



The Messenger

March 2024

Zion Lutheran Church

A Message from the Zion Lutheran Council President :

March is a season that arrives either with cold, roaring winds like a lion or with warm, gentle breezes like a lamb, but March is also the season of the Lent, the Christian's season for repentance and reflection.

Zion has been through much since the beginning of the year. Thankfully our annual meeting went well. The Council said goodbye to Carl Abendroth who faithfully served two terms. Tom Meltz was welcomed as the new member of the church council. Thanks, Tommy, for stepping forward. We also have the services of Karen Farlow as our church administrator who handles the day-to-day operation of the church. She is supported by our church office administrator, Kimberly Gordon, our maintenance engineer, Elliot Pegel and a group dedicated volunteers. All their hard work is deeply appreciated.

While the search continues for a part-time pastor or at least an interim, (Please keep our call committee in your prayers) our worship has been led by supply pastors, introducing us to different preaching styles. Heather Watney, Cheryl Meyer and Paula Staedt have insured beautiful music enhances our worship.

As mentioned, Lent is a time for repentance, giving us a chance to atone for sins of both commission and omission. For example, at a recent Council meeting a long-time member addressed us about the church's failure to properly acknowledge the passing of his wife. It should not have happened, and we must make sure no member experiences the same. Apology and repentance.

The time of reflection is needed to determine the course Zion will follow into the future. The Affordable Housing project moves ahead, perhaps not as quickly as some would prefer, but we need to proceed with care. We are awaiting the results of the asbestos revue report, as well as the GLCI report indicating what the congregation and the neighborhood would like to see developed here. As one of our guest pastors reminded us, a community of faith needs to be bold, not timid for we are God's people who trust where he leads us.

March this year means we will celebrate Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the glory of Easter, all at our regular Holy Week services in one month. However, this year Zion will host the noon ecumenical service, an opportunity to showcase our beautiful sanctuary. Heather Watney and Cheryl Meyer are working with Pastor Ryan from First English to provide a meaningful worship experience to the Appleton community. It is amazing what we can do when we work together.

It is wonderful to see the "Help the Homeless" box filling up through the generosity of Zion members just as we keep the blessing box full. We much remember that our neighbors are not just those who live next door but also those who have no permanent address. Jesus and his disciples would be classified as "homeless" (What you do to the least of these, you do unto me).

Before March leaves us either as a lion or a lamb, we can rest assured that God has a plan for Zion. Just as Mary did not recognize the risen Christ at the tomb, we presently can't quite recognize what that plan for us is, we need to move forward, bold in our faith. Easter gave us God's greatest gift in the resurrection of His Son. Let us Rise as well. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

-Sue Bunkert



Zion Lutheran Church

March 2024

Monday, March 18, 2024**Sunday, March 3**

Exod 20:1-17, Ps 19,
1 Cor 1:18-25, John 2:13-22
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
followed by
Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

Submissions due for April's calendar**3rd Sunday of Lent**

Pastor Karen Jewell
Assisting Minister: Tom Meltz
Acolyte: Lily Gruselle
Musician: William Surtees
Opens: Gene Wiese
Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Monday, March 4

Finance Meeting 6:00pm

Tuesday, March 5

Zion Mutual Homes Meeting 10:00am

Wednesday, March 6

Lenten Supper 5:00 pm
Worship Service 6:00 pm

Lenten Service

Leader: Grace Van Eyck
Musician: Pam Keane
Opens and Closes: Gwen Schwandt
Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Sunday, March 10

Num 21:4-9, Ps 107:1-3, 17-22
Eph 2:1-10, John 3:14-21
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: Wendy Sachs
Acolyte: Alexa Rusch
Musician: William Surtees
Opens: Jim Schley
Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Wednesday, March 13

Lenten Supper 5:00 pm
Worship Service 6:00 pm

Lenten Service

Leader: Gwen Schwandt
Musician: Pam Keane
Opens and Closes: Gwen Schwandt
Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Sunday, March 17

Jer 31:31-34, Ps 51:1-12
Heb 5:5-10, John 12:20-33
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am
Followed by
Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

5th Sunday of Lent

Pastor Kurt Hoffman
Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt
Acolyte: Charlee Weiland
Musician: Heather Watney
Opens: Gene Wiese
Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Orders Due for Easter Flowers

Monday, March 18

Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 20

Lenten Supper 5:00 pm
Worship Service 6:00 pm

Lenten Service

Leader: Deb Reis
Musician: Pam Keane
Opens and Closes: Gwen Schwandt
Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Sunday, March 24

