



Zion Lutheran Church

The Messenger

February 2025

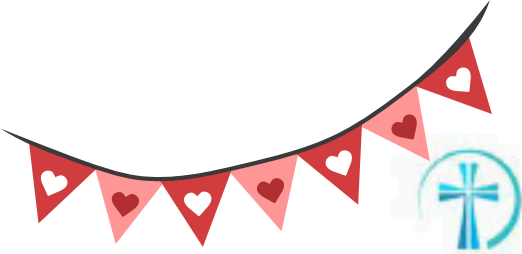
A Message from the Zion Lutheran Council President :

February is known as the “heart” or “love” month, highlighted by giving sentimental cards, flowers and chocolate (dark chocolate is heart healthy) and being conscious of our own cardiac health. All too often all this preoccupation with hearts and flowers overshadows the real gift of love which was given in the Christ child, son of our loving God.

As a faith community we need to fully embrace Jesus’s command to “love one another”! We will be holding our annual meeting on February 9th at which time we will look at a new vision statement that reflects our commitment to love our neighbors as ourselves. This vision statement was the result of hard work from our visioning committee, Jon Meyer, Cheryl Meyer and John Gill with input from Vicar Jake.

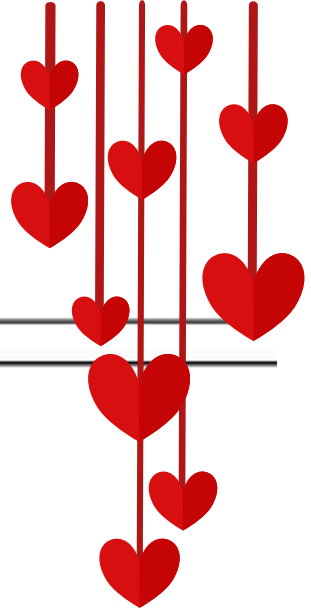
While Vicar Jake and Cindy will be enjoying sunny Florida despite possible snowflakes, we will have Pastor Karen Jewell and Pastor Jan LaVake on a rotating basis to lead our worship. Our sincerest thanks to them for the messages of love they bring to us each week. Being well-organized as he is, Vicar Jake has arranged for coverage in any pastoral emergency. Kimberly Gordon and Gwen Schwandt will coordinate should a need arise. Our worship experience is enhanced each week thanks to Heather Watney, Cheryl Meyer, Paul Staedt as well as our (small but mighty) choir and bell choir. As we raise our voices in praise, it reminds me of the lyrics from How Great Thou Art; “then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee”. The music touches our souls and there will be more musical surprises for 2025.

As we move further into 2025, it is important to remember that there will be challenges ahead with the Affordable Housing Project and the impact of Appleton Bilingual School leaving in August. We continue to explore other options but now it is time to hold fast to our faith and our mission statement of “creating community through God’s love and guidance”. Always at the forefront should be the knowledge that we are all the beloved children of God, that our mission is to reflect that love in word and deed. “THEY WILL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE”. Let that be true of Zion.



Zion Lutheran Church

February 2025



Monday, February 16, 2025

Sunday, February 2

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 84
Heb 2:14-18, Luke 2:22-40
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
followed by
Coffee Hour
Sunday School & Confirmation

Submissions due for March's calendar

4th Week of Epiphany
Pastor Karen Jewell
Assisting Minister: Grace Van Eyck
Acolyte: Lily Gruselle
Musician: Heather Watney
Opens: Jim Schley
Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Wednesday, February 5

Sunday, February 9

Isa 6:1-8[9-13]; Ps 138
1 Cor 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
Followed by
ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday School & Confirmation

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

5th Week of Epiphany
Pastor Jan LaVake
Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt
Acolyte: Alexa Rusch
Musician: William Surtees
Opens: Gene Wiese
Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Tuesday, February 11

Wednesday, February 12

Sunday, February 16

Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1
1 Cor 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
Followed by
Coffee Hour
Sunday School & Confirmation

Zion Mutual Homes Meeting 10:00am

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

6th Week of Epiphany
Pastor Karen Jewell
Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs
Acolyte: Freya Budde
Musician: Heather Watney
Opens: Gene Wiese
Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Monday, February 17

