



The Messenger

Zion Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, ELCA
Volume 12 Issue 4 April 2017

Easter Is Just Around the Corner

Join us for Holy Week

- Palm Sunday** (April 9) 10am Worship, Procession with Palms
Maundy Thursday (April 13) 7pm Worship, Stations for Reflection
Easter Sunday (April 16) 7:45am Gathering Litany and Light
 8-9:30am Easter Breakfast
 (Egg Bake, Fresh Fruit, and Coffee Cake)
 9:30am Children's Egg Hunt
 10am Worship



Pastoral Transition

Zion's members and friends learned last week that Pastor Meta has discerned and accepted a call to serve as Campus Pastor to Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Minnetonka. Her last Sunday at Zion will be April 16 (Easter) and **we will celebrate her five years of ministry with us during the Lyndale Community Dinner on Wednesday, April 19 at 6:00pm.** While a pastoral transition can be hard, we recognize that life at Zion is energized and strong. We have faith that the Holy Spirit is already stirring in a new leader to join us for the next chapter of ministry. You can read Pastor Meta's letter to the congregation and an FAQ sheet from Zion's Executive Team at www.zionchurchmpls.org/blog.



From the Intern...

Change is a timely topic for us at Zion. Change is hard and it usually sets off all kinds of emotions for most of us. We like how we have things, even when they aren't perfect. The situation we know is better than the one we don't know, right?

So, what I do know is the only thing constant is change. I spoke a little bit about this in a sermon recently, that change focuses on the outcome or the change it self, while transition begins with an ending and ends with a beginning. Somehow transition seems different than change, gentler than change and easier to swallow.

Beginning with an ending would mean we need to grieve what we are giving up. In such a way that we acknowledge what we will miss and how we feel about that. We sit in the wonder for a bit with gratitude for the opportunities we have been afforded. For the ways Jesus has come alive in our lives through the people on our path.

Beyond that, in working through the process of transition we begin to open our hearts to what is ahead. What might this change bring that is refreshing or new, where can I lean into new beginnings in my life? I am not claiming any of this is easy, just declaring we are in this together, as a community of people that does life better together than apart. Let us lean into what God has in store in this next chapter.

Let us bless and release what we've become comfortable with, know that will always be a part of our story, a part of our hearts, and embrace what lies ahead.

With Hope, Patty Beadle

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Sharing Our Milestones



Gratitude & Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, calls and visits while I was in the hospital. The transplant was on February 9, and I am now cancer free! I will return to church in late May. I miss you all.

-Vicki Bennett

Celebrations

Congratulations to dear Pastor Meta for receiving and accepting a call to be a campus pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Minnetonka. She will be sorely missed, but her unforgettable fortitude and work here at Zion will influence our congregation for many years to come. Bethlehem has gained a gem, and we know they will grow in her grace, charm and smarts, just as we have done. Many blessings and much love to her and her family.

On May 7 during coffee hour Zion will host a baby shower for Ben and Joanna! Attendees are encouraged to bring gifts of newborn diapers, baby wipes, and children's books.

April Birthdays

- 2 Trygve Schmid
- 5 Liza Anderson Schmid
- 11 Josephine Schmid
- 12 Alex Gerst
- 17 Justin Snestrud
- 22 Norma Pietz
- 24 Lee George
- 26 Lillia Pickarski
- 27 Alaina Metz

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

All ISAIAH Day of Action: Thursday, May 4th 10am-12pm at the MN State Capitol. This is an opportunity for faith leaders from congregations (that's you!) to receive training and take a stand for healthcare justice and worker's rights in MN. For more information, visit www.isaiahmn.org.

ZOOM House celebrated 20 years with a fantastic gala event on Saturday, March 18! Thank you for attending, donating items, and encouraging others to get involved. It was a fun way to mark a big anniversary and Zion's historic involvement in this organization's success. The gala raised a grand total of \$102,000!!!

Lyndale Neighborhood Open House: Thursday, April 20th 5:30pm – 8:00pm at Lyndale Community School. This year's theme is "We all belong in Lyndale!" This event includes food from local venues, music, dancing, and a silent auction that benefits the neighborhood association. Zion, ZOOM House, and the Lyndale Community Dinner will have tables. Contact Patty Beadle if you'd like to help host our table for a bit. Come enjoy this celebration of local community!

