



# ***Zion Messenger***

**Zion Lutheran Church**

## **January 2022 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**

**Bridge Pastor Michael Keys**

**360-834-4201 office**

**Email: [info@zionluthcamas.org](mailto:info@zionluthcamas.org)**

**Website: [www.zionluthcamas.org](http://www.zionluthcamas.org)**

## SERVICE

### ALTAR GUILD

Patti Gardner, Ruth Ladage, Sue Danielson, Mary Lynn Bartlett

### LECTORS

Jan. 2 Marilyn Anderson  
Jan. 9 Joe Keller  
Jan. 16 Karen Blair  
Jan. 23 Judy Bahl  
Jan. 30 Laura Greulich

Thank  
You

Dear friends,

Thank you again for the heroic efforts so many of you have gone to in the past 21 months to make online worship an option. While I have missed being a part of an actual body of believers, the worship has been nourishing and inspiring. Your devotion to the various causes of music, youth, social action and preaching has come through and fed me.

Blessings,  
Gail Sieckman

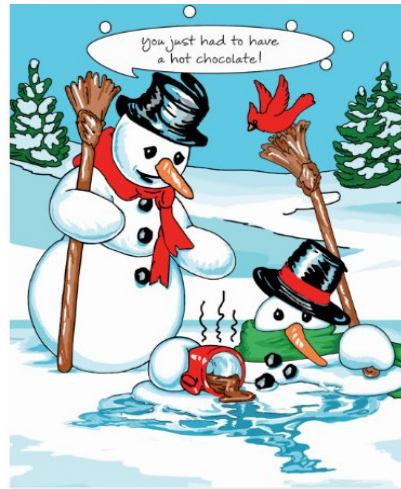


*Prayer Chain*

Vicki Stone-Milligan, Bev Chidester

## Noisy Offering Update

The January Noisy Offering will help Treasure House with an urgent roof repair -- as of this printing they are short about \$4000.



"You just had to have a hot chocolate!"

### January Zoom Meetings

**Council** 4:00  
Tues 18

**Men's Study Group** 7:30  
Thurs 6, 13, 20, 27

**Community Yoga** 8:30  
Tues 4, 11, 18, 25 and  
Thurs 6, 13, 20, 27

For Zoom yoga, call Sinéad Hale at 503-927-8428

## Knit & Crochet Group meets

Mark Wednesday, January 26 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 360-835-3704.

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.

## Mark the calendar

### Confirmation Class

Jan. 9, 23, 30 6:30

### Godly Play

Every Sunday following Communion (approx. 11:00 am)

**Martha Circle** Jan. 20 7:00 pm

Hostess: Nadia Hagen  
1128 NW 29th Ave, Camas  
360-609-2750

**Esther Circle** Jan. 12 1:00 pm

Hostess: Bernice Englund  
3147 NW 18th Ave, Camas  
360-834-2578

## Book Club news

**January 13, 2022:** *Fifty Words for Rain* by Asha Lemmie. Pat Edwards will lead discussion and we will meet at her house again.

Karen Gates will bring treats.

Please obtain your own copy of this book or check the library for availability.

### February 10:

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

**March 10:** *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn. Karen Gates will lead discussion.

**April 14:** *The Girl with the Louding Voice* by Abi Daré. Pam Hankins will lead discussion.

**May 12:** TBD

**June 9:** TBD

If you would like to volunteer or recommend/choose a book for discussion on an open month, please let Karen Gates or Caren Frank know.

Caren Frank has agreed to take over helping with Book Club communications now that Sandra has moved. Thank you, Caren!

Sincerely,  
Karen Gates



## ***Zion Call Committee Update***

At the time of this writing (mid-December) the Zion Call Committee is not actively considering any candidates for our next pastor. There are currently no candidates available. We are continually consulting with the Southwestern Washington Synod of the ELCA to seek additional candidates.

The following is a brief recap of the Call Committee's progress and past activities. After a period of congregational discernment, the members of Zion elected a Call Committee in August. As a reminder, the members of your Call Committee are Marilyn Anderson, Florence Farone, Dave Hagensen, John Hansen, Adam Sitler, and Cheryl Sonju. September was spent getting the committee organized and consulting with Pastor Rebecca Shjerven, the Bishop's Associate from the Synod. We initially received three candidates from Pastor Rebecca, and we decided to interview all three. After prayerful deliberation, we decided to offer a second interview to one of the candidates. That candidate decided to decline a second interview with us. Thus, we arrived at our current state where there are no available candidates.

We are hopeful that additional pastors will consider a move to Zion as we progress into 2022. As soon as we receive a candidate from the Synod, we will rapidly begin our deliberation and interview process. We ask for your prayers that the Holy Spirit will guide our congregation through this time of transition.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adam Sitler  
Call Committee Chair

*Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1:17*

Thank you Zion Friends!

You have been the greatest gift to me. This has been an unexpected and tough start to a vocation in ministry, without a doubt. However, it was through your kindness, prayers, and your love for Zion that we made it through part A and B (and the Delta variant) of the pandemic.

