



# Zion Lutheran Church

## The Tidings March 2020

### Inside this Issue

- Pastor's Message
- Zion Organizations
- CDC
- Community
- Finances
- Council Minutes
- Serving on Sundays
- Calendar



Lent has begun and so has our 40 day journey with Jesus to the cross. Zion will be having midweek Lenten worship services every Wednesday night at 7:00pm. Before the service, at 6:00pm, a meal will be provided. This year we will have a variety of suppers each week. If you would like to volunteer to bring a dish, sign-up sheets are in the back of the sanctuary. Below are all the dates for midweek worship.

- Week 1:** March 4th
- Week 2:** March 11th
- Week 3:** March 18th
- Week 4:** March 25th
- Week 5:** April 1st



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and click  .

# On the Mountain

When I first came to Zion on September 1, 2016, it was to be your Interim Pastor for what normally would be 18 months and then you would be interviewing candidates for you to call. As we all know, that changed. After taking my first theology course in January 1993, I finished my seminary work, was ordained and installed as your pastor a month ago. That was not in my plan and probably not in yours on that first day in 2016!

And so here we are! We have already started looking at our future, but we are ready to do it in earnest in just a few weeks. As part of my seminary work, we started our planning process and have already approved our vision, mission, and values. Soon we will start looking at what our goals and objectives might be as we look to our future. By the way, that is why I accepted the call to be your pastor. I want to be part of Zion's future.

My message to you on Transfiguration Sunday, that you will see following this introduction, I hope is, and was, clear. With our Biblical foundation and our vision, mission, and values as part of that foundation, we are ready to listen to Jesus. Jesus is leading us, and we need to jump on board and ask him what we need to do to serve Him by loving God and loving our neighbor.

As I was preparing for the message today, I came to the conclusion that Jesus and I have more in common than I had first thought! Clearly, He is my Savior and Lord, but I learned, in more detail than I had ever imagined, that He loved mountains even more than I do.

Today's Gospel text is Jesus going up the mountain, but with a little more research and Biblical memory, we find that:

- 1) When Jesus was tempted to worship the devil in exchange for all the kingdoms of the world, it happened on a mountain.
- 2) Jesus went up a mountain to pray.
- 3) Sermon on the Mount was delivered on a mountain.
- 4) And of course, here we have Jesus going up the mountain for the Transfiguration.
- 5) And the list really goes on...

In addition, we know that Moses went up the mountain to receive the Ten Commandments from God. Additionally, in the Old Testament, mountains became symbols of the way things would be when God's rule finally would extend over the earth. An example is in Isaiah 2:3, "Come, let

us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

Jesus loves mountains, and so do I! My son Craig and I started our LC Hunts, Guide and Outfitting Business on a mountain in New Mexico. In 2004, I bought property at 9,000 feet in the Sacramento Mountains, which is the last mountain range at the end of the Rockies just before it ends (just north of El Paso, TX). I love the mountains, in fact, I will go there in the middle of April to open the cabin for the summer.

But I love the mountains for the same reason Jesus loved the mountains. I go to the top to listen to God. I go there to pray. I go there to get direction for my life.

There is something about mountains that somehow pulls me to the top. It is a mysterious feeling, somewhat like this story today (referring to Matthew 17:1-9).

Interestingly enough, one of my good friends in my Tuesday morning Bible Class (at Trinity) describes anything that he doesn't understand as “tis a mystery.” And this encounter at the top of the mountain today is a “mystery.” In fact, I remember a sermon preached on this very Transfiguration Sunday, by Pr. Sam Roth, where he described it the same way, only he just said it is a “mystery.” You cannot explain it, you can only feel it. You can almost hear God's voice say, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”

Mountaintop experiences are for “mountain tops.” It was early morning, two years ago, and I was hunting elk with my cousin Larry and his sons, and the sun had not yet peeked over the mountaintop to my left. I was facing the south, overlooking a high mountain lake. It was clear with a full moon and the stars were still very visible. The temperature was around freezing and the lake was not iced over. The beavers were swimming in the lake. I could see the wash from their bodies as they swam across the lake. The sun came up and the warmth of the sun was almost more than I could take.

God's presence in that place at that time was enormous. I had a number of things on my mind when I had arrived for the hunt, things that I thought were really important. God made it really clear to me what was important and what wasn't as I sat there that morning overlooking that lake and listening to God. It was like a huge weight lifted from my shoulders. God is good and full of GRACE!

