



Zion Lutheran Church



The Messenger

March 2025

A Message from the Zion Lutheran Council President :

In spite of yearly predictions from a hibernating rodent, March always brings a question mark. Will the month come roaring in like a lion or as meekly as a lamb. For Zion, too there will be questions and challenges ahead.

We had a successful annual meeting on February 9th at which time the congregation authorized our Call Committee, chaired by Deb Reis and Trisha Kasten, to update Zion's MSP (Ministry Site Profile) to call a full time pastor. Subsequently, they met on a zoom call with the Synod's representative, Asher O'Callaghan. He reiterated that there is a critical shortage of pastoral candidates so the search goes on and may require some adjustments to Zion's expectations. One note is that on Page 17 of the Annual report (under the financial report) there was a misprint. This has no affect on the church finances and a reprint of the corrected page will be made available in the near future.

At the February 17th Council meeting, Kandie Wilz was approved as the point person for our ongoing Affordable Housing Project. Our consultant, Bonnie Nussbaum, has taken a step back in order to concentrate more fully on community connections to support Zion's housing goals. Additionally, we continue to work with Carrie Sanders who is assisting us in formulating a financial plan for Zion's future while still keeping sight of our commitment to our mission of creating community.

The Worship & Music committee continues to plan for meaningful worship services with the assistance of our two wonderful supply pastors, Pastor Jan LaVake and Pastor Karen Jewell. A huge thank you to these ladies for their efforts on behalf of our congregation. Plans for the Lenten worship is well in hand. Ash Wednesday service will be at 6:30 on February 5th. Thereafter, worship will be at 6:30 each Wednesday, preceded by our Lenten soup suppers. Thanks to our outreach coordinators, Lynn Walter (Zion) and Brianne Connelly (neighborhood) for organizing these meals. Heather Watney, our Music Coordinator, is working to bring special music to various worship services in the months ahead. At the same time, we await Vicar Jake's return from the Sunshine State to join us for Palm Sunday and Holy Week.

I marvel at the way so many members step up to fill in where needed to keep Zion a vibrant faith community. It reminds me of the children's song, "All God's creatures have a place in the choir". We are all creatures (i.e. children) of God whether lion or lamb, tall or short, black or white and at Zion everyone has a welcoming place in the choir.

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Monday, January 20, 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.

Guests: Liaison Barb Dunlap for Zion Homes and Council, Amanda and Molly Kuba – shadowing council meeting

Opening Devotion led by Ray Pittman

Approval of Agenda: motion made and approved

Approval of Minutes: motion made and approved

Parish Administrator's Report: Report handed out – Full report of 2024 of all finances that went in and out for this year for both Zion Church and Zion Homes. We are in the black. Karen will reach out to Carrie to set up a meeting for the future. The proposed budget was given out for both the church and homes. Budgeted in that is a full-time pastor salary. New Printer – contract was signed with Rhyme. Security – reached out to Rochelle (building engineer for Columbus school) about Jacks-leaving the door propped open.

Vicar Jake's Report: Vicar Jake is in Florida and sent us a report. No questions or discussion about it. Motion made and approved.

Committee Reports reviewed from:

Property: n/a

Worship and Music: n/a

Zion Mutual Homes: Debra and Dan will move to Arnie and Barb's apt Feb. 1st, 2024, no loss of income. The elevator is working well and paid off. Brian Perekovich and Anita Knaus (soon to be married on Good Friday) will be the new managers of Zion Homes. They are tenants.

Personnel: Nash has agreed to mow lawns during the summer. Ray will need to talk to the committee about paying him as an employee and talk to finance of what account that will come out of.

Finance: Report was given out. Full layout of the budget for 2024 was included as well as the proposed budget for 2025; proposed salary for full time pastor is included. Motion made and approved to present 2025 budget at annual meeting.

Old Business:

Affordable Housing: We are in a holding pattern. Tues Jan. 25th is a round table meeting. Seeking new ideas for empty lot and what to do upstairs after school leaves. Maybe creating office spaces.

Vision statement- Carrie Sanders visit: Where do we see Zion being?? A statement was made by John Meyer, Cheryl Meyer and Jon Gill:

A vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming community space for all

Full time pastoral leadership

Expanded community partnership and outreach programs.

A thriving financially stable church that serves as a beacon in the community.

New Business: We will be needing new council members: Tammy and Gail terms are up. The annual meeting will be Sunday Feb. 9 at 1045am.



