

# ZCS

JANUARY 31, 2025  
**WEEKLY**

## SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED!

Zion has an extreme shortage of substitute teachers for the 2024/2025 school year. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact Bob DeRuiter at [bderuiter@zionchristian.net](mailto:bderuiter@zionchristian.net).

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

As we enter the winter season, we wanted to remind you that all school closings will be reported on WOOD TV, WZZM, and WWMT. Closings will also be announced on Zion's Facebook page and an email will be sent out through FACTS to all families.

## KINDERGARTEN TESTING

Zion will hold kindergarten testing for the 2025-2026 school year on **April 15**. This testing is required for all new students enrolling in kindergarten next fall. Contact the office to schedule an appointment. Zion JrK students will be tested on March 26. No appointment is needed for current students.

## LOST AND FOUND

The Lost and Found is OVERFLOWING! Please take time to stop in and see if you are missing anything! Whatever is left will be donated on Friday, February 7.

## RE-ENROLLMENT

To ensure that all of our returning families have an opportunity to re-enroll before new family applications are accepted, the re-enrollment process will take place in the month of February. To guarantee your re-enrollment for next year, please complete your online-enrollment and submit your \$50 re-enrollment fee as soon as possible. Approval for new family enrollment applications will begin March 1.

You will be getting an email on Monday, February 3, letting you know that re-enrollment is open. At that time, you can log into the Family Portal page and click on Apply/Enroll, click the Enroll widget on the app, or use the link at the end of the Weekly. Update as much information as you are able to ensure that our records are up-to-date. You must fill in each required field.

You will be charged a nonrefundable \$50 fee per family if the form is completed by Feb. 28. Starting March 1, the fee increases to \$100 per family. Thank you for your diligence in completing this process in a timely way.

## HOMECOMING

Homecoming is NEXT WEEK! Students in grades 7-12 will have the opportunity to participate in fun activities and spirit days. This year's theme is Rivalry Week. Each day has a dress-up theme, which is as follows:

**Monday:** Past vs. Future

**Tuesday:** Board Games vs. Video Games

**Wednesday:** Tropical vs. Arctic

**Thursday:** Heroes vs. Villains

**Friday:** White Out

Reminder: Juniors and Seniors **will not** be able to leave campus on Wednesday for lunch due to homecoming activities, so please plan on bringing a lunch for that day.

Zion is excited to invite EVERYONE to our annual homecoming basketball games. From students, alumni, parents, grandparents, friends, and anyone else who is a fan of Zion, it will be a night of FUN!

WHEN? Friday, February 7 starting at 4:00pm

WHERE? Zion's Gym

Zion mailed out postcards to all alumni, so be on the lookout! If you bring this postcard to the game, you will receive free admission and a bag of free popcorn!

## HOT LUNCH

Please remember to check the Family Portal to make sure you ordered a hot lunch for your student(s) on a particular day.

Keep in mind when placing your hot lunch orders that the deadline to order is midnight on Monday of the week prior to the lunch week.

Week of February 3:

**Monday** - Pepperoni Bagel Pizza

**Tuesday** - French Toast

**Wednesday** - Mac & Cheese

**Thursday** - Corn Dog

**Friday** - Senior Pizza Hot Lunch

Hot lunch is currently looking for several volunteers to help out in the kitchen and to serve our kids - especially on Mondays! It would be from approximately 11:30am - 1pm. If you are interested, please contact Erica Nijenhuis at [enijenhuis@zionchristian.net](mailto:enijenhuis@zionchristian.net).

## SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to all finalists for a job well done this week at the Spelling Bee. Also, a special congratulations to Quinn Petter, who was the runner-up, and Esther Postma, who was the overall winner of the 2025 spelling bee! Quinn and Esther will represent Zion Christian School at the Kent County regional spelling bee.

## SAT RETAKE DATES

Zion encourages seniors who wish to retake the SAT to register through College Board. The cost is \$68 if signed up before the registration dates. Please see the following retake dates and registration due dates for the SAT:

- March 8 Register by February 21

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Grace Edouard at [gedouard@zionchristian.net](mailto:gedouard@zionchristian.net).

