



The Messenger

Zion Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, ELCA
Volume 12 Issue 3 March 2017

March 1 is Ash Wednesday

Worship begins in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm. This service begins our forty day journey through the season of Lent. As Jesus moves toward the cross, we are reminded of our own mortality and called into discipleship that leads through death to life everlasting.

How'd the Annual Meeting Go?

Brad Langley, Gary Larsen, and SueAnn Westphal were elected to new terms on Council. Mark Fandrey and Stan Nelson were elected to new terms on the Endowment Fund Committee. Deana Miller and Justin Snesrud will represent Zion as delegates at the 2017 Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly. Jackie Peak and Whitney Stofflet (non-members) were approved to serve on the ZOOM House Board of Directors.

We will install and bless all of our elected leaders during our worship service on Sunday, April 2. Keep their good work in your prayers!

We had a courageous conversation about the long-term viability of the Endowment Fund. We acknowledged our dependence on a grant from this fund each year for basic operating expenses and examined different rates of borrowing for the next 5-10 years. We asked good questions and agreed that it is wise to start building relationships and a financial strategy now instead of waiting until the fund is almost empty. The Council and Endowment Fund members were glad to hear that members are willing to face this important moment in our congregation's life with honest and creative stewardship.

From the Pastor...

Each winter the season of Lent pulls me from the static, anxious, or self-involved places of my life into a different kind of ritual and rhythm. For forty days, I remember that I am dust and to dust I will return. This consciousness is not self-loathing or a pity party, but instead an awareness of my connection with all of creation. God formed me and uses me for this life on earth. I am connected to my neighbor and the stranger. Left to my own devices, I will perish and that will be all that I am: a person created very good and loved, but finite.

With this knowledge I move toward the cross with Jesus, reflecting on what it means to be given purpose and value beyond my human body. Lent draws me into the baptismal promise: that I am claimed by the death and life of Christ instead of my own. I am made for praise. I am gathered for goodness that is beyond my best intentions. I am known by a God who finds me when I'm lost and celebrates my life at great cost.

This is good news and a blessing the world certainly needs these days. May your Lenten journey guide you into a deeper relationship with creation, your mortality, and the promise that draws you to the cross.

– Pastor Meta

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Sharing Our Milestones



Gratitude & Thanks

It's been nearly five months since I wandered into Zion, curious to learn about a quirky church that took its intimate community role seriously. Blown away by the immediate grace and acceptance I was offered, I regretted missing Sunday services and Wednesday dinners. Now, almost a month into my position as office administrator, that grace has not faded and has provided an environment for my faith to thrive, my professional skills to grow, and my place in this community to take root. I thank Zion for opening my mind and heart to your friendship and security. I look forward to serving you more and more.

- Alex Albertson

Celebrations

On March 6, Jasmine Tilden will become Jasmine Wilson! Congratulations on your marriage to Steve, Jasmine!

Ben and Joanna Accola recently announced that they are expecting twins (a boy and a girl) due July 17. Congratulations!

March Birthdays

- 2 CHARLIE METZ
- 4 ETHNELDA DALEY-BROWN
- 4 STAN NELSON
- 10 THELMA LEWIS
- 13 TAMMY FUENTES
- 14 RUTHANN VON GROSSMAN
- 16 EMILY GERST
- 17 ESSENCE WAGNER
- 19 JACKSON COURTAMANCHE
- 19 DAVID KULM
- 22 DALE MENDENHALL
- 25 FELECIA BORGESON
- 25 JENNY GERST
- 25 JULIE KLINDT
- 25 ROGER DOKKEN
- 29 ETHEL ALLARDYCE

Have a milestone, anniversary, achievement, or memory to share? Contact the church office by the 16th of next month to be included in the April issue.

News from Zion's Neighbors & Partners

Have you heard about **ISAIAH**? It's a vehicle for congregations, clergy, and people of faith to act collectively and powerfully towards racial and economic equality in the state of MN. If you're looking for opportunities to put your faith into action regarding education, worker's rights, immigration, healthcare, etc. ISAIAH can help you build connections with other Christians across denominations and traditions. Visit www.isaiahmn.org for more information.

ZOOM House is hard at work planning a special "20 Years of ZOOM House" celebration for the 2017 Gala. This anniversary event is on Saturday, March 18, 2017. Now's the time to invite your friends, buy your tickets, and donate auction items. Contact Deana Miller, Doug Harrison, or Joanna Accola for more information or visit www.thezoomhouse.org.

