



# Zion's News & Notes

Welcome, Zion's Council of 2020!!

March  
2020

## 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, a calendar, archives, photos and many other items of interest. Our newsletters are also available on our website: [www.ZionLutheranNY.org](http://www.ZionLutheranNY.org)

Circulation - 135

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

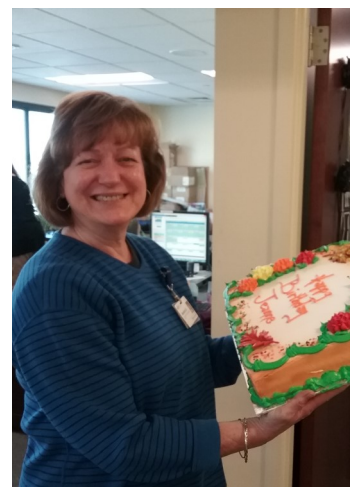
Announcements	2
Lutheran World Relief	3
Birthdays	4
Missionaries	5
Events	6
Worship Team Schedule	7
Christian Ed. Schedule	7
Prayers	7
Thank You Letters	8
Bible Fun	9
Valentine's Retirement Tea	10
Worship Service	11
Gifts Given to the Glory of God	12
WELCA Spring assembly	12
Fair Trade	13
Calendar	13



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Kristen Burson, Co-President



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Kim Ritchie, Secretary



Matt LaFave, Council Rep



Linda Bennett, Council Rep



Michele Lasher, Council Rep



Carol Blackburn, Council Rep

# *Announcements*

## **CHOIR**

Zion's choir will rehearse at 9 AM on March 8 and March 22, and at 11:15 AM on March 15 and sing for the services those days.

## **FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

The pantries get food from Syracuse, and WIC covers diapers, so they need bathroom tissue & toiletries. Let's take a couple months to focus on that need.

## **DISABILITIES MINISTRY**

There will be a service at Zion on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 5:30 PM (snow date March 24). Please help support this ministry by attending the worship services and/or joining the committee for people with disabilities. See Jim or Kim Marscher, Doug Vibbard, Dan Rodahan, John Coveleski, or Lisa Lucas-Myers for details.

## **COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB AT ZION**

Keep your eyes open for Book Club news in the bulletin. We would love suggestions from the congregation for the club. You can email them to Fran Holzberger at fholzholz@gmail.com.

## **2020 SOUPER BOWL FOR CARING UPDATE**

The 500 Can Challenge for Souper Bowl 2020 met its match at Zion! Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we were able to collect and donate **503 cans** of soup to those in need in the Utica area. Once again, Zion came through to help our community. Thanks to all!

## **COOK-IN FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS**

We're having a Cook-In for *Your Neighbors* on March 8th following the worship service. You don't have to cook or bring a meal. You can help package dishes into individual meals. Please see the sign up sheet so that we can have a balanced assortment for the meals. Thank you for your continued help and support!

## **YOUR NEIGHBORS & THE KELBERMAN CENTER**

A wonderful new partnership has been formed between Zion and the Kelberman Center for Autism. Several clients, with their coach, assisted Ed Grove with this month's deliveries of our donations, including **503 cans of soup** by Zion's Youth Group for Souper Bowl Sunday. It is expected that they will soon be involved in the recycling of Zion's cans and bottles as well. In addition, the Kelberman Center is partnering with Your Neighbors. Several clients and their coaches have assisted in two recent cook-ins in area churches. One church called to exclaim about their wonderful help with packaging, and how much more they were able to do in a shorter time. Pastor David encouraged us to continue our outreach and connections with partners in the Greater Utica Area. Together with the Kelberman Center, we are able to continue and extend our various missions to our neighbors in Utica and beyond.

## **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

Daylight saving time 2020 will begin at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 8. Spring, here we come!





