

Zion Messenger

Zion Lutheran Church

February 2023 Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Annual Financial Meeting February 5, 11:30

Social Hall and Zoom

Ash Wednesday, February 22

Drive up imposition of ashes 1-2:00

Soup Supper 6:00, Service 7:00

All are welcome!

Online worship on Sundays at 10:00 am on Facebook

Zion Lutheran Camas ELCA

824 NE 4th Avenue Camas, Washington

Pastor Christopher Hogstad

360-834-4201 office

Email: info@zionluthcamas.org

Website: www.zionluthcamas.org

SERVICE

COFFEE HOUR

Feb 5 Council
Feb 12 Hansen
Feb 19 You Are Loved Brunch
Feb 26

FLOWERS

Feb 5 Ruth Ladage
Feb 12
Feb 19
Feb 26

ALTAR GUILD

Karen Blair, Arlys Borjesson,
Tiffany Ladage

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Feb 5 Megan Hogstad
Feb 12 Pat Hagensen
Feb 19 Patti Gardner
Feb 22 Marilyn Anderson
Feb 26 Jean Dossett

LECTORS

Feb 5 Nancy Bibler
Feb 12 Karen Blair
Feb 19 Jim Bibler
Feb 26 Denise Brech



BASKET ASSISTANTS

Feb 5 Taylor Hogstad
Feb 12 Patti Gardner
Feb 19 Janet Brooks
Feb 22 Karen Blair
Feb 26 Taylor Hogstad

GREETERS

Feb 5 Florence Faraone
Feb 12 Marilyn Anderson
Feb 19 Karen Blair
Feb 26 Jean Dossett

Noisy Offering

February 5th's Noisy Offering will be the Souper Bowl, which will be divided between ELCA World Hunger and the Interfaith Treasure House, for their *Back Pack Home Program*, which provides school kids and families with food.

Celebrate February with a new menu!

Check out the new cookbook selection featuring Martha Stewart ready for viewing in Danielson Hall! These are gifts from the extensive collection of Lisa Bleak which her husband Eric wished to share with those who, like Lisa, loved to read cookbooks and cook. Please write your name after each title you pick up -- this is for Eric.



Prayer Chain

JOYS & CONCERNS:

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Madlin Baltzell; for LaDene & Ken Mattson and family on the loss of her mother, **Dorotha Taylor**, on January 17

What's Brewing?

Thursday, February 23 5:30 pm
at **54 °40' Brewing** at 3801 S Truman St #1, Washougal, between Steigerwald Refuge and Cottonwood Beach area, in the last warehouse building. Bring a friend and join the discussion!



Book Club meets

The next Zion Book Club meeting is February 9 at 1PM in the conference room behind Pat's office. The book selection is *Sunflower Sisters: A Novel* by Martha Hall Kelly. Pat Edwards will lead discussion. You will need to obtain your own book. All are welcome!

Calling all men!

The Men's Bible Study Breakfast on Thursdays at 8:00 AM in Zion's Social Hall is now the Men's Bible & Brown Bag Breakfast. Bring your own morning favorite! Coffee will be ready. All men of all ages are welcome to share fellowship and the current study!



Remember Zion's Endowment Fund

There are many options through lifetime giving arrangements that may benefit you, your family, and Zion. Lifetime giving complements your estate planning and often improves your current financial and tax situation. Consider a planned gift of kindness to Zion! For more information call a member of the Endowment Team:

Cheryl Sonju	360-835-7670	Ken Mattson	360-834-3301
Linda Hansen	605-254-5016	Joe Keller	503-313-6646
Deanna Eichler	512-925-9105		



Greetings in the name of one who died so we may live, Jesus the Christ!

Lent always arrives much too quickly. The journey from celebrating Jesus' birth in Bethlehem to the cross at Calvary is jarring in its transition from life to death. There is little joy in going so quickly from "to you born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah" then hearing "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" (Both quotes from the Gospel of Luke). Enduring these extremes takes a lot of energy to walk alongside.

