



The Rosette

January 2025

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Two South Hazel Street

Manheim, PA 17545 Phone: (717) 665-5880

E-mail: zmanheim@ptd.net Website: www.zionmanheim.com

Volume 54, 1

On January 6th each year, the 12 days of Christmas give way to the Feast of Epiphany, a celebration of God's glory revealed in Jesus. In some cultures, Epiphany is known as the Festival of the Three Kings, as it commemorates the magi or wise men who traveled from afar to worship and bless the newborn Christ. We don't actually know how many magi came to honor Jesus, but we know about their three gifts: gold, because they honor Jesus as the king; frankincense, because they worship Jesus as divine; and myrrh, because they are readying for his death.

Epiphany sometimes gets lost in the hustle and bustle of Christmas. We also tend to conflate the two festivals by showing the magi at the manger in our nativity scenes. According to the Gospel of Matthew, the arrival of the magi in Bethlehem may have been up to 2 years after the birth of Our Lord. But the wonder of the story is that God revealed the Son to strangers from the east by the leading of a star. The story reminds us just how important it is to have the right guidance as we go. When Jesus was born, God provided a star to show the way. "And when the magi saw that the star had stopped [over the place where the child was] they were overwhelmed with joy." (Matthew 2:10)

Epiphany teaches that the star we follow matters (In these days we might talk about having the right compass or a good GPS to find our way)! Following the right star, abiding by the light of God's Word, orienting our lives by God's ways matters. For the magi, following the star led them to Jesus, the savior of the world. King Herod on the other hand, was led by fear and the will to power, and his way ended in violence and death. Still, the point for us is simple: when we follow the right star, we will be led closer and closer to the love, peace, hope and joy of God in Christ.

We will celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord in worship on January 5, 2025. As part of our Epiphany celebrations this year we will introduce a prayer practice for the season based on the use of "star words." (see page 2 for more details.) And as Christmas gives way to Epiphany and a new year, we will join the whole church in praying:

Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

What is a “Star Word”?

The use of star words is a prayer practice connected to Epiphany and the new year that has been growing in popularity in churches for a number of years. The idea is that a list of “guiding words” or “intention words” are written or printed on paper stars. These paper stars are then distributed (at random) to members of the worshipping community. Individuals are encouraged to place their star word somewhere they will see it regularly throughout the season of Epiphany, to allow consistent reflection on how God has moved through, around, or in connection to that word.

There Are Several Theological Statements Being Made in this Tradition:

1. The Magi followed a star, which ultimately led them to Jesus. Therefore, we too use all the resources we have available to us—including creative prayer practices and intention words for the new year—to move closer to Jesus.
2. We trust that God uses multiple ways to guide us and speak to us. Star words are one such lens that might provide us a way to look for God in our midst, both actively and in hindsight.
3. We trust that it is often easy to miss God in our daily midst. Having an intention word to consider both in present days, as well as to reflect on as time goes by, allows for us to see God in ways we may not have seen God before. This is the greatest gift.
4. We know that the most common prayer practice for many involves speaking to God as opposed to silence or contemplation. We believe that star words invite a new prayer rhythm of reflection and review that can be a powerful new way to connect with God.
5. By receiving a star word chosen at random, we practice the spiritual task of receiving. It is not we who are in control in the moment. Instead, we trust that God is present, and we let go of our desire to cultivate or control.

Prompts for using the star words for daily prayer:

- A. Look up the definition of your word, even if it is a word you know well. You may even look into the etymology of the word and how its meaning has changed throughout history. If you drew a non-English word, do as much research as you can into the meaning of the word in its original culture.
- B. What does this word remind you of? Does it recall any memories or experiences? How might God be speaking to you through this word?
- C. See if you can find your word—or a synonym—in the Bible. What scripture passages can you find? How is the word used in these passages? Are there other scripture passages that remind you of your word?

Star Words cont.

D. Write or speak aloud a prayer using your word. (This is a fun challenge for children using the star words.)

A further note from Pastor Kate: The above explanation and prompts come from *Sanctified Art* worship resources. Over the years, many of my colleagues have introduced “star words” as an annual Epiphany practice, and report favorable responses. Examples of “star words” include: abundance, hope, dance, forgiveness, laughter, wonder. I have a friend who has already claimed “hope” as her word for 2025, and she is paying attention to that word in prayer and daily life, seeing what God would have her to learn.

Undecorating the Church

We will be Undecorating the worship space on January 5th after the service of worship. Please plan on staying after worship to help pack the things away for another year. Many hands make work lighter.