## ZION INFO NIGHT

Zion's Info Night is postponed to Thursday, February 6 starting at 6:30 with school tours and an info meeting at 7:15. We would like to personally reach out to some families to invite them to come and see Zion. Contact the office if you would like some postcards to share with your family and friends from church or your community who might be interested in Zion. Word of mouth is our strongest advertiser! We appreciate your help in sharing the benefits of Zion Christian School.

## ROLLER SKATING PARTY

Zion will be having a roller skating party on Monday, February 3! The elementary students can skate from 5:00-7:00pm and the 7th-12th grade students can skate from 7:00 - 9:00pm. We will be skating at the GR Skate and Event Center (3651 84th St. SW Byron Center, MI 49315). We need volunteers to supervise, so if you are interested, please contact Mary DeBoer at [mdeboer@zionchristian.net](mailto:mdeboer@zionchristian.net). Please refer to the flyer attached to the Weekly for rental costs and concessions.

## CULVER'S FUNDRAISER NIGHT

On Monday, February 3, Zion Christian School will partner with Culver's for a fundraiser. The Culver's on 84th St. will donate a portion of ALL sales from 5-8pm. This is the same night as the roller skating party, so make sure to come before or after skating to Culver's for some dinner!

## PI RUN

Registration is now OPEN for the ZCS Mountaineer Pi Run on Saturday, April 19! Supporting Zion Christian School Boosters, this run/walk is 3.14 miles (.04 miles longer than a traditional 5K) and offers the bonus of receiving not only a 2025 Pi Run T-Shirt but also a slice of homemade pie.

You can enter by either filling out the attached registration form or registering online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/ByronCenter/zcsmountaineerpirun>. FOR JANUARY ONLY, we are taking \$5 off (\$30 per registrant instead of \$35) as a "resolution special."

Additionally, if you or your business is interested in sponsoring this event, please fill out the attached Sponsorship Form and drop/mail it to the ZCS office. Any questions can be directed to Karla Suwyn at [kjsuwyn@gmail.com](mailto:kjsuwyn@gmail.com).

## YEARBOOK

The yearbook sale is early this year running from February 3 - April 25. Yearbooks ordered this spring will be delivered in the fall. The early-bird discount of \$30 will last through March 7. Yearbooks ordered from March 10 until April 25 will cost \$35. An order form is attached to the Weekly and available on ParentsWeb. Payment must be turned in with the order form. Anyone who orders a yearbook will receive an autograph supplement, which can be signed by classmates and friends this spring and inserted into the yearbook in the fall.

### FEBRUARY

- 6 - Info Night
- 7 - Homecoming
- 21 - Winter Break - No School
- 28 - Donuts with Dad

### MARCH

- 11 - Soup Supper
- 13-15 - School Play
- 18 - Elementary Science Fair
- 24 - Start of 4th Quarter
- 25 - School Day SAT

### CHAPEL

#### February

- 7 - Dave VanderMeer
- 14 - Singing Chapel
- 21 - No School

## O CHURCH ARISE CONFERENCE

O Church, Arise conference is back! On March 21-22, 2025, Professor Barry Gritters will be speaking on multiple different topics. Please refer to the flyer at the end of the Weekly for more details!

## CARDBOARD BOXES NEEDED

Please consider recycling your extra cardboard boxes for use in this year's School play by bringing them in for Miss Winter. Boxes can be of various sizes/conditions, with or without writing on the outside.

## BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross has an urgent need for blood donations. To help meet this need, Zion is hosting a blood drive in our gym on Wednesday, March 5, from 12:00pm - 5:45pm. To schedule appointments please contact one of our student leaders, Sam Deutschmann ([samanthadeutschmann@zionchristian.net](mailto:samanthadeutschmann@zionchristian.net)), or Kyle Kleyn ([kylekleyn@zionchristian.net](mailto:kylekleyn@zionchristian.net)). Or go directly to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter ZionCS. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

## FINDING YOUR VOCATION

Young People and Young Adults: Covenant URC would like to invite you to a presentation and discussion from Rev. W. Boekestein, on Sunday February 23 after the evening service, on the subject "Finding Your Vocation." Rev. Boekestein recently published a book on this subject (each attendee will receive a free copy). We will begin at 7:00 PM with food and fellowship in our church basement beforehand. Feel free to join us for worship, beginning at 5:30. Our address is 58 100th St. SW, Byron Center, MI. To help us plan for food, please RSVP before February 10; email [clerk.curcb@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.curcb@gmail.com) or text 616-591-6112.

