Zion Lutheran Church Mission Statement

"Bonded in Christ's love, we teach, preach, and equip God's people for discipleship here and throughout the world.



Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

For those who are hearing challenged, Zion has digital listening devices for your use during worship. Please ask a council member for one and they will show you how to use it.

Prelude & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Gathering of our Spirits for Worship

P - Holy Spirit, come and brood over us with your searing, scarlet wings aflame.

C - Umbrella me in the hothouse steam of love so that my hard shell will shatter open.

P - Then spill forth,

C - From the very center of me, Your wildest dreams and heavens highest hopes for my life.

Gathering Hymn - Borning Cry ELW #732

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.

Baptism of Donavan Elias Cornelius

Prayer for the newly Baptized
P- Blessed Jesus**,**
C - give to the newly baptized: strength for life's journey, courage in times of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life. Amen

Baptism Sung Response - Baptized in Water ELW #456 vs 3
Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of
Christ our king: born of the spirit, we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Reading of the Scriptures
First Reading - 1 Samuel 28:7-17 The witch of Endor.
Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, so that I may go to her and inquire of her." His servants said to him, "There is a medium at Endor."
So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes and went there, he and two men with him. They came to the woman by night. And he said, "Consult a spirit for me, and bring up for me the one whom I name to you." The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the wizards from the land. Why then are you laying a snare for my life to bring about my death?" But Saul swore to her by the Lord, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" He answered, "Bring up Samuel for me." When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice, and the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul!" The king said to her, "Have no fear; what do you see?" The woman said to Saul, "I see a divine being

coming up out of the ground." He said to her, "What is his appearance?" She said, "An old man is coming up; he is wrapped in a robe." So Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and did obeisance.
Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams, so I have summoned you to tell me what I should do." Samuel said, "Why then do you ask me, since the Lord has turned from you and become your enemy? The Lord has done to you just as he spoke by me, for the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David.

Psalm 104:19-20 *(Please read responsively)*
You have made the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.
You make darkness, and it is night,
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.

Second Reading - Acts 19:11-20 Books of magic
God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that when the handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were brought to the sick, their diseases left them, and the evil spirits came out of them. Then some itinerant Jewish exorcists tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. But the evil spirit said to them in reply, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?" Then the man with the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered them all, and so overpowered them that they fled out of the house naked and

wounded. When this became known to all residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks, everyone was awestruck, and the name of the Lord Jesus was praised. Also many of those who became believers confessed and disclosed their practices. A number of those who practiced magic collected their books and burned them publicly; when the value of these books was calculated, it was found to come to fifty thousand silver coins. So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed. *Here ends this reading.*

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel - Matthew 22:34-40 The greatest commandment
When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Gospel Sung Response tune - (tune: Blessed Assurance)
Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of Christ spirit, washed in his love. This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long: this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long. *(Please be seated.)*

Special Music – Amigos

Children's Message
Sung Blessing for our Children Tune – (tune: Children of the Heavenly Father)
Chil-dren of the heav'n-ly Fa-ther safe-ly in his bo-som gath-er; nest-ling bird nor star in heav-en such a ref-uge e'er was giv-en.

Homily - Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Offering Hymn - I Love to Tell the Story ELW #661
I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.

Refrain:
I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story:
how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard

the message of salvation
from God's own holy word. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

(Please stand as the offering is brought forward.)

Sung Offering Response tune - (tune: For all the Saints)
We bring this off-ring to our God di-vine; for works of just-ice, so that love may shine. Bless us to-day and let our lives en-twine. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Offering Blessing
P - Loving Jesus,
C - may these gifts bring light to those who walk in darkness, hope to those who live in despair, and justice to those who are oppressed. Grant to each of us a sense of participation in the most important work of all time; to share your love with the world. We dedicate our offering and ourselves. Amen *(Please be seated)*

LWR Blanket & School Kits Blessing

Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the holy spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church - *When the pastor says, "Lord in your mercy" please respond with* ***"Hear our Prayer."***

Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction Litany
P - Go out into this week of All Hallow's Eve
C - I will open my door and my heart to the children who come for candy
P - Let this week be a renewal of our community
C - I will follow Jesus' commandment to love my neighbor as myself.

Announcements in the Life of the Church

C - ZION… a place to belong, a place to believe, a place to become!

Sending Hymn - A Mighty Fortress is our God ELW #505
A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,

and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers
no thanks to them abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!

P - Go in peace and serve the Lord.
C - Thanks be to God.

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Helping out with Worship Today

Pastor:……..Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler
Organist……..……..Alnora Daubendiek
Acolytes:……....Grayson Borgman
Cash Harwood
Lector: ……..….Lynette Jurgens
Greeters:……Mark & Christy Buhr
Doug & Rhonda Dorn
Special Music:…….Amigos

October Altar Guild: Carol Young, Sandy Meints, Marcella Rademacher, Susan Newman
October Table Troop: LeAnn Fossler (Leader), Doug & Rhonda Dorn, Duane & Janice Parde, Gary Wiese, John & Marcia Busboom

November Altar Guild: Karla Holland, Rhonda Dorn, Lynette Dorn, Doreen Busboom, Kelly Lenners, Christy Buhr
November Table Troops: Lynette Jurgens (Leader), Steve & Peggy Johnson, Larry Gronewold, Eddie & Lynette Dorn, Gary & Brenda Gronewold, Dave & Carrye Meints, DeAnn & Terry Oltman

SNOW BRIGADE:

October 26th - Les Lieneman (Captain) - Tractor, David Meints (Tractor), Jason Lovitt, Matt Meints, Gary Wiese, Andy Schoen, Perry Jurgens, Kenny Jurgens, Josh Nelson, Jeff Wiese