Congregational Meeting



Annual Congregational Meeting and Follow Up Meeting (Jan. 12)

Zion’s annual congregational meeting was held on Sunday, December 8th. The proposed budget was approved. There remains an open position for Council, and upon having received two names for consideration, another congregational meeting has been scheduled for January 12th in order to fill the council seat. Thanks to Livia Spohn and Linda Martin for stepping forward to serve in this way. The election process on January 12th will be by written ballot.

Silent Auction Results

Zion’s recent Silent Auction to raise funds for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal was again a success. Bidding for the donated items brought in \$ 459 in support this year. We thank all the people who so generously shared their talents and donated items, as well as others who gave pieces for the auction. We also thank everyone who bid on and purchased the available gifts. Your generosity is very much appreciated!!



ELCA

Living Generously Challenge Grant

To date, since August of 2024, we have received \$19,255 in contributions to the Greater Zion Fund. This includes a \$5000 contribution from the Bessemer Trust. All funds received by the end of the year will be graciously matched by a generous donor. We are so grateful for what we are able to accomplish together!

Property Updates

As of this writing we are still waiting for our new boiler system to be repaired and upgraded. In the meantime, we are keeping the temperature set at a constant level so as to avoid taxing the system.

2025 Offering Envelopes available

Zion's 2025 boxed envelope sets are available for pick-up in the church office. Don't forget to stop in and get them if you haven't done so already.

For Your Information

In case of inclement weather on the morning of worship, please check Zion's facebook page, or call the office for the status of worship or other activities. Pastor Kate will record a message for the church

answering machine (press 1 for worship schedule) in the event we need to cancel worship. If Sunday morning in-person worship needs to be cancelled, we hope to offer an alternative online. If weather conditions are questionable, please use your own discretion as to whether you want to go out or not. We certainly do not want to have anyone experience an accident trying to get here. Please, be safe. We will see you at another time.



Disaster Response Mission Trip Planned

On Sunday, January 19th, a planning meeting for the 25th trip of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Disaster Response team will be held at 2:00pm in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 250 St. Luke Dr., Lititz. This is also the deadline to sign up for the trip. Registration for the trip is on \$150/person. The trip will take place April 6-12, 2025, and will be to western North Carolina. More details will be shared at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but hope to make the trip, please contact Pr. Glenn Beard at gbeard@luthercare.org.



2025 Flower & Bulletin Sponsors Needed

We have new Flower and Bulletin Sponsor Charts posted in the entrance hallway for 2025. Take some time to jot down your names on the special days you'd like to sponsor.

New Phone Directory in the Making

We have been using our current church phone directory for several years now and have had lots of changes that need to be updated. So, we want to publish a new one by the end of January, 2025. If you have address changes, new phone numbers, marriages, additional household members...anything you can think of that has changed since 2022 when the last directory was published, please let Donna know in the church office at 665-5880. You can also notify us here at zmanheim@ptd.net. We plan on making the new directories available towards the end of January.



Food Pantry Needs

During the month of January, the Manheim Central Food Pantry is looking for Canned chili, beef stew, canned pineapple, cream of chicken soup, tomato soup, Spam, baked beans, cereal, rice sides, crackers, diapers, plastic and reusable bags. (No used or opened items; no out of date items).



Please make sure any food items you may be donating are not out of date. Put donations in the cart outside the church office or drop them in the box on the porch of the food pantry at 334 W. Gramby St., Manheim. Monetary donations may also be sent to the MC Food Pantry, c/o Salem United Methodist Church, 140 N. Penn St., Manheim, PA.

The pantry is looking for new volunteers on Mondays and Thursdays.

Please call 717-665-2850 or 717-664-1097 for more information.

Daughters of Zion

Our December meeting featured our annual Christmas Brunch. Wonderful food and fellowship!! What more could you ask? As we end one year and head into the New Year, let us give thanks to God for the opportunity to meet and plan, and with the help of Zion's ever-generous congregation, accomplish many good things for our extended family in Manheim and across the globe.

Thank you for your continued support of the Daughters of Zion!

We have decided to skip our meeting in January, as the weather is always "iffy". We will begin 2025 with our next meeting on Feb. 17th at 1:30pm.

We welcome new members to come and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and fun. We have refreshments, too! Come out and join us!!

Daughters of Zion – Committed to serving the Manheim Community

Just a reminder: Upper Room daily devotional booklets are available, both on the table in the Rose parlor and on the bookcase in the hallway. Price is \$1.00 per copy.

