



Zion's News & Notes

A Few Words From Pastor Janet



**February
2024**

Zion Lutheran Church Zion News & Notes

Zion News & Notes is published each month by the church office. It includes news of upcoming events, thank you notes, archives, photos, and other items of interest. Our newsletters are also available on our website: www.zionlutheranNy.org

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Sometimes when there is a baptism someone will ask about being baptized again, lamenting that they cannot remember this milestone event. I explain that baptism is more than just a one-time event and it is more important to remember that I **am** baptized than I **was** baptized. Unfortunately, many think that just being "done" is what matters rather than understanding baptism as the beginning of a new life in Christ. But think if you were to say "I **was** married" rather than "I **am** married." It implies the relationship is now in the past. Being baptized means living wet; it means remembering every day who we are and to whom we belong.

Children are often drawn to the act of baptism by their natural affinity for water but, over the years, I have been amazed by what they absorb. Some years ago I baptized an infant while his older brother, DJ, looked on with close attention. Because he was so attentive, I explained to him in simple terms why I was doing those things to his brother. Several weeks afterwards, his mother shared a story with me. She and DJ were having spaghetti for lunch one day and, looking at the swipe of sauce on his face, she asked, "What's that on your forehead, DJ?" Three-year old DJ, in all seriousness, said "That's a cross, Mommy. You can't see it and I can't see it. But God can see it."

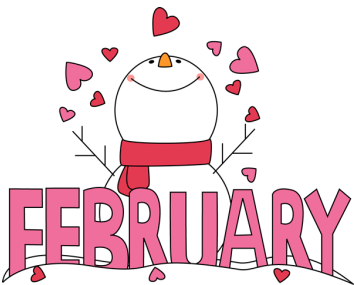
He won't remember everything I told him—although he did an amazing job repeating what I had said—but I pray he never forgets that he, too, wears the mark of Christ forever.

One Lent, while working at a church in California, the associate pastor and I discussed what we would say during the imposition of ashes. I had never known anything but "You are dust and to dust you shall return." He agreed that is what he preferred, but the senior pastor, who had just retired, always said the words "Remember you are a child of God." At the time, that sounded like a cop-out, a denial of the reality of sin and death—and isn't that what Ash Wednesday is all about? Now looking back on it, I see it very differently. Although I still use the traditional "Remember you are dust...", I see the ashen cross as a way to make visible the invisible cross we wear on our foreheads all the time. Now for me that cross of ashes is a visible reminder that I belong to Christ, that my old sinful self has been drowned and Christ has raised me to new life.

Do I remember when I was baptized? I was only five weeks old, so...no! But it is far more important that I remember that I **am** baptized, that I have been marked as Christ's own forever, and I have God's love, forgiveness, and grace through Jesus Christ.

Lent begins this year on February 14th with Ash Wednesday. Come join your Zion family with worship at 6:00 PM !

Your Co-Worker in the Gospel,
Pastor Janet Griffiths



January Announcements



Coffee Hour

Please see the Coffee Hour Schedule posted in the narthex and sign up where you can so that we can keep the coffee brewing for you on Sundays! Feel free to bring in snacks, cakes, cookies, or whatever you'd like to coffee hour!

Attention Zion Attendees!!!

If you are new to Zion, or if you have been attending for a while and would like to learn more about becoming a member, please call the church office at: 315-732-4110 or email office@zionluth.com.

Walking With Friends

The Walking Group has been meeting on Wednesdays at 2:30pm at the Target entrance of Sangertown. Call Kim Marscher (315) 794-6233 if you have questions.

Inclement Weather: When a Worship Service at Zion is cancelled due to weather, it will be announced on WKTV and in an email from the Church.

Statements/Church Envelopes

Please let Gloria know if you need a 2023 Statement. You can also call the office at 315-732-4110 or send us an email at office@zionluth.com. If you haven't already picked up your church envelopes, please do so. Thank you!

Worship and Music

The committee will meet Wednesday, February 7th at 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room to plan for Lent (*beginning with Ash Wednesday February 14th worship in the evening*), Holy Week, Easter and beyond. See committee members if you have questions and/or suggestions.

Souper Bowl Sunday at Zion

We will once again continue our Zion Souper Bowl tradition with the 2024 Souper Bowl collection on Sunday February 11th! Please bring your cans of soup or monetary donation to the 10 am worship service at Zion. If you would like to contribute but cannot attend the Sunday service, you can drop your cans off at Zion during the week. All soup donated will support local food ministries. A monetary donation can be sent in with your normal offering designated for "Souper Bowl" or "Food Bank". Thanks for helping out our community!

Ash Wednesday



Join us for an Ash Wednesday Service on February 14th at 6 PM. Please reach out to the church office in advance if you need the Zoom Link for this service.

February Birthdays



Ken Tompkins	2	Cheryl Edmiston	19
Matt LaFave	4	Jim Millbower	19
Suzee Rowland	4	Leland Buell	21
Judy Schmitt	7	Sandra McGlynn	23
Thomas Bender	10	Diana Inserra	26
Annie Wadsworth	12	Ed McCarthy	27
Ellen Smith	16	Joe Schmidt	27
Ronna Kelly	19	Jan Corn	28



Women of Faith (WOF)

“Do Justice Now - from Generation to Generation” by Robert Foster.

