



Zion Messenger

Zion Lutheran Church

November 2021 Worship Schedule

Sunday live 10:00 am on Facebook

In-person worship on Sundays at 10:00 am

824 NE 4th Avenue Camas, Washington

Associate Pr. Susan A. Dollinger

360-834-4201 office

Email: info@zionluthcamas.org

Website: www.zionluthcamas.org

SERVICE

FLOWERS

Nov. 7 Karen & Mel Blair
Nov. 14
Nov. 21 Ruth Ladage
Nov. 28

ALTAR GUILD

Karen Blair, Nadia Hagen, Vicki Stone-Milligan



Dear Friends,

In less than two weeks, the 19th season of WHO begins. The Winter Hospitality Overflow [WHO] ministry is housed in both St. Paul and St. Andrew Lutheran churches. This ecumenical

ministry provides up to 80 of our most vulnerable neighbors with a safe, warm, and predictable place to rest. We operate during the coldest and wettest months of the year - November 1 through March 31. Each night St. Paul can serve 25-30 single men, and St. Andrew can serve 45-50 single women and families. Thank you for your vigilant support of WHO.

This year community support is more critical than ever. Local in-person fundraising and the annual Winds & Strings concert have been canceled because of COVID-19 and the surging delta variant. There are plenty of examples of the pandemic's toll on this ministry. Even with increased safety and hygiene precautions, we cannot guarantee full staffing with volunteers. Our partners at SHARE and Outsiders Inn have generously agreed to provide staffing support in place of some volunteers. This will require continuing an increase in our expenses.

An additional \$50,000 this year is needed to meet the additional expenses of WHO during Covid.

If you would like to donate to WHO, please write checks to Zion and memo WHO. Thank you!





Prayer Chain

For the family of **Karen Jacobi** on her loss September 27; for the family of **Larry Malcom** on his loss October 22.



What's Brewing? has resumed in-person gatherings and their next meeting will be 5:30 pm

November 23. Please check the weekly Zion email letter for the location.

November Zoom Meetings

Council	4:00
Tues 16	
Men's Study Group	7:30
Thurs 4, 11, 18	
Text Study	1:00
Wed 3, 10, 17, 24	
Community Yoga	8:30
Tues 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Thurs 4, 11, 18, 25	
For Zoom yoga, call Sinéad Hale at 503-927-8428	



"The good new is, you'll be spending Thanksgiving with a large group of happy people."

With affection and love we remember on All Saints Sunday, November 7, those saints who have gone before us:

Helen Gentry, Alan Hansen, Wendell Heim, Paul Dailey, Lisa Malcom, Joanne Meyer, Richard Ford, Don Schmunk, Darrel Gilmer, Ruth Hansen, Lisa Bleak, Karen Jacobi, Larry Malcom

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."



I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out – plans to take care of you; not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for. Jer. 29:11 The Message

As we (both Zion and myself) are heading into transition, I ask that you pray for me and for Zion and I will pray for you. Prayer is a gift all in its own. It is a gift of time, and of heart and of faith. Praying for each other is just another way to connect us together and to keep us connected during uncertain times.

Recently, I met two different friends at restaurants and made them sit outside. Neither party was amused with me, because it is colder now, but they sat outside with me out of kindness, care and love, and for that I give thanks. I give thanks for all those things: the kindness, the care and love shown in those moments by others with different comfort zones than I, and for friends to have a cup of coffee with on a cold fall day.

November is a time where we give thanks a bit more readily than in other months, as maybe February is a time where we express love more readily, and January where we set goals. As we sit in unknown times, I hope that you can pause to give thanks to God for the little things that maybe have made a difference in life. And to pray for those who have provided you kindness, care, and love.

If you are reading this letter give thanks: give thanks for your eyesight that you can see the fall colors, and the words on this page. Give thanks that you have made it through the last 18 months of pandemic, isolation, boredom, changes, policies etc. Give thanks that you are receiving a newsletter from a church that has a strong community and still stands, even if it stands in different ways, and does things differently than before. Give thanks because you are loved through this community of Christ. Give thanks for Jesus in your life; when all else is unsteady and unfamiliar, our faith in God gets us through.

