

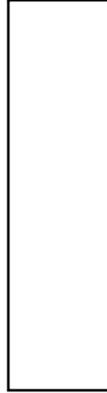
Zion Lutheran Church
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Stratford, WI 54484-5908

We're on the web! www.zionlc.com

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ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion's Good News

February
2022



Worship Schedule

February 6th

Worship at 9:00 a.m. † Communion Service

February 13th

Worship at 9:00 a.m. † Non-Communion Service

February 20th

Worship at 9:00 a.m. † Communion Service

February 27th

Worship at 9:00 a.m. † Non-Communion Service

March 2nd / Ash Wednesday

Worship at 5:30 p.m. † Communion Service



Pastor's Ponderings

Dear siblings in Christ,

Over the last several years, I have been working on my family genealogy. There have been amazing discoveries as well as frustrations. Everytime I found out more information about my family or met new relatives (yes, I have met relatives I didn't even know I had), I discovered something about myself, my parents, and my grandparents. This past November I was able to visit the grave of my 3rd great-grandfather who fought in the Civil War and survived the Battle of Antietam. There is something about knowing your history and those that paved the way before you that makes you stronger, more resilient, and more passionate. It gives you a sense of purpose and identity.

On February 13, the Transition Team will be commissioned in worship. Please pray for their discernment and leadership. Thank you to Cory Wiesman (Council Representative), Tim Schoenherr, Rhonda Thompson, June Krueger (Chair), and Kristi Ormond for your willingness to serve. In addition, they have put together a ministry opportunity for all of us to celebrate what God has done, is doing, and will do in the life and calling of Zion Lutheran. Please take time on Sunday, February 13 following worship to join together in the Family Center to share stories, memories, and photographs of baptism, mission trips, GermanFest and other events and ministry. There will be a HUGE timeline on the wall about Zion's history. Feel free to write on the timeline, sharing your memories and stories about Zion Lutheran. There will be refreshments and of course, coffee!

Participating in the timeline helps all of us to see and experience God's faithfulness and to know who we are together as the body of Christ that is Zion Lutheran. It's like a big genealogy project. Knowing our identity together helps us to move into the future with strength, energy, and passion. It helps us to live into God's calling as the body of Christ, together. It will also assist the Transition Team, and later the Call Committee, in discerning a new permanently called pastor for this congregation.

The work of calling a new pastor is up to each and everyone of us. The more people of Zion that participate, and participate faithfully and truthfully, the more fruitful this transition process will be. The Transition Team, over the next few months, will be asking for all of you to participate in a survey, in telling stories and sharing memories, and asking lots of questions. Children and youth can participate in the process. You can ask them their hopes and dreams for their church and what qualities are important to them in a pastor. The Transition Team will be delegating some tasks to other teams and committees as well. Your assistance and willingness to participate is greatly needed and appreciated.

Please continue to keep the Transition Team, Council, and Teams in your prayers. Continue to ask the Holy Spirit, "What are you calling me to do and be in this time and place? What are you calling Zion to do and be in this time and place?" Also, feel free to reach out to the members of the Transition Team, including myself. Share your stories, your concerns, your hopes and your dreams. Share how the Holy Spirit is calling Zion into the mission and ministry of Jesus. They won't solve or fix problems, but the information helps them to discern as they move through this transition process. Thank you for your faithfulness and support.

Peace, blessings and joy in Christ.

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Carmella Moon
V. Pres.: Brenda Castellano
Secretary: Maryel Schoenfuss
Treasurer: Marge Redetzke
Evangelism: Cory Wiesman
Faith Formation: Ray White
Jasmine Grell
Property: Robin Curtis
Stewardship: Amy Cournoyer
Worship: Lois Miller
Interim: Pastor Andrea Fluegel
Secretary: Kathy Busche
E-mail: office@zionlc.com

WAYS TO CONNECT

WITH ZION

Write us at Zion Lutheran Church,
213501 Legacy Street, Stratford,
WI 54484-9632
Phone us at 715-687-4110
7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or leave a
voice mail message.
Or email us at office@zionlc.com
or directly to emails above.
WEB SITE: www.zionlc.com

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00 a.m.

