

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-2 pm
Rebecca/Ruth Circle-1st 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, April 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for its regular monthly meeting. Present were Carolyn, Priscilla, Shelley, Bettye, Eva, Judy, Pam, Michelle, Irene, Cass, Darlette and Sherilyn.

Hostesses were Irene and Darlette. Bible Leader was Cass.

Business: Sewing will be Tuesday, April 21, at 9 am. We will try to finish two quilts. **Spring Rally** will have 6 ladies attending from Zion. It will be held at St. John's in Wharton on April 18. **Bake Sale** will be May 10 with proceeds going toward delegates for National Convention. **LWML General Meeting** will be held April 28 with Esther Circle providing refreshments. We will serve Ice Cream Floats in the flavors of Coke, Root Beer and Big Red. Priscilla will provide these, and Pam will provide the ice cream. Irene will provide Trash. **Zion's 2026 Graduates** will be honored with quilts in church on May 17. They are Keeleigh Cooke, Gavin Hoefling and Conner Maroney. **Women's Crisis Center** cookies are due May 10, Mothers' Day. Each circle provides 18 dozen and ladies of the church are also

asked to provide cookies. They should be left in the kitchen and labeled. Bettye, Michelle, Shelley, Judy, Pam and Cass are providing cookies for Esther.

Cards were sent to Abe Zarate & Family, Kay Lagal, Winona Klacman, Ken Sifford, Bea Fuchs, Peggy Polster, Mai Harwell and Holly Corey.

Offering: \$143.00

After the meeting, 9 ladies played Mexican Train and Canasta. Lots of fun! We plan on doing this again in the near future. All ladies are invited to play!

All ladies of Zion are invited to join *Esther* on the second Tuesday of each month as we study the Word of God! Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the home of Sherilyn. Hostesses will be Sherilyn and Darlette. **PLEASE JOIN US!**

Sherilyn Arnecke, Secretary/Treasurer

REBECCA/RUTH CIRCLE

Rebecca/Ruth Circle met April 13th, at 10:00 at the Church. Had 8 ladies present: Seda Weaver, Sharon Alex, Peggy Lee, Sherri Bluhm, Debbie Meyer, Gloria Buchhorn, Alice Cockrell, Winona Klacman. Bible Study leaders were Peggy and Sherri. Bible Study was opened with prayer from the Spring Woman's Lutheran magazine, "Overflowing in Comfort".

Debbie Meyer led **business meeting:** 12th Tri Annual Assembly Meeting; 18th Spring Rally at St. John's Wharton; 21st Sewing Day 9:00 am; 28th General Meeting with Mite Ingathering offering 6:45pm. Devotions by Rebecca/Ruth, Gloria or Peggy.

Cards were sent and Prayer Partners were drawn.

Our next meeting will be May 4th 10:00 am. Pat Harper will be Bible Study leader, Page 18, of Woman's Spring Quarterly, "Who is my Neighbor and What does it Mean"?

Meeting was closed with Lord's Prayer.

Everyone is invited to come join us in Bible Study and Fellowship.

Secretary Winona Klacman

LADIES AID

Ladies Aid met on Tuesday, April 7th. Gail Woytasczyk was hostess and was very tasty. The Bible Study was a continued study, "What's in a Name."

Business: Discussed some upcoming possible projects. Upcoming events: April 21st Sewing; April 28th LWML General Meeting; May 10th Mother's Day and LWML Bake Sale.

Sent cards to Sympathy: Abe Zarate Family; Thinking of You: Winona Klacman, Bea Fuchs, Peggy Polster, Ken Sifford, Mai Harwell, Holly Corey, Kay Lagal

Hostess for May will be Eva Cooke.

Eva Cooke, President



LADLES OF LOVE

Sunday School , PK-5th Grades is in charge of Ladles of Love in May. If you would like to participate in a group or form your own group, please talk to Sherilyn Arnecke.

Sherilyn Arnecke, Chairperson



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 **May** LWML is collecting **Small Cans of Tomato Sauce**. 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.

Irene Heinold & Darlette Mathisen, Chairpersons

Thank you, thank you. For the month of March 105 lbs. of Rice were collected for VCAM!



SEWING DAY

The Sewing Day group met on Tuesday, April 21st at 9:00 am. Those present were Winona Klacman, Eva Cooke, Shelley Sharp, Pat Harper, Irene Heinold and Darlette Mathisen. We tacked two of the graduate quilts plus one more quilt.

Our next Sewing Day will be **Tuesday, May 19th** at 9am in the multi-Purpose Room.

