



May
2023

Zion's News & Notes



A Few Words From Pastor Janet

Forgiveness is on my mind.

It's been the subject of a number of discussions I've been involved with lately and the topic of a Bible study that dealt with it from every angle we could think of. Who deserves forgiveness? What does someone have to do to be forgiven? What about when you can't forgive someone? What about when you can't forgive yourself? These are just some of the questions we tackled. And one of the most important things we learned is that forgiveness is a process, not instantaneous.

How important is forgiveness anyway?

For the Christian, it is right up there at the top of the list of characteristics that make us who we are—forgiven sinners—and what we are called to do—forgive as God in Christ has forgiven us.

Remember the very meaning of Jesus' name is "he shall save his people from their sins." Matt. 1:21

We often think of sin as a Lenten topic, but forgiveness as an Easter topic gets much less attention. And yet, in reading over the resurrection accounts from all the gospels, what struck me is that forgiveness was the purpose of what Jesus accomplished on the cross and through the empty tomb.

Luke describes Jesus helping the disciples to understand God's Word: You can see how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations. Luke 24:46

And then in John: Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?" John 20:22-23 The Message

It's two-fold, isn't it?

We need the forgiveness God offers through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, not as some kind of ticket to heaven, but to experience a brand-new life change right here and now. And, having experienced that life change, we are to forgive others in Jesus' name.

That is the abundant, eternal life God desires for us and invites us to live. Alleluia!

I joined Zion as a member five years ago, but have only worshipped with you occasionally since I am at LutheranCare on Sundays in my role as Chaplain. I now am serving as transition pastor but, because I continue in my call at LutheranCare, many of you won't see any more of me than before. My time and duties are limited, but please let me know if you need pastoral care. I am here for you.

Your Co-worker in the Gospel,
Pastor Janet

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
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May Announcements

Attention New Zion Attendees!!!

If you are new to Zion, or if you have been attending for a while and would like to become a member, please let the office know and we will schedule a special service for new members. You can call the office at 315-732-4110 or send us an email at office@zionluth.com. We would love to have you as part of our Zion family!

Synod Assembly

We are looking for two members to attend Synod Assembly on behalf of Zion this June!!! This is an exciting opportunity and your vote matters. The dates are June 2nd at 1pm and June 3rd at 3pm. Friday's dinner and Saturday's lunch are included with registration. If you would like to spend the night at the Hilton Hotel in Syracuse (which is a 10 minute drive from the assembly), Zion would of course provide that stay. A good opportunity for couples!

Faith Alive

Please join us for Faith Alive for a time of Biblical discussion in the Fireside Room at 9am on Sunday, May 14th!!

Sundays at 10am

Greeters come upstairs at 10am and, for the safety of our worshipers, we keep the doors locked. Please ring the normal office bell and we will do everything we can to listen for the bell and have someone run down and open the door.

Abide

The Building Analysis and Internal Structure and Systems Working groups will meet the **third Sunday** of each month following worship.

Worship & Music Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3rd at 6 PM on Zoom.

Worship Team

May sign up sheets are looking a little empty. Please take a look and sign up where you can!!

Fellowship & Coffee Hour

Thank you to those who have signed up to help us resume regular weekly coffee hour! We are halfway there to getting the help we need for a monthly rotation. Please see the signup sheet posted in the narthex or let Sara know if you would like to help!

May Birthdays

Michael Stevens, Jr.	2	Eleanor Hecklau	18
Kristin Wilson	3	Kate Lambe	18
Evan Marscher	4	Ryan Kulawy	19
Tricia Meneses	5	Bob Lambe	20
Millie Angevine	5	Tracy Stevens	22
Hailey Killian	6	Abigail Tompkins	23
Emilia Stevens	6	George McGlynn	25
Lloyd McLennan	8	Kris Larsen	28
Kaleena Musumeci	9	Loretta Berie	28
Erik Smith	10	Avery Zanker	28
Olivia Pierce	12	Moirra Dowd	30
Brandon Scalise	12	Robert Kuiken	31
Bill Pentland	13	Alison Manderson	31
Ed Hecklau	15	Karen Toepp	31
Harry Morrison	16	Joni Pulliam	31
Shirley Eadline	17		



