



Zion Lutheran Church

The Tidings February 2021

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It's a
**Valentine
Party!**

♥ YOU'RE INVITED ♥

SUNDAY

14 Feb

3:30 PM

♥ Stories ♥ Conversation
♥ Games ♥ Fun

Cupid is inviting you to put on your red, get your favorite snack & beverage, and "Zoom into Zion."



Find us on
Facebook

Follow Zion on Facebook! Go to:

facebook.com/zionlutheranferguson

and click  .

Gail Voss has volunteered to host this event

Gone Fishing

On Sunday, January 24th, I preached the following sermon about fishing for people. Jesus says, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” – Mark 1:17

†

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The sign on the hardware store door usually said either “OPEN” or “CLOSED,” but sometimes it said, “GONE FISHING!” The owner of the store was a fisherman and he loved to fish. It was a small town and everyone knew who the owner was so if it was a time when you really needed something, you would call ahead to find out if he was there, or had he “gone fishing.”

Jesus is walking along the Sea of Galilee – that huge body of water that I was talking about last Sunday – and saw Simon and Andrew fishing; He said, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And they followed Jesus.

He went a little further and saw James and John, and he said the same thing to them, and they followed Jesus.

Nobody really knows if these four fishermen knew Jesus before this encounter, but for some reason, they stopped what they were doing and followed Jesus.

Jesus doesn’t promise them anything, he just calls them, just as he calls you and me. And we drop everything and follow.

You see, we have already heard about Jesus. We know who he is and so we follow. Are you ready?

Jesus says, “I will make you fish for people.” So where is your “Gone Fishing” sign? It is time to start doing what Jesus asks us to do, “I will make you fish for people.”

For some time now, we have been talking about our foundational faith. We’ve talked about 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,” Ephesians 2:8-10 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life,” and Matthew 22:38-39 “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first

commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

The list just kind of goes on. I simplify and shorten Ephesians 2:9-10 by saying, “We are saved by grace through faith to serve,” and I really shorten the Matthew text by saying, “Love God, love neighbor.”

And maybe as an afterthought, we said, “Oh, we forgot the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20): ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”

I’ll be the first to say, I think we forgot the emphasis on “Gone Fishing!” I know, you’ll say, “No we didn’t forget, it’s right there in the Great Commission.” Might I suggest that when we talk about what all this means to us, as we talk about our foundational faith, we say, “We are saved by grace through faith to serve by loving God, by loving neighbor, and by sharing Jesus with those who don’t know him.” So how do we share Jesus with those who don’t know him?

† † †

For those of you who were in church or live streamed the service, you remember that Annette then played and sang, “Pass It On!” Below are the lyrics, and hopefully it will put you in the mood to go fish for people!

Pass It On
by Kurt Kaiser

It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing; that’s how it is with God’s Love, once you’ve experienced it, you spread the love to everyone you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding. The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming; that’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it. You want to sing, it’s fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you my friend this happiness that I’ve found; you can depend on God it matters not where you are bound, I’ll shout it from the mountain top I want the world to know the Lord of love has come to me I want to pass it on.

God is good and full of GRACE!

Peace,
Pastor Larry



February Birthdays

- 5th Ruth Krueger
- 10th Pr. Larry Lemke
- 15th Carol Linhorst
- 18th Wanda Devenport
Paul Herrmann
- 20th Talisha Robinson

Jesus & the Gospels LST Course

This six-week course during Lent involves listening to the unique voice, theology, and proclamation of each gospel, with particular emphasis on how the Passion Narrative of each reveals its own peculiar way of melding Jesus' story and the story of its hearers and readers into one liberating, life-given narrative. The more carefully we listen to this quartet, the more we come to understand that no solo voice could ever communicate the fullness of what the fourth gospel called "the Word of God dwelling among us."

This class is taught via Zoom on Thursdays between February 18th-March 25th from 9am-11am. The cost to register is \$80. For questions about this course, contact Program Administrator Stephanie Doeschot at lstsinfo@gmail.com.