When you are literally on the mountaintop, mountaintop experiences come easy, at least for me. That is why I love going to the mountain, but you

do have to come down from the mountain just as Jesus did.

Peter said, and I echo it, "Lord, it is good for us to be here." And now that we're here, God says that we should "listen to Jesus." What is Jesus saying to you about the future of Zion? What is He telling you that your role in Zion's future might be?

I realize that the last verse in the Gospel lesson says, "As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'"

I would like you to call our Zion council president, Pam Statler or me, and tell us what Jesus said to you. What do you think Zion's future is and what role do you plan to play in that future?

Jesus' future was starting a journey to the cross. A journey where he would attempt to prepare the disciples for what was ahead for them, and the disciples don't always get it! And maybe neither do we.

Jesus' future is summed up in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

Jesus gave his life for the forgiveness of your sins and mine, and he was raised from the dead that we might have eternal life. In response to Jesus' love for us, how might we serve him as members of Zion as we look to the future?

Let us pray: Lord, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

P.S. And Lord, as we go forward, always give us the knowledge and faith to first heed your command: LISTEN TO JESUS! Amen.

God is good and full of GRACE!

Blessings,  
Pr. Larry



## March Birthdays

- 7<sup>th</sup> Jason Martin
- 8<sup>th</sup> Bill Taylor
- 10<sup>th</sup> Esther Negwer  
Jayda Tucker
- 11<sup>th</sup> Ethan Robinson
- 15<sup>th</sup> Fannie Cole
- 16<sup>th</sup> Alissa Robinson
- 17<sup>th</sup> Ara Tess  
Dorothy Scales
- 19<sup>th</sup> Ruth Lemons
- 21<sup>st</sup> Christine Palmer
- 28<sup>th</sup> Joe Sue Denney
- 29<sup>th</sup> Steven Kaiser

## March Anniversaries

- 14<sup>th</sup> Justin & Kristen Kinney
- 17<sup>th</sup> Thomas & Julie Webber



## Follow Jesus in Lent

In Max Lucado's book, In the Eye of the Storm: A Day in the Life of Jesus, chapter 7 is titled: *Thanks for the Bread*. Max told the story of being a high-schooler and working one summer as a roustabout laying pipe in an oil field. These workers were on the bottom of the pecking order. One day, the boss approached the group during their lunch and awkwardly invited them to an evening service at his church. No one responded and after he left there was laughter and the boss became the butt of jokes.

Fast forward five years, Max is now in college and had drifted away from the faith he had as a child. He wanted to come back but he would have to change: give up his friends, change his habits, and suffer ridicule. Could he pay that price? He remembered the boss whose obedience was greater than common sense. How did that go? Max entered the ministry and has authored many inspirational Christian books.

In the same chapter, Max used the story of the little boy who offered his lunch to Jesus because over 5,000 people are hungry. How much sense does that make? One lunch offered to Jesus to feed a multitude. That looks pretty silly. But faith wins over logic. You know how that story ends!

So we have an opportunity during the 40 days of Lent. You have, or will receive, a small offering box to place your coins or cash each day. Remember how Jesus multiplied a small offering? Just 25¢ can supply one meal. Do what you can to support our local Feed My Starving Children fundraising and food pack.

Our offering boxes will be dedicated on Easter. Can all of us working together supply 5,000 meals, or maybe more?

## March Fellowship

A representative from Cross Rivers Financial will come to the March Fellowship Meeting and will talk about Thrivent programs that can benefit Zion and the community at large. Please come and make them feel welcome.

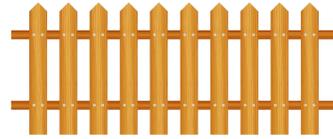
## Warming Tree

The Community Outreach committee would like to thank everyone that contributed, scarves, gloves, hats, socks, or whatever for the folks needing warmth. We will no longer be collecting items as the colder season has nearly ended. All items collected have been taken to churches and schools where they could be given where needed.

## St. Louis Metro Singers Concert

Please share the following information where ever you can: St. Stephen's Church on Darst Ave. will be hosting the St. Louis Metropolitan Singers on March 22nd, 2020, at 3:00 P.M. This is a free concert and all are invited.