Luther Park's Annual fund raiser, the OLE & LENA Spaghetti Dinner is 5:00pm on Saturday, April 22 at Richfield Lutheran Church, 60th & Nicollet. Tickets are \$20.00 for adults, \$5.00 for kids. This dinner raises \$ for camperships for kids going to Luther Park Bible Camp this dinner. The event includes the "Uff-Da Good Time Show" by 'SISTER', a silent auction, music, raffle & fun for everyone! Talk to Deana for tickets.

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.

Mental Health Connect sends out a monthly newsletter that helps congregations and neighbors connect with resources and relationships that work to end stigma about mental illness. Zion's Mental Health Connect Ambassador is Farrah Frye. If you have questions or ideas about engaging MHC in our community, contact Farrah at fafrye@gmail.com.

The Women's Film Festival benefitting the Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute is 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.

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?

Monthly Council Update

The church council met on Tuesday, March 21. Pastor Meta shared that she's accepted a call at Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Twin Cities to serve as their Minnetonka campus pastor. We shared emotions and first logistics related to this transition. We will bless and send her from Zion on Wednesday, April 19 at 6:00pm. At the Property Committee's recommendation, we approved patching of the parking lot up to \$5,000 this spring.

Men's Breakfast: Friday, April 28th 7am at Curran's Restaurant on 42nd Street and Nicollet Avenue. This is a reoccurring event on the fourth Friday of each month. This group assures you that Medicare cards are not required for participation. Join us!

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.

Wednesday, April 19th we'll host a farewell party for Pastor Meta during the LCD. This meal will be extra special, and there will be pie and ice cream! We hope you'll join us to celebrate Pastor Meta's time with us.

Wednesday, May 31st the LCD will be at Painter Park (just a block away from Zion), co-hosted by the Lyndale Neighborhood Association with art, music and good picnic food!

Sundays to Note

April 2 — We will install and bless the newly elected leaders of the ZOOM Board, Endowment Committee, and Zion Council. Lee George and Christine Zwicky will join as members.

April 9 — Palm Sunday and Zion's 124th anniversary! Jasmine and Steve Wilson, and Elaine Evers will join as members.

April 23 — A staff-led service of healing and community celebration during Worship will honor and acknowledge how special this community is. Jasmine is writing for Zion, and the music will be followed by some fellowship and food.

May 7 — Ben and Joanna's baby shower during coffee hour!

May 21 — Patty Beadle's See You Later party during coffee hour!



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Closed on Fridays & Holidays

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Zion's Staff Members

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Jasmine Wilson, Music Coordinator
(612) 824-1017 ext. 12
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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 Snesrud, Member
Carl Hendrickson, Treasurer
Meta Carlson, Pastor

A Prayer of Gratitude from Pastor Meta

Gracious God, you are full of good surprises and Zion is one of my life's very best. You drew me into the scrappy joy of this congregation despite my nerves and self-doubt 5 ½ years ago, encouraging my trust and wonder to take root on 33rd and Pillsbury. I never imagined church could look like this, people could love like this, and community could matter like this. You planted me among faithful leaders who engage life's struggles and celebrations with such honesty and empathy. You made us brave and creative for the sake of who we are still called to be: a small but vibrant congregation that sings and serves like our voices and hands can manifest your kingdom here on earth. And they do! I am grateful for the ways you have helped us practice failing and flying, learning and feasting, wandering and showing up – all for the sake of a world that is hungry for your justice and love. Their support for my family has been generous and constant while we grew from three to five, from maternity leave to preschool, from diaper drives to snacks in worship. My children are so blessed to think of Zion when they think of church. This cloud of witnesses has embodied baptismal promises for all five of us and we are a stronger family for their love and grace.

Bless the people of Zion as they feel all kinds of emotions around this pastoral transition – saying goodbye, discerning in interim, and welcoming someone new to this beautiful community of faith. May this moment reveal the new life and potential you have in store for Zion. Stir them to keep showing up for the sake of what is true and just and hospitable, for every time they do it bears a magnificent gift to the world you love in Christ. Amen.

St. Olaf College is hosting a few different events on April 20, 21 and 27

4/20 at 3:45 p.m., Tomson Hall 280 — **Negotiating Difference Without Sacrificing Identity: Religion, Pluralism, and Globalization**

Miroslav Volf is the Henry B. Wright Professor of Theology at Yale Divinity School and the founder and director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. His most recent books, *Flourishing: Why We Need Religion in a Globalized World* and *Public Faith in Action: How to Think Carefully, Engage Wisely, and Vote with Integrity* (co-authored with Ryan McAnnally-Linz) were released in 2016. He is actively involved in many top-level initiatives concerning Christian-Muslim relations.