NAMI's Family-to-Family at Bethlehem Lutheran Church is a class to help you support loved ones living with mental illness. You will build communication skills, reduce stress, and find support during this 12-week course on Thursday nights. This special resource for family and friends of an adult living with mental illness begins on February 9 6:30-9:00pm. Registration is required. Contact Beth (651-210-5530) or Tammy (612-618-4979) for more information.

A Neighborhood Spanish-English Conversation Group meets during the Lyndale Community Dinner on the second Wednesday night of each month. It's a great way to practice your language skills and meet new neighbors.

ESL Classes meet at Zion on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30-8:30pm. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Classes, please contact Erin Carey at erin@lyndale.org. We welcome Astrid Yankosky, who joined the ESL teaching staff in January.

Our Ward 8 Councilwoman Elizabeth Glidden is available to meet with residents every Monday morning 9:00-11:00am at Sabathani Community Center on 38th Street.

2017 Summer Day Camp for kids entering Kindergarten - Grade 8 will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church on 42nd Street June 19-23. The theme is "Blessed to Be" and rooted in the Beatitudes of Matthew 5:3-12. More than 15 small congregations of many different denominations work together to provide this week of fun and faith formation. Save the date and stay tuned for ways you can support this ministry and its campers!

Home and Hospital Pastoral Visitation

If you or a loved one would like a home or hospital visit, please let Pastor Meta or Patty B. know.

Everyone has different wants and needs when they are ill or home-bound, so please communicate your wishes and expectations. We want you to feel loved and supported by this community.

Pastoral Emergencies

If you have a pastoral emergency, please call:



Pastor Meta Carlson
612-242-1798 (cell)

Pastoral Intern Patty Beadle
612-251-0711 (cell)

What's Happening at Zion this Month?

Value Challenge grant funds are still available from the Epiphany Legacy Fund! You can apply for a grant of up to \$500 if your ministry project or event directly relates to one of Zion's four core values: Feasting Together, Caring Deeply, Creative Hospitality, and Growing in Faith and Relationship. If you want to pitch an idea to be considered, contact a member of the Executive Team.

Third Sunday Adult Education will invite conversations about faith and citizenship. What is the separation between Church and State? How would repealing the Johnson Amendment affect religious institutions and nationalism? What does it mean to say that the gospel is political, not partisan? We'll also learn about spiritual disciplines that can support our faith and hope in a season of division and tension in American politics. This will be a safe conversation for all political persuasions and a chance to develop a deeper theological language for today's world.

Temple Talks return to worship in March. The theme for the season of Lent is "We are Hungry". We'll share personal story of faith and reflection with the congregation on this theme.

Zion's Young Adults gather for Soup, Bread, and Wine on Second Mondays 6:30-8:00pm. Zioners rotate hosting in their homes. Contact Pastor Meta or Lee George to be added to the e-mail list.

The Prayer Chain is an important ministry at Zion. Deana Miller will continue to serve as the point person for your prayer concerns. Please contact her directly if you wish to add or update a prayer request: (612) 964-6310 or deanabibi@gmail.com. Please note that prayer chain requests are separate from pastoral care visits and emergencies, which should be directed to the pastoral staff.

Lyndale Community Dinners are delicious and creative meals that gather neighbors for healthy relationships and whole lives. Make Wednesday evenings part of your weekly dinner routine. If you'd like to learn more about cooking or volunteering, contact Jenna Yeakle at lcd@zionchurchmpls.org.

Holden Evening Prayer will take place during Lent on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Sanctuary, after the Lyndale Community Dinner.

On March 3, Donna Minter, founder & executive director of the MN Peacebuilding Leadership Institute, will join us at the beginning of worship to offer some information about **STAR-Lite Training** (Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience), a one day training event for individuals interested in becoming "trauma-informed and resilience-oriented."



