



# Zion Lutheran School Newsletter

**April 8th , 2026**

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ZLS Website: [zlsnampa.org](http://zlsnampa.org)

ZLS Families,

The past couple of months, the homeroom teachers have been writing articles on aspects of classical education. will each write a newsletter article on one aspect of classical education.

The third article in this series is by Mrs. Sarah Allwardt, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade teacher on “Grati Tuesdays”.

Enjoy!

Headmaster

Mr. Joshua Swigart

## **ZLS Prayer Requests and Praise of Thanks:**

- \* Continued healing for Mrs. Bockenstette’s recovery from shoulder surgery and recent illness, Ellie Hudnall’s maternal grandmother Roxanne, who continues to battle cancer with weekly infusions, Ellie’s mom - Katie, for a safe pregnancy ; Ellie’s dad - Mike for his back, the Tomayer Family with the recent passing of the students' great uncle, Chase Fagenstrom’s stepdad Chris Thelander, Natalie Hastriter’s grandma who is going through cancer treatment, Youssef’s mom Wendy Montgomery who is dealing with recent injuries, Pastor & Mrs. Rippy’s parents, their cousin Jessica, and Mrs. Rippy’s brother in-law Kyle Eden, Mrs. Alverson’s Aunt Millie and her cousin Sue. Mr. Swigart’s young niece, Audrey who is experiencing breathing issues, for the Hogaboam family as they mourn the passing of Rick Hogaboam, Mrs. Allwardt’s neighbor and veteran Bill Dudman who is in the final stages of hospice.
- \* Praise God for healing many of the staff, students, and families who battled illnesses during the 3rd quarter, and for Mrs. Swigart’s pregnancy.

An article from our 2nd, 3rd, & 4th grade homeroom teacher, Mrs. Sarah Allwardt:

### “Grati Tuesdays”

Grati what? How does that fit into Classical Education?

*“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”*

*1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)*

On any given Tuesday morning, you will find the 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> graders in Mrs. Allwardt’s class deep in thought and writing in their “Grati Tuesday” journals.

Grati Tuesday is our term for grateful Tuesdays. The class can write about anything they are grateful for without repeating a topic. We have the traditional topics: family, pets, friends, and unique topics as well: pencils, clouds, chickens, backpacks, and oh so much more! It is fun to see what each student is grateful for on a weekly basis.

The students have learned to follow a writing “recipe” that will help them as they leap into other types of writing essays. Students are also encouraged to share their entries. Oral sharing has built students' confidence to share in a friendly environment and develop the art of speaking in front of an audience.

Journaling fits into the Trivium by providing a relaxed environment for learning the mechanics of Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric in public speaking. Gratitude Journals help to link writing skills with spiritual and emotional formation \*Memoria Press

The following is a “Grati Tuesday” writing by one student: (unedited)

*I am grateful for Math for the following reasons. First, it is fun, second, I like to finish it at school, Finally, it takes a while to complete it.*

*I am grateful for Math because it’s fun. The questions are easy and fun to do.*

*Second, I am grateful for math, I like to finish it at school. It is challenging and fun and I don’t like to finish it for homework!*

*Finally, I am grateful for math when it takes a while to complete it. I can do it between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> recess! I’m glad it’s long so my brain won’t get bored! (out of the mouths of babes) 😊*

*In conclusion I am grateful for Math because it’s fun, I like to finish it at school, and it takes a while to complete it. I like Math!*

I hope that the students will continue to foster daily reflection in writing to appreciate and communicate truth, goodness, and beauty in their daily lives.

# CERTE DE FASTIS

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 March  Palm Sunday	30 March  <b>3rd Quarter Parent Teacher Conferences (3:15 - 4:30 )</b>	31 March  <b>3rd Quarter Parent Teacher Conferences (4:15 - 4:45 )</b>	1  <b>3rd Quarter Parent Teacher Conferences (3:15 - 4:30 )</b>	2  <b>3rd Quarter Parent Teacher Conferences (3:15 - 4:30 )</b>	3  <b>NO SCHOOL Good Friday</b>	4
5  Easter Sunday	6  <b>NO SCHOOL Easter Monday</b>	7	8	9	10  <b>PTF Mtg 3:15 Prep for Spring Carnival</b>	11  PTF Spring Carnival 11 am to 1pm
12	13	14	15  2026-27 Return Family Enrollment <b>Last Day</b>	16  Jog-a-thon Teacher Fundraiser 1:15 to 2:45 pm PK - 9th grade	17  Irish Dance Group 2:15 pm	18
19	20	21	22	23	24  Nampa <b>Christian Track Meet</b> 9 am - 2 pm 3rd - 6th grades	25
26	27	28	29  4th Quarter Mid term	30	1 May	2 May  SB Fundraiser Chili Cookoff & Dessert Auction 5-8 pm