Dear friends,

I write with a grateful heart for your love and support in response to the death of my father this past month. Your concern and prayers, hugs and cards mean a lot, and I thank you! I have also been blessed by so many Christmas cards, treats and remembrances. My mailbox and my desk have been overflowing this season, and I am grateful.

Pastor Kate

The church was beautifully decorated. The talented musicians and choir shared some new music with us. The message from Pastor Kate reminded us all of His great light in our lives. Zion congregation is fortunate to have such talented and dedicated members. Thank you to all. Wishing you all the very best with God's Blessings.

The Gabels

Preschool News

Our preschool was bustling with activities prior to the Christmas holiday. We had a wonderful time at the Christmas Tree Lighting earlier in the month. We enjoyed trimming the tree outside with crafts, activities, and family fun.

Pastor Kate led us in building a nativity, welcoming our preschoolers to stage with parents and families in attendance. This is always such a highlight for the kids!



We were once again blessed to experience the magic of Christmas through the eyes of the children and hope you experienced a season of peace, hope, joy, and happiness.

Our preschoolers will return to Zion on January 6th, ready to share their joys from the Christmas toys they received, but also ready to see their friends again.

Happy New Year!!

Katie Mummau

January Birthdays

1/2 Jody Hess
1/6 Cathy Knittle
1/13 Patsy Gabel
1/20 Allison Yelk
1/21 Arlene Gernert
1/24 Esther Brosey
1/25 Olissa Clingenpeel
1/29 Carol Blanck
1/30 Helen Blank
1/31 Martha Maney

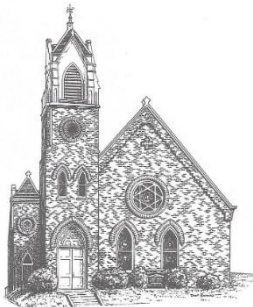


January Anniversaries

1/16 Jeff & Stacy Fry

I want to thank everyone who remembered me while I was out of the office recently due to illness. It is good to be back at work again. Also, I want to thank everyone for the wonderful Christmas gifts I received over the holiday season. Everything was very much appreciated.

Donna Dieter



Parish Registry

11/24/24 - Nadine Mozingo transferred to Trinity Lutheran, Mount Joy

Financial Notes:

with joy and thanksgiving for your faithful stewardship.

OFFERINGS	Mo. Total	Budget
November General Fund offering	19,261	18,963
November Greater Zion Fund offering	3,580	---
Dec. General Fund offering	18,054	23,704
Dec. Greater Zion Fund offering	7,670	---

Prayer Chain

Have you ever needed prayer? Instant, right away prayer? Or, needed as many people as possible to pray for you, whatever the reason? Zion's Prayer Warriors are there for you! As soon as Pastor Kate is aware of a need for prayer, she, in turn, calls Linda Keiffer (contact person, 717-742-2149). Linda then contacts the Prayer Warriors. Since crisis, emergencies, death, etc. are spontaneous, you might get a call while still in your pajamas just having tea and toast or watching your favorite football game...BUT...it literally takes 3-5 minutes to answer the phone and "lift a prayer, Jesus have mercy". We hope you will search your heart and be so inspired to join the group of warriors.



The Expanded Prayer List is published at the beginning of each month. Printed copies are available at the church. **You can contact Pr. Kate at the church office (665-5880) or Linda Keiffer @ 742-2149** to add a name to the list and to initiate the prayer chain.

Current Prayer Warriors to Zion's Prayer Chain include: Holly Brosey, Linda Keiffer, Norm Drescher, and Yvonne Kreider. If you would like to join the team as an additional prayer warrior, please contact Linda Keiffer. We could certainly use a few more members to make phone calls.

Take note: Please have permission from the person whose name you are placing on the list for prayer. The name of the contact person and phone number are also important for updates and further information about the person being prayed for.