# Lutheran World Relief

## Lutheran World Relief Ingathering

In 1945, World War II left an estimated 1/5 of the world's Lutherans homeless. Here in the United States, Lutheran churches in at least twenty states mobilized to help in Europe through a new agency called Lutheran World Relief. Today, Lutheran World Relief operates in East and West Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East. The organization helps some of the world's poorest communities build the resilience they need to thrive.

Women across our synod are helping support Lutheran World Relief by holding Ingatherings, a regional event where quilters and kit-makers come together to assemble donated items into needed kits and/or quilts. Zion is participating. Over the next couple months, we invite members to donate items for school, personal care, baby care and fabric kits and leave them in the labeled collection boxes in the narthex. A list of the specific needed items is posted outside the sanctuary and printed below. The school kits require a sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag to hold everything. We seek someone who likes to sew to make these. Instructions are available and a detailed step-by-step can be found at <http://windsweptlady.blogspot.com/2012/10/school-kits-for-lutheran-world-relief.html>.

Our goal is to assemble ten kits of each kind. Please have all donations at church no later than Easter Sunday, April 12. **Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.**

On **Sunday April 19** we will gather after church to assemble the kits from all the collected items and box them to be shipped through Lutheran World Relief in early May.

### School Kit Shopping List

- ☐ **Notebooks** -70-sheet wide or college-ruled paper approx. 8" x 10½"; no loose-leaf paper (4 per kit)
- ☐ **Scissors** - blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well) (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Ruler** - 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Pencil sharpener** - hand sharpener (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Pencils** - New, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers (5 per kit)
- ☐ **Eraser** - approximately 2½" long (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Pens** - black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink) (5 per kit)
- ☐ **Crayons** - box of 16 or 24 crayons (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Bag** - Sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approx. 14" x 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks) (1 per kit)



### Baby Care Kit Shopping List

- ☐ **T-shirts** -lightweight cotton -shirts (no Onesies) (2 per kit)
- ☐ **Gown or sleepers** - long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet) (2 per kit)
- ☐ **Receiving blanket** - medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36" and 52" square (2 per kit)
- ☐ **Diapers** - cloth diapers, flat fold preferred (4 per kit)
- ☐ **Jacket** - jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Socks** - pair of socks (2 per kit)
- ☐ **Towel** - hand towel, dark color recommended (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Soap** - bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping, no mini or hotel size bars (2 or 3 per kit)
- ☐ **Diaper pins** - diaper pins or large safety pins (2 per kit)



### Personal Care Shopping List

- ☐ **Towel** -light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended (1 kit)
- ☐ **Soap** -bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping (2 kit)
- ☐ **Toothbrush** - adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Comb** - sturdy comb, remove packaging (1 per kit)
- ☐ **Nail clippers** - metal nail clippers (attached file) optional, remove packaging (1 per kit)

### Fabric Kit Shopping List

- ☐ **Thread** - spool of neutral-colored, general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each (2 per kit)
- ☐ **Fabric** - Cotton or cotton-blend fabric. Each piece should match one of the sizes below (2 per kit):
  - 2 ¼ yards of 60" wide or
  - 3 yards of 44" wide or
  - 4 yards of 36" wide(Please pin a note with fabric size)
  - no knits or 100% polyester
  - no religious symbols, US flags, patriotic, military symbols or camouflage accepted by LWR

## *Birthdays & more*



Congratulations to Olivia Katherine Pierce on her baptism, February 2. May this holy occasion bring with it lots of joy and happy memories. We wish you and your family all of God's grace and love.

—Your Zion family

Happy belated birthday to Sally Świerzek!!  
Sally celebrated on February 21st.