Wenesday, February 19

Sunday, February 23

Gen 45:3-11, 15; Ps 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
Followed by
Coffee Hour
Sunday School & Confirmation

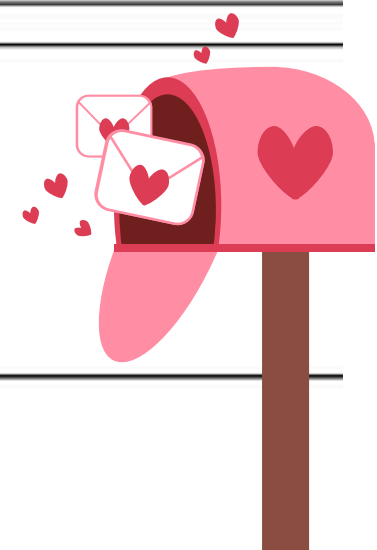
Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

7th Week of Epiphany
Pastor Jan LaVake
Assisting Minister: Tricia Staedt
Acolyte:
Musician: William Surtees
Opens: Greg Pettigrew
Closes: Tammy Mossholder

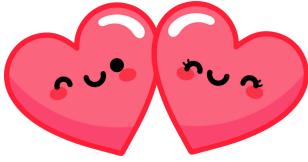
Wenesday, February 26

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm



Minutes of the Council Meeting of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Monday, December 16, 2024, at 6:30 pm

Present: Sue Bunkert, Ray Pittman, Tammy Mossholder, Tom Meltz, Kandie Wilz, Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer, Gail Hunter, Karen F.



Excused: Kyle M.

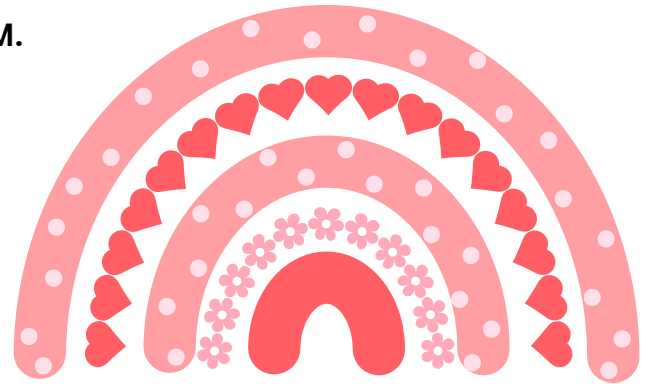
Opening Devotion led by Vicar Jake

Approval of Agenda: motion made and approved

Approval of Minutes: motion made and approved

Parish Administrator's Report:

Karen present and gave an oral report, Snow removal company Lector will take care for Zion. For the future looking at splitting expense with Zion Homes which is taken care of by Arnie. The printer in the office needs to be replaced. Karen checked into a couple of contracts with companies and Rhyme is the cheapest at \$199. A motion made and approved to get new printer and contract. Looking into the old printer being serviced by the new company and keeping it to use for renters to come. Balancing accounts -dedicated accounts- move interest into cash control – investment. A motion made and approved to balance accounts.

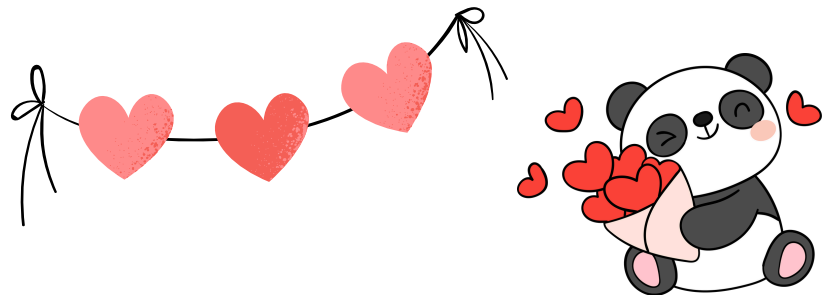


Vicar Jake's Report: Jan. 15 is the last day until Holy week. He will be in Florida. He has all the arrangements made for pastors. He is currently looking to find emergency pastors while gone. Gwen has agreed to be back up to these pastors. Look over the 33 monthly /189 pledges totaling 85,740. 4 x1 time equals \$8,700. Total amount \$94,400. Columbus school is closing. Parents of Columbus and Edison aren't happy with the no communication about transferring students from school to another school. Vicar Jake is looking for support on a draft for response of concern to AASD school board about safeguarding students to Edison and communication. A motion was made and approved. Christmas Eve service and Epiphany dinner plans are made and approved.