## COLLEGE, CAREERS, DOLLARS, & SENSE

On March 20, at 7PM, Zion Christian School will host a panel discussion on the challenges and opportunities of college admissions today and what happens next. The panel will consist of admissions representatives from three local colleges, and one talent acquisition expert from one of the largest companies in Michigan, and will be moderated by Mrs. Edouard, ZCS Guidance Counselor. It is open to all high school students (grades 9-12) and their parents, as well as to all elementary grades. There will be Q&A and refreshments afterwards. Attendance is free of charge, but seating is on a FCFS basis.

## ZCS APP

After months of planning, Zion Christian School has an app that helps with staying up to date with school news, events, and announcements, as well as purchasing lunch items, viewing/paying tuition, receiving real-time notifications about school activities and updates, and much more.

We will be transitioning to this app for our main form of communication in the next few months, so scan the QR code to download the app! Use your Family Portal login info with zcs-mi as the district code. This is Family Portal in your pocket! Adding your calendar to the widget will show all of your subscriptions. Reminder: this app is specifically for parents and students. It will not be beneficial to extended family members.



## SOCCER LEAGUE OPPORTUNITY

Did you know South Christian is developing youth leagues that are open to all surrounding schools in the area to expose kids at a younger age to different sports in a Christian-led environment? This is NEW and is open to ZION families! Soccer registration has just opened for boys and girls ages K-4th grade. Below is the link and attached is a flyer to sign up. They also try to keep school kids together, so recruit your Zion classmates and build a team!

# ZCS

# TEAM

## SCHEDULES

## COACHES NEEDED

Please prayerfully consider coaching middle school boys baseball this spring. If you are interested, or know someone who could be a great fit, please contact our Athletic Director Joel Bont at [jbont@zionchristian.net](mailto:jbont@zionchristian.net).

## BOOSTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Next year, ZCS Athletic Boosters is looking for about 5 more volunteers to help lead our athletic programs. Boosters meet about once a month and help plan about 5-6 fundraisers a year. Please prayerfully consider joining Boosters. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Vander Wall or Eric Wierenga.

## BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

- Tuesday, February 4 - Home vs Tri-Unity Christian High School @ 4:00

## BOYS JV BASKETBALL

- Tuesday, February 4 - Away vs Galesburg-Augusta High School @ 5:00
- Friday, February 7 - Home vs Sacred Heart Academy @ 4:00

## BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

- Tuesday, February 4 - Away vs Galesburg-Augusta High School @ 6:30
- Friday, February 7 - Home vs Sacred Heart Academy @ 7:00

## GIRLS 7TH GRADE BASKETBALL

- Tuesday, February 4 - Away vs Potter's House Middle School @ 4:00

## GIRLS 8TH GRADE BASKETBALL

- Tuesday, February 4 - Away vs Potter's House Middle School @ 5:15
- Thursday, February 6 - Away vs Calvary Schools of Holland @ 4:30

## GIRLS JV BASKETBALL

- Tuesday, February 4 - Home vs Muskegon Catholic Central @ 5:30

## GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

- Tuesday, February 4 - Home vs Muskegon Catholic Central @ 7:00
- Friday, February 7 - Home vs Sacred Heart Academy @ 5:30

## SPORTS BOOSTERS

Signup for the Winter sports is now open. If you would like to help out the sports boosters and do not have anyone in sports you can still help out either with concessions or admissions. You can sign up at <https://signup.com/go/SPnHMgj> Any questions you can email or text Mike ten Haaf at 616-617-2294 or [mtenhaaf@yahoo.com](mailto:mtenhaaf@yahoo.com) Thank you for your help.

## SPORTS' SEASONS PASSHOLDERS

The Zion Christian School Boosters is moving to a "passless" system; the Admissions volunteers will have a printed list of the season passholders and will verify your pass at the entrance to the game.

This means that if you purchased a ZCS Sports' Pass and are attending a home game, you only need to tell the Admissions' volunteer your name and that you are a season passholder. Please note that each game most likely has a new volunteer on duty; please be patient with each volunteer as they search for your name and verify your pass. 😊

If you have any questions about this new process or would like to purchase a season pass, please reach out to Karla Suwyn at [kjsuwyn@gmail.com](mailto:kjsuwyn@gmail.com). We appreciate your contributions and commitment to Zion Christian School athletics!