### *March Birthday's*

*Happy  
Birthday!*

Matthew Sowers	1	Brian Gymburch	20
Mildred Pelrine	1	Patsy Glista	21
Mary Lou Millar	1	David Hunter	22
Amelia Roberts	1	Laurel McCurdy	23
Debra Murdock	5	Mark Youngkrans	24
Matthew Grove	6	Katherine Thompson	24
Pam Wilson	7	Diane Kulik	24
Eleanor Berkhoudt	10	Ralph Youngren	26
Matthew Schiller	11	Cayden Hunter	26
Nicolas Manino	14	Nicole Manino	27
Carol Youngren	14	Cole Szemoczko	27
Etta Head	17	Gloria Cifonelli	30
Jim Marscher, Jr.	20	Bonnie Loomis	30
David Nicholls	20		

# Missionaries

## WHAT DO WE HEAR FROM OUR MISSIONARIES IN ZAMBIA?

### WHAT IS GOING WELL IN ZAMBIA?

Zambia is peaceful and stable

45 ELCA congregations

Active youth programs for 14-35 year-olds: singing, listening to speakers, travelling

Every church has a women's group

The ELCA gives out scholarships for pastors to go to school

People who can save money are giving microloans to each other

### AN HIV/AIDS UPDATE

Life is better

US Aid provides free treatment

People are not dying as much

Fewer orphans, still there are BIG extended families

### SOME WORRIES IN ZAMBIA

High unemployment in rural areas

No jobs for youth with high school diplomas

Child marriage (where eleven-year-old girls must marry older men)

Gross human rights violations

### THANKFULLY...

There have been no abductions

Children are not forced to be soldiers

## WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP OUR MISSIONARIES, PASTOR DEBORAH AND JOE TROESTER (Pronounced "Trust-her") AND THE LUTHERANS IN ZAMBIA?

Pray

Read, study and be informed

Give financial support—*as of February 10, 2020, \$300.00 has been contributed. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 during this campaign that lasts from January to the end of March.* Zion's Social Ministry Team thanks you for your donations.

### Roof Replacement

On May 12, 2019, sixty-two members attended a properly called congregational meeting where a motion was introduced and unanimously passed allowing the Church Council to spend \$68,600 to replace the roof at Zion. During discussion on the motion, the congregation was informed that the council had requested bids from three roofing companies and decided to recommend Dennis Padula & Sons Roofing and Sheet Metal Company. Padula was the lowest bidder, the most responsive to questions, and has done other roof repairs for Zion. In order to pay for replacing the roof, the Council will spend \$40,000 of memorial funds, and borrow \$11,600 from the Building Fund and \$17,000 from the Mission Investment Fund (MIF). The Council has decided to go with an "in house" loan of \$28,600 instead of borrowing from an outside source, thereby saving the congregation thousands of dollars in interest. It has also recommended a repayment plan and period for the \$28,600 (this amounts to approximately \$350 per "giving unit," i.e., a person or family) that will run from June 2019 to Dec. 2021. Each person or family is being asked to pledge to give an additional \$10.50 per month (\$2.60 per week) over and above their regular offering. If people would like to give quarterly, semi-annually, yearly, or make a one-time payment, that is certainly okay. In addition, those who have the financial ability to do so are encouraged to give more than \$350 in order to offset those who do not have the means to give the entire amount. FYI – people may continue to use their regular offering envelopes or use the green envelopes for special offerings. Either way, they should mark the extra amount they are giving as "Roof" or "Building Fund."

## Events

### SERVICE WITH THE OPWDD

Zion is hosting our third worship service for people with developmental disabilities on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17, in our Fireside Room. **Volunteers are needed** to help greet, join in the worship, and socialize with our guests. Volunteers are asked to arrive at Zion by 5:15 PM for a short training session. Staff from the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, including Dr. Lisa Lucas-Myers, will be available to explain the intent of the service and how to help. The event begins at 5:30 with guests and staff arriving. The worship service, with lots of music, runs from 5:45-6:15, followed by social time that ends at 6:30. Please support Zion's new ministry by attending. Thank you!

### Fill my cup, Lord!

On Sunday, March 22, following the worship service, Zion's WELCA is hosting this special event- *Fill my cup, Lord*. Bring your favorite cup. Tell us why this is your go-to cup. After this event, and going forward, you will think differently as you use your favorite cup. Everyone is welcome to join us - husbands, neighbors or friends, kids & grandkids.