## Northwest Ferguson Neighborhood Association Meet 'n Greet



This neighborhood association was formed to service the needs of Ferguson residents residing in Ferguson Fields, Ferguson Hills, Lakeview, and Pauline Park.

On Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-3pm at the Ferguson Community Center, we will have our first quarterly Neighborhood Meeting of 2020 – a Ferguson-wide *Meet 'n Greet*. During this meeting, residents will have the opportunity to meet, connect with and hear from officials from the City of Ferguson, in addition to other community leaders, business owners, and educators. A light lunch will be provided.

Zion is planning to send a representative to this meeting. If you would like to attend, please contact Teyuna Darris at (314) 755-2949 or [info@nwfna.org](mailto:info@nwfna.org).

## Faith Perspectives on Religious Liberty

Join us for a discussion by faith leaders and legal experts on religious liberty as practiced by their respective faith communities. Thurs March 5, 2020 @ 7-8:30pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 10445 Clayton Rd, Frontenac, MO 63131

## 2019 Contributions to Zion

Zion has been blessed with many faithful members that have contributed in a variety of ways. Below is a summary of financial contributions made to Zion's budget related items in 2019:

Contribution Range \$	# of Contributors	Total \$ Given	Average Contributor
0 – 0	7	0	0
0.01 – 50	5	175	35
50.01 – 150	7	754	107
150.01 – 500	8	2,450	306
500.01 – 1,000	6	4,470	745
1,00.01 – 1,500	12	14,261	1,188
1,500.01 – 2,500	8	16,582	2,072
2,500.01 – 5,000	4	17,787	4,446
5,000.01 – 10,000	2	14,170	7,085
10,000.01 and up	6	97,215	16,202
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>\$167,864</b>	<b>\$2,582</b>

\*This includes 23 active envelope sets and 42 active 3## contribution numbers

These numbers do not include the \$13,151 contributed to Major Maintenance, \$9,432 for the Central States Synod, \$1,725 for specified memorials, and many other designated contributions. All contributions to Zion in 2019 totaled almost \$205,000.

### Meeting Our Neighbors: Cathedral Basilica

Join the interfaith community for a tour of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis and the opportunity to experience one of the most beautiful churches in the region! Sun, March 22, 2020 3-4:30pm at Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108.

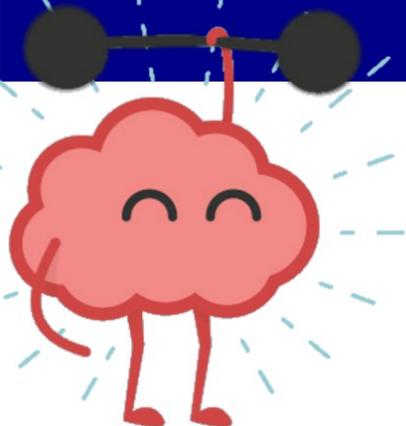
### Women's Interfaith Conference

This annual spring conference brings together St. Louis women to share the beliefs, values, customs and practices of their respective faiths. This year's theme is Women of Faith: Beyond Stereotypes to Truth. Wed April 22, 2020 @ 9am at Dar ul Jalal Mosque 8945 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042.

FEED MY  
STARVING  
CHILDREN



# Trivia Night



**Saturday, March 21st**

**Zion Lutheran Church**

123 Carson Rd., Ferguson, MO 63135

Tables of 8 for \$200

Doors open at 6PM

Trivia at 7PM

Call Pr. BJ Arnold

(314) 518-1505

to register your team

It's a FUNdraiser unlike any other...

Feed My Starving Children North  
County Mobile Pack presents...

## DUELING PIANOS NIGHT!



Doors Open 6pm

Dueling Pianos 6:30-9:30pm

**GET TICKETS ON  
EVENTBRITE!**

**SAT,  
APRIL 25**

Atonement Lutheran School Gym  
1285 N. New Florissant Road, Florissant, MO 63031

**BEER, SOFT  
DRINKS, LIGHT  
REFRESHMENTS  
PROVIDED!**

**RAFFLES!**

**SILENT AUCTIONS!**

**AGES 21 AND UP!**

**ALL-REQUEST  
DUELING  
PIANOS!**

Music provided by Spanky Entertainment Dueling Pianos

[www.SpankyEntertainment.com](http://www.SpankyEntertainment.com)



