



*"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart!  
I have overcome the world."  
-Jesus (Jn 16:33)*

Grace and peace to you!

Members of Zion, believe it or not, Lent is right around the corner!

February 14<sup>th</sup> is not only Valentines Day, but also Ash Wednesday! Our Wednesday evenings will start at 5:15 with a soup supper and then at 6:00pm we will gather upstairs for worship together.

You may or may not know, Lent can be traced back to 325AD, meaning it was only a couple hundred years after Jesus rose when the church decided they wanted to be intentional about having a time of preparation before Easter. And now 1699 years later, we continue the tradition.

February also marks the month where we welcome our new council members. Many thanks to Carmen Nuland (VP), Gary Meunier (property), Marilyn Braunreiter (finance sec.), and Bonny Jacobs (outreach).

I also want to say thank you to Lori for her time as council president and to Joe, Judy and Beth Meunier for their time on council, and perspectives they were able to contribute to the ministry leadership at Zion.

Zion is truly blessed to have had these people take the time to help provide leadership for our congregation, to ensure that we continue to be a place of welcome and God's love.

Now you may not have an official leadership position, but we all have a role to play in the culture and the welcome of our congregation. We all live out our faith and serve God together, in a time that is growing more challenging. Fewer people are seeking out experiencing God through their faith. Some people see this as a threat, but I believe it is better to see as

an invitation to us all, to put our thinking caps on. What can each of us do to help the culture of Zion and make sure that anyone, members or visitors have good experience here?

Maybe you know someone who used to be in church all the time and you haven't seen them since covid. Maybe reaching out to check in, and perhaps invite them to come to church and have a cup of coffee, could reconnect them.

Personally, I know I have family members that live different places that don't go to church, but would probably accept an invitation if someone asked.

It's a little hard, but give it some thought.

On my sabbatical, when we asked people in churches across the country, "What has kept you active in your faith?" By far the most cited response is that "they have friends in church." It really gets us back to the basics. Maybe for Lent, you could be extra intentional about talking with someone you see at church but don't usually connect with.

It can be hard, and push us outside our comfort zones, but according to my sabbatical research, the church really depends on all these "small, little actions" that maybe, might not be so small, that maybe might be how someone experiences God's love at Zion.

In conclusion, as I like to lift up during worship offering time, thank you for your participation in ministry here, and thank you for your offerings of all kinds! For the faith actions you do that are noticed, and for those only noticed by our Father in Heaven.

We are lucky to have you here.

God's Blessings to you ><>

Pastor Joe Iverson

## Contact Information

Pastor	Joe Iverson	608-865-0203
President	Lori Meinking	608-484-2104
Secretary	Kathy Meunier	608-780-3242
Financial Secretary	Joe Roehl	608-386-2822
Treasurer	Sheryl Arms	608-582-4376
Membership and Shepherding	Louise Janke	608-385-8697
Outreach	Judy Roehl	608-385-4834
Property and Grounds	Dave Nuland	608-582-4327
Social Concerns	Karen Weltzien	608- 792-6373
Music and Worship	Beth Meunier	608-484-1310
Youth Ministry	Abby Braunreiter	608-484-2483

## Zion Lutheran Church, Galesville WI Updated Communication Policy

Zion Lutheran is an inclusive faith community committed to sincere hospitality and dedicated to love Jesus, grow in faith and to serve our neighbor.

Members of this congregation strive to treat each other with love and respect despite differences. To that end we covenant together to follow the guidelines outlined below:

### 1. Concerns or complaints:

- regarding other members: the individual goes to the person involved first. If there is no resolution, then they take the issue to the Pastor.

- regarding staff members: go to them first. If no response, then speak to the Pastor and 2 or more officers at the same time. **If there is no resolution the issue may be taken to the council.**

- regarding the pastor: speak to the pastor first. If there is no resolution speak to the pastor and 2 or more officers at the same time. If there is no resolution, the issue will be taken to the council. If there is no resolution, the council will contact the bishop for assistance.