We do not know what the future brings. We do not have tomorrow, only today, yet we still place our hope in that tomorrow while giving thanks and praise to God for today. With transitions ahead of all of us, we pause again to thank God and to pray for this community. As the seasons change in all things, we continue to pray and stand strong as the body of Christ. We give thanks and praise that this is not only a community of believers but also a community of friends and neighbors that care for one another.

So, let us pray for each other, for our tomorrows and for our

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today's. Let us give God thanks and praise for our faith and for the love, kindness and care of our friends, family, and church family.

May God be with you as you continue to navigate this uncertain time. May you find the wholeness of Christ enter in this season of life and thanksgiving. You are prayed for. You are loved. I give God thanks and praise for each of you.

With God's peace,

Mark the calendar

Bible Study

Book of Luke	
November 4	Ch. 1-4
11	Ch. 5-8
18	Ch. 9-12
December 2	Ch. 13 - 19:27
9	Ch. 19:28 - end; Acts 1:1-11

Confirmation Class and Godly

Play

November 14, 21

The First Sunday of Advent

**November
28**



Book Club news

Greetings fellow book lovers!

November 11: Judy Swanson will lead discussion on *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. Pam Hankins will bring treats. We have the book kit checked out from the library and books are available to



check out from Pat in the church office until they are gone. Please return them at the next meeting or no later than November 12. We will meet again at 1PM at Pat Edwards' home.

Her address is 3419

NE Cavitt Road, Camas. If you need directions, let us know.

December: no meeting

January 13: *Fifty Words for Rain* by Asha Lemmie. Pat



Edwards will lead discussion. Please obtain a book at the library or it is available on Amazon for \$7.99 + tax. Let me know if you would like me to order a book for you via Amazon Prime.

February 10: *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie* by Marie Benedict. Caren Frank will lead discussion.

Sincerely,
Karen Gates

Zion Call Committee Update

The Zion Call Committee is fully organized and actively involved in the process to call a new Minister of Word and Sacrament for Zion. The members of the committee are Marilyn Anderson, Florence Farone, Dave Hagensen, John Hansen, Adam Sitler, and Cheryl Sonju. The call process involves extensive prayer, reflection, and meditation to attempt to discern the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We ask that all members of Zion pray for your committee and our entire congregation throughout this process.

There are four phases of “Rostered Minister Transition” that a congregation must undertake following the departure of a rostered minister. We are currently in the third phase of the transition process. The first phase of Rostered Minister Transition is - Minister Resignation or Retirement. The first phase was completed when Pastor Tom retired in 2019.

The second phase of Rostered Minister Transition is - Self-Study and Visioning Process, Congregational Profile. In this phase, the members of Zion completed a Congregational Assessment Tool survey and participated in Small Group meetings. The information gathered from congregational participation was written into Zion’s Ministry Site Profile. The Ministry Site Profile is the primary document that describes Zion to ministerial candidates. The second phase was complete when the Ministry Site Profile was approved by the Zion Council in August of 2021.

Zion is currently in the third phase of Rostered Minister Transition – the Call Process. During this phase the members of the Zion Call Committee receive names of possible ministerial candidates from the Southwestern Washington Synod of the ELCA. After conducting a series of interviews, the committee will recommend a candidate to the voting members of Zion. The candidate must be approved by 2/3 of Zion’s voting members during a specially called congregational meeting. If the congregation approves the candidate, and the candidate accepts the call, he/she will be the next regularly called minister of Zion. At that point, the third phase will be complete.

The fourth, and final phase of Rostered Minister Transition is – Welcoming the New Minister. During this phase the members of Zion will welcome a new minister and conduct a formal installation service. This phase is somewhat open-ended as it takes time to fully integrate a

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new minister into Zion.