The Road Back to God Devotions for Lent

This is the title of a daily devotional from Creative Communications that you will receive to help guide your spiritual journey during Lent. Those attending worship in person can pick it up on Sunday, January 31st and February 7th. A copy will also be mailed to those worshipping at home. May the messages inspire your Christian walk of active love and service.

Thank You

Dear Friends at Zion, thank you so much for all your lovely cards and messages on my 80th birthday. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness. God Bless You!

-Love, Phyllis Graser

FMSC Spring 2021 Raffle



The FMSC North County Pack will host an online raffle on April 18th from 5pm-8pm to raise money for the Feed My Starving Children organization. Tickets cost \$100 each, you may purchase as many as you'd like, they are tax deductible, and there are only 250 tickets available. Every \$100 donated pays for 416 meals (that's approximately 1 meal a day for nearly 14 months – OR – 3 meals a day for 4 and a half months)! Grand prize is \$5,000, second prize is \$2,000, third prize is \$1,000, and there will be four \$500 fourth place prizes drawn. You do not have to be in attendance to win. Contact Sue Dunham (314) 229-6313 for tickets or for more information.

A Message from the President

Dear Zion Family,

Pastor Larry's messages have recently been about being fishers of people and sharing Jesus with others. I would like to ask you to think about sharing with your friends and family the virtual worship service we have each week. Who do you know, both near and far, who might be encouraged and lifted up by being able to join us in worship? Make sure to tell them how to join either live or by watching the recording later.

The Strategic Planning Team is working with groups and teams to start focusing on our objectives. It is very exciting! The Service/Community Outreach Team renamed themselves "Community in Unity" and they have a Zoom meeting scheduled with Toni Burrow, the Ward 2 Ferguson Council Member, to learn about the needs in our community. The Financial Sustainability Team is meeting with Thrivent for an investment review, reaching out to a possible presenter for an education session, and gathering information to report to the congregation on where Zion is currently from a financial standpoint.

We hope to have monthly reports from each group working on our objectives in future Tidings newsletters so look for exciting things to come. And again, if you would like to get involved in any of our four goals and their objectives, please let me or Pastor Larry know.

With a grateful and hopeful heart,

Pam 



Ash Wednesday

The 40 days of Lent begin this year on February 17th and end on Saturday, April 4th. When counting the days do not count Sundays since those are reminders of Jesus' resurrection.

40 is a significant number in the Bible. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights during the Great Flood. Then God made a covenant with all life on earth (Genesis 9:17 NIV) that He would never again destroy all living things with a flood. The Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years before entering the Promised Land. Moses, Elijah and Jesus fasted and wandered in the desert for 40 days. After Jesus' baptism, he was "led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." Matthew 4:1 NIV

How will Zion observe Ash Wednesday?

We will have one service with organ music at noon February 17th. In the past, we have received the sign of the cross with ashes placed on our foreheads with the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We are made of the earth and shall return to it when we die. God is the creator and we are the creatures.

As Covid-19 continues we will modify our practices as needed. Worshipers in attendance will receive a sticker with the sign of an ash cross. Everyone can create something symbolic to keep us focused on the *road ahead*. Maybe you will wear a cross every day, prominently display a cross in your home, make the sign of the cross on your forehead when you wash your face, draw a cross in the palm of your hand.

Whatever you choose, let it be a reminder of God's plan to end sin and eternal separation and to restore us to life with God through the sacrifice of Jesus.

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.*

Psalm 51:10



Zoom Meeting Etiquette

In all societies, there are complex rules that govern our good behavior and our social/business interactions that are ever-changing with the times. They reflect our cultural norms and generally accepted ethical codes as to show respect and consideration of others. The “new era” of social distancing is no exception to the evolution of etiquette when it comes to Zoom meetings. Below are some things to always keep in mind when joining a virtual meeting:

- **The Golden Rule of Zoom:** Stay on mute if you’re not talking
- Use the video option when possible
- Stage your video area: make sure your camera is in a stable position and focused at eye level if possible. This helps create a more direct sense of engagement with other participants. When using a portable device, creativity may be key in your set-up.
- Join early: aim for 5 minutes before the start time in case any unforeseen issues arise and so that the meeting can start at its scheduled time.
- More light is better: avoid back-light from bright windows. Try to find a well-lit space or if you prefer natural light, try facing the window instead of having the window behind you.