*(Please see the sign-up sheet or give us a call & we'll sign you up.)*



### 2020 Volleyball Marathon

It's that time again! Youth and coaches from Zion will be attending the 2020 Central Cross-roads Conference Volleyball Marathon at Syracuse University on March 13 and 14. Pledge money will benefit Upstate New York Lutheran charities. If you see Moira Dowd, Thomas Bender, or Matt Aceto in church approaching you with a pledge sheet, please consider giving them a donation for the Marathon. It is always appreciated!

# Worship Team & Christian Education Schedules

Greeters	
March 1	Vivian Deckman
March 8	Darlene Hill
March 15	
March 22	
March 29	Darlene Hill

## V O L U N T E E R

Worship Assistants	
March 1	Lisa Lucas-Myers
March 8	John Blackburn
March 15	
March 22	Kristen Burson
March 29	Fran LaGase

Ushers	
March 1	Carolyn Dzwonkas & Loretta Berie
March 8	Laura Hilt & Caryn Carlson
March 15	Evon Pinkos & Sharon Jeche
March 22	
March 29	

Communion Assistants	
March 1	Karen Toepp & Janet Bagnall
March 8	Darlene Hill & Laurel McCurdy
March 15	Alfred & Lynn Moretz
March 22	
March 29	Darlene Hill & Curtis Pulliam

### PRAYERS FOR CHERISHING CHILDREN

March 2020

Loving God, thank You for hearing our prayers.

#### Ages— 18-22

I pray that they will enjoy their independence while maintaining connections with family and friends.

#### Ages—3-5

I pray that the child has a special time with a parent this week, to read a book, play a game, go for a walk.

### ZION CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Students: K – Grade 6 Sundays: 11:15 – 12:00

#### March

- 1) Lesson/Activity
- 8) Lesson/Activity
- 15) Benchmark/Craft
- 22) Lesson/Activity
- 29) Lesson/Activity



#### April

- 5) No Class (Spring Break)
- 12) No class (Spring Break)
- 19) Christian Craft
- 26) Lesson/Activity

### Youth Christian Education

Youth, 7th grade through 12th grade, are invited to meet in the youth room following the 10am service on Sundays to learn and grow in their Christian faith.



## Thank You Letters

To all our friends at Zion Lutheran Church,  
As the new year begins, we want to thank you for your faithful support of the Your Neighbors Outreach program. Each year, you have helped us in so many different ways. You provide substantial financial support through the Endowment Fund and the contributions of many individual members. In addition, the efforts of your cooks, both in group cooking and individual meals prepared at home, contribute to the food portion of the program. In 2019, we delivered **6,730 meals** and **2,485 cups of soup** to our homebound neighbors, who are struggling to remain independent. Zion members contributed **605 meals** and **409 soups** to that total. You also provide the central location for our storage freezers, as well as the location and equipment for our annual Chicken Barbeque. In these, and many other ways, you have helped to make "Loving Your Neighbor" a reality in the Greater Utica area. Please know that you are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Carole Grove

**"Thank you"** to all who contributed shoes, boots, and slippers to my granddaughter, Theresa Neumann. While we did not reach our goal of 2,500 pairs of shoes, we have raised the money for her dog, thanks to an unexpected donor, and this money will be applied to an account set up for travel, hotel, and food costs for a twelve-day stay when they go for training. Unfortunately, they are not scheduled to get Theresa's dog until January 2021. It is quite the process. Thank you again and God bless you all,  
Barb Wilson

A special "thank you" to Ed Grove, and his mom! Can we remind you she is 100? Ed and his mom have returned tremendous quantities of bottle & cans over the years. Zion appreciates you!

Dear Zion Lutheran Church & members,  
On behalf of the many, many people it will help, thank you so much for your generous donation for our summer bag program! It is very much appreciated!