Next Meeting: Monday, February 17, 2024, at 6:30 pm

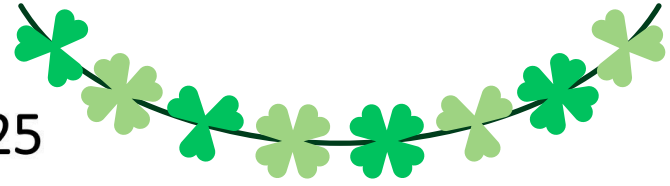
Devotion to be led by Ray Pittman

Motion to Dismiss at 730 pm

Closed in Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Hunter





Monday, March 10, 2025

Sunday, March 2

Exod 34:29-35, Ps 99,
 2 Cor 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]
 Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
 Followed by Coffee Hour
 Sunday School & Confirmation
Educational Session 10:15-11

Submissions due for April's calendar

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Pastor Karen Jewell
 Assisting Minister: Deb Reis
 Reader: JoAnn Salm
 Acolyte: Charlee Weiland
 Musician: William Surtees
 Opens and Closes: Jim Schley
"Financial Assistance for Older Adults and Scam Prevention"

Wednesday, March 5

Ps 51:1-17; 2 Cor 5:20b-6:10
 Matt 6:1-6, 16-21
Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Worship Service 6:30 pm

Ash Wednesday

Pastor Karen Jewell
 Assisting Minister: Deb Reis
 Musician: Heather Watney
 Acolyte: Freya Budde
 Opens: Jim Schley
 Closes: Gwen Schwandt



Sunday, March 9

Deut 26:1-11; Ps 91:1-2, 9-16
 Rom 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13
 Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
 Followed by Coffee Hour
 Sunday School & Confirmation
Educational Session 10:15-11

1st Sunday of Lent

Pastor Jan LaVake
 Assisting Minister: Tricia Staedt
 Reader: Jim Schley
 Acolyte: Lily Gruselle
 Musician: William Surtees
 Opens and Closes: Gwen Schwandt
"Safety at Home for Older Adults"

Tuesday, March 11

Zion Mutual Homes Meeting 10:00am

Wednesday, March 12

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Lenten Supper 5:00 pm
Worship Service 6:30 pm

Lenten Service

Leaders: Gwen Schwandt and Jon Meyer
 Musician: Heather Watney
 Opens: Jim Schley
 Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Sunday, March 16

Gen 15:1-12, 17-18; Ps 27
 Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35
 Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
 Followed by Coffee Hour
 Sunday School & Confirmation
Educational Session 10:15-11

2nd Sunday of Lent

Pastor Karen Jewell
 Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs
 Reader: Sue Joosten
 Acolyte: Freya Budde
 Musician: Heather Watney
 Opens: Greg Pettigrew
 Closes: Tammy Mossholder



"When Independent Living No Longer Works for Older Adults"

Monday, March 17

Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 19

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Lenten Supper 5:00 pm

Lenten Service

Leader: Wendy Sachs
 Musician: Heather Watney

Worship Service 6:30 pm

Opens: Jim Schley
Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Sunday, March 23

Isa 55:1-9; Ps 63:1-8

1 Cor 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

Followed by

Coffee Hour

3rd Sunday of Lent

Pastor Jan LaVake

Assisting Minister: Tommy Meltz

Reader: Paula Staedt

Acolyte: Charlee Weiland

Musician: Jim Schley

Opens and Closes: Jim Schley

Wednesday, March 26

Lenten Service

Leader: Gwen Schwandt

Musician: Pam Keane

Opens: Jim Schley

Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Worship Service 6:30 pm

Sunday, March 30

Josh 5:9-12; Ps 32

2 Cor 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

Followed by

Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

4th Sunday of Lent

Pastor Karen Jewell

Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt

Reader: Jon Meyer

Acolyte: Alexa Rusch

Musician: Jim Schley

Opens: Greg Pettigrew

Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Educational Series and Faith Formation Schedule

March 2nd – “Financial Assistance for Older Adults and Scam Prevention”

March 9th – “Safety at Home for Older Adults”

March 16th – “When Independent Living No Longer Works for Older Adults”

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

April 13th - Palm Sunday worship service 9:00am; Special event for Sunday School and Confirmation classes; Brunch

April 17th-Maundy Thursday worship service at 6:30pm

April 18th-Good Friday worship service at 6:30pm

April 20th - Easter worship service at 9:00am;

No Sunday School or Confirmation classes.

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



Zion Lutheran Church

912 N Oneida St. Appleton

Lent Soup Suppers 5:00pm
Lent Worship Service 6:30pm
March 12, 19 & April 2, 9

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, Wendy Sachs and Pauline Meyer.

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



Photos from Zion-Thanks to Karen Luedtke