Isa 504-9a, Ps 31:9-16
Phil 2:5-11, Mark 14:1-15:47
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am

Followed by
Palm Sunday Brunch
Sunday School & Confirmation

Palm Sunday

Pastor Karen Jewell
Assisting Minister: Grace Van Eyck
Acolyte: Ava Dorn
Musician: Jim Schley
Opens: Gwen Schwandt
Closes: Greg Pettigrew

Wednesday, March 27

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Thursday, March 28

Worship Service 6:00 pm
Exod 12:1-4[5-10]11-14, Ps 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Cor 11:23-26, John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Maundy Thursday

Pastor Kathryn Schreitmueller
Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs
Acolyte: Lily Gruselle
Musician: William Surtees
Opens and Closes: Jim Schley

Friday, March 29**Ecumenical Worship Service 12:00 pm****Worship Service 6:00 pm**

Isa 52:13-53:12, Ps 22
Geb 10:16-25, John 18:1-19:42

Good Friday

Pastor Ryan Eikenbary (12:00 pm Ecumenical Service)
Assisting Ministers: Wendy Sachs, Tom Meltz (6:00 pm service)
Acolyte: Alexa Rusch
Musician: William Surtees

Sunday, March 31

Acts 10:34-43, Ps 118:1-2, 14-24, Rom 6:3-11
1 Cor 15:1-11, John 20:1-18, Mark 16:1-8
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am
Worship Service 9:00 am

Easter Sunday

Pastor Karen Jewell
Assisting Minister: Deb Reis
Acolyte: Charlee Weiland
Musician: William Surtees
Opens: Greg Pettigrew
Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Easter Flowers

Order Forms are available in the Narthex and at the back of the Sanctuary and can be put in the slot on the church office door. Orders can also be emailed to our Office Coordinator, Kimberly, at Kimberly@zionappleton.org. Please include the number of lilies or assorted spring plants and any memorial information you would like included in the bulletin. **ORDERS ARE DUE MARCH 17th**

Palm Sunday Brunch

On Sunday, March 24th we will be gathering after church for our second annual Palm Sunday Brunch. All are invited for this intergenerational family event. This event will be a potluck and so we ask that if you are able to please sign up to bring something to pass. Even if you aren't able to bring something, please let us know that you are coming by either signing up in the Narthex or by registering online at:

<http://tinyurl.com/ZionPalmSundayBrunch2024>

We look forward to gathering together!

If you have any questions, please contact Deb Reis at dejolen@aol.com or 920.470.8177.

Zion Council Minutes

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Monday, January 15, 2024

Present: Sue Bunkert, Ray Pittman, Tammy Mossholder, Gail Hunter, Kyle Moseng, Kandie Wilz, Carl Abendroth

Guests: Gwen Schwandt and Deb Reis

Meeting began at 6:20 pm

Meet and Greet with Pastor Glenn Chase: from Oshkosh, interested in being interim pastor, moved from Oregon. Received MSP information, studied at Berkley.

Opening Devotion led by Ray at 7:00 pm

Approval of Agenda: motion made and approved

Approval of December Minutes: motion made and approved.

Introduction of Karen Farlow, Church Administrator: administrative and business aspects of the church, leadership and management, HR, Youth administrator. She is here M-Th 930-230pm.

Committee Reports reviewed from:

Property: Parish House is empty. Looking for occupants. Looking for rental agency to help get this started. Kimberly has volunteered to go once weekly into flush toilets and run water in sinks. Letting Bonnie know that we are interested in ThedaCare to rent from us. Update next month from Kandie.

Zion Mutual Homes: No report as snowed out for their meeting.

Worship & Music: Ash Wednesday will be Feb. 14th at 630pm. Lent Services: 5:15 pm will be soup supper and services to follow at 6:30pm. Palm Sunday would be 9 am service followed by brunch. Easter service will be one service at 9 am. Jim will order palms and flowers.

Finance: met our budget. Will not receive any money from foundation this year. Karen will work with Lambert Services.

Call Committee: No candidates

Old Business:

Affordable Housing: Kyle on call today... will have more updates next months with grants and fundraising.

25k from community foundation

Explore how taxes work with land renting. Will have further discussions next month.

New Business:

Fellowship: discussion on baked goods... will talk with volunteers that cookies only going forward so that others will offer to do fellowship. If anyone has questions about making coffee, please contact one of the regular volunteers or Gail.