Irene Heinold & Darlette Mathisen, Chairpersons



BAKE SALE

Save the Date. On Sunday **May 10th**, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League ladies will host a bake sale before and after Church. We are planning to send several ZION Church women to the 2026 Texas District LWML Convention held in Austin, Texas, June 11-13, 2026. With this and future endeavors we plan to raise funds to increase the opportunity for more women to attend. Any questions please contact Jo Nell Martin or Bettye Pribyl, Leaders of Christian Life. Thank you in advance.

Cookies



LWML is asking the congregation and circles (18 doz. from each circle) to bring cookies for the Women's Crisis Center on **Sunday, May 10th**. All kinds are welcome. Please label and put in kitchen no later than May 11th. The LWML supports this project annually. Thank you.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT



Please join us for Sunday School and Adult Bible Study at 9am.



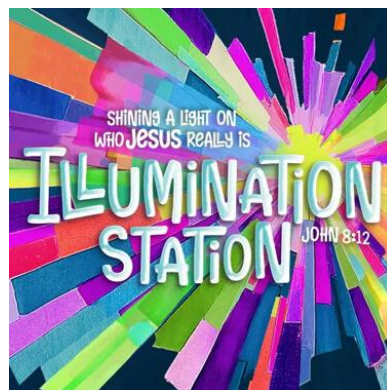
SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP FACEOFF DAY

Holy guac... It's about to get competitive! Join us for Fellowship Faceoff on May 24th at 9am during Sunday School! We're playing *Holy Guacamole* by Cards Christians Like. Bring your A-game and your best moves.

Come ready to learn, laugh, and earn some serious bragging rights!

No prizes, just bragging rights and plenty of laughs. Don't miss out on the fun!

Any questions, see Megan.



Mark your calendar! Vacation Bible School is right around the corner – **May 31st- June 4th!**

The theme of Illumination Station VBS is "**Shining a Light on Who Jesus Is**" *John 8:12*. It focuses on helping kids explore how light reveals the true nature of Jesus, who is described as the Light of the World.

Please check out the VBS table in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed, teachers, and registration forms (register on website too).

Coordinators, Jennifer Henry, and Kristy Zarate.



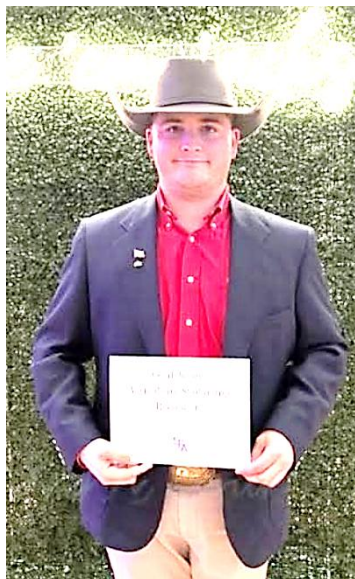
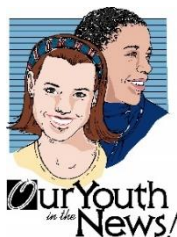
Black lights, party disco lights you plug in

Insert: flyer and registration form. Register on website too.



VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING

VBS is right around the corner!! We need your help to attend a VBS Volunteer Meeting. Please plan to come to help us get everything ready. We will meet on **May 11th & May 25th at 5:30pm**. We will decorate on **May 29th and 30th, at TBD**.

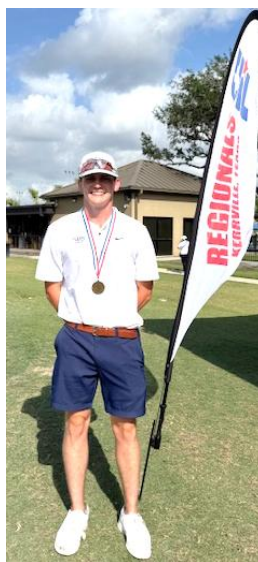


Congratulations to Kaden Ramirez, son of Robert & Kimberly Ramirez. At the SFASU Ag banquet for one final time, he achieved these awards:

- Mr. SFA (for his time, dedication and service for the department and representation for the university)
- Outstanding leader SFASU Cattlemen’s Association
- Cecil Jones Ag scholarship
- Fall 2025 Dean’s list

Kaden said, “This has been a successful moment for myself, for my time here!”

Kaden attends Stephen F. Austin State University.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Gavin Hoefling and his Goliad High School team placed third at Regionals and has advanced to the State Golf Tournament again for the second time!! The State Tournament will be held at Jimmy Clay Golf Course in Austin which will

be on April 27th – 28th.