November 2nd - Eric Parde (Captain) - Tractor, Chris Fossler, Steve Oltman, Jordan Busboom, Greg Robinson, Hunter Blackwell, Keith Parde, Taiten Harms, Kyle Schlake

November 9th - Alan Wiese (**Captain)** -Tractor, AJ Wiese, Kenny Newman, Paul Jurgens, Gerald Ideus, Todd Bohlmeyer, Brian Garton, Josh Gronewold

Vital Statistics for last Sunday

Worship: 155 Giving: $12,159.00
SS: 57 Giving: $ 43.06

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

8:45am - SS
9:00am - BKF Club
10:00am - Worship/Baptism/Kids of the Kingdom

Wednesday

6:00pm – 7th/8th grade confirmation class

Thursday

Ladies Aide

Next Sunday

8:45am - SS
9:00am - BKF Club/Adult Bible Study
10:00am - Worship/Communion

Helping out next Sunday

Pastor:……..Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler
Organist:……Shirley Gronewold
Acolytes:……Nolan Buhr
Bryleigh Ideus
Lector:……Linda Blackwell
Greeters:……..Alex & Beth Buhr
Dennis & Patti Behrens

THIS WEEKS BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY: the Edward Parde family in honor of what would have been his 100th Birthday on October 24th.

IF INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A WEEKLY BULLETIN you may do so by contacting the Church secretary and making a check out to Zion Church for $75.00.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! A Warm Welcome to all our visitors. We are so glad you are here & would love to have you visit again! Please sign a visitor card located in the pews and place the information section of the card in the offering plate. We hope to see you again!

THANK YOU – to Amigos for their special music today.

THANK YOU – I would like to thank everyone for their prayers & concerns while in the hospital with my surgies. I'm now home walking with a cane and doing well. ~ Clarence Schuster

THANK YOU – to Sandy Johnson & Elnora Leners for cutting blocks & strips for me. I wouldn't be able to sew the blanket tops without your help. ~ Mildred Fossler

WELCOME – To our newest member in Christ, Donavan Elias Cornelius, on his baptism today. Son of Trip & Amya Cornelius. Donavan was born on August 1, 2025. The sponsors are Carlos & Grace Garcia. Grandparents are Pat & Jen Beach and Mark & Cerice Cornelius.

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE – New Phone App, Online Giving, and Updated Webiste coming soon! We're teaming up Subsplash to creat a new church app, update our website, and introduce a fresh way to give online. Starting November 1, 2026, we will no longer use Vanco or Venmo for giving. Instead, all offerings and donations will go through Subsplash. Look for a new QR code – just like Venmo- for easy and convient giving coming soon!

PEW REMOVAL - Chuch Council plans to permanently remove the front pew by the new sound system cabinet. Anyone interested in purchasing the pew, please contact a council member.

DONATION NEEDED – Ladies Aide is seeking a donation of 2 vice grip c-clamps that are used for hand quilting. If willing to donation new or used please contact Mildred Fossler or Sandy Johnson.

BREAKFAST CLUB SIGN-UP – Please consider helping with providing breakfast for our high school youth on a Sunday morning. Use the link or the QR code to sign-up

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D44AFAD2FA0FEC52-66766232-breakfast

ADULT BIBLE STUDY -

All adults are welcome to join in these classes led by Pastor Renae at 9AM in the fellowship hall.

November 1st - Angels, Saints, Demons, Heaven and Hell
November 15th - Interesting facts about the prophets of the old testament

Come learn, pray, and grow in your relationship with God!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - With the help of a Thrivent Action grant of $250 Grace Circle prepared 17 operation Christmas child boxes. Most of these children have never received a gift like this: toys, socks, crayons, etc. Every box is an opportunity for a child to hear that Jesus came to earth for them. The boxes are on display in the fellowship hall along with information material.

SUPPORTING SAMMIE GARTON - Many within our church family have asked how they can support Sammie Garton as she continues her healing journey through leukemia. As we stand with Sammie and her family in prayer, we also recognize the significant financial burdens that often accompany ongoing medical treatments, travel, and time away from work.

For those who feel led to provide financial support, contributions may be mailed to: **Adams State Bank**
649 Main Street
Adams, NE 68301

Please make checks payable to Adams State Bank and include "Sammie Garton" in the memo line. The memo is very important to ensure the funds are properly directed.

Most importantly, we ask that you continue to lift Sammie and her loved ones in prayer, trusting in God's faithfulness, comfort, and provision during this difficult journey.
"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

YOUTH CAMP REIMBURSEMENTS - Any youth who attended confirmation camp or a summer Christian based camp during 2026, may qualify for reimbursement up to 75% of the camp cost based on the "Early Bird Discount" (if applicable). Funds are provided through the Willie & Anna Meints Endowment Fund. Applications are located on the Welcome Center in the fellowship hall. Application deadline is 12/1/26.

online GIVING
easy. fast. effective.

GIVING OPTION - Simply scan the QR Code to the right to access Zion's Venmo account and submit your offering.



Offering envelopes and online giving via Vanco are still available to members as well. **Any members with questions regarding these options can reach out to a church council member.**

FALL BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY DRIVE - Special thanks to Mary & Stan Lenners for writing a Thrivent Grant to support this project.



Bailey Pointe - Vivian Schuster
Gold Crest - Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman, Marilyn Robinson
Homestead House - Rosanna Miller
Our Homes Assisted Living - Randy Oltman
Wilber Care Center - Marsha Zulauf