

## **In Our Prayers This Week**

It is so important that we remember one another in prayer. During this week, please focus your prayers on the following members who were picked randomly: Troy Cording, Michael and Pam Goes, Rachel Kuhn, Larry and Gail Melgary, Samantha Schroeder, Maureen and Bethany Wolf.



### **Flowers**

The flowers on the altar are given by Johanna Zuehls and are in honor of her 23rd wedding anniversary on Sunday.

Please call Zion's office (715-735-7898) or send an email ([Zion@newbc.rr.com](mailto:Zion@newbc.rr.com)) if you would like to sponsor the flowers for a specific Sunday. The cost is \$15.

## **What's Around the Corner?**

- Jan. 23:** Third Sunday after Epiphany. 9:30 a.m. indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special Music by Johanna Zuehls.
- Jan. 30:** Fourth Sunday after Epiphany. 9:30 a.m. indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Annual Meeting following.
- Feb. 6:** Fifth Sunday after Epiphany. 9:30 a.m. indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.
- Feb. 13:** Sixth Sunday after Epiphany. 9:30 a.m. indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary Worship.

## **Annual Congregational Meeting**

The Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30 beginning at 10:30 a.m. The Annual Report will be made available on Sunday, January 23.



### **SPARK Bible Story**

The SPARK Story Bible reading for Sunday, January 23, is found on page 252; "Jesus Goes to Nazareth" based on the reading from Luke 4:14-30.

## **Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays this Week**

January 27: Alexis Roth and Gabriel Roth

January 30: Carissa Kempka



## Questions of the Day for Sunday, January 30, Luke 4:21-30

*The Question of the Day helps prepare you for next Sunday's focus text. These questions are posted on Zion's website each day offering an opportunity for discussion. (Just click in the title of the post and you will be taken to the discussion window.) Try it out for a week and see how Jesus will use your time of pondering upon God's word to deepen your faith and enrich your worship experience.*

**Monday:** How would you feel if you found out an ancient prophecy was being fulfilled right before your eyes?

**Tuesday:** What did the question about Jesus being Joseph's son have to do with speaking well of him and being amazed at his gracious words?

**Wednesday:** Why wouldn't the people of his hometown want Jesus to do for them what he did in other places?

**Thursday:** Why is it that grace and favor shown to outsiders and those on the fringe tend to make people jealous?

**Friday:** Was their reaction a surprise to Jesus? Why or why not?

**Saturday:** Why might it have been possible for Jesus to pass through their midst if they were so swept up with killing him?



### Birthday Blessings to You

January 24: Pamela Lund and Tatem Schroeder

January 25: Beverly DeGroot and Denise Despins

January 26: Colleen Madden

January 30: Shirley Kaufman

### Thank you to our Worship Assistants

Thank you to Kathy Heimbuch for being our lector and to Michelle Larson for serving as our usher on Sunday.

If you'd like to volunteer to serve as lector or usher please contact Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017. The readings for the particular Sunday will be shared with you days in advance and a copy will be printed for you to use that particular Sunday. Pastor Keith will update you of the ushering duties prior to worship. Thank you for your consideration!

### Tithes & Offerings Jan. 11-17

General Fund: \$2,859.16    World Hunger: \$10

NEWCAP: \$5    Sanctuary Candle: \$13

Helping Hand Fund: \$141

Memorial Fund for Pastor Paul Holmstrom \$325

*Thank you so very much for your continued giving and generosity. Every little bit helps. You are making a difference!  
Again, thank you!*



## **Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Winter Events**

### **Disconnect to Reconnect: Junior/Senior High Retreat**

Technology is everywhere these days, there's just no way around it. Fortune Lake invites youth currently in grades 7-12 to take a break from screens and join us at camp for an unplugged retreat.

This one night retreat will be held February 4-5 and will feature Bible Studies, games, and camp style activities designed to encourage attendees to disconnect from their electronics and reconnect with the people around them.

Adult chaperones are encouraged to attend. This helps build relationships with your youth outside of your church walls. Please contact the FLLC office for more information at 906-214-2267. The registration deadline January 28 at by 5 p.m. People may [register online](#) as well.