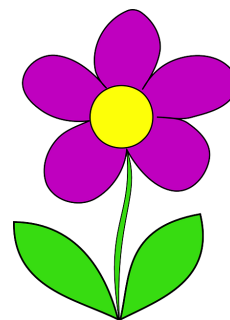
Thanks again,  
Foothills RCM

Dear beloved people of Zion,

I want to thank you for a wonderful send off lunch following my final service and annual meeting on Feb. 9, and for the many signs of appreciation/affection, gifts, cards, and well wishes. It was great to have an opportunity to say "Farewell and Godspeed" to so many of you and to share one last round of hugs! I really mean it when I say that I feel very privileged to have served Zion for the last 3 1/2 years and to have walked side by side with you during that leg of her spiritual journey. I truly believe Zion has a vital role to play in the Utica/Rome area and is called to be a means by and through which Christ's love, grace, inclusion, acceptance, and justice is made real. This is God's Work, and Zion is God's Hands and Voice. Working with the Holy Spirit, you can do this! Remember that you are not alone. As Jack Henke so wonderfully reminded us, you have a "cloud of witnesses", the 178 years of Zion's saints who have gone before you cheering you on, you have the Holy Spirit offering Her guidance and support, and Andrew Wetzel's home church and me praying for you. Most appreciatively and lovingly, your brother in Christ,  
David

To the children at Zion,  
Hi, kids! **I can't begin to list the ways you brightened my day!**  
First, I love seeing you at church. Second, I want to say Thank You for giving me that piece of chocolate at church on Sunday, February 9th!! It was delicious.

Thanks again,  
Linda White





# Bible Fun

## EASTER

R	I	C	A	E	H	T	A	M	I	R	A	F	O	H	P	E	S	O	J
E	K	A	U	Q	H	T	R	A	E	O	M	E	T	O	D	T	H	E	G
S	O	L	D	I	E	R	S	A	R	D	E	T	N	A	I	L	O	N	E
U	W	H	I	L	E	T	H	E	H	D	E	S	W	I	S	S	O	R	G
R	S	T	Y	I	L	L	O	N	O	I	X	I	F	I	C	U	R	C	N
R	T	H	R	E	R	O	L	S	L	E	S	R	A	N	I	D	T	A	H
E	M	M	A	U	S	A	E	V	Y	O	S	H	I	C	P	E	I	L	H
C	E	A	M	R	I	S	N	F	W	A	A	C	L	L	L	I	N	V	E
T	G	O	N	R	M	M	Y	G	E	B	M	O	T	E	E	A	R	A	T
I	T	H	T	E	S	L	O	N	E	O	O	F	S	U	S	E	J	R	A
O	G	L	E	G	M	A	O	D	K	L	H	D	I	S	C	L	O	Y	L
N	S	E	S	A	N	P	H	O	L	Y	T	H	U	R	S	D	A	Y	I
Y	A	D	I	R	F	D	O	O	G	D	H	R	E	V	O	S	S	A	P

J O S E P H of ARIMATHEA  
 RESURRECTION  
 PILATE  
 CALVARY  
 CRUCIFIXION  
 EMMAUS  
 GOOD FRIDAY  
 SOLDIERS  
 DISCIPLES  
 MARY  
 TOMB  
 THOMAS

PALMS  
 HOLY WEEK  
 ANGEL  
 PASSOVER  
 JESUS  
 HOLY WEEK  
 HOLY THURSDAY  
 CHRIST  
 CROSS  
 TRIAL  
 EARTHQUAKE

and: Find some words of a favorite hymn:



## *Valentine's Retirement Tea*





## *Worship Service February 16, 2020*



Thank you to Bishop Macholz for leading worship at Zion! Thank you to the men's quartet, and Choir Director, Kim Marscher, for providing the music on this day!