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128 West 33rd Street
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Office Hours: Mon-Thur 10am-2pm
Closed on Fridays & Holidays

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Office Fax: 612-822-2510

Website: www.zionchurchmpls.org

Zion's Staff Members

Meta Carlson, Pastor
(612) 824-1017 ext. 11
mcarlson@zionchurchmpls.org

Patty Beadle, Pastoral Intern
(612) 824-1017 ext. 13
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Alex Albertson, Office Administrator
(612) 824-1017 ext. 10
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Jasmine Tilden, Music Coordinator
(612) 824-1017 ext. 12
jasmine@zionchurchmpls.org

Sam Gardner, Building Steward
sam@zionchurchmpls.org

Zion's Council Members

Kara Bennett, President
Ben Accola, Vice President
Joan Olson, Secretary
SueAnn Wesphal, Financial Secretary
Kirsten Anderson, Member
Carla Hofland, Member
Brad Langley, Member
Gary Larsen, Member
Justin Snedrud, Member
Carl Hendrickson, Treasurer
Meta Carlson, Pastor

The Lyndale Community Dinner takes place every Wednesday evening at 6pm and is made possible thanks to partnerships, volunteers, and a rotation of cooking hosts who bring us a variety of healthy and delicious menus from traditions that reflect the diversity of our neighborhood. It's an amazing neighborhood tradition, and you can be a part of it!

Contact Jenna Yeakle with interest or questions at lcd@zionchurchmpls.org

To be a cooking host:

1. Commit to a date
2. Choose a menu and ingredients that align with the LCD's food values
3. Fill out a menu and shopping list (to serve 60) and send to the church office one week prior to cooking date
4. Recruit helpers needed for a day-of food preparation
5. Arrive early enough to organize and begin food preparation so that dinner can be served by 6pm
6. Equip and encourage kitchen helpers



A member of the LCD Feast Team will confirm with your team leader ahead of time and will greet you when you arrive.

The LCD Feast Team will publicize, purchase groceries, and organize volunteers for serving and clean up. A Cooking Host also receives a \$50 stipend as a token of our gratitude for your reliability and leadership.

Volunteer teams sign up to help serve and clean up at the LCD on a rotational basis (every month or every other month). Team leaders invite 4-7 volunteers to arrive by 5:45pm to serve food, eat with neighbors, build connections, and assist with kitchen clean up after the meal.

The MN Peacebuilding Leadership Institute turns “psychological trauma into nonviolent power” through various strategies and training opportunities. According to the Institute, “A Peacebuilder is anyone who employs simple, effective strategies to nonviolently interrupt the transmission of psychological trauma and woundedness within their spheres of influence. Peacebuilding can happen at the individual, family, neighborhood, community, national, and international levels.”

Donna Minter, founder & executive director of the MN Peacebuilding Leadership Institute, will join us at the beginning of worship on March 5 to offer some information about STAR-Lite Training (Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience), a one day training event for individuals interested in becoming “trauma-informed and resilience-oriented.”

Additional upcoming ways to becoming involved with the Institute include:

Attending the **Women's Film Festival benefitting the Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute on Wednesday, April 26 from 7-9pm**. Enjoy 9 short films by, for and about women. Tickets are \$25; VIP tickets are \$45 and include admission to the after-party from 9:15-11pm.

Music Notes from Jasmine

**Wishing you had joined handbell choir?
It's not too late!**

Email jasmine@zionchurchmpls.org
if you'd like a part.

All talents are welcome!
New ringers may join as late as March 15th.

Handbell Choir Schedule

Rehearsals at 5:30pm in Sanctuary

2/15/17: Light music theory, reorient to bells

2/22/17: Learn music for Palm Sunday

3/15/17: Learn music for Easter

4/5/17: Practice for Easter, and Palm Sun.
with Emily Hagen

4/12/17: Rehearse for Easter

4/9/17: play at Palm Sunday worship

4/16/17: play at Easter worship

Thank you for all you do. Happy ringing!

My Office Hours at Zion

Tuesdays 12-2pm
Worship planning and meetings

Wednesdays 3:00-6:30pm
Rehearsing in the Sanctuary

**I will be gone March 1-12 but am excited to
share the line-up of substitute musicians
playing in my stead:**

March 1st (Ash Wednesday): Emma Haupt
March 5th: Kay Else
March 8th (Holden Ev.): Emma Haupt
March 12th: Emma Haupt

**I will be back at Zion on March 13 and on
that day will respond to emails and
questions I might have received while
away.**



Ministry Area Highlights

Community Life

The annual Easter Breakfast is just around the corner! Please start thinking about getting involved. Look for sign-ups later in March. Cook, serve, run plates, clean up, or help with the Easter Egg Hunt! With interest or questions contact Joanna and Nedra:
jo.helen.lau@gmail.com; nedragran@mac.com

There's some consensus that the Men's Breakfast should happen more often! Stay tuned for a monthly time to meet other guys from Zion at Curran's Restaurant for breakfast.

