



Zion Lutheran Church

The Tidings January 2021

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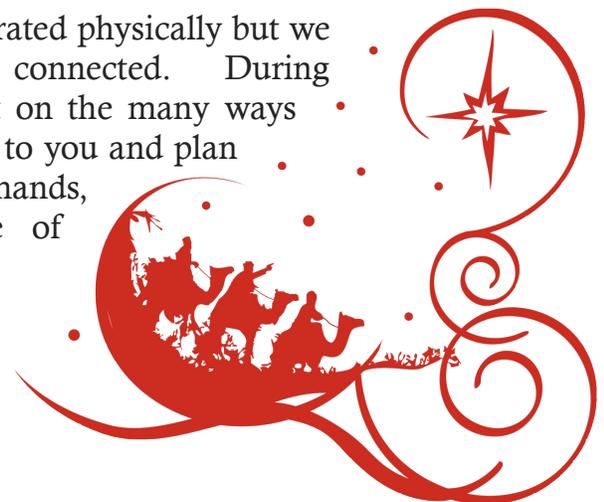
Epiphany

The Season of Epiphany begins on January 6th. It is the 12th day of Christmas (count the 26th as the first day). At Epiphany we think about the Wise Men coming to Bethlehem to worship Jesus. The Messiah who was promised to the Jews long ago is now revealed to the Gentiles and all nations! That's us!

The season of Epiphany goes through Transfiguration on Sunday, February 14th. During this season there are scriptures such as the Baptism of Jesus and the calling of the disciples.

We are called to be Jesus' disciples in our baptism. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit, marked with the cross of Christ forever and sent into the world as the body of Christ.

We may be separated physically but we can remain connected. During Epiphany reflect on the many ways Jesus is revealed to you and plan ways to be the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus to others.



Find us on
Facebook

Follow Zion on Facebook! Go to:
facebook.com/zionlutheranferguson

and click  .

Faithfully Following Jesus

As I wrote our (Linda and Larry) Christmas Letter, I couldn't help but think of 2021 and how I hope and pray it is a different animal than 2020. Having said that, we learned a lot about a number of things in 2020, including ourselves.

2020, after that first wonderful month of January, was about learning how, we here at Zion, were going to move forward in spite of the limitations that the pandemic threw at us. In my view, we succeeded beyond our wildest dreams! We are, under the circumstances of the pandemic, ministering to all of our parishioners as best we know how.

One of the things we learned in 2020 was that we could (and did) move forward with our Strategic Planning Process. In fact at our Congregational Meeting on December 6th, 2020, the Strategic Plan (SP), including our four new goals, was approved. Although the pandemic made things more difficult, the Strategic Planning Team (SPT) did accomplish a lot. Now, it is time to implement the SP and start the work on the four goals.

The first task is to determine who is going to lead each of the four teams. That might be a single leader or co-leaders. **The SPT will start contacting folks at the beginning of 2021.** Once the Team Leaders have been identified, they will then start the process of recruiting team members for each of these four goals.

- 1) *Partnership/Outreach - Be a visible, active presence to discern the needs in our community and work to meet these needs by forming real, lasting relationships with other churches, groups and organizations.*
- 2) *Education/Faith Formation - To equip our members and our community of all ages with a wide array of opportunities geared toward foundational faith and education, covering a multitude of topics ranging from social justice to special interests, offered in a variety of formats.*
- 3) *Alternative Worship - To restructure and expand worship and implement dynamic/modern styles to appeal to a broader range of people by exploring the benefits of diversity and focusing on scripture, spiritual enrichment, and active participation.*
- 4) *Financial Sustainability - Achieve financial sustainability for Zion by being faithful stewards of our financial resources and ensuring we have the staff, facilities, and finances we need to grow and evolve.*

Let's shift gears: we are about to embark on an exciting and challenging process of change. Some of that will come in the form of New Beginnings (something we haven't done before) and some of it will be in the form of Renewal (changing/improving something we have already been doing). In both cases, it will be a new and different way of looking and dreaming about things.

All of that will require energy and passion. It will take time and dreaming! It will take what I call "fire in the belly!" It will also require all of us to be encouraging cheerleaders for our team, whether it's the one we're on or one of the other teams.

We will make mistakes! That's not always a bad thing; we learn from our mistakes. We want everyone to be in the stretch mode. Dreaming and thinking beyond what is, into the realm of what might be. It will be fun! At times, we will not only encourage but we will stop and celebrate what we've accomplished, even when it might be a something that didn't work. We tried, and then we move on to the next dream.

I'm ready; are you? Zion's future depends on all of us. Please be ready to say yes when asked to participate in Zion's future.



God is good and full of GRACE!

