



Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Being the Body of Christ

March 2023

Vol. 29 No. 3

Lent



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.

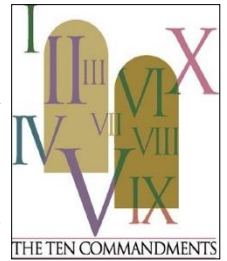


I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:2

We are in the season of Lent. Although not my favorite church season, Lent is a necessary time. Lent requires us to examine our lives and our sin. We can confess these sins to God and ask for forgiveness. But the exercise doesn't end there. We are also to repent, be truly sorry for our sins and make a concerted effort to do better.

My sermon series this Lent will be based on the 10 commandments, which are God's rules for our lives. Each Sunday and Wednesday in Lent, starting February 26, I will be covering each commandment in detail. I will also be using Luther's meanings from the Small Catechism in these sermons. Perhaps you, like me, were not raised Lutheran and weren't confirmed in the Lutheran church. Perhaps you were confirmed Lutheran, but you could use a refresher or perhaps, as I often hear, you wished you had paid more attention during confirmation class. This will be your opportunity to receive this instruction as an adult – with a different perspective on life. I hope that you will be able to attend all these worship services in person. But if you are not each service will be livestreamed as usual.



It is my experience, that the more fully I embrace the disciplines of Lent, the greater my joy on Easter morning. May we all share a blessed Lenten journey through God's love for us!

God's blessings to you,
Pastor Kim



I don't if anyone else is ready for Spring, but I know I am for sure. I am so ready for warmer weather. Something else I'm ready for is the season of Lent. I am excited to know and understand more about this season of the

church year and truly use it as a time of reflection and time to grow in my faith. Life at camp and at church are getting busier as the new season starts, and I am super excited about all that I get to do. I also cannot wait to really dive into writing the Good Friday service and be able to hopefully use it to impact one of the kids that will be in it, or even anyone who watches it. I feel blessed that I get to be a part of something like it and that I too will hopefully be blessed and just feel the Holy Spirit move through this service. I hope everyone has a blessed March and that you feel the love of God as we get closer to Jesus' sacrifice for us!



God Bless,
Bre



Thursdays,
Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
2-5 pm
Saturday, Mar 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, canned fruit and personal care items. You can place items in the cart in the Narthex or in the drop box on the front of the pantry building @ 106 Gilman.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here's a look at our finances as of January 31, 2023.

Budgeted Income	\$18,524
Offerings Received	\$10,337
Current Deficit	\$ 8,187
Expenses YTD	\$21,252
Checking Balance	-\$ 1,214



Well, this is not the way we wanted to start out the new year. Expenses were higher than anticipated because our insurance company required more of our annual premium up front than in the past. Utilities were also quite high. Please prayerfully consider helping us through this difficult time. As always, thank you for your faithful giving.



*Don't
Forget!
Sunday March 12*

MIDWEEK WORSHIP

Midweek Lenten worship will be on all Wednesdays in the month of March @ 7 pm. Pastor Kim's Lenten sermon series is based on the Ten Commandments, both Sundays and Wednesdays.

The service will also include the "Return to the Lord" liturgy that Pastor Kim wrote. These services will be available in person and Livestream.



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.

LENTEN OFFERINGS

Our midweek offerings will be given to various charitable organizations in our area, including Church of the Damascus Road, Lutheran Services in Iowa, the Sharing Shoppe, Riverside Bible Camp, Bridge of Hope and Access Inc. When giving, please make your checks payable to ZSJ and then indicate the ministry in the memo line. The donation tab on the church website also includes these ministries as a choice in the drop down screen.



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.

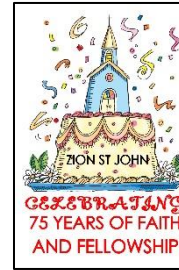
Pick one up and give it a try!

LENTEN SUPPER

There will be four Lenten suppers in March, @ 5:15-6:15 pm. There will be eat in or drive thru options. If you would like drive thru, please pull up to the east alley door and your food will be brought to you. Free will offerings will be gratefully accepted!



Date	Host	Menu
Mar 1	Chancel Choir	Pancakes, eggs, biscuits, gravy, cinn. rolls
Mar 8	Bell Choir	Soup, sandwiches, bars
Mar 22	WELCA	Beefburgers, chips, relishes, bars
Mar 29	ZSJ Council	TBD



At the January annual meeting, the congregation approved a fundraiser in celebration of our 75th anniversary of this church building. This project would include new flooring in the fellowship hall, kitchen, bathrooms and hallway in the education unit and remodeling of the bathrooms. A \$50,000 fundraising campaign was approved. A generous memorial gift of \$20,000 from Virginia L will be used. Along with pledges and possible grant money this would cover the project. The council has visited with some local contractors concerning the remodeling of the bathrooms and have also obtained a bid for the flooring. They have suggested under ADA guidelines that both bathrooms become unisex bathrooms with the women’s becoming wheel chair accessible. Both bathrooms would have one stool and one sink and the windows removed. The project would be in two phases with the bathroom remodeling first, then the flooring. Our timeline is to do phase 1 this spring and phase 2 this summer. The approximate cost of phase 1 is \$22,000. It is possible this cost could be lower as work progresses.