- Try to look into the camera when speaking
- Stay focused: keep unnecessary conversations or background distractions to a minimum; avoid multi-tasking by turning off notifications.
- Make private meetings private: if you’ve got something to discuss with someone in the meeting that doesn’t involve the whole group, save it for a more appropriate time. Side conversations are a waste of everyone’s time.
- Avoid talking over/at the same time as other participants
- Don’t eat during the meeting
- Don’t do other, private things while on a meeting: basically, if you wouldn’t do it in an in person meeting in front of everyone, don’t do it on camera.
- Be mindful of background noise: find a quiet space and turn off TVs, radios, podcasts, etc. that might be picked up by your microphone.
- Be prepared in advance: if there is content sent out before a meeting that needs reviewing, make sure to read it before joining; if you are presenting, have files or links ready to share before the meeting begins to help the meeting flow smoother.

Zion Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 – 6:30pm

In Attendance: Jan Roevekamp, Doris McCall, Pastor Larry Lemke, Bill Budenholzer, Pam Statler, Jason Martin, Johnnie Tucker, Stacey Miller

Absent: Carol Linhorst, Fannie Cole

- Welcome and Devotion
 - All baptized have a calling
 - It's all about whom we come to not where we come from
 - "Here I am, you called me" "Speak Lord for your servant is listening"
 - We are being called
 - Our response should be listening to what God has for us
 - Come and see
- Confirm Approval of meeting minutes from December 2020 Meeting
 - Motion made, seconded, approved
- Pastor's Report
 - Has been making personal calls to members
 - Angels went out during Advent and the Advent devotional were successful
 - Any members that have been diagnosed with COVID19 have made Pastor aware
 - Ferguson Ministerial Alliance met Tuesday, Jan. 12th
 - No meeting in December
 - Catching up with a presentation from Earth Dance Farms in Ferguson
 - Updates from various churches
 - Looking into further details into Ferguson Baptist Church's food donation services
- Space Sharing Update
 - Heard back from Boone since last month's council meeting
 - Needs have not changed much – launching in person services in August, will still need office space, not doing any in person meetings at all
 - Is looking to find out when the space could be opened to him downstairs and what the cost would be based on the needs he has as things progress
 - Everything seems a little slow considering what is going on with COVID
 - Council would like a firm commitment about whether they are still wanting to share space at Zion or are they still looking at other options
 - Discussed the possibility of asking them to put down a modest deposit to hold the space for a few months; we could return the deposit to them if they do not sign an agreement with us
 - Motion made to ask Wokebridge to put a \$500 deposit down by a certain date and the deposit will hold the space for 90 days once the deposit is received. Should they choose to start using just some of the space (other

than the multipurpose room), offer \$300 per month for the office and \$300 per month for each classroom. For full use of multipurpose room, office, and three classrooms, negotiations will start for a monthly payment of \$2,500 and should the negotiations drop below \$2,000 a month, the Council will discuss again. Proposed agreement with Wokebridge to be approved by the congregation.

- Seconded and approved

●

- Team Reports

- Strategic Goals – Pam/Jason

- Currently trying to get the landscape of who has been doing similar things and discussing goals and how to work other things in
- Deb has met with the service/outreach team to start discussing the strategic planning goals
- Pam has reached out to some members to discuss finance as well

- Treasurer Report – Bill

- Preliminary year to date totals includes \$6,305 in the red for church and \$34,465 in the black for the CDC
 - Church results will decrease by \$3,124 after correction made for amount given to music and alternative worship that went to general contributions by mistake
 - The “Bell and Choir Fund” will be renamed to something more generic, like “The Music Fund”

- Worship – Larry

- Reviewed where they have been since the last meeting
 - Advent, Christmas, New Year’s Eve, and Epiphany
 - Everything was positive – especially the New Year’s Eve Gathering
 - 17 gathered
 - Wonderful discussion and time of sharing
 - Going to carry that concept into Lent
 - Wednesday evening Lent Gathering will be on Zoom
 - Will have a special theme
 - Ash Wednesday Service at noon
 - Live stream it as well as making it available for people that want to attend
 - Discussion regarding changes that were made back in November
 - Good discussion
 - Agreed to keep doing what we are doing now and keep looking at it as things progress and continue
 - Possibility of doing something again similar to New Year’s Eve and they were thinking Valentine’s Day
 - 3pm gathering for a group to meet and greet on valentine’s day

