



# Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Being the Body of Christ*

February 2023

Vol. 29 No. 2

Epiphany/ Transfiguration/ Lent



He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

Matthew 17:2, ESV

## OUR VISION STATEMENT

*At Zion St. John Lutheran Church, we are committed to being the body of Christ until He returns. Led by the Holy Spirit and gathered around God's Word and Sacraments, we join in worship, fellowship, learning, spiritual nurture, outreach, and service, as we grow in faith and invite others to experience Christ's presence.*



*From  
Produce From  
Desk*  
Seven days you shall keep the festival to the Lord your God in the place that the Lord will choose; for the Lord your God will bless you in all you produce and in all your undertakings, and you shall surely celebrate. Deuteronomy 16:15

Our annual meeting was held on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. One of the items on the agenda was a proposal to replace the flooring in the fellowship hall, kitchen, bathrooms and downstairs education wing with the same type of flooring we currently have in the Narthex.

Earlier, during his President's report, Don G mentioned that, a few days before, he and his grandson Malachi were working at the church when he noticed the stone on the side of the building that states that the sanctuary was built in 1948. Although we are approaching our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025, the two churches Zion (town church) and St. John (country church) worshipped at different locations until they came together and built our current sanctuary in 1948. Don did some quick math and realized that this year we celebrate 75 years of ministry in our current church building. This is reason to celebrate!

As the discussion proceeded about the flooring, it was mentioned that remodeling the bathrooms adjacent to the fellowship hall has also been on the property list of improvements for some time. Putting new flooring in these bathrooms before they have been remodeled could prove troublesome in the long run.

The congregation does have money in savings from Virginia Lease's memorial gift to our congregation. After a very productive discussion it was decided to set the goal of trying to complete both projects and make it a celebration of 75 years of ministry in this location!

The total budget for this project will be \$50,000. We will use \$20,000 of the Virginia L Memorial as seed money and then we will need to raise an additional \$30,000.

So, what will be accomplished if we reach this goal? We will have new flooring from the elevator into the fellowship hall, the kitchen, bathrooms and the basement hallway of the Education Wing. We will also have newly remodeled men's and women's bathrooms adjacent to



the fellowship hall.

God has blessed Zion St. John so richly the past 148 years and the partnership that was formed with the building of a new church in 1948! Let us join together to celebrate what has been and what has yet to be!

Thank you, Don, for your service as our President this past year and for your Spirit inspired observation that will lead us into the next 75 years and beyond!

God's blessings to you,  
Pastor Kim



Can you believe one whole month is already done of this new year?? I can't. I also can't believe that we are getting through the Epiphany season of the liturgical calendar which is an exciting time. It started with the celebration of Jesus' baptism and

then we got to learn and read about the calling of the disciples and the time, though short, Jesus spent teaching and loving them and all others.

And I didn't even think about it, but at the end of February is Ash Wednesday. I love Ash Wednesday and everything it stands for. But I have never really thought about how we get about 2 months of learning about the light that was Jesus' life, and then we immediately get thrown into having to think about what is to come after the season of Lent. Which thank goodness we get to know today that it ends in the happiest of ways, but can you imagine living back then and not knowing. How quickly life went from witnessing Jesus's love and teaching to His betrayal and crucifixion? I can't imagine living through that, and am so grateful that I get to live today knowing the horribly fast transition ends with yet another 180 degree flip and an extremely happy ending. I pray that as life flips and flops, we all know that the bad is not where it ends. There is more!



God Bless,  
Bre

**Thursdays,  
February 2, 9, 16, 23  
2-5 pm  
Saturday, Feb 4  
10 am-noon**



We are very appreciative for all donations of money, personal hygiene items, perishable and non-perishable food items. We are especially in need of juice, cereal and personal care items. You can place items in the cart in the Narthex or in the drop box in the alley @ 106 Gilman.

## PIE SALE

The Valentine's Day Pie Sale will be on February 12, starting @ 10 am. The Women of ZSJ are sponsoring this yummy event as a fundraiser for Women's ministries, including quilting and camperships. Preorders will be taken and orders can be picked up on the 12th. There will be a limited number of pies for sale that day. Order forms are available on the narthex table or in this newsletter!