The church council is asking if anyone wants to make a contribution towards this campaign they may write a check and put 75th anniversary in the memo line. We plan to update the congregation with more details each month until the projects are completed. Thank you for your prayers and support of this exciting project!

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 Kruckenber,
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)

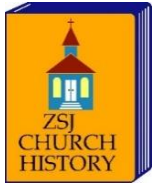
1915 Albert Freudenberg, Georg Freudenberg, Leonora Freudenberg
Rosa Freudenberg, Anna Humburg, Lorenz Kammeier,
Roland Kammeier, Hellen Oehlert, Lotta Potts,
Lorina Storck, Lester Tool

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 need 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!



Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CALL TO ORDER: President Dacia S called the board meeting to order on Sunday, February 5, at 10:00 a.m. Those present were Dacia S, Alice G, Diane W, and Pam M.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the January minutes, Diane; second, Alice; carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Thank yous for monetary donations were received from: LSI, West Fork National Honor Society, Francis Lauer, Wings of Refuge, Northern Lights Alliance for the Homeless, and the Synodical Women's Organization. Thank yous were also received from Lindy Miller and the Chuck Nolte family.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As of January 31, there is a checking balance of \$1,304.24 and savings balance of \$2,662.68, of which \$486.72 are designated funds. The report was placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

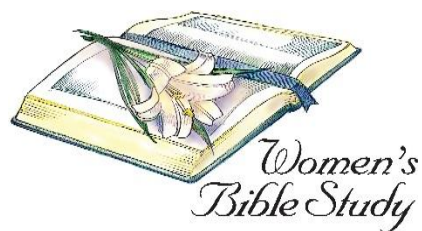
- ◆ Care Center Birthdays – Dacia verified with Erin S at the Care Center that we would like to provide treats for the months of April and October.

- ◆ Calling Lists – Names are being finalized into three groups- those who are willing to (a) work at events; (b) make and donate food items, and (c) make monetary donations toward events. Suggestion was to develop a mass text/email list for those who use those methods to help make the caller's jobs easier.
- ◆ Pie Sale – These will be delivered by 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 11. We will meet to cut and label pies that day.
- ◆ World Day of Prayer – The service will be held at Zion St. John on March 4th. Diane will contact to Judy S and Jane E to see if they would be willing to help plan the program. Light refreshments will be served.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ◆ Lenten Supper: WELCA will be serving the supper on Wednesday, March 22. Beefburgers, chips, carrots and bars will be on the menu. We need a few people to contribute money toward the meat. We will offer a drive through option as well as serving in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ The next WELCA board meeting will be March 5, 2023.
- ◆ Dacia adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Secretary, Pam M



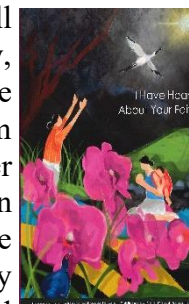
Rebekah Circle
 Mon, Mar 6 @ 6 pm
 Video upload by
 Tues, Mar 7 @ 10am

Thank you to everyone who supported our annual Valentine's Day pie sale. Whether you made a pie, bought a pie or two, or made a donation your support will help us continue the strong Women's ministries @ ZSJ! We raised nearly \$1000 again this year!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year's World Day of Prayer Celebration will be held @ Deerfield Place Assisted Living on Saturday, March 4, 9 am. The Women of ZSJ will be hosting the service and providing light refreshments. The program will be about the women of Taiwan. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service. It includes women from 170 countries and brings together women of different races, cultures and traditions for fellowship, understanding and action. Through World Day of Prayer women affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and have immeasurable influence in the world. Prayer is a powerful tool given to us by Jesus. Come and be part of the power of prayer!



**NATIONAL
 QUILTING DAY**

Saturday, March 18 is National Quilting Day. It is a day to marvel at the mastery of the talented quilters among us. The ZSJ Quilters meet every Wednesday, September– April, to fashion beautiful creations that are given to our graduating seniors, members of our community, across our state and around the world thru LWR. If you would like to see or even join in the fun, you simply need to come on Wednesday mornings starting @ 8:30 am.



Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:10, on February 12, by President Jim B. Those members in attendance were Pastor Kim Wills, Gene S, Darwin M, Al N, John L, Doug D, Judy S,

Dacia S and Vickie B. Pastor opened with a prayer.

Correspondence

We received a thank you from ♦ Luther Seminary for our continued support for Daniel R.

♦ We also received a thank you from Lorna M.

Secretary's Report- Motion and second to accept the November secretary's report and the minutes from the January Annual meeting; carried

Treasurer's Report - The treasurer's report was reviewed and discussed.