Gavin is the son of Heath & Stacey Hoefling and grandson of Kern & Pat Harper.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Drake Brannan, son of Jennifer Henry and grandson of Ronny & Seda Weaver, won 2nd place in the 5th grade Science Fair at the Mission Valley Elementary School. His title was “Hot Diggity Dog”.

Problem – Does a Pringles can solar oven reach a higher temperature than a pizza box solar oven in the same amount of time while cooking hot dogs? His hypothesis was wrong and the pizza box hot dog was hot, browned and cooked at 141.3 degrees in 3 hrs. compared to Pringles can at 117.3 degrees. Of course, I love hot dogs and tasted great just like a grilled hot dog would!



If you are a college graduate for 2025-2026, please contact the church office. It will be published in the June Messenger.



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



BOARD OF ENDOWMENT

Endowment Fund



The Endowment Fund committee met April 2nd to discuss grant applications. There was \$2,700 available and there were three applications turned in. The committee decided to award:

- VBS - \$1,000
- Sewing - \$500
- Campers - \$1,200

Taylee Lester, Chairperson



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Each year Zion Lutheran Church of Mission Valley awards one of our High School graduates a scholarship. Anyone who would like an application for the Bertha Arnold Scholarship, please contact the church office. **The application is due in the church office by May 10th.** Members of the Scholarship Committee are Taylee Lester, Chairperson; Darlette Mathisen, Michelle Wendel, and Douglas Bluhm, Elder rep.



Board of Outreach CALLED OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING 4-19-26

Results of this short meeting yielded some very good idea possibilities for future projects. We are focusing on those activities that will reach out into the community. We also have those goals that reflect internal activities in caring for our congregation. Our goals last reviewed 5-2025, were in place and shared with Pastor Mark Harris. A revision/update of those would be expected with a new Pastor.

In a formal meeting the committee will review the ideas and prioritize or hold some aside. Our next meeting will be scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

CONGREGATION NEWS



CHURCH ANNUAL PICNIC

Mark your calendars. We now have picnic coordinators and Zion's Church Annual Picnic will be on **Sunday, September 27th!** Those who volunteered for this year's picnic are Darla Sifford, Cass Martignoni, Peggy Lee and Michelle Wendel. Please watch for more details in the bulletins and messengers. Again, thank you ladies!



PAINTING

All hands-on deck! Looking for at least 8 volunteers to repaint the inside of the parsonage on **Saturday, May 16th**. Please contact David Stockton (361-550-5901) or me if able to participate. We should be able to complete the project in one (1) day. Looking forward to hearing from you. Pauline Janak, Trustee (361-578-2096)



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.

*******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. Jeanette Laza – cousin of Irene Heinold
9. Lisa Roman – niece of Cass Martignoni
10. Kamryn McDavid – granddaughter of Pribyl's
11. Mai Harwell
12. Rose & Dalhardt Goebel
13. Allie Faulkner – Faulkner's granddaughter
14. Julie Heinold
15. Alissa Blount
16. Jodie Schaefer – friend of Barbara Schmidt
17. Becky Debore – friend of Irene Heinold
18. Glennie Bednorz – friend of JoNell Martin

19. Ava Soliz – Ann Heller's friend's daughter
20. Jim Krause
21. Priscilla Dornburg
22. Pauline Janak
23. Emily – friend of Ann Heller
24. Charles Krueger – Cass Martignoni's brother
25. Gail Hogan – Barbara Schmidt's cousin
26. Kenneth & Nancy Hahn – Faulkner's friends
27. Cindy & Jennifer Henderson – Randy Carter's sister & niece
28. Jana Ragsdale – niece of Julie Heinold
29. Pam Ficklen – niece of Barbara Schmidt
30. Kim Gisler – relative to Jacki Cooke
31. John Meharg – Calton Arnecke & Darlette Mathisen's cousin
32. Janie Bolten – Jacki Cooke's friend
33. Ryan Aaron – friend of Cooke's
34. Gary Moses
35. Susan Forsythe – family friend of Alex's
36. Robert Kaiser – friend of Arnecke's
37. Bea Fuchs
38. Richard Gisler – friend of Zion
39. Darryl Heller
40. Jan Foerster – friend of Karen Wood
41. Ken Sifford
42. Feather Diebel – friend of Cooke's
43. Leslie Thigpen Hanslik – friend of Cooke's



VISITATION

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



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.