## EASTER LILY GARDEN



An Easter lily garden will again decorate the sanctuary during the Easter season. A lily may be purchased for the garden through the church office or directly from *Forever Yours* in Sheffield for \$25.00. Make your check payable to *Forever Yours*. All orders must be in by Palm Sunday, April 2. If you are giving a lily in memory of someone or plan to bring a lily on your own, please let the church office know so that it can be noted in the Easter morning bulletin.



The beginning of the 40 days of the Lenten season is Ash Wednesday, February 22. Worship that evening will begin @ 7 pm and include imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. In person and on-line worship will be offered. At home communion and packets of ashes are available on the narthex table.

## DEVOTIONS



If you are looking for a new daily devotion or hoping to add daily devotions to your 2023 Lenten journey, we encourage you to check out a new publication entitled “Water and Spirit.” This booklet is available on the Narthex table. It includes readings for the season of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending with Holy Saturday. Each day includes a short Bible passage, a brief reflection and ending with prayer.

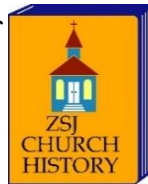
Pick one up and give it a try!

## 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Believe it or not, we will be celebrating 150 years of being a church in 2025, only a few short years away. As we get closer to this huge milestone, we are in need of the following to make this day very special:

- ◆ Volunteers to serve on a planning committee
- ◆ Written or verbal family stories

Let Diane, Pastor Kim or any council member if you would like to help!



## MISSING PICTURES

There are a few years of confirmation pictures that are missing from our records. Below you will find a list. If you recognize any of these names as family or friends, maybe ask around and see if you can help us locate one or more of these missing treasures. If you do locate them, we would request a scan for our records and the confirmation picture wall. Thank you in advance for help with this project!



From St John (country church)

- 1909 Albert Bielefeld , Lena Schaefer, Albert Schroeder, Karl Storck, Christian Timmermann
- 1910 Friedrich Ginapp, Carl Horstmann, Albert Humburg, George Kammeier, Gladys Kammeier, Frieda Liekweg, Roy Pohle, Maria Schnabel, Sophie Timmermann, Andreas Volkmann
- 1912 Hermann Ginapp, Arthur Humburg, Walther Humburg, Arthur Liekweg
- 1914 George Boelck, Emma Bielefeld, Emma Kruckenberg, Elsa Wiele
- 1916 Albert Dittberner, Arthur Dittberner, Emma Eickmeier, Frank Freytag, Andreas Janssen, Amalia Liekweg, Heinrich Schroeder, Alfred Tuecke, Viola Tuecke

From Zion (town church)

- 1915 Albert Freudenberg, Georg Freudenberg, Leonora Freudenberg, Rosa Freudenberg, Anna Humburg, Lorenz Kammeier, Roland Kammeier, Hellen Oehlert, Lotta Potts, Lorina Storck, Lester Tool

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here's a look at our finances as of December 31, 2022:

Budgeted Income	\$217,835.40
Offerings Received	\$191,629.67
Ending Deficit	\$ 26,205.73
Expenses YTD	\$202,222.01
Checking Balance	\$ 7,285.30



We had a very good December! We cut our deficit by over \$7,000 and ended up with about that same amount in our checking account. Thank you for your faithful giving!

## BOLD WOMEN SUNDAY

*Bold*  
WOMEN



During worship on Sunday, February 26, we will celebrate the amazing Bold Women in our congregation. The ministries of the Women of ZSJ are as varied as they are and reach those in our congregation, community and around the world. Please join us in thanking these wonderful, caring women who do so much for all of us!

## SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Because the Women of ZSJ firmly believe all children should have the opportunity to attend one of our Lutheran Bible Camps, we generously offer a \$150 per student campership. In addition the church also offers \$25. So as you are making your plans for summer, consider a week at camp, and let us help pay for it! If you have more questions, you can contact the church office, or talk with the camp personnel when you register your child!



## CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY



The Three River Conference Assembly on Sunday February 26, 2-4 pm, at Fredsville Lutheran in rural Cedar Falls. Pastor Kim is now dean of this conference. If you would like to help represent ZSJ, please let him know! This is a wonderful opportunity to share in the fellowship and have a voice.

## *Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Dacia S called the board meeting to order on Sunday, January 8, at 10:00 a.m. The Statement of Purpose was read. Those present were: Dacia S, Alice G, Diane W, and Pam M.

**MINUTES:** Motion to approve the October meeting minutes, Diane; second, Alice; carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank yous for monetary donations were received from: KCMR, Caring Pregnancy Center, LAMP Ministry Inc., Lutheran Services in Iowa, MercyOne North Iowa Hospice, Women of the ELCA, Lutheran World Relief. Thank yous were received from Mariellen VB for the nativity nightlight and from Wings of Refuge for their portion of the proceeds from the Holiday Food Fair. Thank yous were also received from Dax S and Cale M for the confirmation gift, and from Cynthia F (foreign exchange student) for the graduation quilt.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** As of December 31, there is a checking balance of \$1,739.24 and savings balance of \$2,662.46, of which \$336.72 are designated fund. The report was placed on file. Sue L and Marcia E will be reviewing the treasurer's records before the congregational annual meeting.

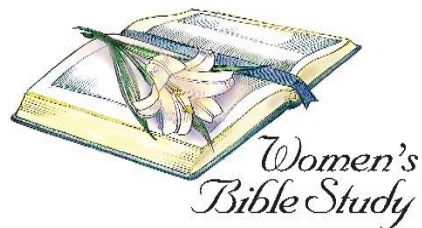
### OLD BUSINESS:

- ◇ Shut In gifts of a nativity night light were mailed or delivered before Christmas, along with handmade cards.
- ◇ Holiday Food Fair profits were \$995.70, which was rounded up to \$1,000.00. \$500 was given to Wings of Refuge and \$500 to the office window replacement project.

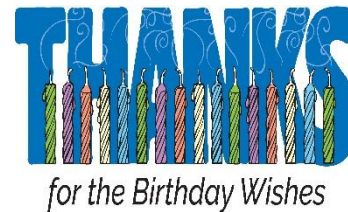
### NEW BUSINESS:

- ◇ Since we have a good balance in both checking and savings, Diane made a motion to send \$500 each to the SWO (Synodical Women's Organization) and to the Churchwide Women of the ELCA. Motion carried.
- ◇ Lenten Supper: Ash Wednesday is February 22. After reviewing the calendar, we would like to do a supper on Wednesday, March 22.
- ◇ World Day of Prayer - It is our turn to host this for 2023. Instead of holding it on a Friday, we will move it to Saturday, March 4.
- ◇ Care Center Birthdays – We are able to do this again, and agreed to do it for the months of April and October. Dacia will call Erin S at the Care Center to let her know.
- ◇ Pie Sale - The pie sale will be held on Sunday, February 12. Work groups will be asked to donate pies in disposable pie tins, to be delivered to the church by Saturday, February 11th. Prices will be the same as for 2022: \$4 per slice, or \$20 per whole pie. We are requesting pre-orders when possible. Diane will include an order form in the bulletin and newsletter.
- ◇ Baptismal gifts: More baptismal gifts are needed. Alice will check into restocking these.
- ◇ We reviewed the circle booklets.
- ◇ The next WELCA board meeting will be February 5, 2023.
- ◇ Dacia adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Secretary, Pam M



**Rebekah Circle**  
Mon, Feb 6 @ 6 pm  
Video upload by  
Tues, Feb 7 @ 10am



Thank you to everyone who came to my mom's (Eleanor M) 90th birthday celebration at the Sheffield Care Center and those who also sent cards! You helped her celebrate a milestone in her life and it is greatly appreciated.

Cindy H



**Call to order:** President Don G called the annual meeting of Zion St. John Lutheran Church to order at 10:00 AM on January 22, 2023. A quorum was declared. Pastor Kim led devotions.