Peace,
Pastor Larry

January Birthdays

3rd Izaiah Spotswood
4th Phyllis Graser
Paul Oswald
7th Jacqueline Calhoun
8th Mary Roth
Eric Pfitzinger
29th Betty Greiwe
Andrew Tucker
30th Ashlyn Calhoun
31st Carole Herrmann

Grad Announcement

Dorothy Kaiser is proud of grand-daughter, Nicole Zink, who graduated Saturday, December 6th, 2020 from Maryville University, becoming a Doctor of Physical Therapy!



2020 & 2021 Contributions

All contributions for 2020 must be received in the church office by January 8, 2021 and must be dated 2020. Contribution envelopes for 2021 should have been delivered or mailed to you. If you have not received envelopes and would like a set, please call Paul Herrmann or the church office.

Thank You

The prayers, cards, and even magazines I received from all the Zion members are very appreciated. My knee is doing well, and I guess the rest of me is too. Thank you all.

– Gail Barrow

Member Update

Members of Zion, it has been almost a year since Chuck died. So much has happened in my life and in all the lives of family, friends, and church.

Through all of the changes, Zion has been on top of helping me. Your phone calls with your help attending church and fish fries.

Gail Voss has been especially helpful; when visiting her mother, she often checks on me. She provides me help to maintain a normal side of being a widow with reading material.

Zion is my home and it is a comfort to be able to name a lot of you as Zion helpers and friends. God has been good to me.

– Melba Gierse

A Message from the President

Dear Zion Family,

Happy New Year! Wow. We are all praying, I am sure, for an improvement this year in many things related to the pandemic and all the things it has caused.

When I think back over the year I am so grateful for everyone at Zion and all of their love, encouragement and hard work. We did so much in such an unusual time.

Technology did not get the best of us as we learned to record and then stream our worship services. Now we have people who have been unable to come to church, able to participate in worship with us. We can keep building on this and reach out to others who are not able to come through our doors. Thank you to all who worked so hard for this to be a reality and a new routine.

The Strategic Planning Team worked hard this year and the congregation just approved the plan with its goals and starting objectives. Now the time is coming to start to work on those goals. Strategic Planning Team members will be meeting soon to go over the goals and objectives with the groups that have been working on similar things already in order to leverage what we have already been doing and talk about a path forward. If you would like to be involved in any of the work on any one of these goals but are unsure of who to talk to, let me or Pastor Larry know and we will make sure to connect you with the right people.

I hope you had a very meaningful Christmas Day and are enjoying this special season of hope and love.

With a grateful and hopeful heart,

Pam



Central States Synod Newsletter

If you are interested in receiving the Central States Synod newsletter, go to www.css-elca.org/newsletter to subscribe. If you need assistance, please contact the church office.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

“It takes a village” as the saying goes. And so it does! Thank you to everyone who participated in beautifying the sanctuary with banners, plants, window displays, garland, tree, etc.; producing the special congregational Christmas card; making and delivering the angels and Christmas cards to members who worship remotely; creating beautiful music and providing everything else to help us celebrate Jesus’ birth in joyful worship.

A Morning Prayer

At the close of the service on December 13th, Pr. Paul Beins encouraged us to use Luther’s Morning and Evening Prayers to remind us that we belong to a gracious God and we are protected. Here is another:

“In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. I am a baptized child of God.

My heavenly Father, on the day of my baptism, the sign of the cross declared that you had brought me into your family. It declared that despite the unknown quantity or quality of the years ahead, your love for me would be unconditional and your commitment to me unshakable.

At the start of this new day, the sign of the cross reminds me of my childlike relationship and dependence on you. It declares that come what may in the hours ahead, your love for me will continue to be unconditional and your commitment unshakable.

Whether this day brings success or failure, whether I am lifted up or brought low, may your Spirit comfort, strengthen, and renew me by reminding me of the sign and its meaning. Amen.”

Gary Voss, written in 1980

Lutheran Resale Shop

We are a very unique thrift shop that has clothing for the whole family, furniture, craft supplies, including fabric, housewares, jewelry and lots of vintage collectibles. All of our profits go Lutheran Family and Children's Service's and Lutheran Senior Services for Breeze Park and Aperion (Hidden Lake). We are all volunteers and we would love to have new volunteers. Of course, donations are always welcome. We are at 6701 W. Florissant, phone 314-389-9970.