## *Given to the Glory of God*

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Ditzel, Parker, and Richards Families in Utica	Memorial Fund	Winifred P. Richards Family
Doris Miga	Roof Repair	Swierczek family
<u>In Honor of:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Fran & Claudia King	Building Fund	Don & Wanda Gregory
Jim & Kim Marscher	Building fund	Don & Wanda Gregory
Pastor David	Building Fund	Bob & Bonnie Loomis
Pastor David	Lutheran Care Ministries	Irma Muehlenberg
Pastor David	Building Fund	Kerstin Soykan
Laurel McCurdy	Missionaries	Carole Grove

Zion has received a trust from the Winifred P. Richards family and has as placed the funds as directed.



Central Crossroads Conference and Southern Tier Conference

Spring Assembly

At Zion Lutheran Church in New Hartford, NY

April 25, 2020 10:00- 3:00



Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day and remembering our responsibility to care for God's Creation.

This will be a day of fellowship, information and activities to remind us of our connection to God's Creation.

More information will be available as the date gets closer.

Save this date. Please post in your church.



## March 2020

Help is needed to set up, serve, and clean-up for our Sunday morning coffee hour. The sign up sheet is in the narthex. Thank you!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> World Day of Prayer Rev. Jen DeWeerth 11:15am Confirmation class	<b>2</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>3</b> 6:15pm Y staff meeting	<b>4</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>7</b> 11-12:30 Nepali Youth
<b>8</b> Rev. Janet Hoover 9am choir rehearsal 11:30 Cook-In 1-3:30pm-Nepali worship 12:15 Contemporary Service	<b>9</b> 12:30 Al-Anon 1pm Book Club 6:30pm Council meeting	<b>10</b> 9am Y staff meeting	<b>11</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>12</b> 10:30am WELCA planning mtg. 5:30pm Walking Group	<b>13</b> 12:30 Al-Anon 6:45-10pm Railroad group	<b>14</b> 11-12:30 Nepali Youth
<b>15</b> AIM Patsy Glista 1-3:30pm-Nepali worship 12:15 Contemporary Service	<b>16</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>17</b> Happy St. Patrick's Day! 11:30am Your Neighbors board mtg. 5pm service with OPWDD 5:30 Young families group	<b>18</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>19</b> 5:30pm Walking Group	<b>20</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>21</b> 11-12:30 Nepali Youth
<b>22</b> Rev Jen DeWeerth 9am choir rehearsal 11:30 WELCA event "Fill My Cup, Lord" 12:15 Contemporary Service 1-3:30pm-Nepali worship	<b>23</b> 12:30 Al-Anon 6:30pm Council mtg.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>26</b> 5:30pm Walking Group	<b>27</b> 12:30 Al-Anon 7pm Coffee House	<b>28</b> 10-4:30 Nepal Suicide prevention program 11-12:30 Nepali Youth
<b>29</b> Rev. Jen DeWeerth 12:15 Contemporary Service 1-3:30pm-Nepali worship	<b>30</b> 12:30 Al-Anon	<b>31</b>				

### WE NEED YOU TO JOIN THE FAIR TRADE MOVEMENT!

Most teas come from large plantations where workers have little say, and are often trapped in a system of dependency. With the support of people like us at Zion who purchase Fair Trade tea, Equal Exchange has been able to build a different tea model, one that gives small farmers greater access to the market, affording them more economic power, better lives and healthier communities. We offer *caffeine free* Organic Rooibos, Vanilla Rooibos, Rooibos Chai, and English Breakfast Tea. Three other teas we have are Organic Green Tea, Earl Grey and our newest choice, Organic Chai. *Zion's Social Ministry Team invites you to come visit our Fair Trade Hutch in the Fireside Room and buy some tea—only \$3.00 per box.*



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Website: [www.ZionlutheranNy.org](http://www.ZionlutheranNy.org)

Facebook: Zion Lutheran Church, New Hartford, NY

Twitter: Zion Lutheran Church @ZionLutheran630

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



While I'm waiting,  
I will serve You.  
While I'm waiting,  
I will worship.  
While I'm waiting,  
I will not faint.  
I'll be running the  
race even while I  
wait.