<b>30th Mar - 2 Apr</b>	<b>Parent Teacher Conferences - M, T, W&amp; TH</b>	<b>3:15 - 4:30 pm</b>
<b>2nd, 16th, &amp; 30th</b>	<b>ZLS Chess Club</b>	<b>07:00 - 07:45 am</b>
<b>3rd &amp; 6th</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL - Good Friday &amp; NO SCHOOL - Easter Monday</b>	
<b>10th</b>	<b>PTF (Parent Teacher Fellowship) Meeting</b>	<b>3:15 - 4:00 pm</b>
<b>10th</b>	<b>Prep for Spring Carnival</b>	<b>12:00 - 3:00 pm</b>
<b>11th</b>	<b>ZLS PTF Spring Carnival</b>	<b>11 am - 1 pm</b>
<b>16th</b>	<b>Jog-A-Thon Teacher Fundraiser</b>	<b>1:15 - 2:45 pm</b>
<b>17th</b>	<b>Irish Dance Group</b>	<b>2:15 pm</b>
<b>24th</b>	<b>Nampa Christian Track Meet (3rd-6th grades)</b>	<b>09:00 am - 2:00 pm</b>
<b>29th</b>	<b>4th Quarter Mid Term</b>	

# CERTE DE FASTIS

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 April	27 April	28 April	29 April 4th Quarter Mid-term	30 April	1	2 SB Fundraiser <b>Chili Cookoff &amp; Dessert Auction</b> 5-8 pm
3  <b>Students Sing</b> at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boise 09:40 am	4 Bridge Students Attend Iowa Testing of Basic Skills (3rd - 9th)  Football Game & Cheerleading	5  Iowa Testing of Basic Skills (3rd - 9th)	6  Bridge Students Attend Iowa Testing of Basic Skills (3rd - 9th)	7  Iowa Testing of Basic Skills (3rd - 9th)	8 Make up Day for  Iowa Testing of Basic Skills (3rd - 9th)	9
10  Mother's Day	11	12	13	14  PTF Meeting 3 :15 pm Officer Voting	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25  <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Memorial Day	26	27  <b>Academic Fair Rehearsal</b> (Preschool - 9th) 5:30 - 7:00 pm	28  <b>Academic Fair</b> (Preschool - 9th) 5:30 - 7:00 pm	29  <b>PTF End of the Year BBQ</b> (11 am) <b>Last Day of School</b> (12 pm) Dismissal	30

<b>3rd</b>	<b>Students Sing at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church</b>	<b>09:40 am</b>
<b>4th - 8th</b>	<b>Iowa Testing of Basic Skills</b>	
<b>7th</b>	<b>Last Day for ZLS Chess Club</b>	<b>07:00 - 07:45 am</b>
<b>14th</b>	<b>PTF Meeting - Voting for 26-27 PTF Officers</b>	<b>3:15 pm</b>
<b>25th</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day</b>	
<b>28th</b>	<b>Academic Fair (Preschool - 9th grades)</b>	<b>5:30 to 7:00 pm</b>
<b>29th</b>	<b>PTF End of School BBQ</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>
<b>29th</b>	<b>End of 4th Quarter / Last Day of School</b>	<b>12: 00 pm Dismissal</b>

# NUNTIUS - ANNOUNCEMENTS:

## ♦ 2025-26 Zion Lutheran School 12th Ave Security Wall update:

1. The chain links on each end of the wall, will be wall height.
2. Shrubbery will be placed in front of chain links to give the wall uniformity.

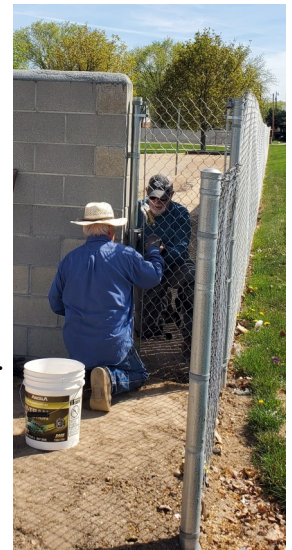
Taking down the old fence and starting to build the new security wall .