Unfortunately, many of our own transitions come that quickly. Sometimes we can anticipate the changes ahead, more likely the changes to come to us are not ones we see coming. From health concerns for ourselves and others we care about to career changes, education, and resources we have available to live on, there are a number of changes that we are exposed to. With the transitions we cannot anticipate it can be very challenging to find a space to catch our breath and get in a better headspace to walk alongside those changes.

... we will face trials even as we pray that those trials will not overwhelm us

In confirmation, our group walked through the Lord's Prayer at the end of January. As with many who attend worship regularly, sometimes that prayer is so familiar and known, the deeper meaning of the words we recite are lost in the familiarity of this prayer. How often do you realize that we pray to have God's rule on earth equal to how rule is in heaven? The prayer also states the reality that we *will* face trials as we pray that those trials will not overwhelm us. We also pray for aid in knowing who is one we can count on for the kingdom, the power, and the glory. When we are faced with difficult transitions, the Lord's Prayer can be a place for us to find grounding and hope during difficult times.

Jesus reminds us that the difficult transitions do not last forever. His own life, death, resurrection, and ascension gives us hope for the life that God calls us into. Life that is new, fulfilling, and abundant in scope and in reality. In order to reach that new life, death must occur. Transition is needed to experience and see the life God has in front of us. Yes, transitions can be difficult, and we wish we need not

experience them. However, our God is with us through them. “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20). This is the God who loves us, and we love as well. One who has experienced transition and change to bestow hope upon all who endure change.

Pastor Chris



February 20

Circle Meetings

Revive your soul in 2023 with a four-session study of the 10 commandments. ELCA pastor and Bible study author Christa von Zychlin will help us see how these commandments are more than they may appear at first glance. For example, Martin Luther taught that the commandment, “Do not kill,” means not only refraining from murder, but actively promoting the health and life of others.

Session two: *Rhythms and respect* (Commandments 3 & 4)

Some might say the Old Testament commands *Remember the Sabbath* and *Honor Your Folks* seem outdated and quaint. After all, didn't Jesus routinely break the Sabbath? Didn't Jesus (on occasion) talk back to his mother? Yet these commandments are far from outdated. Find out how these commands offer a source of peace and inspiration in today's often hectic and generationally segregated society and church.

Esther - Wednesday, February 8th 1:00 pm

Hostess - Kirsti Kumar, 16701 SE 34th Way, Vancouver, 360-260-4914

Martha - Thursday, February 16th 7:00 pm

Hostess - Pat Hagensen, 3813 NE 261st Ave, Camas, 360-903-6240

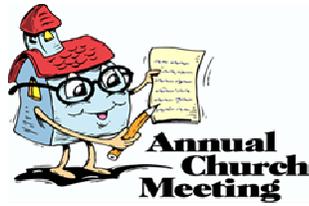
Emergency Contact Information

We are starting a voluntary program to keep emergency contact information at Zion. If anyone should experience a



medical emergency at Zion, the emergency contact form will hold the name, phone number, and

address of the person(s) you want to be notified. All members are encouraged to email, call, or stop by the church office to provide Pat with their emergency contact information.



February 5
11:30 am

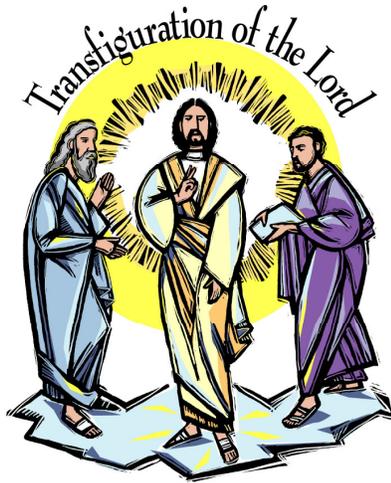
in the Social Hall

All active, confirmed members
please attend! Your vote is
important!



Transfiguration

February 19



Women's Thursday group meets

Women of Zion, please
join us for a Bible study on the
book *Missing Pieces: real hope*

when life doesn't make sense by
Jennifer Rothschild on Thursdays
February 2, 16 and 23 at 1:00 in
the Conference Room. The cost
of the book is \$15 and financial
assistance is available. (Contact
Pat or Caren).

