



The Herald

Published monthly, to provide both
inspiration and information on
the activities of the Zion Family

Zion Lutheran Church

505 Main Ave. N.

Thief River Falls, MN 56701-1996

Phone - 218-681-3296

Vol. 23

October 2023

No. 9

Promises are made at baptism. In the service of Holy Baptism in the hymnal, these are the responsibilities entrusted God's people. Parents, sponsors/godparents, caring adults, and the congregation promise:

1. To live with the Baptized among God's people
2. To bring the Baptized to the word of God and the holy supper
3. To Teach the Baptized the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments
4. To place in the Baptized's hands the holy scriptures
5. To nurture the Baptized in faith and prayer

These promises are made so the Baptized learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made and to work for justice and peace.

Sunday, October 29 we will celebrate the keeping of the promises for 11- 11th graders. Having been instructed in the Christian faith, Brenna Alby, Andraya Bakken, Brianne Ellison, Ella Gust, Alex Hanson, Maverick Iverson, Gracie Jensen, Jerlyn Lunsetter, Zachary Nelson, Lucas Rantanen and Lydia Walseth intend to make a public profession of their faith. In our worship, they will be asked a question: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: To live among God's faithful people, hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, proclaim the Good News of God in Christ in word and deed, serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and strive for justice and peace in all the earth? Reading the five parts of this question, feels a bit overwhelming. Living among God's people is probably the easier part. Unless one

is planning to live off the grid and isolate for the rest of their life, they will be neighbors in the family of God. As for hearing the word of God and sharing in the Lord's Supper, most of us attend worship services and receive the sacrament when it is served. Proclaiming the Good News doesn't mean you have to start preaching (although I pray new preachers are raised up). Sharing the Good News through our words and actions means that we show God's love in all we do. We let our work and witness tell a story of God's love. Service is a part of our community. It isn't too scary to think about giving to our neighbors when there is a need. The final part of the question asks us to embody the example of humility, justice, and peace that Jesus shared with the world. We are saying that we will love as Jesus loved.

The five statements are a tall order for anyone. For youth on the edge of adulthood, it is challenging not to wonder- how can I do all this? Am I equipped? Did confirmation prepare me enough? When pressed, I imagine many of us would respond in much the same way. When it comes to sharing faith and having conversations about God, God's people tend to feel inadequate. Even worse, many feel afraid of "getting it wrong" and shut down. So often the Body of Christ curves in on itself and looks for someone else to do the work. Brenna, Andraya, Brianne, Ella, Alex, Maverick, Gracie, Jerlyn, Zachary, Lucas, and Lydia and all the people of God cannot see what lies ahead (1 Corinthians 13:12).

"Do you intend to ... " has been asked of confirmands for generations. These are not promises. There is a job description that opens before us in the sacrament of Baptism with a specific list of tasks. The question at confirmation is one of intention. The statement youth make in a few weeks is, "Right now in this moment, here in this place, I intend to live my life in faith and hope in Jesus Christ." Will it be a perfect faith? Will it look the same in five, ten, twenty, fifty years? Will these young people wake daily and live according to the word of God? We hope yet we know all too well how the powers of this world try to tear us away from God's love and care. The church responds in prayer.

When Brenna, Andraya, Brianne, Ella, Alex, Maverick, Gracie, Jerlyn, Zachary, Lucas, and Lydia hear the question, they will respond, “I will and I ask God to help and guide me.” The responsibilities they are intending to take up are done in prayer seeking God’s leading. Affirmation of Baptism isn’t about having all the faith things figured out. Even those who were blessed by Jesus didn’t have a perfect faith. In Mark 9 there is a story about a man whose child is overcome by an evil spirit. When Jesus asks the child’s father about his belief the man confesses, “I believe, help my unbelief!” Jesus commanded the spirit to go out of the child and never enter him again. We don’t expect 11th graders to know all the right answers. No matter how bold the confession or the declaration of intent, the response of the church is always prayer.