Completing the security wall with the exception of the landscaping.



Thank you ZLC & ZLS Trustee Dave Little & to Justin Rubelt - Dave's long time friend & Zion supporter who are putting the finishing touches on the chain link fence portions at each end of the security wall.



## CONMEMORATIOS - REMINDERS:

- ◆ **Return Family 2026-27 Enrollment is Open:**
- Starting February 2nd, Return Family Enrollment Packets were handed out to all Families.
- Starting February 26th, Return Family Additional Information Packets were handed out that included the 2026-27 Enrollment Application, Family Service Hours and Uniform Policies, Classroom Supply Lists, Bridge Program information, and a Headmaster Letter introducing the 2026-27 Teachers and Staff .
- The Deadline for Return Family enrollment is April 16th, 2026.
- To complete the 2026-27 Enrollment, the following items need to be turned in preferably at the same time:
  - Enrollment Check made out to ZLS with 26-27 Enrollment Fee in the memo line
  - Christian Culture Form
  - Enrollment Application
  - Updated Immunization Record, or a current Immunization Exemption Form for each child.
- ◆ **Family Service Hours Policy** - School Board approved on 2-23-26, and handed out in return family additional information packets on 2-26-2026.

In an effort to help community events and improve the cleanliness and beauty of our campus, Zion Lutheran School families are asked to complete 15 service hours each year. Families receiving financial assistance from ZLS are asked to complete 30 hours. The consequence for uncompleted hours is a \$10-per-hour fee that will be charged in FACTS. All service hours must be completed and recorded by May 31st of each school year. Families will be eligible to apply for financial assistance for the following school year when service hours are complete.

### **2025/26 School Year**

2025/26 families have been asked to complete family service hours. All uncompleted hours will be added to the required hours in 2026/27, and the fee for uncompleted hours from both years will be charged at the end of the 2026-27 school year.

- ◆ **Hot Lunch Program:** Please include eating utensils in your child's lunches, if they are bringing a lunch from Home.

## CONMEMORATIOS - REMINDERS:

- ◆ **ZLS Dinner Invite Contact Sheet:** During the September 4th, ZLS Fellowship Night, Mr. Swigart introduced a family dinner contact sheet. Over the course of this school year, the following families have provided their contact information:

	<b><u>Family Name</u></b>	<b><u># of Adults</u></b>	<b><u># of Kids</u></b>	<b><u>Phone #</u></b>	<b><u>Email</u></b>	<b><u>Food Allergies</u></b>
1.	The Swigart's	(2)	(2)	541-971-9492	swigartfam@gmail.com	Gluten
2.	The Hudnall's	(2)	(3)	480-703-2306	kpmmcCarthy257@gmail.com	None
3.	The Richardson's	(2)	(2)	208-406-0018	scout321@gmail.com	None
4.	The Thelander's	(2)	(3)	208-779-6564	cbtf2927@gmail.com	None
5.	The Virgin's	(2)	(3)	208-941-0423	mandyschorzman@gmail.com	Dairy - Child
6.	The Tomayer's	(2)	(3)	208-995-6655	jstomayer@gmail.com	None
7.	The Carter's	(2)	(2)	208-631-3572	andrea@abmcarter.net	None
8.	The Swan's	(2)	(1)	720-318-3861	christin-nelson@att.net	None

- ◆ Enjoy the sunshine and fellowship outside with your fellow ZLS families as we transition into spring and over the summer.

## CONMEMORATIOS - REMINDERS:

- ♦ **2025-26 PTF Spring Carnival: Saturday, April 11th** from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.
    - Sign Up Sheets for attending and volunteering to set up on April 10th, and running a booth on April 11th, are in the front entrance of the school.
- We look forward to seeing you there and having fun!



- ♦ **Zion CCLE Practicum: Friday & Saturday June 26th, and 27th**
  - \* Zion Lutheran School will be hosting a CCLE Practicum conference on June 26-27, 2026, at Zion Lutheran Church and School. The conference theme is “Fathers and Mothers: God’s Chosen Educators.” This Conference will look at the theology and practice of education with a special focus on the parental duties of education. Come hear presentations on the roles of parents and schools in education, the complementary roles of fathers and mothers, parent-led worship and devotions in the home, educating in accordance with God’s design, and the importance of choosing good friends for children. For more information, visit <https://www.ccle.org/practicum>

Register Today!