INDEX

	Page
1	February Schedule
2	From Pastor Fluegel
3	Mid Week Lenten Worship
4	February Birthdays/ Anniversaries/Bible Study/ Council Minutes
5	Serving schedule/SCRIP
6	Serving Schedule/SCRIP
7	SUPER SUNDAY/Building Update
8	Library/Fair Trade/Call
9	Committee
9	Church Staff/Index Center Section February Calendar

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The 21st of each month.

ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE

Wednesdays by 9:00 a.m.

WEEKLY E-MAIL

Goes out on Monday morning.
Email office@zionlc.com to be
added to the receiver list.

PLEASE keep the office updated:

- Address & email changes
- Births, Deaths, Hospitalizations
- Phone / Cell changes

Zion is on Facebook.

You can go to our website at www.zionlc.com
and click on the link to the Facebook page.

Library News

Of the nine new books available in the library, the three featured for February are all about love.

The first two are novels by Fannie Flagg, *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café* and *The Wonder Boy of Whistle Stop*. Flagg's stories are wonderful affirmations of life and of living in loving and compassionate community with others. In *Fried Green Tomatoes*, best friends Ruth and Igdie operate a café in the small town of Whistle Stop, a café that not only serves food for the body but also for the soul. Times are hard during the Great Depression, but Ruth, Igdie, and their friends find courage and strength to deal with the challenges they must face.



The Wonder Boy of Whistle Stop is a sequel to *Fried Green Tomatoes*. Ruth's son Buddy is now an old man and decides to take a trip back to his old home town, but sadly, since the railroad left, Whistle Stop is now a ghost town, but does that mean all the love and fellowship have died? Join Buddy as he discovers new friends and surprises about his loved ones and their beloved town.

The third featured book for February, *One Thousand Gifts* by Ann Voskamp, a spirited guide to living life fully, now, right where you are in joy. The author writes, "How do we find joy in the midst of deadlines, debt, drama, and daily duties? What does a life of gratitude look like when your days are gritty, long, and sometimes dark? What is God providing here and now?" Using her own parenting, farming, and writing life, Voskamp opens our eyes to a new way of living in God's presence that brings deep and lasting happiness.

Fair Trade



The Fair Trade 24/7 booths are full and awaiting your purchases!

The rest of your favorite coffees and other products have been restocked and are available at their regular prices.

Call Darla 715.506.0044 or email at dleick@msn.com or visit the 24/7 booth. Thank you for supporting independent farmers and Fair Trade!

Call Committee Serving Opportunities

In the coming months, there will be opportunities for the members of Zion to be directly involved in the future and direction of our congregation.

Also, if you would be interested in serving on our Call Committee later in spring, please contact the church office or one of the council members.

Should you be approached to participate, please prayerfully consider using your time and talents for our future.

Thank you, Carmella Moon

“Midweek Lenten Worship

Ash Wednesday Communion Service March 2nd 5:30pm

Midweek Lenten worship service will be held on **Wednesdays, March 9-April 6 at 5:30 p.m.** This year's theme is "Holy Solitude." In the busyness of this world, there are few opportunities to "be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). The practice of silence, solitude and rest recharges us and reconnects us with the Triune God. During midweek worship, you will be introduced to some new spiritual practices and have time to rest, recharge and reconnect. In addition, if you would like to go deeper into the practice of silence and solitude, there is a Lenten devotional book, including daily and weekly practices, by Heidi Haverkamp called "Holy Solitude" that you can purchase from your favorite bookstore.

Preparing For Lent

Did you know that you can prepare your home for Lent and Easter, just like we do for Advent and Christmas? Here are some suggestions:

- Fill a bowl with sand. Add a stone, a nail, and maybe even a toy snake or scorpion. Bury a small slip of paper with the word "Alleluia" on it. Set it somewhere you will see it regularly.
- Fill a vase, bowl or bucket with bare sticks, dry flower stems, thistles, or other thorny branches. Wrap arrangements with materials like burlap, twine, and metal wire, brown or purple yarn or ribbon. On Psalm Sunday, add any palms you bring home from church. Or set out a low bowl or pan and fill with gravel, pebbles, bits of metal or pieces of bone.
- Hang a wreath on your door, perhaps of grapevine, twigs, straw, dried flowers, or rough fabrics like burlap or canvas.
- Display a cross or crucifix in a highly visible place.
- Do not light any candles in your home until Easter Sunday.
- Within reason, keep your shopping and leisure habits at their most basic. Choose the most simple, inexpensive options. Where there is an option, choose the less fancy or special. If you can, try not to buy anything for the Lenten decorating of your home; use objects or materials that you find outside or lying around your house or at a thrift shop.
- Mark your calendar with worship times and dates, including Midweek Lenten Worship, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.
- Schedule a time during Lent for a long hike/walk, a retreat day (if possible), time with a friend, time for prayer and solitude, and of course, dying Easter eggs.
- Plan Fridays or another day of the week (be consistent) to fast from noise, social media, the news, television and the radio.
- Plan Saturdays or another day of the week to be intentional about serving neighbors, friends and family. Be creative.

From "Holy Solitude" by Heidi Haverkamp

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Cari Frueh
- 3 - Angela Ford
- 4 - Bonnie Zawislan
Kris Homann
- 6 - Kristine Blyton
Patrick Greenberg
Alex Pupp
- 7 - Tammy Draper
- 8 - Darin Grell
- 10 - Rob Hughes
- 12 - Doris Weber
Wes Manecke
- 13 - Kathy Ballerstein
- 14 - Darrel Schraeder
Julia Nikolai
- 15 - Judy Polege
Charlotte Schoenherr
John Schuette
Bryce Ford
- 16 - Terry Hoesly
Anika Weber
- 17 - Cole Kramer
Jordy Spindler
- 18 - Grace Kobs
- 19 - Brenda Van Der Leest
Mikayla Foley
Troy Kuyoth
Piper Balz
Sheri Chrouser
- 20 - Jacob Federwitz
Patrick Kilty
Melissa Meyer
- 21 - Robert Ulrich
Dawson Moen

- 22 - Richard Anderson
- 23 - Jayme Hilgemann
- 24 - Eliot Waddell
Brock Fischer
Lee Spindler
- 25 - Jeanne Griesbach
- 26 - Amy Schoenfuss
- 27 - David Marg
- 28 - Karen Rock

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - Brandon & Jordan Aschenbrenner
- 16 - Gary & Lori Lang
- 18 - Eddy & Ann Peterson
- 23 - Ted & Pam Wilde



BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Mornings
at 10AM.

Everyone is welcome to come.
If you need a ride,
call the church office
715-687-4110

Council Minutes

Zion Lutheran Church Council met on Monday January 17, 2022
President Carmella Moon called the meeting to order
Robin led with devotions.

During the meeting the council:

- Approved the Secretary Report.
- Approved the Treasurer Report.
- Approved the Ministry Teams Reports.

Motion made to proceed with the purchase of a Church Assessment Tool CAT to review needs of congregation and incoming Pastor.

Respectfully submitted by Maryel Schoenfuss, Secretary

It's Super Sunday at Zion -- February 13!

Please join us for a special worship service and fellowship time on Sunday, February 13th!

The morning's events will include a commissioning of the team taking charge of the pastoral transition, a special fellowship time celebrating Zion's rich history, and the launch of a church assessment tool.

Please pray for those who have stepped up for the Transition Task Force. Continue to pray for Interim Pastor Andrea Fluegel as she guides us through the process. And, of course, pray for our new pastor as God prepares them to join us in mission and ministry.

A timeline of Zion's history is being created so we can all learn more about how God has brought us to this point in 2022, over 120 years since the first services were held in the founder's homes! You'll have the opportunity to add dates of special importance for you and your family. Jot down those dates and bring your own "Zion event" photos to add to the timeline. Think about births and baptisms, confirmations, mission trips, wedding dates, special memories, etc. By celebrating Jesus' faithful presence among us in the past and present, we can move with excitement and energy into the future!

We'll be launching a Church Assessment Tool (CAT) so Zion's leadership can better understand the key issues about pastoral transition and the skills and experiences we should seek in a new pastor. All members, age 16 and older, will be encouraged to complete the online questionnaire. Paper versions will be available.