Pastor's Report

- ♦ Pastor performed a funeral for Chuck N in December and a funeral for Larry O in February.
- ♦ There is an upcoming baptism scheduled for April.
- ♦ Pastor has been visiting with prospective members.
- ♦ He has been planning for Lent 2023.
- ♦ Pastor provides In-Home Communion for shut ins and others who request it.
- ♦ Pastor will be leading the Three Rivers Conference Annual Assembly on February 26 and invited council members to join him if possible.
- ♦ Discussed a request for Pastor to help with funerals and hospice visits for the St Peter Lutheran Church in Rockwell until they can call a pastor. Council discussed this and agreed as long as Pastor doesn't get overwhelmed.

Committee Reports

Parish Education

♦ Sunday School is going well. The Sunday School staff is doing a great job!

Property

♦ Al will join the property committee.

- ♦ Al gave an update on the progress for the Fellowship Hall remodeling project. He is applying for two grants to help fund the project. The goal is to get fund raising started now and start the project in April after Easter and have it done by September.

Stewardship- Has not met.

Youth & Family

♦ John will be on the Youth and Family committee.

Worship & Evangelism

- ♦ Judy will be on the Worship & Evangelism committee.
- ♦ If you are interested in greeting, ushering, lecturing or serving fellowship, please sign up in the narthex or let Judy, Darwin or Vickie know.

Technology

- ♦ The committee needs to meet to discuss the internet proposal from Metronet. The TV monitor at the back of the church needs to be replaced. Motion and second to replace the TV monitor using memorial money; carried.

Old Business-

- ♦ Pastor has looked at the options for a new church directory. Diane has agreed to work on it this summer. There is a program where we can submit pictures and build our own directory.
- ♦ Pastor set up a committee to review the results of the congregational survey and make recommendations from it.
- ♦ There is one position to be filled on the Nominating Committee if anyone is interested in being a part of that committee.

New Business-

- ♦ Motion and second to approve the membership request for Leah C, Chayton P and Addison P; carried.
- ♦ Council will host the Lenten supper on March 29.
- ♦ Money counters were discussed and it was decided to not have assigned counters, but the council members who are available each Sunday will take care of it.
- ♦ Next Council meeting will be March 12, 2023.
- ♦ Motion to adjourn with the Lord's Prayer at 11:15.

Dacia S

LENTEN



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LENT/ EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Mar 1	5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Supper hosted by Chancel Choir Midweek Lenten Worship "Return to the Lord"
Mar 5	9:00 am	Sunday Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
Mar 8	5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Supper hosted by Bell Choir Midweek Lenten Worship "Return to the Lord"
Mar 12	9:00 am	Sunday Lenten Worship
Mar 15	7:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship "Return to the Lord"
Mar 19	9:00 am	Sunday Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
Mar 22	5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Supper hosted by Women of ZSJ Midweek Lenten Worship "Return to the Lord"
Mar 26	9:00 am	Sunday Lenten Worship led by ZSJ Praise Team
Mar 29	5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Supper hosted by Church Council Midweek Lenten Worship "Return to the Lord"
Apr 2	9:00 am	Palm Sunday Worship with Holy Communion & SS and Adult Choirs sing
Apr 6	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion
Apr 7	7:30 pm	Good Friday Worship led by ZSJ Youth
Apr 9	6:30 am 7:30 am 9:00 am	Sunrise Easter Worship with Holy Communion, HB & Chancel Choirs Easter Breakfast by ZSJ Youth Easter Festival Worship with Holy Communion

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, 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	Gary S
Sarah P	Ray R	Cliff C
Doris E	Betty H	Junior N
Christy M	Virginia C	Louise K
Drew H	Pat H	Patty B
Louise C	Carolyn R	Diane R
Sharon S	Jon S	Marcy M
Parrish P	Sue K	Ned B
Keely S	Kay E	

◇ The family of Louis S



- 2 Libby J
- 3 Helga B, Ahna L
- 4 Bev B, Sharon S
- Gavin O
- 5 Pam M
- 7 Tony R
- 9 Todd H
- 10 Jim B, Julie D, Sarah R
- 11 LaVonne C
- 13 Lori S
- 14 Kacy L, Cole M, Craig N
- 15 Tara T
- 16 Ken B
- 17 Doreen D, Brandon M, Caleb T
- 18 Scott S, Jon S
- 20 Stephanie H, Steve H, Nolan S
- 21 Jady D, Lily D
- 22 Val L, Jenna W
- 23 Marie L, Ryan R
- 24 Taylor G
- 25 Roger E, Robert M, Kalynn W
- 26 Edward E, Tim K Jr.
- 28 Louise C, Camden H
- 29 Al N
- 30 Ciara H
- 31 Gene R, Nick J



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



9:00 am Worship
*(Live Stream @ 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 March 3, 17 & 31. You will find the cups on trays on the Narthex table.

STAFF OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

G Kim Wills, Pastor	641-425-9453 pastor@zionstjohn.org 9am-3pm, T-F
Church Office	641-892-4010 mail@zionstjohn.org 9am-12pm, M-F
Bre Hilton, DYFM	515-520-0559 bre@riversidelbc.org 10am-3 pm, T-W