At our present point in the call process, members of Zion may nominate ministerial candidates. These names should be directed to the Call Committee Chair using the official CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATION FOR CALL form available in Danielson Hall. To keep our process moving, we ask that all nominations from members of Zion are completed before November 10th. The nominee must be a person on the ELCA clergy roster, or an approved and available seminary graduate assigned to the Southwestern Washington Synod of the ELCA. Nominations from members of our congregation will then be submitted to the synod office for consideration along with other potential candidates. If the candidate is on the clergy roster of another synod, our Bishop's Associate (Pastor Rebecca) will need to obtain clearance from the bishop of that synod.

The following is from the Synod Call Manual:
Under NO circumstances is it appropriate for a member of the Call Committee to make direct contact with a prospective candidate except to schedule the official interview once the Call Committee selects that candidate for further inquiry.

If a possible candidate contacts the congregation directly, please refer them to the Call Committee Chair and the Synod Bishop's Associate.

Finally, a quick note about communication to congregation throughout the call process. The work of a call committee can seem secretive and hidden from the congregation. The Zion Call Committee will attempt to communicate clearly and regularly in various formats and as transparently as possible. As the call committee starts to interview candidates, we will continue to communicate "what" we are doing, "when" we are meeting, "where" we are in the overall process, and "how" we are working on behalf of the congregation to identify a ministerial candidate for a congregational vote. However, we will not be able to share any details regarding "who" we are interviewing. The confidentiality surrounding specific candidates is done for three primary reasons. First, this protects our brothers and sisters in Christ who may not realize that their current minister is considering a call from another congregation. Second, this protects the ministers who are seeking a call from Zion who may not wish to

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reveal their interest in a call to their congregation or colleagues.

Finally, confidentiality during the interview process protects the overall Zion congregation by keep information in the proper channels and rumors to a minimum. When the call committee reaches consensus on a candidate, the congregation will receive all the information the call committee has to be well-informed prior to the congregational vote. Respectfully submitted,

Call Committee Chair
Adam Sitler

Knit & Crochet Group meets

Mark Wednesday, November 24 at 1:30 in the Conference Room on your calendar to make prayer shawls, stocking caps,



hats or continue whatever current project you're working on. Call Karen Blair with any questions at

835-3704.

Prayer shawls are created with prayers for healing, comfort and peace as well as yarn. If you know someone who needs one, please feel free to select one from the table in Danielson Hall.

A Prayer for the Call Committee

Gracious giving God, give us your help again, just as you have always done. Remind us of your care. Let there be gratitude in our congregation, for all that is needful has been sent and ordained for us already. As we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, may we be strengthened for this task with the thought that your providing reaches to every need of your church. We surround the Call Committee with our support and prayer, and trust in your guidance. Amen.



*Daylight-Saving
Time Ends*

*Turn your clocks back at
midnight on November 6!*

Traveling the path

Grief. The first terrible weight of loss that sits on your chest, pressing down, until a breath becomes so precious you fight for it. No possibility exists that anything you do could help yourself.

Time passes and slowly the knowledge of that new emptiness in your life becomes a shadowy dark rag that flaps on the edge of your concentration until it takes over. If you resist, struggling free becomes much like a battle with a collapsing rain-soaked canvas tent – far better to make a move before it falls.

I've learned that unfortunately, each loss is new and it's not possible to say "I've suffered before, so this will be easier". Each rending of the heart tears its own place. A miscarriage, death of parents, sister, my son's playmate when he was ten, nine beloved dogs, church family who were precious to me, and most lately, a dear friend – all these have brought me up against the knowledge that life as we know it will end.

Gawky, wearing black framed glasses and considered square, fourteen was not an easy age for me. When I pleaded to get a puppy, only after much reluctance on my mother's part was I allowed, with the understanding that this would never be an inside dog and I must assume total responsibility.

That shepherd mix and I were great companions. During the wet winter I stayed outside with him after school until dark. He learned a lot of useless things but mostly listened to me pour out my heart.