Building Update 2021					
Payment Bi-Weekly Dates	Start Balance	Payment Amount	Interest Paid	Principal Paid	Ending Balance
10/08 & 10/22	\$177,482.70	\$3,100.00	\$ 532.97	\$2,567.03	\$174,915.67
11/05 & 11/19	\$174,915.67	\$3,100.00	\$ 525.22	\$2,574.78	\$172,340.89
12/03 & 12/17	\$172,340.89	\$3,100.00	\$ 517.46	\$2,582.54	\$169,758.35
12/31	\$169,758.35	\$1,550.00	\$ 255.81	\$1,294.19	\$168,464.16
12/31	\$168,464.16	\$8,000.00	\$.00	\$8,000.00	\$160,464.16
Total monthly principal payments				\$ 17,018.54	
Total monthly interest payments				\$ 1,831.46	
Balance of loan as of 12-31-2021				\$160,464.16	
Partners Bank					
Building checking acct balance as of 12-31-2021				\$ 8,991.25	

Date	2/06/2022 Epiphany 5 9:00 AM	2/13/2022 Epiphany 6 9:00 AM	2/20/2022 Epiphany 7 9:00 AM	2/27/2022 Transfigura- tion 9:00 AM	3/02/2022 Ash Wednesday 5:30 PM	3/06/2022 1st Sunday of Lent 9:00 AM
Assisting Minister	Connor Kreft	-----	Carmella Moon	-----	Darla Leick	Casey Dasler
Reader	Connor Kreft	Brenda Castellano	Carmella Moon	Rhonda Thompson	Darla Leick	Casey Dasler
Acolytes						
Ushers	Gary & Mary Wussow	Tom & Nancy Schoenherr	Keith & Wendy Grell	Frank & Angie Guralski	Mark & Sandy Andersen	Jim & Cory Weisman
Communion Assistants	Pastor Andrea Connor Kreft Brian & Darla Leick	-----	Carmella Moon Brenda Huther June Krueger	-----	Dan & Rhonda Thompson Brian & Darla Leick	Nancy Schoenherr Casey Dasler Jill Dasler Brenda Huther
Communion Steward	Amy Grell	-----	Deb Wieland	-----	Rhonda Thompson	Amy Grell
Fellowship						
Host	Ray White	Jasmine Grell	Carmella Moon	Maryel Schoenfuss		
Media	Marge Kollmansberger	Kevin Miller	Rodney Huther	Leon Tietyen	Conner Kreft	Rodney Huther

Shop with Scrip for your Every Day!

Are you shopping through Amazon, Target, Walmart? Getting gas at Kwik Trip before grocery shopping at Festival Foods? Ordering dinner from Applebees, Red Robin, or Pizza Ranch? *We've got it!* Looking for a gift card for Buffalo Wild Wings, Bass Pro Shop, Bed Bath & Beyond? *We can get it!*

Worried about items being out of stock? Consider SCRIP gift cards instead and support Zion youth programs at the same time!

Scrip gift cards are available for many retailers, restaurants, and gas stations. You pay the face value of the gift cards and the retailer pays a percent back to Zion, designated for youth activities and mission trips.

It's so simple! Visit ShopWithScrip.com to check the list of retailers available in many shopping categories. Then contact June Krueger by text or email (715-897-0617, rajmkrueger@gmail.com) to place your order and make arrangements for payment and pickup.

February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6pm Worship Team	2 10am Bible Study 6:30pm CORE (7th & 8th grade)	3	4	5
6 9am Worship	7 6pm Transition Team	8 6:30pm Faith Formation	9 10am Bible Study 3pm JT/Little Lutherans 6:30pm CORE (7th & 8th grade)	10	11	12
13 SUPER SUNDAY 9am Worship 10am Fellowship & Zion Through the Years 10am Property Meeting	14 6pm Executive Team HAPPY VALENTINES	15	16 10am Bible Study	17	18	19
20 9am Worship 5:30pm Disciples For Christ	21 6pm Council Meeting	22	23 10am Bible Study 3pm JT/Little Lutherans	24	25	26
27 9am Worship	28 6:30pm Evangelism Meeting					