- In the event of continuing issues, we follow the procedures outlined in our constitution.

### 2. Phone calls:

- office: messages left on the office phone will be answered in a timely manner.

For emergencies contact the pastor. If you do not receive a response to your non-emergency message in a timely manner, leave a second message.

- the pastor's phone will be answered if possible unless on vacation. Texts or messages will be answered within 24 hours or on the next business day. Emergencies will be addressed immediately.

-if the pastor is on vacation contact the pastor on call; the name and phone number will be on the church answering machine.

3. Emails will be answered in a timely manner. If there is no response, please call.

4. Questions and concerns can be written on the back of a communion card or on paper and placed in the office or offering plates. Written concerns that are not signed will not be addressed.

Adopted by Zion Council 10/17/2023.

# January Reports

## Attendance & Giving Reports

Sun., January 7	69 people
Sun., January 14	37 people
Sun., January 21	72 people
Sun., January 28	N/A

Please include in your prayers those of our Zion family who reside in extended care facilities in the area.

- Arvid Evenson
- Anna Marie Brudos
- Donald Bautch
- Bob Lakey
- Beverly Nemitz



### The following memorials were received for October, November, December 2023:

- IMO Jill Vosseteig – Ardelle Williamson, Jim/Kathy Filkouski, Barb Longwell, Mary McKeeth, Wayne/Kathy Meunier, Eileen Trim, Jerry/Jackie Joanis, Several Non-Members
- IMO Anna Trim – Jane Johnson, Barb Longwell, Jim/Marilyn Reedy, 1 Non-Member
- IMO Paula Wade – Barb Longwell, Several Non-Members
- IMO Don Larson – Barb Longwell, Joe/Judy Roehl
- IMO Stacy Oslie Borchardt – Mike/Kelly Oslie
- IMO Lyle/Mary Kopp – Mike/Kelly Oslie
- IMO Bev Kohlmeyer – Jane Johnson, Barb Longwell, Gary/Beth Meunier, Randy/Lori Nastvold, Ardelle Williamson, Joe/Judy Roehl, Mike/Laura Oanes, Jerry/Jackie Joanis, Eileen Trim, Mike/Kelly Oslie, Robert Guertler, Friends and Family of Bev, Several Non-Members
- IMO Mike Dale – Laurie Dale
- IMO Pelchie/Ben Slaby – Wendell/Ruth Hovre
- IMO Lenora Hovre Hogden – Wendell/Ruth Hovre
- IHO Pastor and Zion Staff – Nancy Hovell
- IHO Russ/Betty Glomstad 61<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Russ/Betty Glomstad
- IHO Betty Glomstad 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday – Russ/Betty Glomstad
- IHO Joan Gardner – John/Sue Breitung
- IHO Gordon Deeren – Mike/Kelly Oslie, Friends and Family

Kitchen - \$4240.00  
Undesignated - \$1955.00  
Improvement Fund - \$30.00  
Operation Christmas Child - \$40.00  
**Total - \$6265.00**

### Coffee Fellowship Note:

In an attempt to live into our call to be good stewards of God's world and Creation, we are transitioning from ordering Styrofoam cups to insulated papers cups as they biodegrade more easily and are better for the planet. Every little thing helps, so we are doing our small part to make a difference for our planet! Thanks!

# February Bulletin Board



**Join us in the Fireside Room  
Following the  
Sunday worship  
service for Bible Study  
at 10 a.m.**



**Women of the ELCA** 


Bible Study at February 15th at 1:00pm  
in the Fireside Room.

**Zion Annual Meeting 2024**

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, **February 11th** directly after the worship service.

**Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!**

**“Souper Bowl” Sunday!**



**Sunday Feb. 11th**, we will have a Souper Bowl donation drive to support local food pantries. Suggested items are soup and/or crackers

**Winter Fun Days at Sugar Creek!**

**February 4, 2024 1:00-4:00pm**  
Snow or no, it’s a go! Sledding, tubing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and all sorts of outdoor winter fun. A lunch of hot dogs and chili provided along with cozy drinks. **RSVPs appreciated.** Call **(608)-734-3113** or email **office@sgrcreek.org** to let us know you will be joining us.  
Cost: \$10/person, children 4 and under are free!