We look forward to
sharing this study with you.
Caren Frank 360-901-7976
Pam Hankins 360-834-5335

Three tests in the wilderness

"I can resist everything
except temptation," Oscar Wilde
quipped. Why? From the serpent
in Eden to the devil in the desert,
temptation always offers the
most delicious fruit. When Jesus
resists the bait, the devil lures
again, quoting Scripture (Luke
4:10-11). Faithfulness can be so
tricky.

The Gospel readings during
Lent lead us into the tangled
heart of life, with Jesus as our
guide. We begin with three tests
in the wilderness whose
extremity can easily distract us
from their subtlety. We marvel
at Jesus' ability to resist food on
an empty stomach, absolute
power and the solid reassurance
of his identity.

These tests are also
metaphors for common
temptations that trip us up

regularly. Stones into bread is instant gratification, not to mention pain relief. When showcasing the kingdoms of the world to Jesus, the devil mentions glory before authority. Who doesn't want to be admired with a well-known brand? "Glory" can provide such influence and possibilities! Finally, the devil offers security that is both physical and spiritual: the protection of angels and proof of God's reliability, reinforcing the holy promises of Scripture and baptism.

Instant gratification, name recognition, security—in every case, the devil makes it personal: *"If you are the Son of God"* By now the baptismal water has dried off and hunger has set in; maybe doubt as well. *"Jesus, if you are who you say you are, and if God is faithful, there is nothing to fear,"* the devil beckons. *"Why would you say no?"* Tricky indeed.

Variations of these temptations appear throughout our lives and this Lenten season, which all prepares us for the climax of Lent. Come Holy Week, the devil returns to tempt Judas Iscariot. His tests return too. Jesus is led to Jerusalem to be thrown down on the cross. Jesus turns his body into bread for those with hearts of stone. Jesus dies with no glory or power or

sense, only love. Then he rises from the dead and ascends to absolute power. Surprisingly, the tempter's wishes come true—in God's time and on God's terms.

Brian Hiortdahl
Pastor, Shepherd of the Hills
West Hills, CA
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2019/03/three-tests-in-the-wilderness/>



Wednesday, February 22

1-2:00 pm

**Drive-through imposition of
ashes**

7:00 pm

Communion Service

***Reflect, repent and
resolve***

We will bear the mark on our foreheads of the sign of the cross with the imposition of ashes. We will also celebrate the body and blood of Christ with the Eucharist and begin our journey to the cross.

SOUP SUPPERS

Wednesdays, 6:00 pm

Feb. 22 Council

Mar. 1 Circles

(Further schedule TBA)

Lent Services, 7:00 pm

Held by God

I headed out on my walk home from evening barn chores, glad of Sunday's rest. Alan and Shelley zipped past me on their bikes, and I gave thanks again that this back road had so little traffic.

These March through October treks to the farm began when I was asked to take over the calf raising in our dairy operation. I usually drove the mile from our home in the morning, as work and school demanded a tighter schedule, but around 5:00 we were regular travelers past the hay fields, grazing pastures and stall barns. I remember towing Alan on his trike behind my bicycle when he was almost 3, having time to really look at the wild roses along the fence.

A shout from the road ahead brought my attention back and I saw what no parent wants to see: a downhill, high-speed bike crash that flung my four year old daughter onto the rough graveled road surface. I took off but long before I arrived, Alan had braked, tipped his bike into the weedy roadside and scooped her up. I never did know exactly what had happened except that they were racing as they often did. The eight year gap in their ages had never stopped her from following him in all his active pursuits.

Checking her over I found the expected scrapes and skinned places, but worse, a bleeding mouth and loose teeth. I asked Alan to ride back for his dad in the milking parlor to take us home, and called our dentist who asked me to take her to his office immediately.