Committee Reports reviewed from:

Property: n/a

Worship and Music: n/a



Zion Mutual Homes: Paid off elevator bill, would like to pay off roof however council requesting the do quarterly payments. Arnie and Barb will be moved out by Jan. 1, Arnie will continue to be managers until August. Looking into proposals for managing companies for Zion Homes.

Finance: Cash flow reports were given, Zion Homes – elevator is paid and done. Still owe \$56k on roof and want to pay it off. They could, however, if Life Leases came due then line of credit would need to be used. Discussion on making quarterly payments instead. Motion made and approved to due quarterly payments, Karen will let John know of decision.

Old Business: Affordable Housing- Meeting with Carrie – scaling back building and using space we must rent to companies. Going back to our original plan. Jan 12 Carrie will be here in person

New Business: Feb 9, 2025, will be the annual meeting for Zion at 1045am.

Program for Youth- scholarships for kids for camp. Funds in designated accounts. It's a weekend retreat. A motion made and approved of scholarships. Inviting Stephanie to come and introduce herself at a temple talk on Jan 12

Job review for Vicar Jake – Sue will contact Pastor Dara for questions, 90-day review, Jan 13 at 2 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 20, 2024, at 6:30 pm

Devotion to be led by Ray Pittman

Motion to Dismiss at 7:53pm

Closed in Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Hunter

These minutes have not been approved. They will be approved at the 6.30pm Council meeting.

Affordable Housing Update

Meetings:

January 12, 2025 Zion Leadership met with Carrie Sanders of Hope Community Capital

Important information:

-Community Foundation's Year-End Matchin program yielded an additional \$1450 toward Zion's work in creating affordable housing

-Questions about WHEDA's New Guidelines clarified; First, its highly unlikely an appeal of any sort would produce appreciable results due to the nature of the competitive funding process. Second, there are some advantages to proceeding without the competitive funding, including less restriction on what can be built/created.

- Bonnie met with people spearheading an effort to create housing for adult loved ones with disabilities.**
- Bonnie attended the Housing coalition meeting via Zoom, had a coffee date with some of the people doing smaller developments in the Appleton area, and a coffee date with a staff member of Pillars who is well-versed in supportive housing.**
- Roundtable meeting was cancelled due to weather. To Be Rescheduled.**
- Bonnie met with Harriet Redman and Dave Porterfield to hear from Dave with regard to building supportive housing as he has been in that field for over 30 years.**
- Bonnie participated in the Partners for Places informational webinar sponsored by The Funders Network.**
- Bonnie met with Maiyoua Thao for Long Chen.**
- Bonnie had a phone call with Carrie Sanders from Hope Community Capital with regards to next steps for Zion housing project.**



Memorials Gratefully Received

Gwen Schwandt donated in memory of Ethel Klarner for the general fund

Faith Formation Schedule

Sunday, March 23rd - No Sunday School or Confirmation classes. Spring Break

Sunday, April 13th - Palm Sunday (Special event for Sunday School and Confirmation classes)

Sunday, April 20th - Easter - No Sunday School or Confirmation classes.

Sunday, May 18th - Confirmation Sunday. Last Day of Sunday School.

Thank You From Zion

Thank you to all who donated food for the blessing box. This is a vital resource for the community.

Thank you to all those who assisted with fellowship, including Colleen Malchow, and Elmer and Karen Luedtke. Fellowship is an ongoing need; please volunteer if you are able.

Thank you to those who have assisted with worship services by serving as assisting ministers, musicians or ushers and those who have assisted with outreach such as our homebound visitors.

Thank you to all those who assisted with keeping the building and grounds maintained.

Thank you to our office volunteers, Lynn Walter, JoAnn Salm, Sue Joosten, Janice Staedt, Grace Van Eyck and our new volunteers, Wendy Sachs and Pauline Meyer.

Thank you to Tom Meltz who volunteers to shop for and fill the blessing box.