Treasurer's Report

		March 2023 Treasurer's Report		
	Mar-23	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
Income				
Giving	\$ 13,822.02	\$ 44,951.47	\$ 42,999.00	\$ 1,952.47
Other Income	\$ 624.12	\$ 3,360.32	\$ 4,390.13	\$ (1,029.81)
Total Income	\$ 14,446.14	\$ 48,311.79	\$ 47,389.13	\$ 922.66
Total Expense	\$ 17,945.06	\$ 48,940.18	\$ 47,774.61	\$ 1,165.57
Net Income	\$ (3,498.92)	\$ (628.39)	\$ (385.48)	\$ (242.91)



Gifts Given to the Glory of God

In Memory of:	To:	Given by:
Fran King	Food Pantry	Claudia King
In Honor of:	To:	Given by:

May Worship Team Schedule

Date:	Worship Assistant	Pastor	Greeters	Ushers
May 7	Wendy Stevens	Pr. Bill		
May 14		Deacon Patsy Glista		
May 21		Rev. Jennifer DeWeerth		
May 28	Karen Toepp			



BEE GENEROUS
PLANT SEEDS OF JUSTICE

The Upstate NY Synod Hunger Justice Team invites you and your congregation to participate in the 2023 synod-wide appeal.

Each congregation is challenged to raise \$440 or more to cover the cost of two bee colonies (\$20 each) and two community gardens(\$200 each).

These ministries make God's creation more sustainable and support families in need.

#BeeGenerousUNYS

The poster features a decorative border at the bottom with various flowers (pink, yellow, red, blue) and bees.

This communication from World Hunger is our typical spring challenge!!!

We usually gather funds from Easter until Assembly and the funds are taken to Assembly.

Please note the challenge of \$400 for us to bring to assembly.

Easter 2023





Notes of Gratitude & Other Communications

Thanks to everyone for your prayers, calls, cards and meals these last months while Kim has been treated for cancer. We appreciate your kindness, and we look forward to seeing you in person soon.

Kim and Jim Marscher

Many thanks to Pastor Bill for leading the services during Holy Week. Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday were all beautiful services!!

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the CNY Veteran's Outreach Center, I would like to say thank you for your very generous DONATION OF \$1,000. Your commitment to helping Veterans in need within our community is sincerely appreciation. Thank you again for your generous support of our efforts.

Sincerely,

Vincent Scalise, Founder/Executive Director



Trinity/Zion Think Tank

The Trinity/Zion Think Tank met via Zoom on Sunday, April 2nd. We discussed the Ministry Site Characteristics surveys that will be compiled for both congregations. Justina Kane will display these survey results with pie graphs at our next meeting.

We also compared mission statements from Trinity and Zion and felt they aligned well, especially in the areas of Faith and Service.

In addition, we started working on Purpose from page 6 of our Ministry Site Profiles. We agreed that service expressed who we are as Lutherans. We emphasized that our purpose is to share hope for the future and that our churches are to be places of sanctuary and refuge. During this discussion, the following words were highlighted: bold, hope, energy, acceptance, impromptu, and spontaneity. We felt that these concepts will help us move forward.

We will meet again on Sunday, May 7th at 3:00 via Zoom.

Women of Faith

A "*Woman of Faith*" program is being held at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 1640 Genesee Street, Utica on **Sunday, May 7th at 12noon**. All are invited for a fun time of fellowship and learning.

The topic will be Women Prophets in the Bible. These are women whom God has chosen to speak for Him under divine guidance by the Holy Spirit. We will be discussing why they were chosen and what was their mission, and how this applies to us today in our Faith Walk with Jesus. Trinity's women will facilitate our program.

This will also give us more insight into the awesomeness of God and how He works in our lives individually.

Please bring a bag lunch. The women of Our Saviour will provide beverage and dessert.

Join Us!

WOMEN OF FAITH

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM



MONDAY, JUNE 26th AT 7 PM

MONDAY, JULY 24th AT 7 PM

MONDAY, AUGUST 28th AT 7 PM



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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.*