Parents and caring adults, Baptismal Sponsors, and family will lay hands on Brenna, Andraya, Brianne, Ella, Alex, Maverick, Gracie, Jerlyn, Zachary, Lucas, and Lydia and pray: Father in Heaven for Jesus’ sake, stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm their faith, guide their life, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life. God has said, “you are mine”. We need and are promised the mercy of God. We need and are assured the forgiveness of Jesus. We need and are given power of the Spirit. In all that is good, in all that is blessed, in all that is challenging, and in all that breaks hearts, we look to God for strength and peace. No matter how strong faith is, the people of God will be tested and tried. We pray for the blessings of God for Brenna, Andraya, Brianne, Ella, Alex, Maverick, Gracie, Jerlyn, Zachary, Lucas, and Lydia in all and through all.

We celebrate the youth of Zion who have been nurtured in the faith and are presented for the milestone. You have gifted them the Holy Scriptures. They have been nourished at the Lord’s Table. They have been taught the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. Thank you for all the ways you have provided for and kept your promises through the years. Thank you to faithful pastors who have baptized and walked with families. Thank you to Sunday School teachers and Confirmation mentors who have guided

them in faith. Thank you, People of God, for praying for these families. Come and join in the celebration of Affirmation of Baptism on October 29th. Confirmation is one step in a lifelong journey of faith for Brenna, Andraya, Brianne, Ella, Alex, Maverick, Gracie, Jerlyn, Zachary, Lucas, and Lydia. It is a journey which began at Baptism and continues until they are called home with God. It is one day in the lives of their families when we can say, “You are loved, you are enough, you are children of God! We hope in your life of faith for we know that God will never leave you or forsake you!”

Pastor Kristin Ostercamp



- **Quilting** – First and third Thursday at 1:00 – **October 5, October 19, and November 2**
- **October 1** – New Member Recognition
- **October 1** – 11th Grade Confirmation Retreat – 1:00-5:00 at Zion
- **October 1 and 8** - 2nd grade Bible class
- **October 3** – All Council Meeting – All boards meet in Fellowship Hall – 5:30 - 7:30
- **October 4** - Confirmation Student/Parent Meeting – 7:00
- **October 5** – Discuss Bible study topics with Pastor Kristin – 9:00
- **October 8** – Tailgate Party/Chili Cook-Off – 3:00
- **October 15** - Food and Fellowship Breakfast – 10:00
- **October 15** – 2nd graders receive Bibles
- **October 17** – WELCA – Meeting at 10:00, Board at 9:00
- **October 21** – WELCA Fall Conference Gathering
- **October 29** – Confirmation Day
- **November 4** – LWR Fall Pick-Up

President's Message Laura Rude

Hello Zion Church Family!



As our seasons change in both life and in creation two things come to mind that always remain the same. God is good! We are blessed!

I always get a smile on my face when I'm sitting in church and I hear all the little voices, baby cries, and the bustle of activity. I'm grateful for the devotion from our congregation to fulfill the promises that we make during baptism.

The work of the church takes many hands. Thank you to the many folks that help educate, enhance the worship service with their talents, create an inviting worship space and continue to shine your light, and share God's love with other.

This January I will have fulfilled my 6th year as president of Zion. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served in this capacity. With that end, there will be a new beginning for someone. There will be other opportunities to serve as 1st vice president and other boards. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will move someone to be called to this work. If you are interested and have questions, please reach out to me or someone on the Council. We would be happy to talk with you.

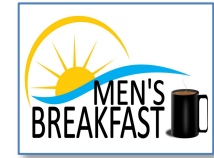
I'm exciting about the many opportunities we have to fellowship together and learn together this month and the ones after. Take advantage of these events. It's good for the soul!

Humbly Serving,

Laura Rude

Men's Breakfast

Biff's Kitchen — Fridays - 8:00 AM

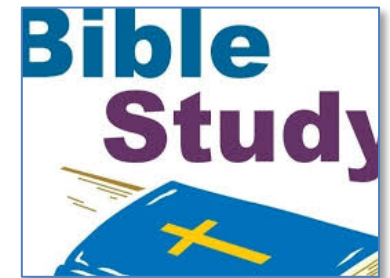




New Member Recognition Sunday
October 1

Interested in a Monthly Bible Study?