# GRATULATIONE - CONGRATULATIONS

- ◆ **ZLS March Virtue “Fortitude” Award Winners:**

Congratulations to Emma Tomayer representing PK - 2nd grades, and to Isaiah Agenbroad representing, 3rd - 9th grades, for receiving the March Virtue “Fortitude” award.

- ◆ The Virtue Luncheon is scheduled for April 21st, 2026 with the students and families of our virtue winners.



- ◆ **The April and final Virtue for 2025-26 is “Christian Culture” :**

## **Christian Culture Award**

This award will be given to one older student and one younger student who exemplify the faith and virtues emphasized at Zion Lutheran School. These students demonstrate leadership in their faith in God, love for others, and the classical virtues taught at ZLS. They show respect to teachers, staff, and parents, and consistently treat their classmates with kindness. They pursue truth, work diligently in their studies, and carry themselves with humility and integrity.

Overall, this award honors students who embody the mission of Zion Lutheran School.

**Presentation:** This annual award will be presented each year at the ZLS Academic Fair (or graduation starting in spring 2028).

# GRATULATIONE - CONGRATULATIONS

- ◆ **ZLS 3rd QTR Honor Roll Award Recipients (3rd - 9th A's with no more than 3 B's):**  
Congratulations to Isaiah Agenbroad and Jack Rhoades - 4th, Charles Rhoades and Ava Tomayer - 5th, James Carter and Jacob Tomayer- 9th .



- ◆ **ZLS 3rd QTR Headmaster Award Recipient (3rd - 9th All A's):**  
Congratulations to Ava Perron - 7th grade for earning the Headmaster Award!



# GRATULATIONE - CONGRATULATIONS

## ◆ ZLS 3rd QTR Perfect School Attendance Recipients:

Congratulations to Alaina Glenn - K, Elizabeth Hudnall - 1st, Emma Tomayer - 2nd, Youssef Abdelaziz - 3rd, Ava Tomayer - 5th, and James Carter - 9th .



## ◆ ZLS 3rd QTR Perfect Church Attendance Recipients:

Congratulations to Elizabeth Hudnall - 1st, Evelyn Rhoades and Emma Tomayer - 2nd, Jack Rhoades - 4th, Ava Tomayer - 5th, Lisette Carter and Evangeline Richardson - 6th, and James Carter - 9th .



# GRATULATIONE - CONGRATULATIONS

## ◆ Nampa Women's Century Club Art and Writing Contest Winners:

Congratulations to Iris Fredricey Mulberry in HSE - PE 3rd grade for receiving a 1st Place Ribbon & \$25 and to Dylen Larsen - 2nd Grade for receiving a 2nd Place Ribbon.



## EVENTUS - SCHOOL EVENTS

- ◆ **2025-26 ZLS Literacy Program Completion:** Thank you to Mrs. Allwardt, for your dedication in coordinating and executing a great literacy program this year. This year we had 30 PK through 6th grade students participate in the program and 26 students who achieved all 5 levels and participated in the pizza party that was held April 2nd . Thank you to our parents for supporting and congratulations to our students!





**Zion Lutheran School**

**2025-26**

**PTF Annual Spring Carnival**

**Saturday, April 11th, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**\$5 per entry or \$20 per family**

- \* Zion Lutheran School's PTF will be hosting the annual school carnival, for all ZLS families and other church families.
- \* Join us for lots of indoor and outdoor games, activities, prizes, food and a whole lot of fun!
- \* Adult volunteers are needed to man the games. Volunteer sign up sheets, will be posted after spring break at each classroom and the attendance sign up sheet for head count will be outside the front office.
- \* **Set up for the Carnival is on Friday April 10th, from 1:00 - 5:00 pm.**

- \* **11:00 am** Carnival Starts
- \* **11:00 am - 12:30 pm** Games and Food Served
- \* **12:30 pm- 1:00 pm** Relay Races & Pie Eating Contest
- \* **1:00 pm** Carnival Ends

**All hands on deck for clean up**

Location: ZLS A: 1012 12th Ave Rd., Nampa, ID 83686 P: 208-466-9141 E: zlsoffice1@gmail.com

Non ZLS Families can sign up by calling or emailing the front office.



# ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL

## TEACHER FUNDRAISER

# JOG-A-THON

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH, 1:15 - 2:50 PM**



<b>1:15 pm</b>	<b>Warm up with Mrs. Irby - PE Teacher</b>
<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Headmaster's prayer</b>
<b>1:35 pm</b>	<b>Preschool, Kindergarten, &amp; 1st grade</b>
<b>1:50 pm</b>	<b>2nd, 3rd, &amp; 4th grades</b>
<b>2:10 pm</b>	<b>5th &amp; 6th grades</b>
<b>2:30 pm</b>	<b>7th, 8th, &amp; 9th grades</b>
<b>2:50 pm</b>	<b>All hands on deck for clean up</b>

**Students may wear:**

- \* Zion T shirts or PE uniform (Grey T-Shirt)**
- \* Sweats, long shorts, running shorts/athletic skirt with leggings (Black)**
- \* Running shoes**



School Year 2025-2026

Zion Lutheran School

**Chess Club**

(2nd - 9th grades)



**Chess Club Dates and Hours:**

**Thursdays at 7:00 am to 7:45 am**

February 19th, March 5th, April 2nd, 16th, 30th & May 7th

“Chess is the gymnasium of the mind.” (Blaise Pascal)



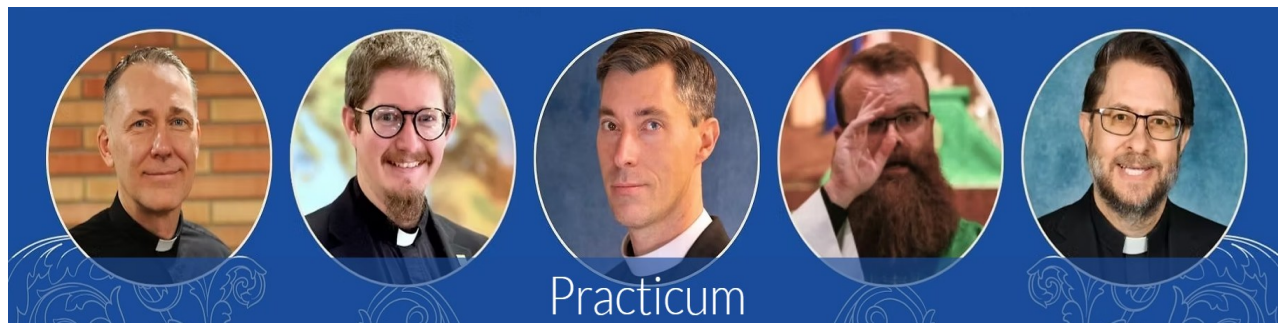
## CCLE Practicum at Zion Lutheran School

June 27–28 | Nampa, Idaho

**“Fathers and Mothers: God’s Chosen Educators.”**

The Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education (CCLE) is partnering with Zion Lutheran School to host a two-day practicum at Zion Lutheran Church and School. Explore the Christian foundations of education and learn tools for educating children in the home and in school.

Rev. Dr. Harold Ristau, Rev. Andrew Richard, Rev. Shawn Barnett, Rev. Marcus Williams, Rev. Sean Rippy.



Registration opens April 1, 2026.

Learn more and register at [cclle.org/practicum](https://cclle.org/practicum)





# PIANO LESSONS

**AVAILABLE AFTER SCHOOL  
(SCHEDULE TODAY!)**

\$30 half hour & \$60 hour

Special Zion Student Rate:  
\$25 half hour & \$50 hour.

Limited Scholarships available for those in need

Contact Faith Dubke:  
(530)526-5357  
faithdubke.pbp@gmail.com



**MUSIC  
BY FAITH**





ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
1ST ANNUAL



# CHILI COOK-OFF Dessert Auction

5-2-26

**BRING THE HEAT  
& THE SWEET!**

5-8:00 PM  
DESSERT  
AUCTION 7PM

PIE THE  
PASTOR OR  
HEADMASTER

Hot Prizes for the best chili  
mild, medium and hot!

1012 12<sup>th</sup> Ave Rd  
Nampa, Idaho 83686



**\$10**

ADULT

**\$5**

KIDS 12 - 5