- Service/Community – Stacey
 - Met in December
 - Action was to have member research who they can get in contact with in the community to assess where needs are
 - Agreed to shift the focus to meet the needs of the strategic plan
- Member Care Ministry – Doris
 - Doris was named chairperson
 - Carol Tillman is the newest member and is taking Doris McCall's district
- Education – Jason
 - Started looking at VBS options – including a series instead of more a daily thing
 - Want to get back into doing classes and figuring ways to make that work
 - Made council aware of a questionnaire that is available to people through the Saint Louis Department of health to register for the COVID19 vaccine
- Property – Pam/Johnnie
 - No new updates
 - Waiting for warmer weather to reseal the parking lot, but it has been patched
 - Council recognized Justin Kinney and Larry Wolk for their work in and around the church and how they go above and beyond for the church
 - Bill Budenholzer and Deb Murrish were also recognized for Advent posters and decorations
- Next Meeting Date – February 9th
- Closing Prayer
- Meeting adjourned 7:45pm



Zion Lutheran Church

February Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan 31 9:30am- Worship 2pm-Bible Study  C Herrmann	1	2 4:30pm-Member Care	3	4	5  R Krueger	6
7 9:30am-Worship	8 1pm-Worship Team	9 6:30pm-Council	10 10am-Bible Discussion  Pr. Lemke	11	12	13
14  9:30am-Worship 2pm-Bible Study 3:30pm-Valentine Party via Zoom	15  C Linhorst	16	17 Ash Wed. 10am-Bible Discussion 12pm-Worship 	18  W Devenport  P Herrmann	19	20  T Robinson
21 9:30am-Worship	22 Tidings Deadline	23	24 10am-Bible Discussion 6:30pm-Mid Week Lenten Zoom	25	26	27
28 9:30am-Worship 2pm-Bible Study	1	2 4:30pm-Member Care	3 10am-Bible Discussion 6:30pm-Mid Week Lenten Zoom	4	5	6



Zion Lutheran Church

Serving on Sundays in February

	Feb 7	Feb 14	Feb 21	Feb 28	Mar 7
Pastor	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke
Music Accompanist	W Sullivan, D. Mus., AAGO	A Mayhew	W Sullivan, D. Mus., AAGO	A Mayhew	W Sullivan, D. Mus., AAGO
Ushers	G Voss J Roevekamp	Li Lemke J Tucker	D Kaiser L Wolk	G Voss J Roevekamp	Li Lemke J Tucker
Altar Guild	D Kaiser	D Kaiser	D Kaiser	D Kaiser	TBD

* 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.



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**Celebrating
God's Grace**

February 2021

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:	Fannie Cole
Member At-Large:	Jan Roevekamp

Member Care Ministry

Doris McCall*
Carole Herrmann
Dorothy Kaiser
Richard Schademann
Deborah Balestier
Carol Tillmann

Committee Chairs

Finance	Pam Statler
Property	Johnnie Tucker
Stewardship:	Pam Statler/Gail Voss
Personnel	Ara Tess
Nominating	Gail Voss/Stacey Miller

Organizations

Fellowship:	Robert Negwer
Altar Guild:	-
Hospitality	Doris McCall

Team Leaders

Worship	Gail Voss
Service & Community	Stacey Miller
Education	Carol Linhorst
Alt. Worship	Jason & Andi Martin

Team Members:

Worship Team

Gail Voss*
Kristina Oswald
Nyokia Robinson
Norma Wolz
Doris McCall

Community in Unity Team

Stacey Miller*
Dorothy Kaiser
Doris McCall
Bill Budenholzer
Linda Lemke
Bob Oliver
Richard Schademann
Janet Schaper
Ara Tess
Pam Statler
Johnnie Tucker
Deb Murrish
Sue Dunham
Justin Kinney
Kristen Kinney
Linn Moore
Annis Tucker
Dawn Tucker