Join Pastor Kristin on Thursday, October 5, at 9:00 am in the Lounge. We will talk about topics of interest and look to finding a time we can gather to study scripture, discern the Word of God, and hold one another in fellowship and prayer. If this time doesn't work for you, please give Pastor Kristin a call and share what times may work for you. We also hope to add a monthly evening study at a later date.



Thank you, Shawna Spears

Thank you, Shawna, for teaching the first Bible class to Zion's second graders. They will receive their first Bibles on Sunday, October 15.



Silver Creek

“And all at once, summer collapsed into fall.” -Oscar Wilde



Harvest, autumn, warm days, and cool nights have arrived. As much as we enjoy our summers, we are grateful for fall. This season of harvest and the produce of labor reminds us that God is at work in us and with us, and so we continue God's work at Silver Creek.

Schedule:

11:00 a.m.: Church Services through Memorial Day.

10:30 a.m.: Fellowship

Church Council:

October 15, 12:00 noon: Next meeting

WELCA:

October 4, Wednesday, 2:00 p.m.: Quilting begins!

5:00 p.m.: Supper and Meeting

Bible Study: Chapter 5, “It's a Gift!”

Any ladies who wish to attend are more than welcome to join in quilting, as well as the meeting and Bible Study. We are here to encourage one another!

October 15: Please turn in quilt raffle tickets to Bev or Sharon. The drawing will be held on **October 22**.

Events:

October 22, following church service: Fall Turkey Dinner

Church Directory Pictures:

October 22, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

The sign-up sheet is on the church bulletin board, or you may contact Virginia Swanson at 218-686-2913.

Anniversary Updates:

Cookbook:

October 22: Please email new recipes for the anniversary cookbook to kristi.housey@gmail.com.

*Previous cookbook recipes will be included in this cookbook, so please send new recipes only.

Legacy Farm Project:

Wood from barns or other buildings is being collected from Silver Creek family farms in the community to create artwork which represents our legacy, as well as continuing faithfulness.

If you have anything to contribute to this project, please contact Leland Nelson at 218-686-5446, or Mark Swanson at 218-686-3319.

Committees:

If you would like to participate in the planning of the anniversary celebration, the following committees are open to your help:

Historical information and stories: Connie Stock

Program Ideas: Bev Rupprecht and Connie Stock

Decorating: Bev Rupprecht and Linda Skibicki

Food: Virginia Swanson and Ann Nelson

Other: Sharon Russell and Kristi Housey

October 25, 7:00 p.m.: Next meeting

Living in Faith:

As we plan this celebration of our church living in faith for 125 years, we not only thank the Lord for our past, but also for our present and our future.

The recent and upcoming baptisms and weddings at Silver Creek are welcome reminders of the continuing and growing faith of our church and community. We are thankful for the blessing of family that they represent and welcome all into our church family.

Harvest continues through the grace of God.

Submitted by: Connie Stock



WELCA News:

- **October 17** - Monthly WELCA meeting at 10:00 a.m. All women welcome to join in the fellowship, food, and Bible study. Hostesses are Sharon Wagner and Gretchen Beito. Board meeting at 9:00 a.m.
-
- **Saturday, October 21** - Fall Conference Gathering at Faith Lutheran Church, Goodridge. Registration at 8:30 a.m. Program on "Quilt Stories". Cost: \$10. Join us for an inspiring day; carpool from Zion's parking lot at 8:10 a.m.
-
- **Quilting** - First and third Thursdays each month; October 5 & 19, November 2, 1:00 p.m. More assistance is needed to complete quilts for Lutheran World Relief and also enjoy fellowship and coffee.
-
- **Lutheran World Relief Fall Pick-up** - November 4, 8 a.m. - noon, 604 N. Atlantic Ave, TRF. We will be packing up Zion's mission quilts and various kits during the November 2, quilting time or during that week. Check out the display of the different kits and quilt in the narthex; donations of items or financial assistance are appreciated.

