

# Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

Zion Lutheran Church Hollidaysburg, PA 814~695~0091 www.zionhollidaysburg.org

"Proclaiming Jesus Christ and inviting people into life in his name; a life of worship, learning, fellowship, giving and witness."

\* Denotes when the congregation should stand.

The flowers on the altar have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory and thanks for Blaine Fahr by Shirley Fahr and Family.

#### NOTES ON LITURGY/MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRELUDE/MEDITATION

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.. C: Amen
- **P**: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**
- **P**: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- P: Gracious God, C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
- **P**: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **C**: **Amen**

#### \*THE ENTRANCE HYMN: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (Tune: Hyfrodol)

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king; born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

#### \*THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C And also with you.** 

#### \*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

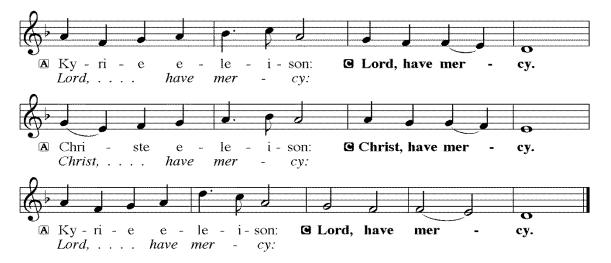
## Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel (LBW 34 Vs. 1)

1. Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice? Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

#### \*BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe. You sent your Son to be the Light of the world and to spread his light of love to all. Bless us and accept + this wreath of light. May it's ever increasing brightness be a sign to us of the approaching nearness of your Son, that we might prepare in joy for his humble birth in a manger and be ready to receive him at his coming again in glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C. Amen** 

#### \*KYRIE



#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." <sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" <sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

A: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

#### (Saturday) PSALMODY: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (Spoken)

You have been gracious to your | land, O LORD; you have restored the good for- tune of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>Truly, your salvation is very near to 1 those who fear you,

that your glory may dwell | in our land.

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together; righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth, and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity, and our land will | yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall go be-<sup>1</sup> fore the LORD and shall prepare for <sup>1</sup> God a pathway.

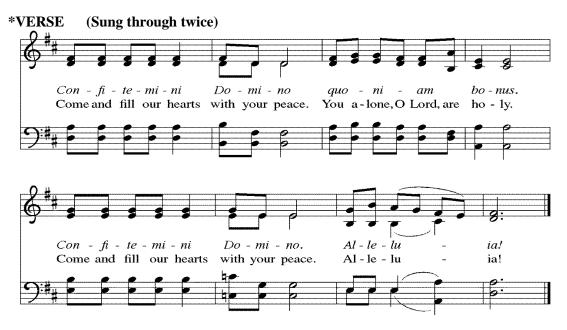
(8:00 & 10:45) PSALMODY: "Alleluia, Praise the Lamb" (Ethan Donlan)

#### SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire,

and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. <sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

A: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.



#### \*GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; <sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" <sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.



#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### **SERMON**

#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY "The King Shall Come" (LBW 33)



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright er than the ris ing morn when Christ, vic to rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright er than that glo rious morn shall dawn up on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau ty brings.



gilds the hills and life when beau - ty east - ern to joy a - wakes. that lights the morn-ing sky. but crowned with glo - ry like the sun lone-some place of death, de-spite the rage of foes. and left when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face. the day Hail. Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

#### \*APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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 INTERCESSION

A: Let us pray for the whole people ... according to their needs.

A: Lord, in your mercy. C: Hear our Prayer.