Money Counters: discussed and motion made and approved to three ladies to assist: Carol Gipp, Barb Carlson, and Linda Wirtz. These ladies will help cover during vacations, etc.

Offered interim position to Pastor Glenn- will wait to see for his answer. We do have supply pastors for the month of January.

Annual Meeting is Feb 4th at 1045 am. Cards for questions will be available at service on January 21st. All questions will need to be submitted by Jan. 28th to compile for duplicate. Copies of annual report will be available as well. Any questions please email Gail Hunter @ gdutcher1228@gmail.com only in regards about annual meeting and cards. Questions about annual report will be addressed at the meeting.

Motion to Dismissed at 8:30 pm. Closed in Lord's prayer.

Next Meeting: February 19,2024 at 630 pm.

Devotion to be led by Gail Hunter

Respectfully submitted by Gail Hunter

These minutes have not been approved. They will be approved at the February 19th at 630pm Council meeting.

Scholarship Information

Are you a Senior in High School and an active member of Zion? Get a Scholarship application from the Church Office window ledge beginning February 11, 2022. The awards are based on accomplishments, grade point, need, and an essay on the impact of Jesus Christ and the Christian faith in the life of the applicant. Only Zion members are eligible. ALL PARTS of the application (including reference support letters) must be IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY 11:00AM ON SUNDAY, March 17, 2022. Call the church with questions at 739-3104.

Memorials Gratefully Received

Jean Dolan

Given in Memory of Jan Mossholder for the general fund

Melvin Klarner

Given for the Building Fund-Bell Tower/Roof Restoration

Mary Gammelin

Given in Memory of Betty Wieckert for the general fund

Mossholder Family & Friends

Given in Memory of Jan Mossholder for the handbells

Mary Gammelin

Given in Memory of her father, Rev. W. H. Gammelin for his Feb. 25th birthday & in Memory of her sister, Joanne Gammelin for her Feb. 5th birthday for the general fund.

Marilyn Hetzler

Given in Memory of Jan Mossholder for the handbells

Dave & Janice Weber

Given in Memory of Jan Mossholder for handbells

Earl Miller

Given in Memory of Janet Miller for general fund.

You are Invited! Visit Lay School

Come visit the ECSW Lay School of Ministry courses in the months of March and April! You are welcome to join us in-person at Saint Andrew in Wausau, Christ the King in Combined Locks OR virtually March 15-16 and April 12-13. Check out one course or several courses each month for FREE.

Courses include: Old Testament, Intro to Theology, Faith and Spirituality, Liturgy and Life, Faith in Action, Experiencing the Bible with Fresh Ears AND Bible Stories Jesus Knew

For more information about the courses go to ecswlayschool.org.

To register or if you have any questions, please email layschool@ecsw.org the Wednesday before classes.

ThedaCare At Home Seeks Volunteers

ThedaCare At Home is seeking hospice volunteers in the Fox Valley and the surrounding communities to assist in caring for terminally ill patients and their families. Our volunteers are an integral part of our hospice team as they visit patients in their homes and at long-term care facilities. Volunteers help to meet the emotional, spiritual and family needs of those on hospice by providing companionship and respite. They really are the heart of hospice!

Training is provided, and helps build on a volunteer's experience and skills to learn about hospice philosophy, comfort care, and communication with patients and their families. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Shana Farrell via phone at 920-422-7583 or email at shana.farrell@thedacare.org to learn more about this opportunity and upcoming trainings.

Blessing Box/Free Little Library

We are looking for donations for the Blessing Box and Free Little Library as part of our community outreach. We have seen an increase in use recently, and your donations are so important for members of our community in need. If you have any non perishable food items or books you would like to donate, please leave them in the narthex. If you are a Thrivent member, you may be able to apply for an action team grant for \$250 to purchase supplies for the Blessing Box and/or Free Little Library. The church office staff can purchase the supplies or arrange for a volunteer to do it for you if necessary.

Thank You from Zion

Thank you for your service to our supply pastors who served in February: Pastor Jan LaVake, Pastor Warren Egebo, and Pastor Ralph Hankermeyer.

Thank you to Pastor Mike Dimer for his continued service and for providing emergency pastoral care to our members during our transition.

Thank you to Gwen Schwandt for her dedicated service to the Zion Community.

Thank you to Lynn Walter for all of her hard work creating the bulletins for worship services.

Thank you to Lynn Walter, Janice Staedt and Sue Joosten for volunteering to cover office hours.