Zion Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 – 6:30

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

Excused Absence: Jason Martin

- **Welcome and Devotion**
 - Prayer by Pr. Larry
- **Confirm approval of meeting minutes from November 2020 Meeting**
 - Motion made to confirm the meeting minutes, seconded, approved
- **Pastor's Report**
 - Jo Sue Denney has passed away – Graveside service the week of December 13th
 - Worship Team met to plan the rest of the year
 - Have decorated the church for the holiday
 - Want to remind people what our precautions are and to make sure people know to stay away if need be
 - New Year's Eve zoom event
 - Church office will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1
- **Discuss Voters' Meeting held on December 6th**
 - 29 people in the sanctuary and on zoom
 - Voters' approved the strategic plan
 - Elections were held and were approved by affirmation
 - Finance Report and Budget were approved
 - Voters approved moving forward with use of lower level for Woke Bridge Community Church
 - Pam has reached out to Boone in regards to where he is with the decision process and to work on negotiations
- **Team Reports**
 - **Strategic Planning – Pam/ Jason**
 - No new updates
 - **Treasurer Report – Bill**
 - Report sent out

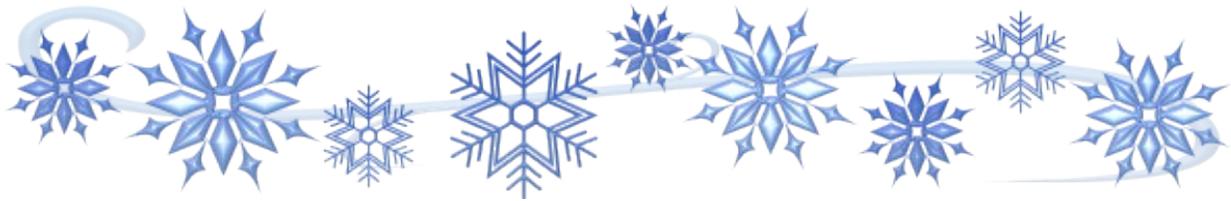
- No major new updates
 - Negative number in the CDC is based on the fire system, pest control and the phone line; no plans to charge anything to the CDC for next year
 - Church was in the positive \$3,765 for the month of November and the CDC was in the negative for \$371
 - YTD totals are church is in the red for \$12,423 and CDC in the positive for \$35,450
- **Worship – Pr. Larry**
 - No major updates
 - Pastor Beins leading the worship on Sunday December 13th
- **Stewardship – Pam**
 - Received most of our pledges so far – Pam sending out a thank you letter regarding pledges
- **Service/Community – Stacey**
 - No new updates
- **Member Care Ministry – Richard**
 - Delivering angels to families who have not been going to service for the holiday season
- **Education – Jason**
 - No new updates
- **Property – Pam/Johnnie**
 - No new updates
- **Hospitality – Doris**
 - New year's eve Zoom event
- **Next Meeting Date – January 12th, 2021**
- **Closing Prayer**
- **Meeting Adjourned 7:20**



Zion Lutheran Church

January Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan 31 9:30am- Worship  C Herrmann	28	29	30	31 Office Closed	1 New Year's Day Office Closed 	2
3 9:30am-Worship  I Spotswood	4  P Graser  P Oswald	5 4:30pm-Member Care	6 10am-Bible Discussion	7 6:30pm-Bible Discussion  J Calhoun	8  M Roth  E Pfitzinger	9
10 9:30am-Worship	11 1pm-Worship Team	12 6:30pm-Council	13 10am-Bible Discussion	14 6:30pm-Bible Discussion	15	16
17 9:30am-Worship	18 MLK Jr. Day Office Closed 	19	20 10am-Bible Discussion	21 6:30pm-Bible Discussion	22	23
24 9:30am-Worship	25 Tidings Deadline	26	27 10am-Bible Discussion	28 6:30pm-Bible Discussion	29  B Greiwe  A Tucker	30

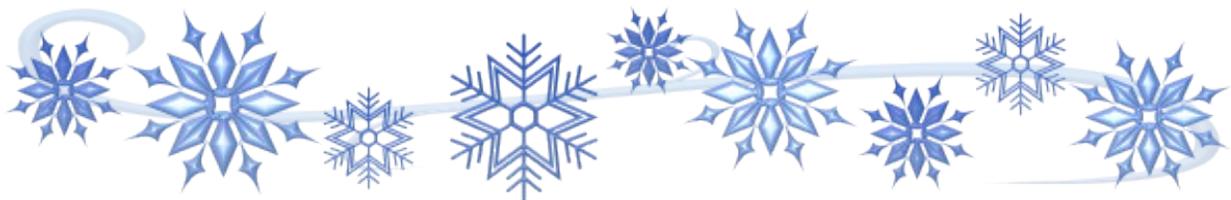


Zion Lutheran Church

Serving on Sundays in January

	Jan 3	Jan 10	Jan 17	Jan 24	Jan 31
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	A Mayhew
Ushers	Li Lemke J Tucker	D Kaiser L Wolk	G Voss J Roevekamp	Li Lemke J Tucker	D Kaiser L Wolk
Altar Guild	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin

* 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
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**

January 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:	-

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
Service & Community	Stacey Miller

Team Members:

Worship Team

Gail Voss*
Kristina Oswald
Nyokia Robinson
Norma Wolz
Doris McCall

Service & Community Outreach 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