### **Senior Days**

With the increased vaccination rate among the senior population in our area, we hope to safely gather for fellowship, learning, and a meal.

All are welcome! Come and join us for a day of wonderful conversation, delicious food, and great fun!

Senior Day is a wonderful way to reconnect with old friends and make a few new ones along the way. Gather in the Dining Hall from 10 am – 2pm and enjoy a delightful day at FLLC, including a devotion, program, lunch, and fellowship.

Dates: March 14 and May 9. \$10 donation per participant per session is requested.

People are asked to RSVP by the Friday before to (906) 214-2267

### **Nurturing Wholeness: Young Adult Retreat**

Fortune Lake's Nurturing Wholeness Retreat is open to young adults ages 18-26 and aims to do just that: allow time to recharge, center yourself, and provide opportunities for growth and learning in the realms of self care, emotional development, community, and spirituality.

Sessions offered include but are not limited to: yoga, meditation and journaling practices, cooking, communication skills, and much more.

The registration deadline is January 31 by 10 p.m. People may [register online](#) as well.

### **Building on Faith: Youth Retreat**

Join us for our youth retreat and have fun building in a multitude of ways! Fortune Lake's Building on Faith: Youth Retreat will take place February 25-26 and is open to children currently in grades 3-6.

The theme of the event encompasses winter fort building, fun group building challenges, and Bible Studies aimed to help your child expand upon the faith given to them by God. Attendees will enjoy playing in the wintery surroundings, meeting new people and making connections, and camp-style songs and games.

Adult chaperones are encouraged to attend. Please contact the office to begin the registration process and select lodging options: 906-214-2267.

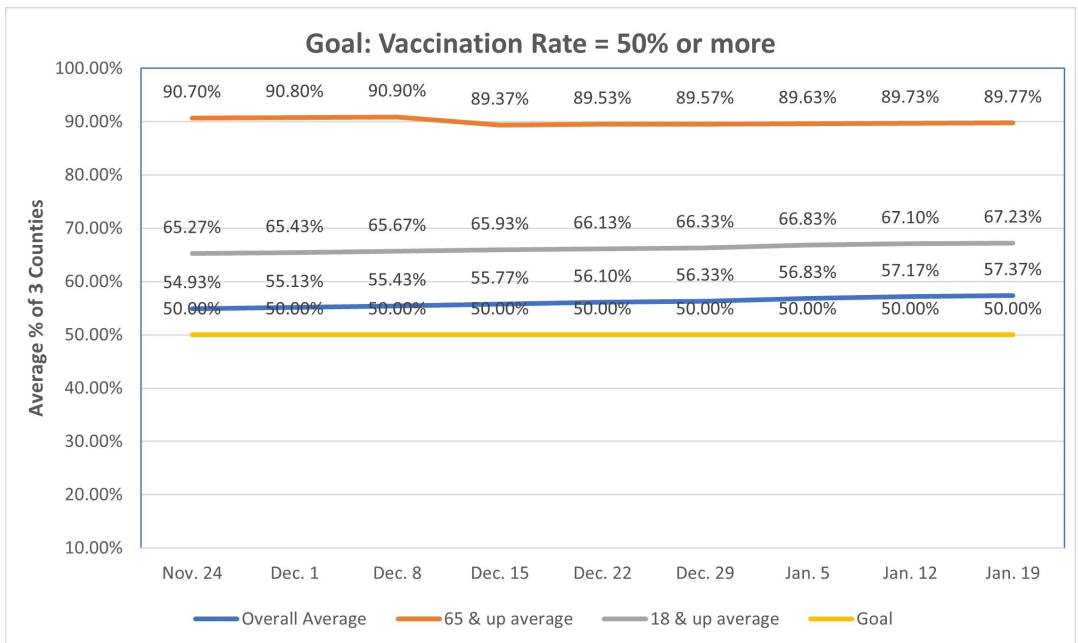
Registration deadline is February 17 by 5 p.m. People may [register online](#) as well.