Finance & Stewardship

(Carl Hendrickson, Stan Nelson, Ben Accola, Gary Larsen)
Zion has 21 individuals and families using Simply Giving. Simply Giving automatically transfers funds from your checking account into Zion's checking account and is easy to sign up for. You can change your contribution or stop using Simply Giving at any time. See Carl Hendrickson, treasurer, for details.

Faith Formation

(Patty Beadle)
Our Bible study group on Tuesday mornings continues. We'd love to have people come join us if you are available on Tuesday mornings at 10:45-11:30. The monthly group that meets after church wrapped up "My Neighbor is Muslim" on Feb 19th. We had a Muslim guest from the neighborhood come talk with us last month. She was delightful, we loved talking and learning with her.

We will be moving ahead to Lent and have some devotional options available. If you are interested please see Patty B. Our Temple Talks will start up again on March 5th.

Worship and Music

We have had a Good Friday worship service for the last few years, but this year we'll celebrate Holy Week on Maundy Thursday (April 13) instead. If you have favorite hymns or ideas for this service, contact Jasmine Tilden.

Property

Deana Miller and Stan Due are organizing a small team to gather in a more formal capacity. They will work in collaboration with Sam Gardner, Building Steward, and be responsible for recommending major capital improvements to Church Council. We plan to repair the parking lot this spring/summer. Contact Deana or Stan D. with your questions or interest.

Mission & Outreach

Many Zioners have expressed curiosity about becoming a Sanctuary or Sanctuary Supporting congregation, which would provide safety and shelter to undocumented immigrants in real fear of deportation. If you'd like to learn more about this or other justice movements Zion could engage, contact Pastor Meta.

March 2017 CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 1

10:00am Youth Farm
11:00am Church Office Helpers
6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.
6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner
7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, March 2

5:30pm ESL Classes
5:30pm Youth Farm Cooking

Friday, March 3

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
6:00pm Le Barca de Jesus

Saturday, March 4

9:30am Property Work Day

Sunday, March 5

8:45am Choir Rehearsal
10:00am Zion Worship
10:00am Household of Faith SS
11:00am Coffee and Fellowship
11:30am Household of Faith Worship
3:00pm La Barca de Jesus Worship

Monday, March 6

12:00pm ZOOM Food Shelf
5:30pm ESL Classes

Tuesday, March 7

9:00am Quilters
10:00am Youth Farm
10:45am Zion Bible Study
5:30pm ESL Classes

Wednesday, March 8

10:00am Youth Farm
11:00am Office Help
6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.
6:00pm ESL Table Conversations
6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner
7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

Thursday, March 9

5:30pm ESL Classes
5:30pm Youth Farm Cooking
6:00pm ZOOM Gala Planning

Friday, March 10

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Saturday, February 11

Sunday, March 12

8:45am Choir Rehearsal
9:00am Finance Committee
10:00am Zion Worship

10:00am Household of Faith SS
11:00am Coffee and Fellowship
11:30am Household of Faith Worship
3:00pm La Barca de Jesus worship

Monday, March 13

5:30pm ESL Classes

Tuesday, March 14

9:00am Quilters
10:00am Youth Farm
10:45am Zion Bible Study
5:30pm ESL Classes

Wednesday, March 15

10:00am Youth Farm
11:00am Office Helpers
5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.
6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner
7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

Thursday, March 16

5:30pm ESL Classes
5:30pm Youth Farm Cooking

Friday, March 17

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Saturday, February 18

Sunday, March 19

ZOOM Can Do Sunday
8:45am Choir Rehearsal
10:00am Zion Worship
10:00am Household of Faith SS
11:00am Coffee and Fellowship
11:30am Household of Faith Worship
3:00pm La Barca de Jesus Worship

Monday, March 20

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
5:30pm ESL Class

Tuesday, March 21

9:00am Quilters
10:00am Youth Farm
10:45am Zion Bible Study
5:30pm ESL Classes
5:30pm Zion Executive Mtg
6:30pm Zion Council Mtg

Wednesday, March 22

10:00am Youth Farm
11:00am Office Helpers
6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.

