#### **CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER**

December 1 – Judy Faulkner, Christopher Meyer, Kaden Ramirez  
 December 2 – Hayden Webel, Bill Matthys  
 December 3 – Justin Heinold  
 December 4 – Pauline Janak  
 December 5 – Michelle Homan  
 December 7 – Gail Woytasczyk  
 December 8 – Julie Heinold, Teresa Boswell, Holly Corey  
 December 9 – Stetson Sparck  
 December 10 – Eric Lester  
 December 11 – Wayne Polster  
 December 14 – Tim Meyer  
 December 15 – Adam Innes  
 December 16 – Sheron Alex, Jacob Heller  
 December 17 – Sheila Siepert  
 December 20 – Kay Lagal  
 December 23 – Twila Wendel  
 December 28 – Randy Carter  
 December 29 – Homer Harryman



#### **ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS**

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

#### **CHRISTIAN SYMBOL**



**POINSETTIA** — This shrub, native to Mexico, is at the heart of legend about a poor girl who wanted to bring Baby Jesus a gift one Christmas Eve. As she walked to church, she gathered a bouquet of weeds — which Jesus miraculously transformed into lovely red flowers. Thus the poinsettia (named for Joel Poinsett, the U.S. ambassador to Mexico who first brought the plant to America) is known in Mexico as la flor de la Nochebuena (flower of the Holy Night). The poinsettia is also an ideal Christmas symbol because its leaves turn red when deprived of sunlight and its flowers (the red inner buds) bloom in December

## ADVENT MEANINGS



During Advent, which begins this year on November 30, many churches and families use wreaths to symbolize watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches. Colors for the candles vary, with some traditions using blue (for hope or creation) and

others preferring purple (for royalty, humility or penitence).

The four candles that each represent a week in Advent also signify hope, peace, joy and love. (The third candle is often pink.) In the center is the white Christ candle, representing Jesus as the light of the world. That candle is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The round, green Advent wreath has special meaning of its own. It symbolizes eternal life and the unending love of God, who sent his only Son to earth to die in our place.



## THE ANGELS' SONG IN THREE WORDS

On the very first Christmas Eve, frightened shepherds were suddenly surrounded by light and music. A choir of angels filled the night sky, singing: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14, KJV).

Nineteenth-century pastor Charles Kingsley reflected on how those three simple words — glory, peace, and good will — still capture the meaning of Jesus' birth and the hope it brings.

**Glory.** God's glory isn't shown in dazzling displays of power but in humility and mercy. The baby in the manger revealed God's greatness by stooping low, forgiving, and showing love.

**Peace.** True peace is more than the absence of conflict. It comes when we follow God's example of selflessness, giving up pride and selfish ambition to live in harmony with one another.

**Good will.** God's good will toward us is a gift that transforms our lives. Through Jesus, God invites us out of selfishness and sin into a life marked by love, kindness, and community.

The angels' song wasn't meant only for shepherds long ago. It still sings to us today, calling each of us to live in glory, peace, and good will.

## **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, Shelley Sharp  
Peggy Polster  
Ladles of Love, Sherilyn Arnecke  
Library, Sherita Miller  
Memorials, Seda Weaver  
LWML President, Debbe Meyer  
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