## Indoor in-person worship: January 23, 2022

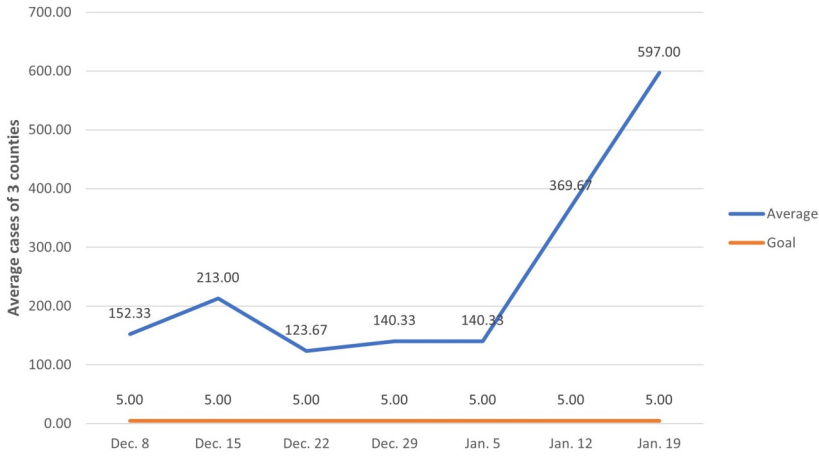
Indoor services will be held every other Sunday. Outdoor services will alternate with these indoor services. (If an outdoor service is cancelled because of weather, indoor worship will be available, first-come, first-served.) *At this time, Zion is no longer requiring you to reserve a pew for the in-person indoor worship. However, it is subject to change and is dependent upon the positive test rate, cases per 100,000 and the probability rate. Social distancing practices will continue to be used (no passing of the peace or offering plate, limited & soft singing).*

Please visit Zion's website to read the [Protocols for In-Person Indoor Worship](#) - all adults in attendance are required to wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth (the exception being Pastor who is leading worship). As always, if you have questions, please call Zion's office at: 715-735-7898 or send an email to: [Zion@newbc.rr.com](mailto:Zion@newbc.rr.com).

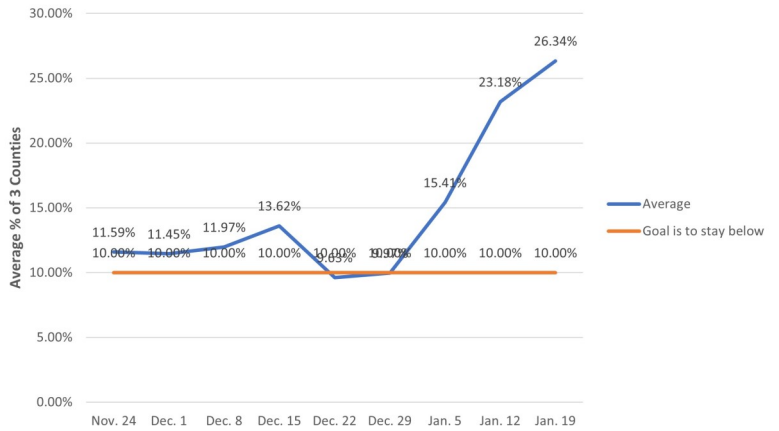
At this time, we acknowledge that there is some risk involved. Even though our local total population is 57.37% vaccinated which surpasses our safer goal of 50%; our 65+ age group is over our safe goal at 89.77%. The 18 & up vaccinated average is currently at 67.23%. We are also watching the test positivity rate. Our area's positivity rate is 26.34%, which rose significantly recently. Cases per 100,000 has risen significantly in the past week. Another measurement is a percentage of probability where, in a random gathering of 50 people, how likely is it that someone with COVID-19 would be present. Right now, there is a 95.33% chance of this happening. We feel that everyone's knowledge of the risk is important. We are publishing graphs in the weekly announcements that represent the average numbers of the following Counties: Oconto, Marinette and Menominee, MI. We are watching the trend of each graph with what are considered to be safer and safe goals in mind. The data used in the graphs are collected from the [CDC website](#) and from a [website tool](#) provided to us from our Northern Great Lakes Synod. Please make the time to familiarize yourself with the graphs/information. Should you have concerns, questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Zion's office.