4/20 at 7 p.m., Tomson Hall 280 — **Evangelicalism and Politics in the Trump Era: Definitions and Debates**

Amy Black is a professor of political science at Wheaton College. Her most recent book is titled *Honoring God in Red or Blue: Approaching Politics with Humility, Grace, and Reason*. She regularly contributes commentary to the *Christian Science Monitor* and to the Center for Public Justice's *Capital Commentary*.

4/21 at 3:15 p.m., Tomson Hall 280 — **Religious Diversity, Political Conflict, and the Spirituality of Liberation: The Voice of a Palestinian Christian**

Mitri Raheb is the founder and president of Dar al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture in Bethlehem in addition to being the president of the Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. His latest book is *Faith in the Face of Empire: The Bible through Palestinian Eyes*. A social entrepreneur, he has founded several church-related organizations in addition to several other civic initiatives on national, regional, and international levels.

4/21 at 4:30 p.m., Tomson Hall 280 — **Trying to Live as a Christian in a Polarized Society: Friendship, Church, and Political Life**

Robert Benne is the Jordan-Trexler Professor of Religion Emeritus and research associate in the Religion and Philosophy Department of Roanoke College. His most recent book is titled *Good and Bad Ways to Think about Religion and Politics*. In 6451, he will publish a book on Roanoke College's relation to its Lutheran heritage.

4/27 at 7 p.m., Tomson Hall 280 — **Debating Religious Freedom Today**

This panel discussion will feature renowned normative political theorists Robert P. George, Cécile Laborde, and David Little. They will address issues revolving around the meaning, justification, and practice of religious freedom.

Music Notes from Jasmine

April Music Schedule

- 4/2 8:45am Choir Rehearsal
- 4/5 5:30pm-6:30pm Handbell Choir
(Easter Ringers 5:30-6;
Palm Sunday Ringers 6-6:30)
- 4/9 8:45am Choir Rehearsal;
guest cellist Tim Perry and
Handbell Choir plays at 10:00
worship service
- 4/12 5:30pm-6:30pm Handbell Choir
- 4/16 8:30am Choir Rehearsal
9:00am Easter Musician Rehearsal;
Guest Trumpet Player Ron
Hasselmann, Guest Timpani Player
Dave Balazc, Guest Organist Emma
Haupt, and Handbell Choir plays at
10:00am worship service
- 4/23 8:45am Choir Rehearsal
Emily Hagen will be playing viola at
worship.
- 4/30 8:45am Choir Rehearsal

My Office Hours at Zion

Tuesdays 12-2pm
Worship planning and meetings

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



Ministry Area Highlights

Community Life

Watch for sign ups for helping with the Easter Breakfast! Or contact Joanna or Nedra if you'd like to help: jo.helen.lau@gmail.com, nedragran@mac.com

Finance & Stewardship

(Carl Hendrickson, Stan Nelson, Ben Accola, Gary Larsen)
Your consistent faithful giving makes a big difference in maintaining a healthy budget! Thank you for your care and generosity.

Faith Formation

(Patty Beadle)
Adult education hours centered around faith and politics will be held on April 9 and May 7.

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!

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

The Property Committee is re-inventing itself! After several discussions we are going back to regular monthly meetings (second Wednesday of each month@5:00pm). First Saturday workdays will continue. . Everyone is welcome to come and help keep Zion in shape! A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who do a tons of things at Zion. You are appreciated!

The Committee is also looking for input to improve the grounds outside the church building. Spring is here, and it's time to start planning. Please take some time to walk around the building this month to get your wheels turning. Submit your ideas to the Property Committee, which meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00pm.

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.

April 2017 CALENDAR

Saturday, April 1

9:30am Property Work Day

Sunday, April 2

Installation of Elected Officials

Welcoming New Members

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, April 3

5:30pm ESL Classes

Tuesday, April 4

9:00am Quilters

10:00am Youth Farm

10:45am Zion Bible Study

5:30pm ESL Classes

Wednesday, April 5

10:00am Youth Farm

11:00am Office Help

6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.

6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner

7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

Thursday, April 6

5:30pm ESL Classes

Friday, April 7

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Saturday, April 8

8:00am La Barca de Jesus Wedding

Sunday, April 9

Palm Sunday

Zion's 124th Anniversary Sunday

Welcoming New Members

8:45am Choir Rehearsal

9:00am Finance Committee

10:00am Zion Worship

10:00am Household of Faith SS

11:00am Coffee and Fellowship

11:00am Faith & Politics Forum

11:30am Endowment Committee

11:30am Household of Faith Worship

3:00pm La Barca de Jesus worship

Monday, April 10

5:30pm ESL Classes

6:00pm Young Adult Soup Dinner

Tuesday, April 11

9:00am Quilters

10:00am Youth Farm

10:45am Zion Bible Study

5:30pm ESL Classes

Wednesday, April 12

10:00am Youth Farm

11:00am Office Helpers

5:00pm Property Committee

6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.