A Big "THANK YOU"-- to all who helped host the synodical WELCA Convention on September 9 -- Pastor Kristin for devotions, Corie Erickson-Oliver, pianist; Millie Reiersen, sound system and communion set-up, David Lee, caterer, and custodial work, and all the ladies who provided, set-up, or served refreshments. Many appreciative comments were received on

New Sharing Servants Booklets - are ready for you to pick up at Sunday services or at the church office; they are not being mailed out. Note that each household/member is listed in one of the months during the year and that you may be called to help with greeting, ushering, serving coffee after Sunday service, or to assist with serving refreshments at funerals. Please be willing to help whenever possible. If the phone number listed for you is incorrect, please notify the church office.

Tailgate Party/Chili/Soup Cook-Off **Sunday, October 8 at 3:00**



Watch the Vikings/Chief's game and enjoy some chili or soup.

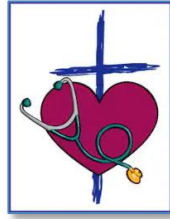
Basic toppings for the chili/soup will be provided along with beverages.

Just bring....

1. Your taste buds or chili/soup for the cook-off – or BOTH
2. Any special toppings for your chili/soup
3. Your favorite lawn chair to sit in to enjoy the game
4. Games you would like to play during the game or for your kids.
5. Team spirit attire



Faith Community Nurse



Cases of COVID are once again on the rise with increased hospitalization nationwide, but definitely not to the extent of a few years ago. There is talk about teachers, students, and healthcare workers masking again. The CDC monitors the trends and rising cases. Not many people test anymore, so data is collected by hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and waste waters. YES, the virus can be tested by testing sewage water.

Thankfully, we are in a different place with COVID 19 now than we were at the beginning of the pandemic, but it is here to stay. It continues to be a major cause of serious respiratory illness in the United States, with more than 200,000 deaths (including more than 600 in children and adolescents 0-19 years old) reported since January 2022.

Vaccination is the most effective way to protect yourself this fall and winter. The main reason to get vaccinated against COVID 19 is to protect yourself against severe illness, hospitalization, and death. COVID 19 vaccines can reduce the chance of having Long COVID. The new vaccine is expected to provide better protection against variants that are currently making people sick.