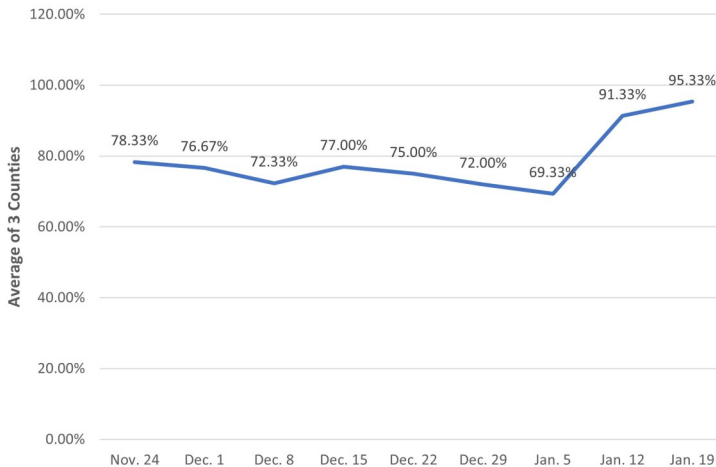
### Goal: Cases per 100,000 pop. less than 5



### Goal: Postivity Rate Less than 10%



### Probability of 1 Person in Attendance of 50 with COVID-19



## **ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response**

On Dec. 30, the Marshall Fire ignited in Boulder County, Colo. Over 6,200 acres burned quickly, forcing the evacuations of 35,000 people. The fire spread throughout suburban neighborhoods, destroying at least 500 homes. While December wildfires are rare, the severe drought in the western United States created hazardous conditions that allowed the Marshall Fire to spread rapidly. This unusual fire is one of the impacts of a changing climate and will become increasingly more common. Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with the Rocky Mountain Synod and Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains to respond to the impact of the fires. We anticipate that immediate needs will include emotional and spiritual care, temporary shelters, food and other necessities. With local partners, Lutheran Disaster Response will continue to accompany survivors throughout the years of long-term recovery. Your gifts will support wildfire survivors. Gifts to "U.S. wildfires" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires, until the response is complete. Or make a gift to "Lutheran Disaster Response" so we can respond to disasters whenever and wherever they strike. People may visit the [ELCA website](#) to make a donation virtually or find out other ways to give.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

## **SVdP "Clean out Your Closet"**



Area youths have joined together to encourage local residents to donate their used clothing items in order to give back to those in need in our communities.

From Jan. 10-23, used clothing can be dropped off at several local organizations to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store located in Downtown Marinette. The drive is being organized by three St. Vincent de Paul youth groups, the Mini Vinnies and Youth and Young Vincentians, who are encouraging the public as

well as all students at St. Thomas Aquinas Academy to join the effort to help our friends in need.

Donations may be dropped off at either St. Thomas Aquinas Academy office as well as three local Catholic parishes, Holy Family in Marinette, St. Mary's in Peshtigo, and SS Joseph and Edward in Walsh.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store supports five conferences in Oconto, Crivitz, Niagara, Marinette, and Menominee.

## **February Newsletter**

A friendly reminder that articles and information for publication in the February Newsletter are due to Zion's office by Friday, January 21st.

Thank you for your assistance!





### **Blood Drive**

The American Red Cross is facing a national blood crisis. Zion will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20.

Appointments are needed. [Schedule online](#) and search by zip code or call 1-800-733-2767.

Face masks are required, regardless of vaccination status. Valve face masks are not permitted. Face shields can be worn in addition to face masks but not as a substitute.

### **Souper Bowl of Caring**

Each year thousands of churches, schools, youth groups, local businesses, NFL teams and passionate individuals have participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring leading up to Super Bowl Sunday. Across the U.S. donations of money and food are collected for food pantries and shelters. You can help again this year by bringing food items to restock the pantry shelves. Ready-to-eat soup is great! Condensed soup is great! Boxed meals, microwaveable meals, pasta, beans, canned meat, fish, veg & fruit. You know the stuff. Bring it on Sundays and place it upfront by the altar. We'll collect right up to Super Bowl Sunday, February 6th. Thank you for sharing! To learn more about this national event, people can visit [tacklehunger.org](http://tacklehunger.org).



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*A member of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*