



**Zion Lutheran Church
January 2021 Worship Schedule**

Sunday live 10:00 am on Facebook

Links posted to website and emailed

824 NE 4th Avenue Camas, Washington

Associate Pr. Susan A. Dollinger

360-834-4201 office

Email: info@zionluthcamas.org

Website: www.zionluthcamas.org

Note to Zion and Quilters

I wish you a safe New Year and hope Quilters are able to work in the Social Hall when it is safe for them to do so.

Thanks to all who are creating and finishing projects during their 'home' time. The following quilts have been donated:

104 quilts donated to Lutheran Community Services in Portland for fire victims; 12 quilts to Open House Ministries; 24 quilts to Prestige for nursing home beds

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Barbara Vahsholtz

Community Yoga

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

Confirmation Schedule

Confirmation will resume January 24.

Bible Study

A new study will begin January 14! Watch the Zion weekly letter for details.

Bible Narration

Exodus will resume in January 14!

Godly Play

The new year's lessons will begin January 10 -- watch for the link!

New Member Sunday

Reception of members is planned for January 17. If you'd like to participate in an orientation session with Pr. Susan, please call the church office at 360-834-4201.

Dinner at the WHO Jan 17-23

Zion's outreach to WHO (Winter Hospitality Overflow) this year has been generous! The response to donations needed instead of sign-ups to work at St. Paul was \$1700 through November. Now, a week to provide meals presents a new opportunity to serve as Jesus' hands and feet among the thirty men spending nights off the street.

January 17-23 Zion has been asked to provide an evening meal to be delivered at 6:00 pm at St. Paul. Nora Cobb, Zion's kitchen coordinator, has graciously agreed to prepare the entree. Zion family, your help is needed for seven nights to provide, *per night*, three family size salads, three dozen rolls and desserts, as well as donations to purchase groceries and people to deliver each night's food to the shelter. Call Pat for more information (360-834-4201). Updates on needs will be posted in the weekly letter.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCIAL MEETING

January 24

Zoom 1:00 pm

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





Prayer Chain

Beth Farrington, Berta Hall, Don Schmunk, Barbara Breitenbucher, Alan Hansen, Carrie Golladay

Coordinator needed

The Adopt A Room program of Open House Ministries has been lovingly embraced by Zion for several years. In the December *Messenger* you read a thank you from Ruth Bennett describing the need and blessings from this outreach.

We would like to continue to provide all the necessary household goods for a small apartment for a resident who is making a fresh start. We have a solid core group of Zion members who are committed to Adopt A Room, but we need a coordinator beginning in March 2021. Please give this prayerful consideration!

For more information please contact Leslee Froehlich, Council President, at 512-925-0391.



Dear Zion,

Thank you so much for your help financially with my mom's surgery trip. We could not have done it without your help. It was truly a blessing!
Cher Buzzard
(Beth Farrington's daughter)

January Zoom Meetings

Staff Meeting	10:00
Wed 13	
Confirmation	6:30- 7:30
Sun 24, 31	
Book Club	1:00
Thurs 14	
Bible Study	10:00
Thurs 14, 21,28	
Council	4:00
Tues 19	
What's Brewing?	5:30
Tues 26	
Men's Study Group	7:30
Thurs 7, 14, 21,28	
Narration	3:30
Thurs 14, 21,28	
Congregational Finance Meeting	
Sun 24	1:00
Community Yoga	8:30
Tues 5, 12,19,26 and	
Thurs 7, 14, 21, 28	

Dear Zion Family,

Thank you so much for all the kind thoughts, prayers and cards that you have sent during this difficult time as I try to deal with Al's passing. Hopefully soon we can all meet together in person as the body of Christ.

Fondly,

Marilyn Anderson





The Eternal One is full of grace and naturally just; our God is compassionate and merciful. And the Eternal One watches over the naïve.

Whenever I was knocked down, He reached down and saved me. O my soul! Return and relax. Come to your true rest, for the Eternal One has showered you with his favor. Psalm 116:6-7 The Voice

Oh, how we long for rest. Not the kind of rest that we have just spent nine months dealing with -- you know the kind where we are so bored, we are almost numb -- not that kind of rest. We long for the rest of mind and body, the peace of feeling safe. Although Coronavirus has had its share of worry, I am not sure I felt any safer in February of 2020 or any time before that, really. See, I was worried about my kids going to school because of shooters, and worried about them being out and about for other reasons. It just dawned on me that I have not had any of *those* worries since March. I will be happy to see my kids in school because they are lonely and miss their friends but I will not look forward to exchanging the worry of a virus for the other. I would love to see a vaccine and problem solving for that worry as well.

We seek rest from worrying about Coronavirus. We seek rest from the political upheaval, from the divided country, from hearing bad news all the time. We seek rest from all of that. Our wells of patience, trust, tolerance have all run dry. We are a little more edgy these days, and sad.