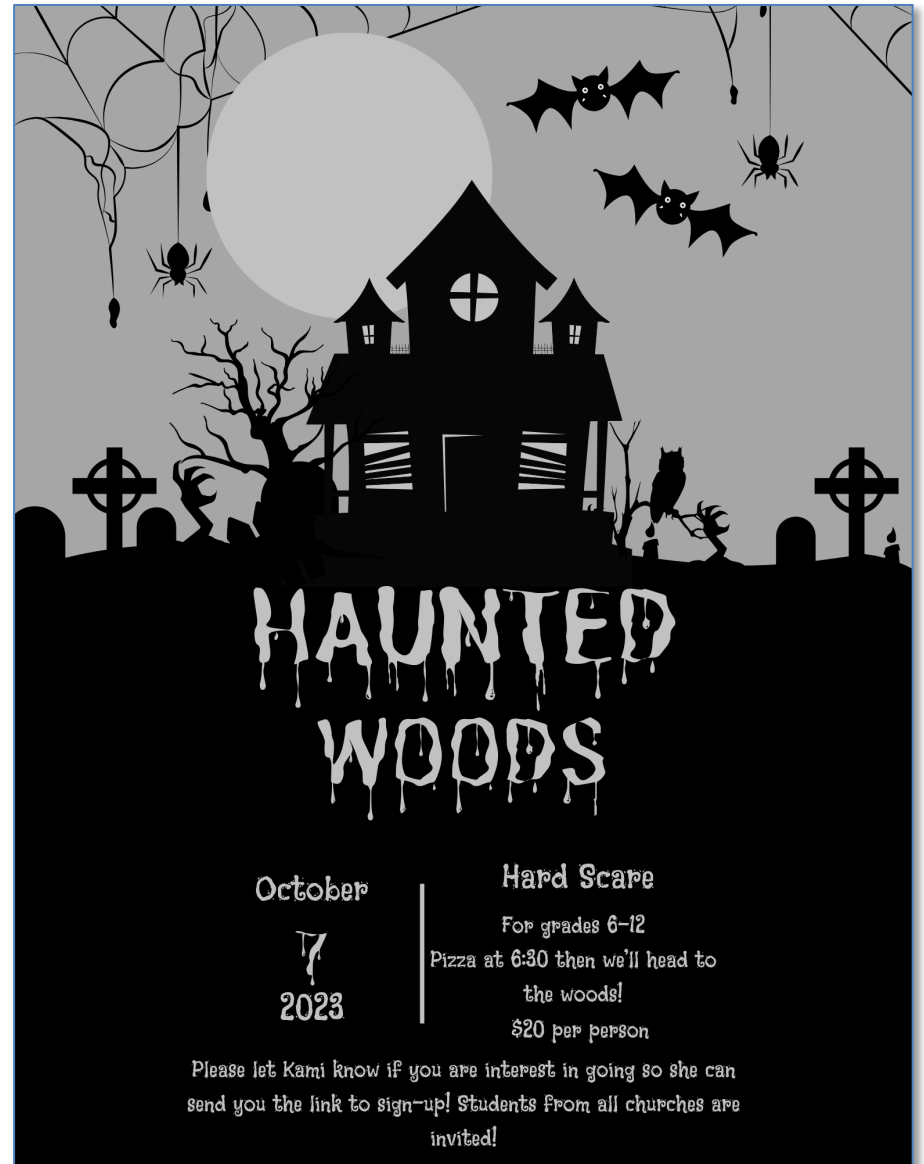
Stay informed. Do your own risk assessment. Consider masking/curtailing activities. Talk to your doctor about the new booster.

There is anti-viral medication that works well if you develop COVID. Remember to consider getting a prescription for the medication especially if you have several risk factors. It'll definitely decrease the severity of your illness and hopefully prevent long lasting effects. A new booster will be available soon.

There are free COVID testing kits available in the Faith Community Nurse office and through Pennington and Red Lake County Public Health and Home Care.

Be mindful of the tips and tricks to stay healthy and avoid the illness that occur in the fall. Happy Fall Y'All, Enjoy the cooler weather!

God's Blessings, Peace, and good Health.
Parish Health





Remind: Zion Sunday School 23-24 Class
Code: @zionsunday



UPCOMING EVENTS

Little Lambs -5th Grade Sunday School

10:00-11:00 6th & 7th Grade

Cornerstone 10:00-11:00

Church Service 9:00-10:00

****Parents are invited to stay for fellowship with muffins and coffee during the Sunday school hour! ****

Please remember to hand in your **registration forms** Sunday mornings to Amber or at the church office during the week.

Muffin lists were mailed out along with a welcome letter and a registration form. Please watch for your Sunday to bring two dozen muffins or baked goods. If you did not receive the letter, muffin list, or registration form, we have extra copies on the bulletin boards upstairs and downstairs.

Sunday school students will be singing Call to Worship on Sunday, October 15th, during the 9:00 worship service. Please have the students at the church by 8:40 in the fellowship hall to practice.

Cornerstone will sing Call to Worship Sunday, October 22nd, during the 9:00 worship service. Please have students at the church by 8:40 in the fellowship hall to practice.

2nd Graders will receive their Bibles during the church service Sunday, October 15th. Bible classes will be held October 1st and 8th for students and parents during the Sunday School hour. Please watch for a mailing for more details.

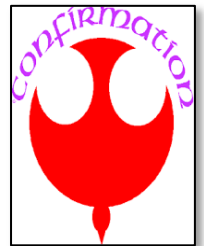
Operation Christmas Child - (watch for details)

Sunday School & Cornerstone **Christmas Program** - Sunday,
December 17

11th Grade Confirmation Retreat

October 1 at Zion

1:00-5:00



Confirmation Day – October 29



Food and Fellowship

October 15

Free-will donation to
youth programming

Served by 10th graders

Noisy Offering for October will go to Lutheran
Disaster Response for US Wildfire.