6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner
7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

Thursday, March 23

12:00pm ZOOM Food Shelf
5:30pm ESL Classes
5:30pm Youth Farm Cooking

Friday, March 24

OFFICE CLOSED
6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Saturday, March 25

Sunday, February 26

8:45am Choir Rehearsal
10:00am Zion Worship
10:00am Household of Faith SS
11:00am Coffee & Fellowship
11:30am Household of Faith Worship
3:00pm La Barca de Jesus worship

Monday, March 27

5:30pm ESL Classes

Tuesday, March 28

9:00am Quilters
10:00am Youth Farm
10:45am Zion Bible Study
5:30pm ESL Classes
6:00pm ZOOM Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 29

10:00am Youth Farm
11:00am Office Helpers
6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.
6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner
7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

Thursday, March 30

12:00pm ZOOM Food Shelf
5:30pm ESL Classes
5:30pm Youth Farm Cooking

Friday, March 31

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Zion is a busy building. If you are planning a meeting, reserve your space early by calling the church office.

We are working on a Zion Lutheran Church Google Calendar members, tenants, and friends will be able to view. Stay tuned for an opportunity to subscribe.

LAST MONTH'S ALTAR FLOWERS



February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
No flowers	No flowers	No flowers	Given by Joan and Dick Olsen in honor of Joan's brother, Jim.

SERVING ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
Worship Leaders	Sunday Servant Team 1	Sunday Servant Team 2	Sunday Servant Team 3	Sunday Servant Team 4
Offering Counters	Kirsten Anderson Sharon Hendrickson	Carl Hendrickson SueAnn Westphal	SueAnn Westphal Nedra Granquist	Kirsten Anderson Dennis Werneke
Coffee Hour Host(s)	Joanna Accola Ben Accola	Tammy Fuentes Sandy Johnson	Nedra Granquist	Penny Werneke Dennis Werneke

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

A Summary from the Finance/Stewardship Committee

	January Actual	January Projected	YTD Actual	YTD Projected	
Income	\$19,674	\$18,406	\$19,674	\$18,406	The committee continues monthly to monitor income and expenses. We encourage members and friends to sign up for Simply Giving in 2017. Call the church office if interested in enrolling in the Simply Giving program. Income exceeded budget projections in the following areas: pledges, loose offering, property and misc. income. Expenses exceeded budget projections in the following areas: special music and coffee hour.
Expenses	(\$15,333)	(\$16,340)	(\$15,333)	(\$16,340)	
Net Income	\$4,342	\$2,066	\$4,342	\$2,066	
Pledges	\$9,863	\$8,985	\$9,863	\$8,985	

January Worship Attendance

1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	Recovery
49	60	56	52	Average 11

Average Sunday Attendance: 61

Average Recovery Worship Attendance (YTD): 11

Current Committee members: Ben Accola, Carl Hendrickson, Gary Larsen, Stan Nelson

We thank everyone who has given and continues to support our ministry at Zion. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is posted on the bulletin board in the Banquet Room. If you would be interested in serving on the Finance/Stewardship Committee, please contact one of the committee members.



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A reconciling in Christ congregation.

Place mailing label here.



Zion's Schedule

Sundays

8:45am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00am Worship & Holy Communion
 11:00am Coffee & Fellowship

Wednesdays

6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner
 6:45pm Recovery Worship

Office Hours:

10:00am - 2:00pm Monday - Thursday
 We are closed on Fridays and Holidays.

*Zion is a little church with a BIG heart.
 We show up with purpose because
 we believe our lives are useful
 and the world needs places for the
 broken and beloved to gather.*



Wednesdays at 6:00pm March Menus and Cooks

- March 1: Douglas Johnson, Baked potato bar and salad
- March 8: Anna and Steven Kuehn, Pasta three ways - meat, vegetarian, and vegan
- March 15: Douglas Johnson, Hamburgers and potato salad
- March 22: Patty Beadle, Lasagna and salad
- March 29: Jenna Yeakle and her mama, Enchiladas with chips and salsa



Sundays at 10:00am

"This New Identity Matters!"

Lent offers rich stories about Jesus meeting people where they are: In their questions, their shame, their fears, and their hope.

We are hungry for this recognition and are invited to the table so we can be filled with food that satisfies.