### Review of 2022 Reports:

- ◇ **Membership/Attendance Statistics** (p. 6) – 531 Baptized members, 431 Confirmed members
- ◇ **Secretary's Report** (p. 7-8) Motion to approve report, Cliff C; second; carried.
- ◇ **Treasurer/Financial Secretary's Report** (p. 8) Report was reviewed. Total giving for 2022 was \$193,826.67. Ending checking account balance was \$27,072.54 and ending savings account balance was \$55,587.79.
- ◇ **Pastor's Report** (p. 9-10) Pastor thanked the council members who are finished their terms (Shannon L, Lance L, and Don G). He especially appreciated their help with all the extra issues with Covid over the last 2 years. Pastor expressed his appreciation to Lorna, Fred and Scott, all the church musicians, the property committee and all the volunteers for helping with the upkeep of the church and helping things run smoothly over the last year. He also thanked Bre and Diane especially for all that they have done.
- ◇ **Director of Youth and Family**
- ◇ **Ministry's Report** (p. 10) Bre thanked everyone for being so welcoming to her this year!
- ◇ **President's Report** (p 10) Don said thank you to everyone for helping

keep our church well maintained over the last 75 years and for keeping our congregation strong.

- ◇ **Audit** - Judy S, Cliff C and John L reviewed the financial reports. All accounts were in order.

#### **Committees:**

- ◇ **Stewardship**- p.11
- ◇ **Property and Management**- p.11 Lance thanked everyone who helped with the upkeep of the church this year. And especially the committee for their extra hours working on the window project.
- ◇ **Technology** – p. 11 Scott said “It’s great when it works!”
- ◇ **Worship/ Evangelism**- p.12
- ◇ **Legacy/Memorial** p.12-13
- ◇ **Parish Education** p.13
- ◇ **Youth and Family** p.14

#### **Organizations:**

- ◇ **Lutheran Cemetery Association** p. 15
- ◇ **Riverside Bible Camp** p. 15
- ◇ **WELCA** – p. 16-18
- ◇ **West Fork Food Pantry** – p. 19-20 Diane noted that there was a large increase in the number of families that were served in 2022.

#### **Elections:**

- ◇ **Church Council** – Three members needed for 3-year terms. Al N and John L were nominated. Don requested a third volunteer for the council. Judy S volunteered. Don called for a unanimous vote. Vote carried.
- ◇ **Cemetery Financial Officer**- Dave S agreed to continue. Unanimous vote carried.
- ◇ **Nominating Committee**- Three outgoing members will be on the nominating committee: Doug D, Darwin M and Dacia S. Lance L volunteered to be one of the congregation members on the committee. One congregational member is yet to be filled by the council.
- ◇ **Legacy/Memorial Committee**- Ron P and Lorna M volunteered.
- ◇ **Audit Committee** – Daren M volunteered to fill the open position.
- ◇ **Voting Members**
  - **Riverside Bible Camp**- Darwin M volunteered to continue.

- **Synod Assembly** – Council to fill

**Old Business:** none

#### **New Business:**

- ◇ **Presentation and Adoption of the 2023 Budget** (p.24-25)  
Discussion held. Motion to accept proposed budget for 2023, Jim B; second; carried.
- ◇ **Legacy/Memorial interest disbursement**- Total amount of \$56.83.  
Motion for the money to be used to continue work on marking the unmarked gravesites at the cemetery, Vickie B; second; carried.
- ◇ **Fellowship Hall Flooring Replacement** – Jim B presented a proposal for replacing the flooring in the church basement with the same flooring as in the church entry. This proposal would include the kitchen, bathrooms and hallway in the education unit also. It was discussed that the project of remodeling the basement bathrooms had preceded this project. There are some funds available from a memorial gift from Virginia L that could go toward the project(s). After much discussion, a motion to use \$20,000 from the Virginia L memorial funds to start a 75<sup>th</sup> Year Church Anniversary fundraising campaign for \$50,000 to remodel the basement bathrooms and relace the basement flooring, Daren M; second; carried.
- ◇ **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn @ 11:15 am, Dave S; second; carried.