Confirmation

This will be our **Wednesday Schedule-**

5:15 - Meal/Fellowship

6:00 - Gathering in the Sanctuary

6:15 - Lesson, Prayer, Blessing, and Sending

7:30 - Dismissal

Confirmation News

Excited to get back and rolling with another year of confirmation with all of you!

Some dates to put on the calendar:

October 4 - 7:00 Adult and Youth Welcome Meeting

October 11 - Class

October 18 - MEA- No Class

October 25 - Class

8th Confirmation Students-

Saturday, October 28 - Serve at Confirmation Banquet

10th Confirmation Students -

Sunday, October 15 - Food and Fellowship

11th Grade Confirmation Dates:

Sunday, October 1- Confirmation Retreat 1:00-5:00

Wednesday, October 25- Pictures and Rehearsal (time tbd)

Saturday, October 28- Confirmation Banquet

Sunday, October 29- Confirmation Service

Confirmation Meals-

Kami will be making meals again this year for you to enjoy before confirmation class each Wednesday!

Meals will start at 5:15

October 11- Spaghetti and Meat Sauce

October 25 - Barbeques and Tater-Tots



Zion Lutheran's Congregational Council Meeting September 19, 2023

The Congregational Council Meeting was called to order by President Laura Rude at 5:30 pm. In attendance were President Laura Rude, Pastor Kristin Ostercamp, Denny Minks, Renae Franke, Mike Spears, Mike Flaagan, Glenice Johnson, Marijo Nabben, Deb Fulton, Penni Nelson, Patty Schob and Deb Holtan.

Pastor Kristin led the council in devotions and prayer.

The Secretary's Report from August 15, 2023, was presented. A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and filed for audit.

Pastor Kristin reminded the council of all council all board meeting scheduled for Tuesday October 3rd at 5:30. The council and boards as a whole will work on a "master calendar" for 2023-2024. Pastor Kristin asked that the boards stay strict with their scheduled meeting times. Policy updates for weddings and funerals are being put into place. Pastor Kristin would like to put into place a program called "MailChimp". This is another form of reaching out to Zion's members that is quicker and more efficient. There will be a Stewardship Committee that will work on the Fall Campaign which is "You have Heard it Said". Pastor Kristin will also be mentoring Rachel Roggenbuck in her work as a SAM for A New Journey Lutheran Parish in McIntosh/Gary area. This will take place in Thief River.

Silver Creek: Penni Nelson reported that the quilt raffle drawing will be at their fall dinner. Their 125th Anniversary celebration will be June 23, 2024.

Parish Health: The committee submitted their report. Patty Schob pointed out that Johnson's Funeral Home will do a pre-planning funeral presentation sometime this fall during coffee time. Blood Pressure screening started September 10th.

Worship Board: The board submitted their report. Deb Fulton stated that their board will take turns reaching out to find lesson readers for Sunday morning worship.

Properties Board: Mike Spears reported that the board put together most of the new Sunday School tables. The vinyl fence on the south side of the west parking lot is in need of repair. New carpet tiles have been looked at to replace the carpet in the main floor hallways, entry ways and the narthex. A bid was submitted for the project. A motion was made to accept the bid of \$25,002.61 for the carpeting by Glenice Johnson. The motion was seconded by Mike Flaagan. The motion carried.

Evangelism and Lay Ministry: Marijo Nabben submitted the boards report but highlighted the New Member Sunday Recognition will be on October 1, 2023. New Member Orientation will be Thursday evening September 28th in the lounge. Also Sunday October 8th the board is hosting a tailgate party for the Vikings and Chiefs football game with a chili and soup cook off making it a family fun day.

Parish Fellowship: Glenice Johnson submitted the boards report. The Pie and Dessert Auction will be Sunday November 19th, which is the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The new Sharing Servants booklets are available.