P: Into your hands ... through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

\*PEACE P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

(8:00 & 10:45) SPECIAL MUSIC "We Shall Behold Him" (Ethan Donlan)

#### \*DIALOGUE

- P. The Lord be with you. C. And also with you.
- P. Lift up your hearts. C. We lift them to the Lord.
- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

#### \*PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary.....and join their unending hymn.

#### \*SANCTUS



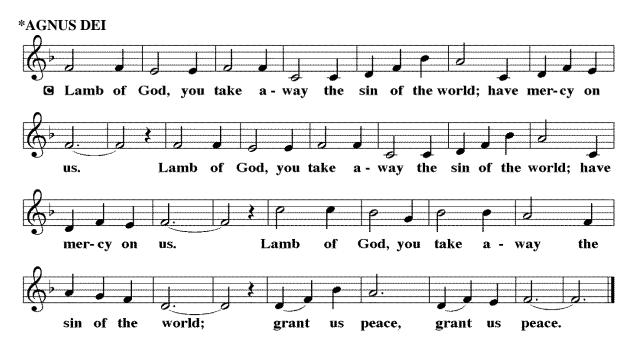
#### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

C: 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

#### \*INVITATION

P: Come, take your place at the table. C: Thanks be to God.



#### **COMMUNION**

# HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (LBW 45)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels:

#### Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

### 10:45 SPECIAL MUSIC "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Deb Bunnel

# HYMN "'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime" (L

1 'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled, that \*God the Lord of all the earth sent angel choirs instead; before their light the stars grew dim, and wond'ring hunters heard the hymn:

# (LBW 72)

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found; a ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round; but as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high: *Refrain* 

## Refrain

Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!

### HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (LBW 60)

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain* 

# Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

#### **HYMN** "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

- 1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.
- "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind; "Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind.

\*P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: Amen

## \* CANTICLE "Blessed Be the God of Isreal" (ELW 250 Vs. 1)

Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree. So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.

#### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. C: Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### \*BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. C: Amen

\*SENDING HYMN: "Prepare the Royal Highway" (LBW 26)



- 1 Pre pare the roy al high way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo ple, see him com ing: your own e ter nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o pen to greet your prom-ised king!
- 4 His is no earth ly king dom; it comes from heav'n a bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley lev - el a road pear! ap -Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing! Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring. is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, rule and His love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry: God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you! All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing: So let your praise be sound-ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



\*DISMISSAL: A: Go in Peace. Keep awake. C: Thanks be to God!

#### **POSTLUDE**

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The Ministers:
Pastor:
David Bowman
Organists/Accompanists:
David Bowman
David Bowman

Organists/Accompanists: Doug Rhodes
Gail Nedimyer

**Music Directors/Coordinators:** 

Special MusicDoug RhodesKOK ChimersRyan Custead

**STAFF** 

Dir. of Faith Formation & OutreachRyan CusteadSexton/CustodianRick FairheadAdministrative AssistantJoni Hammaker

## DAILY BIBLE READING

# December 11th thru December 17th

The following weekly Daily Bible Reading Guide is provided for your personal devotion.

11 — Zephaniah 1:1-18 12 — Zephaniah 2:1-15

13 — Zephaniah 3:1-20

14 — Malachi 1:1-14

15 — Malachi 2:1-17 16 — Malachi 3:1-18

Advent 3

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126 (3) or Luke 1:46b-55 (52)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

### This Week at $Z_{100} - 12/10/23 - 12/17/23$

# **Sunday 12/10**

8:00 a.m. Eucharist Service 9:00 a.m. NOIZ Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:45 a.m. Eucharist Service

## **Monday 12/11**

# Tuesday 12/12

5:00 p.m. Property Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer

## Wednesday 12/13

9:00 a.m. Stitch & Sew

9:00 a.m. Adult Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training

7:00 p.m. Cr@zy & Cr@zy Lite 7:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling

# **Thursday 12/14** 10:00 a.m. ThuMBS

6:30 p.m. Communication Board Meeting

7:00 p.m. CPC Meeting

### **Friday 12/15**

# Saturday 12/16

10:00 a.m. Pageant Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Eucharist Service

# **Sunday 12/17**

8:00 a.m. Eucharist Service

9:00 a.m. NOIZ Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:45 a.m. Eucharist Service (Pageant

Presentation)

1:00 p.m. Serving Squad

# PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please contact the church office or Pastor Dave with your prayer concerns. The office number is 695-0091.