Thank you to Janice Staedt for her work with our membership files in Shepherd Staff.

Thank you to those you have continued to volunteer for fellowship.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve as assisting ministers in February: Wendy Sachs, Tom Meltz, Deb Reis, Grace Van Eyck, and Gwen Schwandt.

Thank you to all who donated items for our Hygiene Drive and the Blessing Box.

Thank you to Jim Schley for coordinating the delivery of the Easter flowers and the palms for Palm Sunday.

Thank you to all who have helped with snow removal.

Raise Right Fundraising

Raise Right. What is it? It is a fundraising program where you purchase gift cards. Who doesn't need a gift card for something. Here is how it works. It has been predetermined how much less Zion would pay for each retailer gift card on the list. When anyone orders a gift card from a retailer, they pay the actual amount of the gift card but when Zion pays Raise Right, they subtract the predetermined percentage & that is what Zion pays. The difference is what Zion keeps. They do charge a shipping fee so when an order is placed, I need to make sure the savings Zion gets covers the cost of shipping. It usually takes about 2-3 days after ordering the gift cards to get them, so the turnaround is fast. I am hoping to have some gift cards on hand so you could get one right away. There is a list of all the gift cards available at church in the narthex. If you would like to receive the list of all retailers & can't get to church, please contact me & I can either email it to you or send it to you in the mail. If you have any other questions or would like to order any gift cards please contact me. Remember gift cards can be used for gifts, projects or for your everyday use. Thank you to anyone who has purchased them in the past & I hope many more will decide to purchase them in the future.

-Lynn Walter

Xavier Passion Play

**ALL
RISE!**

THE NORTHEAST WISCONSIN
PASSION PLAY 2024

7:00 pm March 21, 22, 23
1:00 pm March 23, 24

*An original, uplifting dramatic musical
based on the ministry, teachings, Passion
and Resurrection of
Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre
1600 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton

www.newpassionplay.org • (920) 733-8840

In this, our 17th year, we are blessed to continue offering you a timeless, inspiring production celebrating the life, death and triumphant resurrection of our Lord. Strengthen your Lenten journey March 21st through 24th at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre in Appleton. This production is appropriate for all ages.

February Updates Affordable Housing Project

February Meetings held included February 12th Development Team Meeting, February 19th Roundtable Meeting, February 21st Neighborhood Advisory Team Meeting, and February 26th Planning Team Meeting.

Jenny Krikava, Community Engagement Manager for the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region and Bonnie were interviewed by Nathan Phelps from Spectrum News about the Project. Bonnie and Kandie Wilz attended the Housing Justice and Congregational Futures Conference in Wausau. Bonnie also received a call from Luanne Ferguson from the ELCA Mission Investment Fund who had heard about our Project through staff of the East Central ELCA Synod who suggested she contact us. It was a great conversation about our Project and how the Mission Investment Fund can be a resource for funding.

Bonnie, Karen Farlow, Sue Bunkert and Tammy Mossholder met with Dave and Dustin from NorthStar Environmental Testing to review the Zion buildings and provide quotes for an assessment of both lead and asbestos issues which will factor into our planning for the affordable housing project.

Bonnie and Kandie Wila attended a free community organizing training in Green Bay hosted by JOSHUA, WISDOM and ESTHER. They learned a great deal about building a community with purpose for social justice.

Bonnie was invited to participate in a zoom call with Pastor Peter Beeson from St. John's Lutheran Church in Madison which is building a 10- story building to house their church and many floors of affordable housing.

Interest has been expressed in having Bonnie purchase the Good Futures Accelerator Course, which offers faith communities a faith-based program for deciding Mission, Vision, and Outcome for church property. Sue suggested doing the course during Fellowship time after Sunday Services.

Julie Filapek from NeighborWorks Green Bay facilitated a small group of us in touring a neighborhood of NeighborWorks properties including single family homes, townhouses and other renovations. They talked about the importance of Mission in shaping our Project and having a common vision for what is being created. Zion's Mission Statement is "Creating Community through God's Love and Guidance", and the vision should be coming into much clearer focus shortly given what is slated to unfold.

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, March 11th Development Team Meeting 4-5:30pm

Monday, March 18th Roundtable Meeting 4:30-6pm

Monday, March 25th Neighborhood Advisory Team Meeting 6-7:30pm

-Affordable Housing Project Manager, Bonnie Nussbaum

Church Happenings in February