**What the Hell?**

La Crosse Area Synod  
School of Theology:  
Community Class Opportunity!

**Feb 1 & 8**

**Presenter:** Pr. Libby Howe

**What is it:** An exploration of hell: how it is talked about in the Bible, as well as, the historical, literary, & religious thought that informs our contemporary conceptions of it. We will also explore hell’s social function related to the human need for justice for unrighted wrongs and unhealed wounds.

**Hope you can join us!**

**Confirmation Dinner Volunteers Needed!**

Confirmation resumed on **Jan. 17th** and we are looking for volunteers to make or provide dinner each week. Dinners will be at 5:00pm before confirmation and Wednesday evening worship. **Please contact the church office to sign-up!**

**Lent at Zion!**

The Lenten season is less than a month away! Join us for dinner at **5:15pm** and Lenten worship services at **6:00pm** Wednesday nights during lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 14th.

# February Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Happy Birthday!

Lee Ann Johnson	2/1
Brianna Senn	2/1
Carol Fratzke	2/6
Roger Seiling	2/7
Shelbie Haug	2/10
Gary Meunier	2/15
Thomas Goller	2/17
Richard Sacia	2/17
Alicia Dale	2/20
Jace Brudos	2/21
Louise Janke	2/21
Arlene Severson	2/21
Melissa Nelson	2/24
Charlene Sacia	2/24
David Brudos	2/27
Shelley Johnson	2/27
Wayne Meunier	2/27
Jessica Moen	2/28

## HAPPY Anniversary

John and Faye Gardner  
February 15th

Jim and Kathy Filkouski  
February 18th

Did we forget someone?

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary date in the Tidings, please contact the church office so we can update our records.

Thank you.

# Zion Lutheran Congregation Council Minutes

## December 19th, 2023

**Present:** Lori Meinking, President; Kathy Meunier, Secretary; Dave Nuland, Property and Grounds; Beth Meunier, Music and Worship; Sheryl Arms, Treasurer; Joe Roehl, Financial Secretary; Judy Roehl, Outreach; Louise Janke, Membership and Shepherding; Abby Braunreiter, Youth; Pastor Joe Iverson

**Absent:** Karen Weltzien, Social Concerns

The meeting was called to order by President Lori Meinking at 6:37pm. Devotions and prayer were led by Pastor Joe.

Motion was made by Louise Janke to approve the November Council minutes; motion was seconded and passed. Beth Meunier made a motion to approve the treasurer's report; the motion was seconded and passed.

### **Old Business:**

The storage areas in the Fellowship Hall by the back door and the elevator are anticipated to be installed by the end of January. There are some questions from members using the kitchen about the overall space plan. Lori will check into this. Deml may need to move thermostat.

A donation to Wreaths Across America of \$250 was approved by our Quick Approval process.

The updated custodian job description was approved via our Quick Approval process. Council members will continue to sign up to give aa welcome during the worship services.

### **New business:**

The Annual meeting was set for February 11, 2024. Reports are due to the Administrative Assistant by January 26 and the printed Annual Report will be available on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

We will have a Souper Bowl donation on February 11 for the local food pantry. Suggested items are soup or crackers.

There will be a synod educational event for officers and council meeting at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in West Salem on February 17. All are encouraged to attend.

There will be an orientation for new council members here on January 21 after the worship service.

### **Information and reports:**

Written report received from Pastor Joe.

Judy Roehl, Outreach, reports that the Live Nativity was very successful and that there were 45 people who attended the Pioneer Luncheon.

Report was received from MOPS. As this is an outreach activity/community service sponsored by Zion, the report will be published and kept on file.