WELCA: Glenice Johnson reported that Zion hosted 103 attendees for the WELCA NW Synod Convention on Saturday September 9th. The theme was “Love Your neighbor As Yourself”. WELCA had their “kick off” session this morning (September 19th). The ladies will continue making the fleece blankets for the graduating seniors. Quilting begins Thursday the 21st at 1:00. Conference 2 Fall Gathering is Saturday October 21st at Faith Lutheran Church in Goodridge. Pick up date for the LWR will be Saturday November 4th here in Thief River Falls.

Public Relations Board: A report from the board was submitted. The board did not meet in September. The new directory should be shipped in the near future.

A motion was made by Mike Spears to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike Flaagan. The meeting adjourned at 6:41 after the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by
Deb Holtan, Council Secretary

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SUNDAY BROADCASTS 9 AM CABLE 3 9 KTRF BROADCASTS 12 NOON CABLE 37						
1 9 Zion Worship/Holy Communion/ New Member Recognition/ Sr Choir 10 Sunday School/ Cornerstone 10 2ND GR. BIBLE CLASS 10 Blood Pressure Screening in lounge 10 Coffee fellowship 10:30 Silver Creek Holy Communion 1:00 Confirmation Retreat 11th Grade	2 9 SAIL Exercise	3 9-12 FC Nurse Hours 12 Pastors text study 4 Parish Health Cmt. 5:30 ALL BOARDS MEETING	4 6 God's Joy Choir 6 Confirmation leaders mtg 7 Senior Choir 7 Confirmation meeting for parents & students	5 9 SAIL Exercise 9 Bible Study meeting 10 Prayer Shawl ministry 2-4:30 LSS respite care 1 Quilting/ LWR Workshop	6 8 Men's Breakfast/Biff's	7
8 9 Zion Worship/ 10 Sunday School/ Cornerstone 10 Nov. Sharing Servants meeting 10 2ND GR. BIBLE CLASS 10 Coffee fellowship 10:30 Silver Creek worship 3 - Chili/Soup Cook Off Family Event	9 9 SAIL Exercise Den meeting	10 9-12 FC Nurse Hours 12 Pastors Text Study	11 5:15 Confirmation Supper 6 Confirmation classes 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir	12 9 SAIL Exercise 2-4:30 LSS respite care	13 8 Men's Breakfast/Biff's	14
15 9 Zion Worship/Holy Communion/ Baptism/Sunday School Sings BIBLES PRESENTED TO 2ND GRADE 10 Sunday School/ Cornerstone 10-11:30 FOOD & FELLOWSHIP 10:30 Silver Creek Worship	16 9 SAIL Exercise Den meeting	17 9 WELCA Board 9-12 FC Nurse Hours 10 Women of Zion 12 Pastors Text Study 5:30 ZION COUNCIL	18 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir NO Confirmation – MEA	19 9 SAIL Exercise 12:30-4:30 LSS respite care 1 Quilting/ LWR Workshop	20 Newsletter Items Due 8 Men's Breakfast/Biff's	21 8:30 WELCA Fall Conf. Gathering Faith/ Goodridge
22 9 Zion Worship/Baptism 10 Sunday School/ Cornerstone 10 Coffee fellowship 10:30 Silver Creek worship	23 9 SAIL Exercise Kiwanis Autumn Gather- ing in fellowship hall Den meeting	24 9-12 FC Nurse Hours 10:30 Bereavement Group 12 Pastors Text Study 1:30 TRCC HC 2:30 Oakland Park HC	25 5:15 Confirmation Supper 6 Confirmation classes 6 11th Gr. Confirmation pictures 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir	26 9 SAIL Exercise 12:30-4:30 LSS respite care	27 8 Men's Breakfast/Biff's	28 4 wedding at Silver Creek 6 - 11th Grade Confirmation Banquet/ Faith Statements
29 CONFIRMATION/REFORMATION 9 Confirmation Worship/ Baptism/ Sr Choir 10 Sunday School/ Cornerstone 10 Coffee fellowship No Silver Creek worship	30 9 SAIL Exercise Pack meeting	31 9-12 FC Nurse Hours 12 Pastors Text Study				