The study will be presented on the 2nd Mondays in February & March at 7pm on Zoom.

Dates to Remember: Monday, February 12th & Monday, March 11th at 7 PM

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!

*Look for the Zoom link in your email coming to you from Trinity.
Please reach out to Sara if you would like to receive all WOF emails.*

February

Date:	Worship Assistant	Pastor	Greeters	Ushers
Feb. 4	John Blackburn	Rev. Jennifer DeWeerth		
Feb. 11	Mark Thompson	Deacon Patsy Glista	Linda Bennett	
Feb. 14 <i>Ash Weds 6PM</i>		Pr. Janet Griffiths		
Feb. 18	Wendy Stevens	Pr. Rick Klafehn		
Feb. 25		Rev. Jennifer DeWeerth		

Treasurer's Report

		December 2023 Treasurer's Report		
	Dec-23	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
Income				
Giving	\$ 13,406.00	\$ 154,098.77	\$ 172,000.00	\$ (17,901.23)
Other Income	\$ 1,127.21	\$ 17,698.68	\$ 17,548.00	\$ 150.68
Total Income	\$ 14,533.21	\$ 171,797.45	\$ 189,548.00	\$ (17,750.55)
Total Expense	\$ 12,879.54	\$ 154,336.92	\$ 186,259.56	\$ (31,922.64)
Net Income	\$ 1,653.67	\$ 17,460.53	\$ 3,288.44	\$ 14,172.09

Gifts Given to the Glory of God

In Memory of:	To:	Given by:
Pastor Paul & Peggy Joslyn	Current Expense	Jeanne Gymburch
Mary Lou Millar	Your Neighbors	Carolyn Dzwonkas
Mary Lou Millar	Memorial Fund	Wendy & Mike Stevens
Carl Schmitt, Doris Hennings, and Mary Lou Millar	World Hunger	Linda Bennett
Carl Schmitt	Current Expenses	Jeanne Gymburch
Carl Schmitt	Zion Food Ministry	Ted McCarthy
Carl Schmitt	Endowment Fund	Laurel McCurdy
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Wendy Stevens
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Debra Murdock
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Patricia Schmitt
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Arlene Leenhouts
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Duane Sand
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Douglass Gross
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Thomas & Jean Morris
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Carol Ostmark
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Cheryl Martin
Carl Schmitt	Memorial Fund	Donald & Nanette Simons
In Honor of:	To:	Given by:
Altar Guild	Zion Food Ministry	Laurel McCurdy

Notes of Gratitude & Other Communications

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$2,400 to the Thea Bowman House. We are so fortunate to have friends like you whose support sustains all year long. We wish you all had the best holiday and new year. Thank you for helping us to get our little outreach center off the ground. You continue to be such good friends to those in need.

Sincerely,

Jane Domingue, Executive Direction

Dear Zion Lutheran Church Members,

On behalf of Rev. Christine Williams-Belt, the congregation of Grace Church and the staff of St. Margarete's Food Pantry, we thank you for your donations which raised \$143 to our Food Pantry. Donations like yours make a big difference in the work our church is doing for the community and together we are making a difference.

Kind regards,

Valerie Montalbano, Administrative Assistant

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for taking part in Thea Bowman House's Christmas giving program. Your gifts and cards are truly a blessing. Each year, our staff gets to see the smiles and gratitude of people who would not be able to provide for their families without your help.

Happy New Year, *(Please enjoy the photo montage below.)*

Jane Domingue, Executive Director



Notes of Gratitude & Other Communications

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1250 to ELCA Global Mission. Your support enables ELCA Global Mission to send missionaries to service in over 40 countries. And it funds investments in evangelism, education and church expansion.

With Gratitude,

Rev. Benjamin A. Hogue, Director of Giving, Christian Community and Leadership

To the many outstanding people at Zion,

I just want to say Many Thanks for the amazing surprise of the gluten free food basket and cookie plate I received in December when I hurt my leg. The cookies were just delicious and I had to ration them! The GF meals and food made eating and preparing food so much easier for me and I had a number of new taste treats as I went along.

Thank you all again,

Barb Wilson



Thank you to everyone who helped unhang the greens on Thursday, January 11th! More people were involved in helping who are not pictured here. Thanks for labeling and keeping everything organized!

Lenten Worship Option

Finding Jesus in the Psalms

A Lenten Journey

Wednesdays 6:00-7:15pm | beginning with a simple soup supper

Clinton United Methodist Church | 105 Utica Rd. at Robinson Rd., Clinton

February 21 Why Do We Need to Find Jesus in the Psalms

Psalm 2

February 28 Finding Jesus with us in our Hard Places

Psalm 16

March 6 Finding Jesus as our Shepherd

Psalms 23, 100, 110

March 13 Finding Jesus as our Strength

Psalm 69

March 20 Finding Jesus as our Savior

Psalm 22

This ecumenical Lenten study is hosted by Clinton Area Ministerium and led by local clergy, including Pastor Jeff McArn and Pastor Janet Griffiths. All are welcome!





ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Like us on Facebook at:

Zion Lutheran Church, New Hartford, NY

*The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to prayerfully
discern God's call to help people
to become more fully devoted followers of Christ.*



*Please call the
church office with
any questions.*

ASH
Wednesday

**Zion Lutheran Church at 6: 00 PM
Available In-Person, Zoom, & YouTube**