At least one tooth had to be removed, and the permanent canine eventually came in at an angle, giving her a wolfish, eye-catching smile. At the time, she was much troubled by the swelling, and asked me if her face would ever go back down. I was thinking of her uncle's wedding in three weeks, at which she was going to be the flower girl.

A vivid memory from this experience is the drive to town, me behind the wheel and Alan forsaking the coveted shotgun seat to sit in the back close beside Shelley, holding a cold cloth to her face, saying comforting big-brother things that eased her as nothing else could. They had a special relationship that was warming to see, even though Alan frequently teamed with his older sister Sharla to tease the little one.

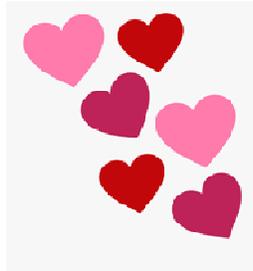
Shelley thought her brother was the bee's knees, and God feels the same way about us. We are each so special and adored. When we crash, God is ready to scoop us up. Paul says "For I am

persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities,
nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor
depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the
love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." *Romans 8:38 KJV*

I think so too.

Patricia Hagensen

You Are Loved Brunch



Sunday, February 19

11:00 am

Social Hall

***In town for the 3-day weekend? Join us for
a potluck brunch in***

honor of Zion's

125th Anniversary!

Watch for the

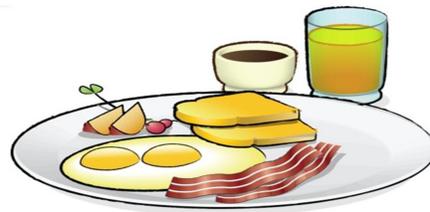
SignUp Genius

announcement in the Zion Weekly to take

a slot for a brunch item, but

most important -- mark your

calendar!





Sr. Fitness class could return, if

Would you like to see the Sr. Fitness class return to Zion? If 15+ people are interested in low-impact exercise offered twice a week, Tuesdays and Fridays, with an extra option of

chair yoga on Friday before the Fitness class, we could begin again in March. Please sign up on the sheet in Danielson Hall or call Pat in the office



Thursday Bible Study

The Thursday morning study will continue with the Book of Ruth on 10:00 am in the Conference Room. By requesting the link participants may also join via Zoom.

A retired professor of Old Testament studies at Luther Seminary, Diane Jacobson, wrote *Book of Faith Adult Study on Ruth* with David Vasquez, which Pr. Chris is using as a base for this study.

All are welcome!

Knit & Crochet Group meets

Mark Wednesday, February 22 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

Lite Side

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything. Some days you're the bug; some days you're the windshield. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is probably not for you.

Truths about Aging

- At my age, I don't want to eat health foods. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them anyway.
- If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would have put them on my knees.

FINANCIAL DIGEST

DECEMBER

BUDGETARY INCOME YEAR/DATE 299,470.58
BUDGETARY EXPENSES 300,434.34

BUDGETARY OFFERING MONTH YEAR/DATE

2022	54,379.62	299,470.58
2021	45,896.69	261,898.66

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON		# of Sundays	Avg/YR to Date	
2022	271	3593	46	78
2021	180	1324	39	34



Zion Lutheran Church Staff:

Ministers	Entire Congregation
Senior Pastor	Christopher Hogstad
Youth Minister	Pam Ensley
Music Staff:	Karen Rezabek, Gary Ritter
Digital Media Coordinator	Angelyka Cava
Nursery Attendant	Jorja Ladage
Sound Techs:	Max Malcom, Matt Sitler, Jorja Ladage
Custodian	Tye Cobb
Council Officers:	Pres. Adam Sitler, Vice Pres. Kelly Bruce Sec. Florence Faraone
Administrative Assistant	Patricia Hagensen

The **Zion Messenger** is the monthly newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, located at 824 NE 4th Avenue, Camas, Washington. Worship service is at 10:00 am. Pr. Chris Hogstad can be reached at 360-834-4201 ext 202 or 360-835-2925. 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. Worship live on Facebook at Zion Lutheran Church Camas ELCA

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

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