### **NEW COUNCIL MEETING**

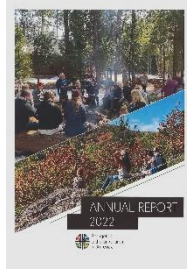
January 22, 2023

- ◇ Jim B agreed to be president. Doug D agreed to be vice-president.  
Dacia S agreed to continue as secretary. Officers were approved.
- ◇ Meeting time was discussed. All agreed to continue with council meetings on the second Sunday of the month after church.
- ◇ Next council meeting February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Dacia S

## 2023 COUNCIL

Jim B President  
 Doug D Vice President  
 Dacia S Secretary  
 Vickie B  
 John L  
 Darwin M  
 Al N  
 Eugene S  
 Judy S



\*\*\*Copies of the 2022 Annual report are on the usher's table in the Narthex.

### LENTEN/ EASTER

Feb 19	9:00 am	Transfiguration Worship w/ Holy Communion & SS Choir sings
Feb 22	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship w/ Holy Communion Imposition of Ashes
Feb 26	9:00 am	Sunday Lenten Worship led by ZSJ Praise Team
Mar 1, 8, 22, & 29	5:15 pm	Lenten Suppers
Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29	7:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship
Mar 5, 12, 19, & 26	9:00 am	Sunday Worship
Apr 2	9:00 am	Palm Sunday
Apr 6	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday
Apr 7	7:30 pm	Good Friday
Apr 9	6:30 am	Sunrise Easter Worship
	7:30 am	Easter Breakfast by ZSJ Youth
	9:00 am	Easter Festival Worship



2 Gary R, Jake S, Marvin H  
 4 Steve L  
 5 Zach G, Jason G  
 7 Chris H, Sara W  
 10 Jackson B, Xavier B  
 12 Jordan H, Courtney L  
 13 Taylor C  
 14 Abby S, Emily T  
 15 Cassidy E, Diane R, Cheri K  
 16 Todd H  
 17 Jordan L, Charles S  
 18 Macy D, Nancy R  
 19 Samantha M, Holly W  
 20 Marcia K  
 21 Breanna L  
 22 Amber H, Samantha H  
 24 Tyler G, Preston L, Judy N  
 25 Jen S  
 26 Elle L  
 27 Jim M



### WINTER WEATHER



If West Fork Schools cancel classes due to weather, all church activities will also be cancelled. For Sunday worship, the Council President and Pastor Kim make a decision whether Sunday services and SS will be held. If services are cancelled it will be **posted on the homepage of the website** and we will notify the following TV and radio stations:

TV: **KIMT, WHO, KCCI**  
 Hampton: **104.9 FM – KLMJ, 98.9 FM - KQCR**  
 Mason City: **1300 AM-KGLO, 1490 AM-KRIB, 97.9 FM-KCMR**

## PRAYER LIST



In order to keep Pastor Kim informed and our prayer list accurate, please let the church office or Pastor know if you are in the hospital or are anticipating hospitalization. You call him directly @ 641-425-9453. Family members are also welcome to call.

Cindy R	Judy N	Bev F
Sarah P	Ray R	Cliff C
Doris E	Betty H	Junior N
Christy M	Virginia C	Louise Ke
Drew H	Pat H	Patty B
Louise C	Carolyn R	Diane R
Sharon S	Jon S	Gary S
Parrish P	Sue K	Sue N
Ned B		

◇ The family of Larry O

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



9:00 am Worship  
(Live Stream @ [www.zionstjohn.org](http://www.zionstjohn.org) ,  
Sunday Worship)

10:15 am Fellowship &  
Sunday School



\*\* \*\* For those who are continuing to worship at home, prepackaged communion will be available for pickup on Friday, February 3 & 17. You will find the cups on trays on the Narthex table.

## STAFF OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

G Kim Wills, Pastor	641-425-9453 <a href="mailto:pastor@zionstjohn.org">pastor@zionstjohn.org</a> 9am-3pm, T-F
Church Office	641-892-4010 <a href="mailto:mail@zionstjohn.org">mail@zionstjohn.org</a> 9am-12pm, M-F
Bre Hilton, DYFM	515-520-0559 <a href="mailto:youth@zionstjohn.org">youth@zionstjohn.org</a> 10am-3 pm, T-W