FEED MY  
STARVING  
CHILDREN

# Council Meeting

## February 11, 2020

In Attendance: Pam Statler, Kristen Kinney, Richard Schademann, Larry Lemke, Doris McCall, Johnnie Tucker, Bill Budenholzer, Stacey Miller

- Welcome and Devotion
  - Book of James
  - “But be doers of the word, not just hearers who deceive themselves”
  - “For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead.”
  - James is a function of Verbs – what are we doing?
- Confirm approval of meeting minutes from January 2020 meeting
  - Motion made to confirm meeting minutes, seconded, and approved
- Synod Activity Opportunities
  - Report on EMC Academy on February 8<sup>th</sup>
    - Six Zion members attended
    - 4 workshops – 2 were half day and the other 2 were all day
      - Dismantling Racism
      - Dwelling in the World
      - Healthy Boundaries
      - Share Stop – Where are you as a congregation and what gifts do you have?
  - Synod Assembly June 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>
    - Asking for people who want to plan or volunteer at the Synod Assembly
- Pastor’s Report
  - FMA presentation was about the 2020 census
    - The concern is what happened in 2010 – in the north county area we did not get everyone counted in order to receive grants and state aid for different things
    - Reminder that it is all confidential information
  - 4 churches working as warming centers for the homeless
    - Looking for help with dinner, clean up, and someone willing to spend the night
    - Please let Pastor know if you want to help
  - Ferguson City Council is thinking about moving to Town Hall style meetings due to increased activity at city council meetings
- Team Reports
  - Finance Report – Bill
    - Church in the black for \$209
    - CDC in the black for \$3437
  - Member Care Ministry – Richard
    - Met at the beginning of the month
    - Carol Hermann is now a Member Care Representative

- Dorothy Kaiser now working with Richard's members since he is the chairperson
  - Talked about sending letters out to members
    - Member care reps will modify as they need
  - Greif packets, cards, and etc were also mentioned as options
  - Discussion about visiting homebound members – we need people to visit homebound members
- Worship – Larry
  - Meeting 2/12/2020
  - Ordination and Installation went very well
- Education – Jason
  - First meeting held
  - Seeking Shalom – Waiting for supplies to come in
    - First session Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> after church service
    - Next session will be held March 1<sup>st</sup> after church service
    - Linda Lemke and Andrea Martin are going to be the representatives to Send Me Saint Louis
- CDC Support – Kristen
  - New Assistant Director who is also in the classroom started February 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Fundraising opportunities are coming down the pipeline – Parent's Night Out and "Will Work Out for Furniture"
  - Total enrollment is 50 and climbing
  - Working on planning Spring Break and Summer Camp
- Strategic Planning – Pam
  - Getting close to having a full team
  - Plan to get together and look where Zion sees themselves in the future
- Service/Community – Pam/Stacey
  - Chili Cook off February 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Meet and Greet hosted by Northwest Ferguson Neighborhood Association on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-3pm
    - Table reserved and 3 minutes to talk about Zion – Dawn Tucker agreed to do that, and Janine was reached out to in order to promote the daycare center
- Property – Pam
  - Article in the tidings about making the property maintenance into "chunks" of responsibilities
  - Johnnie to be the conduit of the property people and the representative on council – property people will report to her about needs and jobs getting done and will bring to council anything they need to approve or need to be made aware of
  - New facility rental policy proposal brought to council to look over with edits and changes
    - Council has agreed to take the proposal home and look it over to read it more in depth and talk about it in March

- Personnel
  - No update
- Voter's meeting Agenda (to congregation by March 8<sup>th</sup>)
  - March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting
  - Officially elect the Council Vice President
  - Look back at 2019 and look at what was accomplished
- Council Retreat – March 21<sup>st</sup>
  - 9am-2pm
  - Discussed what should be on the agenda and talked about during our time together during the retreat
- Next Meeting Date – March 10<sup>th</sup>
- Closing Prayer
- Meeting Adjourned 7:57pm



# *Zion Lutheran Church*

## **Serving on Sundays in March**

	<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>Mar 8</b>	<b>Mar 15</b>	<b>Mar 22</b>	<b>Mar 29</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke
<b>Music Accompanist</b>	C Rock	A Mayhew	C Rock	A Mayhew	C Rock
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	J Martin	C Linhorst	R Schademann	P Herrmann	J Martin
<b>Reader</b>	D Balestier	D Tucker	J Martin	K Kinney	P Herrmann
<b>Children's Message</b>	N Wolz	G Voss	L Lemke	N Wolz	G Voss
<b>Communion Servers</b>	A Martin	W Devenport	N Wolz	P Statler	P Herrmann
<b>Ushers</b>	F Cole J Tucker J Schaper	R Taylor S Taylor D Kaiser	P Martin J Martin	G Voss B Negwer	F Cole J Tucker J Schaper
<b>Altar Guild</b>	D Balestier	D Balestier	D Balestier	D Balestier	D Balestier

\* Scheduled servers are subject to change at the discretion of organization leaders.  
If you have a schedule conflict, please inform the Church office of any changes or schedule swaps.