January Readings

1/1	Name of Jesus Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21	1/9	Psalm 72 Numbers 24:15-19 Luke 1:67-79
1/2	Psalm 147:12-20 Proverbs 1:-7 James 3:13-18	1/10	Psalm 29 Ecclesiastes 2:1-11 1 Corinthians 2:1-10
1/3	Psalm 72 Job 42:10-17 Luke 8:16-21	1/11	Psalm 29 Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 1 Corinthians 2:11-16
1/4	Psalm 72 Isaiah 6:1-5 Acts 7:44-53	1/12	<i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
1/5	<i>2nd Sunday after Christmas</i> Psalm 72 Jeremiah 31:7-14 John 1: [1-9] 10-18	1/13	Psalm 106:1-12 Judges 4:1-16 Ephesians 6:10-17
1/6	<i>Epiphany of Our Lord</i> Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12	1/14	Psalm 106:1-12 Judges 5:12-21 1 John 5:13-21
1/7	Psalm 72 Daniel 2:1-19 Ephesians 4:17-5:1	1/15	Psalm 106:1-12 Numbers 27:1-11 Luke 11:33-36
1/8	Psalm 72 Daniel 2:24-49 Ephesians 5:15-20	1/16	Psalm 36:5-10 Jeremiah 3:1-5 Acts 8:18-24
		1/17	Psalm 36:5-10 Jeremiah 3:19-25 1 Corinthians 7:1-7

Jan. Readings, cont'd

1/18 Psalm 36:5-10
Jeremiah 4:1-4
Luke 11:14-23

1/19 *2nd Sunday after Epiphany*
Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

1/20 Psalm 145
Isaiah 54:1-8
Romans 12:9-21

1/21 Psalm 145
Song of Solomon 4:1-8
1 Corinthians 1:3-17

1/22 Psalm 145
Song of Solomon 4:9-5:1
Luke 5:33-39

1/23 Psalm 19
Isaiah 61:1-7
Romans 7:1-6

1/24 Psalm 19
Nehemiah 2:1-10
Romans 12:1-8

1/25 Psalm 19
Nehemiah 5:1-13
Luke 2:39-52

1/26 *3rd Sunday after Epiphany*
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

1/27 Psalm 119:89-96
Jeremiah 36:1-10
1 Corinthians 14:1-12

1/28 Psalm 119:89-96
Jeremiah 36:11-26
2 Corinthians 7:2-12

1/29 Psalm 119:89-96
Jeremiah 36:27-32
Luke 4:38-44

1/30 Psalm 71:1-6
2 Chronicles 34:1-7
Acts 10:44-48

1/31 Psalm 71:1-6
2 Chronicles 35:20-27
Acts 19:1-10



Altar Flowers



- Jan. 5 *This space available. Please call office at 665-5880.*
- Jan. 12 In memory of Bill Varner by his family
- Jan. 19 Dave Lynes' family in honor of Arlene Gernert's birthday
- Jan. 26 *This space available. Please call office at 665-5880.*

Note: Flowers are \$40 per week and *must be paid to the church by the beginning of the month for the flowers you are sponsoring. Thank you.*

Bulletin Sponsors

Month of January – Carol Mackley in honor of January birthdays

Bulletins are - \$9.00 per week



Worship Help Schedule

We need helpers for this position. Please sign on the volunteer sheet outside the church office.

Date	Greeters/Ushers	Lay Readers	Communion Assistants
1/5	Sandy Quesenberry	Esther Brosey	
1/12	Doug & Sue Shaw	Ronda Moore	
1/19	Donna Moore	Paul Caplinger	
1/26	Brian Miller	Francesca McClure	
2/2	Terry & Cheryl Fry	Sue Shaw	
2/9	Stacy Fry	Brian Miller	
2/16	Jody Hess	Fay Varner	
2/23	Dave & Betty Wise	Kyle Spohn	

Zion's Prayers

Please remember Zion's members as you pray:

John Blanck	Kate Eichelberger	Barbara Grunenberger
Verna Landry	Erma May	Betty Minnich
Sue Murray	Margie Root	Dennis Shafnisky
Nic & Stefan Spohn	Mary Welliver	

Please remember our Friends of Zion in your prayers:

Ron Auker	Emily Bair	Karen Becker
Becky	Tom Beil	Beth & Jordan
Mary Bisking	David Bradfield	Judi Brosey
Sherry Brunick	Winnie Cammauf	Hana Caye
Esther Diffenderfer	Bill Duncan	Lee Elgin
Lewis Ettinger	Dave Faus	Leslie Flory
Gary	Sandy Grimm	Heather Hildebrand
Jenny Lohr	Diane Lord	Yasir Makki
Pamela Nester	Karen Plessl	Diane Repp
Brandy Rhodes	Abby Shipe	Frank Smith
Rachel Toole	Thad Toole	Joyce Warn
Tom Welliver		

Please remember those in Military Service as you pray:

Ryan Plowman, Blake Reber, and Mikaela Adams