# News from the Outreach Board!

The "**Serving Squad**" has been busy preparing meals for the Altoona Hope Drop-in Center. Many thanks to the volunteers who contributed to our success by providing ingredients and cooking in your kitchen and ours.

To date, we have donated 1884 individual meals and 1265 desserts to the Altoona Drop-In Center.

Twice a month we are asking members of the congregation to join us in cooking and packaging meals. We will continue to have a **sign-up sheet outside the Library for those who prefer to cook at home**. Also, **there is a giving tree outside the Library for donating grocery items** to be used for the meal.

The upcoming kitchen (Serving Squad) dates are: 12/17, 1/8 & 1/21 from 1 to 4 p.m. For December 17 we will be making Beefaroni/Goulash and asking for fruit & applesauce cups and dessert donations.

Please contact Lee Augustine for more information.

# **Giving Tree Project (Due Today)**

Thank you to everyone who took a tag from the Giving Tree!! This project is done in cooperation with the Home Nursing Agency. **Be sure to return your gift(s) to the church by Sunday, December 10th.** When you return your gift, place it in the box in the hall that matches the circled number on the front of the tag. If you have any questions please contact Linda Renney or anyone from the Adult Board. Thank you again for your kindness!

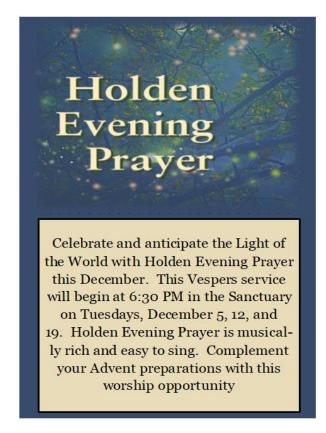


# STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING UPDATE

Please continue to keep our Stephen Minister trainees in your prayers as they continue to learn key skills to become better caregivers to those in need. They have passed the midway point in their training and have just covered topics including confidentiality and utilizing community resources. These men and women are committed to bring hope and healing to those who are hurting. Let's remember them as they carry out this important ministry.







# Christmas Pageant 2023

Believe it or not, it is time to start thinking about Zion's Christmas Pageant for 2023! We need children, youth, and a few parent/adult volunteers to make this pageant a success. Participating is a great way to help your child focus on faith in the Advent season. Please let Ryan Custead know at ryncust@gmail.com or at (814)695-0091 if your children will participate. Zion's pageants are always unique and fun, so watch for more info.



Pageant Schedule: Saturday, December 2nd from 10:00am-Noon Pageant practice Saturday, December 16th from 10:00am-Noon Pageant practice Sunday, December 17th @ 10:45am Pageant performance

# **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are looking for volunteers at the 10:45 service to run recording and streaming service equipment. No experience necessary and training is available.

Please contact Chuck Kormanski at 814-880-6411 if you are interested or have any questions.



## A Helping Hand

We are collecting gift cards to have on hand for families going through a rough time. They may be going through a medical situation that requires a lot of travel or just may be having some financial struggles. These families could use a helping hand with things like food and fuel to help ease the burden and give them one less thing to worry about. If you

would like to make a donation, what seems to work the best are Martins, Hometown Market, and Sheetz cards in \$10 to \$25 increments. Please bring the cards to the church office and we can get them to the families.

# **Christmas Caroling** Wednesday, 12/13 @ 7:00pm



Join Zion's youth and spread some joy! @ The Lutheran Home, 916 Hickory St.

On Wednesday, December 13th, all are invited to meet at The Lutheran Home at Hollidaysburg at 7:00pm. We will be singing some carols for the residents in the community room. Zion's youth groups, Cr@zy and Cr@zy "lite" invite Zion folks of all ages to join them! After singing and visiting with the residents, those who wish can "hit the streets" with us to sing some more carols. We will end back at the Lutheran Home at 8:30pm.



(Youth group grown ups, Cr@zy and Cr@zy "lite" are at the Lutheran Home, 916 Hickory St.)