6:00pm Lyndale Community Dinner

7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

Thursday, April 13

Maundy Thursday

5:30pm ESL Classes

7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday, April 14

Good Friday

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Saturday, April 15

Sunday, April 16

Easter Sunday

ZOOM Can Do Sunday

7:45am Resurrection Litany

8:00am Easter Breakfast

9:30am Egg Hunt

10:00am Easter Worship

10:00am Household of Faith Worship

11:00am Coffee and Fellowship

11:30am Household of Faith Worship

3:00pm La Barca de Jesus Worship

Monday, April 17

12:00pm ZOOM Food Shelf

5:30pm ESL Class

Tuesday, April 18

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, April 19

10:00am Youth Farm

11:00am Office Helpers

6:00pm Household of Faith Bible Inst.

6:00pm Pastor Meta's See You Later Party

7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

Thursday, April 20

12:00pm ZOOM Food Shelf

5:30pm ESL Classes

5:30pm Lyndale Open House

Friday, April 21

OFFICE CLOSED

6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Saturday, April 22

Sunday, April 23

Community Celebration Service

8:45am Choir Rehearsal

10:00am Zion Worship

10:00am Household of Faith

11:00am Coffee & Fellowship

11:30am Household of Faith Worship

3:00pm La Barca de Jesus worship

Monday, April 24

12:00pm ZOOM Food Shelf

5:30pm ESL Classes

Tuesday, April 25

9:00am Quilters

10:00am Youth Farm

10:45am Zion Bible Study

5:30pm ESL Classes

6:00pm ZOOM Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 26

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, April 27

12:00pm ZOOM Food Shelf

5:30pm ESL Classes

Friday, April 28

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

7:00am Men's Breakfast

6:00pm La Barca de Jesus

Saturday, April 29

Sunday, April 30

8:45am Choir Rehearsal

10:00am Zion Worship

10:00am Household of Faith Worship

11:00am Coffee and Fellowship

11:30am Household of Faith Worship

3:00pm La Barca de Jesus Worship

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

LAST MONTH'S ALTAR FLOWERS



	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26	
	Given by Jerry and Ethel Allardyce in memory of their son Michael.	No flowers	No flowers	No flowers	

SERVING ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

	April 2	April 9	April 16	April 23	April 30
Worship Leaders	Sunday Servant Team 1	Sunday Servant Team 2	Sunday Servant Team 3	Sunday Servant Team 4	Sunday Servant Team 5
Offering Counters	Gary Larsen Matthew Frye	Carla Hofland Stan Nelson	Gary Larsen Darlene Carlson	Carla Hofland Tammy Fuentes	Gary Larsen Patty Kane
Coffee Hour Host(s)	Sharon and Carl Hendrickson	Kara Bennett Jenna Yeakle	Easter Breakfast No coffee hour	LuAnn Giles	Joan Konigson Darlene Carlson

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

A Summary from the Finance/Stewardship Committee

	February Actual	February Projected	YTD Actual	YTD Projected	The committee continues to monthly monitor the income and expenses. We encourage you to sign up for Simply Giving in 2017. Call the church office if you are interested in enrolling in the Simply Giving program. Income exceeded budget projections in the following areas: Administration (office). Expenses exceeded budget projections in the following areas: Special music and Leadership Development (Synod Assembly registration). Thank you to all who have given and continue 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 contact one of the committee members.
Income	\$11,067	\$16,044	\$30,742	\$34,450	
Expenses	(\$16,927)	(\$16,595)	(\$32,260)	(\$32,935)	
Net Income	(\$5,860)	(\$551)	(\$1,518)	\$1,515	
Pledges	\$7,967	\$8,985	\$17,830	\$17,970	

February Worship Attendance

1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	Recovery
63	46	58	60	10

Average Sunday Attendance: 57

Average Recovery Worship Attendance (YTD): 12

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



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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

Hoping to test your cooking skills on a friendly group of hungry folk? Join the Lyndale Community Dinners often and hankering to return the favor?

There are still a few open hosting dates in April!
 Contact Jeanna Yeakle at lcd@zionchurchmpls.org to sign up.



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.