As we turn the calendars, we pray that 2021 will be 1000 times different than 2020. With the vaccine already starting to be distributed, 2021 holds some real promise that things will change. We have to hold on for some time yet, but there is a Sabbath rest coming on the horizon, a rest that will allow us to feel different than now. That rest and peace of mind will be very welcome.

There have been lessons along the way in 2020. Here are some that I have heard people express over the months:

Learning to look at someone in the eyes.

Reading more.

Calls to or from old friends.

Learning to appreciate nature and way more time spent outside.

Animals in the shelters being adopted.

Families spending more time together, playing games.

Activities like creating more art, writing more stories, cleaning out the house of stuff that no longer serves you well have been a blessing, and

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connecting with family far away in different ways.

Perhaps the greatest lesson is that we have learned to appreciate what we actually had and now we are learning to appreciate what we have; not just the things and the people, but the gifts that God has given to us to creep and crawl through this really difficult year. Perhaps you have been giving the gift of creativity and you are making beautiful things or writing wonderful stories. Perhaps you have been given the gift of calm and you can help others re-center; the gifts of sewing and letter writing sure have come in handy this year. Perhaps you have been given the gift of optimism and even all this can't knock you down and you can share that with others, or maybe it is strength, or courage, generosity, the ability to learn new things quickly, joy, humor, kindness, patience, friendship, perseverance. All of those gifts have been needed during this year. All were needed before this year. All will be needed in the years to come. God gave you these special gifts to help others. That is just one of the ways we can be Christ in the world. There is no better time to use your gifts than now.

I pray you all find that Sabbath rest and the Peace of Christ in this world. If not, keep going. We will

get there soon.

I welcome you to 2021. Happy New Year.

Book Club meets

Dear Reading Friends,

In January we're back together on Zoom to share thoughts about *Us Against You* by Fredrick Backman. Sandra Meeker will lead the discussion January 14 at 1 pm.

Coming up:

February 11: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. Karen Gates will lead discussion.

March 11: *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. Lois Schroeder will lead discussion.

April 8: *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. Pat Edwards will lead discussion.

May and June: TBD
Please let us know if you have a book you would like the group to read and lead discussion.

Wishing you all a blessed and healthy New Year!

Karen Gates



Emmanuel is always here

January usually seems dismal after the joy of Christmas. That's the month we wince at the scale, at the bills, at the clearing away of decorations. The weather does nothing to improve the mood, usually being cold and wet in Clark County. A particular January in 1979 was extremely bitter; when our car broke down in Vancouver one evening my family and I were all exposed to near-freezing rain and wind. The baby caught a cold in spite of heavy wrappings. He remained chirpy, although at fourteen months had few words to tell us how he really felt.

The cold became a cough and then one day after his nap sounded more like a bark. When Dave came home from milking, the bark had become more pronounced and we decided he had better see a doctor. At the time I think I was more concerned about an ear infection than anything else. Some pink cherry-smelling medicine would be prescribed and he'd be fine. So Dave wrapped him warmly and left for Bess Kaiser in Portland, since our choice of after-hours care was limited then. I stayed home with sleeping Sharla whom we wished to keep healthy if possible.

I heard the car outside at last and waited confidently for Dave to appear. When he did, I stared. The blankets in his arms were empty and Alan was not running beside him. I couldn't believe my eyes – it simply couldn't be possible that he was alone.

He explained that the doctor had dismissed Alan as a simple cold and sent them home, but on his way out another doctor had passed them, heard Alan's distinctive bark and asked to examine him. This time the diagnosis was croup and hospitalization in a tent.

I probably protested and fussed, but my clearest recollection was the painful thought that Alan was separated from loving family, familiar crib and toys, alone with strangers. I prayed to God for his health, happiness and speedy return to us, but at the time did not think carefully about the meaning of another name for God -- Emmanuel.

When we went to pick him up he was playing happily at the nurses' station, unaware that his merry personality had captured their hearts. Once the need for the vapor tent was gone, they were unable to leave him in his crib. Emmanuel, "God with us" had been there for him in the nurses and doctors and had never left him without love.

May we keep aware that we, also, are well known to Emmanuel.

Patricia Hagensen

FINANCIAL DIGEST

NOVEMBER

BUDGETARY INCOME YEAR/DATE	244,601.13
BUDGETARY EXPENSES	205,788.07

BUDGETARY OFFERING MONTH YEAR/DATE

2020	21,616.49	244,601.13
2019	24,582.62	258,621.55

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON		# of Sundays	Avg/YR to Date
2020	1417	10	142
2019	746 6705	47	143



Zion Lutheran Church Staff:

Ministers	Entire Congregation
Associate Pastor	Susan Dollinger
Youth Minister	Pam Ensley
Office Assistant	Sandra Meeker
Music Staff:	Karen Rezabek, Gary Ritter
Nursery Attendants	Emily McElhaney, Alexa Gaudio, Brooke Gaudio, Christina McElhaney
Sound Techs:	Nolan Purkerson, Reid Frank, Max Malcom
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 503-548-7997 (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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