# Zion Lutheran Church

## March Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30am-Worship 11am-Seeking Shalom	<b>2</b> 9am-Quilters (UR)	<b>3</b> 4:30pm-Member Care 6pm-Service Team 6pm-Comm. Outreach Team	<b>4</b> 10:30am-Worship Team 6pm-Supper 7pm-Worship	<b>5</b> 10am-Bible Class	<b>6</b> 4pm-Fish Fry	<b>7</b>  J Martin
<b>8</b> 9:30am-Worship  B Taylor	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6pm-Finance 6:30pm-Council  E Negwer  J Tucker	<b>11</b> 6pm-Supper 7pm-Worship  E Robinson	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 4pm-Fish Fry	<b>14</b>  J & K Kinney
<b>15</b> 9:30am-Worship 11am-Seeking Shalom  F Cole	<b>16</b>  A Robinson	<b>17</b>  A Tess  D Scales  T&J Webber	<b>18</b> 6pm-Supper 7pm-Worship	<b>19</b> 7pm-Quilters (MP)  R Lemons	<b>20</b> 4pm-Fish Fry	<b>21</b> 7pm-FMSC Trivia (MP)  C Walters
<b>22</b> 9:30am-Worship 11am-Voter's Mtg	<b>23</b> Tidings Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6pm-Supper 7pm-Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 4pm-Fish Fry	<b>28</b> 9am-Quilters (UR)  JS Denney
<b>29</b> 9:30am-Worship & Noisy Change 11am-Fellowship & Thrivent  S Kaiser	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 6pm-Supper 7pm-Worship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 4pm-Fish Fry	<b>4</b>

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
123 Carson Road  
Ferguson, MO 63135  
314.522.0100 Office  
office@zionferguson.com  
www.zionferguson.com

**Child Development Center**  
123 Carson Road  
Ferguson, MO 63135  
314.524.7677  
cdc@zionferguson.com



**Celebrating  
God's Grace**

## March 2020

### Zion Leaders

#### Congregation Council

Pastor	Larry Lemke
President	Pam Statler
Vice President:	Stacey Miller
Secretary:	Kristen Kinney
Treasurer:	Bill Budenholzer
Member At-Large:	Doris McCall
Member At-Large:	Johnnie Tucker
Member At-Large:	Jason Martin
Member At-Large:	-

#### Member Care Ministry

Richard Schademann  
Carole Herrmann  
Dorothy Kaiser  
Doris McCall  
Deborah Balestier  
Pat Martin

#### Committee Chairs

Finance	Pam Statler
Property	Johnnie Tucker
CDC Support:	Janet Schaper
Stewardship:	Pam Statler/Gail Voss
Worship	Gail Voss
Education	Jason Martin
Personnel	Ara Tess
Nominating	Gail Voss/Stacey Miller

#### Organizations

Fellowship:	Robert Negwer
Altar Guild:	-
Hospitality	Doris McCall

#### Team Leaders

Worship	Gail Voss
Community Outreach	Dott Kaiser/ Doris McCall
Service	Pam Statler/Stacey Miller

#### Team Members:

##### Worship Team

Gail Voss\*  
Kristina Oswald  
Nyokia Robinson  
Norma Wolz  
Doris McCall

##### Community Outreach Team

Dorothy Kaiser\*  
Doris McCall\*  
Bill Budenholzer  
Linda Lemke  
Bob Oliver  
Richard Schademann  
Janet Schaper  
Ara Tess  
Faith Tucker  
Johnnie Tucker  
Deb Murrish

##### Service Team

Pam Statler\*  
Stacey Miller\*  
Sue Dunham  
Justin Kinney  
Kristen Kinney  
Linn Moore  
Annis Tucker  
Dawn Tucker