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



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MAY

- May 4 – Richie Woytasczyk
- May 6 – Cheryl Gisler
- May 7 – Kastin Heinold
- May 8 – Reese Weiser
- May 10 – Jennifer Mayfield, Taylen Kelly
- May 15 – Leah McBrayer
- May 20 – Logan Heller
- May 23 – Teagyn Kelly, Greyson Woytasczyk
- May 28 – Greg Harwell
- May 29 – Heath Hoefling, Bettye Pribyl



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES FOR MAY

- May 1 – Ken Sifford
- May 2 – Jo Nell Martin
- May 3 – Keeleigh Cooke
- May 4 – Lauren Castilla
- May 8 – Emma Fox
- May 10 – Ricky Roessler
- May 11 – Jace Jaeger
- May 13 – Edward Heller, Alan Sharp,
Nikki McLaurin, Shelley Sharp
- May 14 – Jennifer Mayfield, Kristy Zarate
- May 15 – Joshua Lee
- May 16 – Jacki Cooke
- May 20 – Peggy Lee
- May 24 – Keegan Heller, Jim Krause, Gracie
Zimmermann, Waylon Zimmermann
- May 27 – Sara Foster
- May 29 – Alex Innes
- May 31 – Eva Cooke, Stella Hickman



HEARING ASSISTANCE

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.

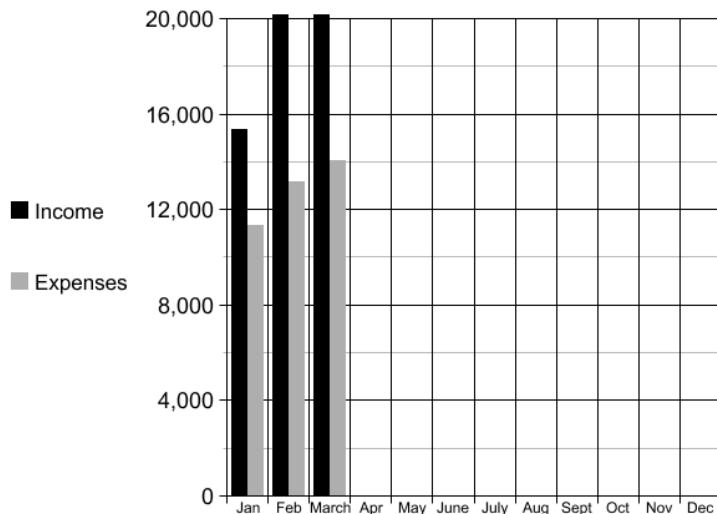


ATTENDANCE CARD

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, March 29 th	102
Friday, April 3 rd	28
Sunday, April 5 th Easter	182
Sunday, April 12 th	86
Sunday, April 19 th	94

General Fund - 2026 Income vs Expenses



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.



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.



VCAM celebrating 40 years of existence!

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.

Services Provided for March Services
 Households Served – 1389, Total Number in households – 3321, Food Boxes – 1225, Basic Needs – 3564, Home Delivery – 26, Homeless Served – 154, Homeless Visits – 749, New VCAM Households Served – 52

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

Without the support of our local churches, businesses, civic organizations, schools & individuals, none of what VCAM provides would not be possible.

For 40 years, VCAM has evolved into the largest food pantry in a surrounding 11-county area served by the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent. As the Food Bank & VCAM together observe a milestone, it is hard to think of one organization existing w/o the other. *We like to believe that the Victoria community is the most giving of any community.*

If Victoria is to grow as projected over the next ten years, the needs of the community, unfortunately, will continue to increase also. VCAM has a system in place to accept one-time or recurring monetary donations on our website (www.vcamvictoria.org).

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...”



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.



ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

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



COMMENCING A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

What would you tell a young man or woman about to graduate? One of the most common messages commencement speakers share is that graduates are indeed commencing. They are only

just beginning to learn.

While they may rightly feel proud of finishing school, a few months in the working world often reveal how much they still do not know.

Christians who love God with their minds understand that truth frees us from ignorance and superstition. They also know that the joy of learning brings deep satisfaction and, in time, wisdom. That wisdom helps us evaluate what we have learned and use it well, so that knowledge becomes a tool for growth and faithful living.



GRATEFUL FOR THOSE WHO GAVE ALL

We remember, O Lord, the men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country. Help us

never to breathe the air of freedom, claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship without deep gratitude for those who gave "the last full measure of devotion" for our sake.

May they now know the peace of eternity and the joy of your presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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