# **FAITH RIDERS**

We invite anyone who might be interested in joining our group, the Faith Riders. It is a fun loving group who supports our youth. We meet on the last Saturday of the month for a local excursion or gather together for lunch. Please come join us! If you have any questions, please contact Carol Little at 814-695-

0284 or watch your bulletin for upcoming events.

#### **FAITH RIDERS NEXT EVENT**

Our Christmas Luncheon isset for December 16, at the U S Hotel. Time 12:00 p.m. If you plan on attending please call Carol Little at 814-695-0284 by December 10, Thank you

# Zion at Winter Jam 2024 Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>

Petersen Events Center, Pittsburgh

**Everyone** is invited to join Zion as we head to <u>Winter</u>

<u>Jam at the Petersen Events Center</u> on **Friday, January 19th**. The concert doors open at 6:00pm, so **we will be** 



meeting at the church at 3:15pm (or immediately after school dismisses. We won't leave without anyone!). We will return to the church somewhere around midnight. We will travel in the church van and a few additional vehicles, so transportation can be provided.

We will have sandwich dinners packed for everyone on the ride there. The cost of admission is covered, but you may want some money for a snack stop on the way home or any band merch. Winter Jam is an annual winter tour featuring a variety of contemporary Christian bands and artists. This is always a great event, and you won't want to miss it! Bands and artists this year include: Crowder, Lecrae, and more!

Please contact the church office at (814) 695-001 or email Ryan at <a href="mailto:ryncust@gmail.com">ryncust@gmail.com</a> to sign up with the names of who is joining us! **SIGN UP BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 12TH.** 

# The Life of Zion

Is your child in a play, club, activity, concert, race, or sport? The people of Zion would love to come support, cheer, and encourage your child as they grow through these events. The "Life of Zion" is a community calendar that lets the congregation know what's going on in the life of your family. Help us to foster more stakeholders in your child's life and more relational ministry in our congregation by sharing your activity calendars



with the office. Tell us what's going on so we can mark the community calendar and show up and offer our support!

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Everyone has been consistent with giving and we appreciate the dedication to the pledges. Some have fulfilled pledges yet continue to contribute. We've also received donations from many who did not make a formal pledge.



The total, which includes all donations through November 29,

2023 contributed to Zion's Capital Campaign, is \$362,227.61! This total includes donations from pledges and non-pledge givers. With Phase I expenditures of approximately \$275,000 deducted, there is now about \$87,000 available for Phase II.

Phase II is a complete renovation of the Kitchen, plus repairs and updates to the Men's and Woman's restrooms on the first floor. Phase III entails renovations to restrooms in the basement and on the 2 nd floor. It's a lot, so the Property Board is working every angle to make sure every dollar is well allocated.

# Offering Envelopes & Online Giving

2024 offering envelopes are now available. Please pick them up (and any you might be able to deliver to friends, neighbors and family) in the fellowship hall and discard any old ones. Using old envelopes may cause a discrepancy on your giving statement or someone elses, so please do not use them.

Also a reminder that the church has online giving available for a more streamlined giving option. You can define how your money is distributed just like on your giving envelopes. If you are interested in online giving please contact the church office.

If you cannot find your envelope box or you are a newer or prospective member who has not received envelopes yet, please call the church office and we will make sure you receive them.

# **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The Worship Board would like to remind the congregation of the sponsorship program for the flowers that are placed on the altar each week. You are welcome to sponsor the flowers in memory of loved ones, in honor of a special event, or in thanks for God's many blessings.

If you are interested in signing up, the sign-up sheet for the new year has been placed on the small bulletin board near the kitchen. Also, when you sign up, be sure to mark the column stating if you want to take the flowers after services.

There has been a price increase for 2024 with the new price being \$70. Our last price increase was in 2020. Checks can be made payable to Zion or you can include payment in your offering envelope by marking it "Altar Flowers". Thank you in advance for participating in this ministry.