I start with thanksgiving for all of you. I praise God for this time at Zion and for the ability to grow through adversity.

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There is a Winnie the Pooh quote that reads, "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." That is the feeling now. Saying goodbye is hard. It would have been hard anyway, but we have all traveled this road of trauma and faith together which adds to the difficulty of saying goodbye. Please know you are dearly loved and will be prayed for. Zion will always be a part of my heart. The Zion community is special. You hold joy and a love for each other, in addition to faith and a love for learning about God.

Keep going. You will be in great hands with your new bridge pastor, Mike Keys, and soon, in the right timing, a new pastor will be at Zion. Please continue to pray for the Call Committee.

My deepest thanks to Patricia Hagensen, Pam Ensley, Sandra Meeker, and Tye Cobb who weathered this storm through zillions of changes, and some grumpy and sad days. Thank you to Leslee Froehlich and Madlin Baltzell who served as presidents and have had to lead during this time. Thank you to all the musicians who have had to change the way they interact and sing. Thank you for the sharing of your gifts. Some of the most special times were when the musicians were practicing and I could sneak in and listen. Music uplifts your weary soul sometimes. Thank you to the quilters and golfers. Every Monday was made special by all of you. And thank you to the knitters, the Bible study, text study, narration study, council and everyone who was willing to engage in Zion differently. Thank you.

Thank you to every person who has sent me a card with uplifting messages over the last two years; those cards have meant everything, as have all the conversations, visits, and gifts.

Thank you again to the confirmation students and parents. I pray you will continue walking down a road of faith together and continue faith conversations with each other. Parents, you are your children's best faith partner. Zion family: be each other's faith partner. We all need places we can safely go and ask for prayer, or ask for a boost of faith when things are discouraging, or ask for encouragement, help, or support. I pray you can be that for each other.

Remember there are many that have lost a loved one this year. Hold them in love. May God bless and keep you all safe, full of faith, and full of joy. Love each other through today and whatever is next.

May God pour out blessings upon each of you now and always. You are prayed for by me now and into the future. You are all deeply loved.

In kindness and joy,

## *An Introduction...from Pastor Michael Keys*

*Blessings and Peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

It is always good to start with blessings, peace and Jesus. It sets the right tone and makes clear what is most important.

I have been asked by Bishop Jaech and the SW Washington Synod-ELCA to serve as a “bridge” interim as Zion Lutheran continues its interview process of candidates for Pastor. This will be a half time position to provide worship leadership, support to staff and council, and pastoral care to congregation members. And I also hope to have some fun with you during this time.

Having served in church ministry for 41 years both as a lay professional and ordained minister, I have worked with large, medium and small congregations. Recently retired (June 2021), my last call was as interim for Resurrection Lutheran in NE Portland. I have served as Senior Pastor, Bishop in Alaska, fund raiser for Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, youth minister, and church consultant. I am excited to be working with Zion leaders during this “bridge” time.

How do I view congregation ministry:

Worship that engages the community in different forms—traditional and more contemporary—is a passion for me, as together we delve deeply into God's Word in scripture and sacrament as the body of Christ. I am challenged to proclaim God's reign of justice and peace in these times filled with divisions and inequities. While honoring those who have served Christ's Church through our past and present, it is essential in helping us remember why we as God's people have Gospel work to do within the faith community and with our neighbors near and far.

What about family and life:

Barb and I will celebrate 42 years of marriage next anniversary. We have four adult children and six grandchildren—two families in the Portland metro area, another in Colorado, and our youngest in Atlanta working for the CDC. We currently live in Beaverton and are members of Spirit of Grace. Barb and I enjoy books, travel, wine tasting and music. I am an avid gardener, news watcher and reader of science fiction/fantasy and mysteries. Swimming and gardening are my favorites for exercise.

Looking forward to meeting Zion folks over the next few months.

Pastor Mike

# FINANCIAL DIGEST

## NOVEMBER

<b>BUDGETARY INCOME YEAR/DATE</b>	216,001.97
<b>BUDGETARY EXPENSES</b>	211,137.89

## BUDGETARY OFFERING MONTH YEAR/DATE

2021	17,231.30	216,001.97
2020	21,616.49	244,651.13

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON		# of Sundays	Avg/YR to Date	
2021	192	1144	35	33
2020		1417	10	142



### Zion Lutheran Church Staff:

Ministers	Entire Congregation
Associate Pastor	Susan Dollinger
Bridge Pastor	Michael Keys
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) through Jan 9. Administrative office hours are 8-12:00 Mondays and 8-5:00 Tuesday - Friday. Email can be sent to [info@zionluthcamas.org](mailto:info@zionluthcamas.org). The website is [zionluthcamas.org](http://zionluthcamas.org). For youth & family ministry, the email address is [youthminister@zionluthcamas.org](mailto:youthminister@zionluthcamas.org).

***"As a welcoming Body of Christ, we celebrate and share God's saving grace for all."***

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