He was a year old when the blow fell. I came home from school and my mother told me he had broken loose and killed a kitten. She said I must go to Mr. Coggins next door and ask him to shoot my dog.

I did as I was told. Looking back, I think Mr. Coggins was horrified by my mother's hardness. He suggested instead that his grown son take me and my pet to the shelter after work. This was done, and we were separated forever.

Forever?

Not a happy thought if you stop there. When I writhed with heartbreak before God, there was no solace. But if you believe that we're on a journey traveling to God, and our stopover on earth is quite short in comparison with eternity, death takes new meaning. Those we mourn are simply ahead of us on the path.

Each one of us is especially dear to God. No soul or creature can be truly lost.

Patricia Hagensen

Circle Meeting

A three-session fall *Gather* Bible Study titled *The gift of the spirit* examines how Celtic Christians likened the Holy Spirit not to a dove, but to a goose. The Rev. Sara Olson-Smith, associate pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa, will lead us on our own divine Wild Goose chase. We'll track the Holy Spirit's actions throughout the Bible and throughout our lives. We'll explore how the Spirit moves God's people into adventures and lives we would never dare risk on our own.

November Session: Wind of God: Refiner and Re-router

The Holy Spirit is the wind of God, moving us into deeper faithfulness and more authentic love. We'll see the ways in which God's Spirit moves us to bear good fruit in the world and refines us into our truest selves. We will also follow the Spirit's movements through the early church to see how the Spirit re-routes God's people, guiding us into transformed lives and renewed communities of faith.

Currently, Martha and Dorcas Circles are meeting in person.

Dorcas -- Judy Bahl - 360-433-2661

Esther -- Bernice Englund - 360-834-2578

Martha -- Marilyn Anderson - 360-844-6155

Martha - Thursday, Nov. 18th, 7:00 pm

Hostess - Vicki Stone-Milligan, 908 5th St, Washougal, 360-835-2973

Dorcas - Tuesday, Nov. 9th, 10:00 am

Hostess - Janet Johnson, 14505 Douglas Fir Ct, Vancouver, 360-213-4746

Blessing of the Quilts

On Christ the King Sunday, November 21, a special Blessings of the Quilts will be part of worship. As a fundraiser for the Quilters, a special quilt will be on display November 14 - 28 in Danielson Hall to be raffled off. You may get tickets at \$2/1 or \$5/3 from the ladies on those three Sundays, Nov 14, 21 and 28. Proceeds will be used for shipping and supplies.



FINANCIAL DIGEST

SEPTEMBER

BUDGETARY INCOME YEAR/DATE	175,561.89
BUDGETARY EXPENSES	172,432.18

BUDGETARY OFFERING MONTH YEAR/DATE

2021	13,233.19	175,561.89
2020	17,800.55	208,394.18

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON		# of Sundays	Avg/YR to Date
2021	134	769	26
2020		1417	10
			142



Zion Lutheran Church Staff:

Ministers	Entire Congregation
Associate Pastor	Susan Dollinger
Youth Minister	Pam Ensley
Music Staff:	Karen Rezabek, Gary Ritter
Nursery Attendant	Jorja Ladage
Sound Techs:	Reid Frank, Max Malcom, Matt Sitler, Jorja Ladage
Custodian	Tye Cobb
Council Officers:	Pres. Leslee Froehlich, Vice Pres. Adam Sitler
	Sec. Kelly Bruce
Administrative Assistant	Patricia Hagensen

The **Zion Messenger** is the monthly newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, located at NE 4th & Garfield, Camas, Washington. Worship services are at 9:00 am (traditional) and 11:15 am (contemporary). Pr. Susan A. Dollinger can be reached at 360-834-4201 ext 202 or 360-643-6576 (cell). Administrative office hours are 8-12:00 Mondays and 8-5:00 Tuesday - Friday. Email can be sent to info@zionluthcamas.org. The website is zionluthcamas.org. For youth & family ministry, the email address is youthminister@zionluthcamas.org.

“As a welcoming Body of Christ, we celebrate and share God’s saving grace for all.”

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