Dave Nuland, Property and Grounds chairperson, reports that leaks in the downstairs urinal, the sacristy bathroom sink, and the janitors sink outside the kitchen are fixed or in process. The dishwasher continues to not have hot enough water. The water heater has been checked and is working. Dave will contact someone to see if the heating unit in the dishwasher is not working.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Motion to adjourn was made by Lousie Janke. It was seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Kathy Meunier,  
Council Secretary

## **Welcome to our New Council Members!**

Effective after the Annual Meeting, February 11th, 2024, the following people will be joining Zion's church council:

**Marilynn Braunreiter** —Financial Secretary

**Carmen Nuland**— Vice President

**Gary Meunier**— Property and Grounds

**Bonnie Jacobs**— Outreach Chair

**Thank you for all that you do to support the ministries and vitality of Zion church!**

## **A Farewell Message From Council President Lori Meinking**

Farewell,

As most of you know I have moved to the Black River Falls area as I have downsized and am now closer to my daughter and her family. So, with that I am resigning my position as your council president effective with our upcoming annual meeting. But don't worry, I will be back visiting as my parents are still here. I am excited to see the ways you continue to grow as you have a wonderful council that is committed to sharing God's love with everyone in our community.

God Bless, **Lori Meinking**



**MOPS Report January 2023:**

Hello,

Here is our latest update on what's happening in MOPS. Our last two meetings have been a bit on the smaller side with illnesses and holidays, but we try not to run our meetings by the numbers. We know that God is going to bring the women that need to be there that day and boy was that sure true! On December 20 we had pastor Lucy come visit us from the Mauston area to share the Christmas story. She did the most incredible job sharing the Christmas story from the viewpoint of a mother, Mary. She did such a wonderful job taking us through the various trials, triumphs, heartbreak, suffering and ultimately joy that Mary would have experienced as the mother of our Savior. She so artfully connected with each of our hearts in a beautiful way and the moms were definitely blessed and encouraged by her message. On January 3, we had a local artist Miriam Cavenah come and do a canvas painting class. This is the second year of her coming to do this and it seems to be a favorite among our women. Our ladies had the opportunity to dive in and try their hand at a fun endeavor of creating their very own unique painting with Miriam's careful guidance and help, it was a very enjoyable day.

Coming up on January 17 we will be having a Titus 2 panel where we will have 4 older Jesus loving ladies come and answer questions for our mothers. Here are a couple of questions that we will be asking our speakers along with other questions that individual moms from our group would like to ask.

- 1. Share a time/situation about when your kids were young that felt overwhelming/hopeless, but ended up turning out okay.
- 2. What is some advice you'd like to tell a young mother?
- 3. What are some strategies or techniques you've used when you and your spouse aren't on the same page?

On February 7th we have one of our leader's mothers, Anne, coming to talk with us about anger management. We are excited to be able to hear from her as she navigated having 10 children all very close together in age.

Thank you for your support of this ministry, we would ask that you would continue to pray for us as we seek to bring in the gospel whenever possible when speaking with our ladies. Around Christmas I had the opportunity to share the gospel with one of our unbelieving moms, although she did not respond, our relationship as friends continues to grow and get stronger. I am hopeful that her heart would be open to be filled with the Holy Spirit when the time is right.

Thank you!

Abby Pardee, recorder





### Sunday School Month of February:

For more information contact: Kristy Braunreiter 608.386.4394 or church office.

### Reasons to attend Sunday School:

- >To learn about God and the Bible
- >To develop your faith and equip you to help others
- >To meet and connect with other Christians
- >To have fun and enjoy creative activities
- >To share and receive prayer and support
- >To strengthen the church and encourage others to attend

During the weeks of February our class will be exploring and deepening our faith through the teachings of: Jesus Heals Mark 1:29-39, The Transfiguration Mark 9:2-9, Noah's Ark Genesis 6-9 and Abraham and Sarah's Visitors Genesis 18:1-5,21:1-7.

Along with our lesson on 2-11-2024 we will celebrate Valentines Day and make some treats for our Loved ones.

During Sunday School, I focus on as many learning types as possible to help support all our little ones and the best ways they can learn, which ultimately results in message retention. Every Sunday, we meet at the table for a soft-landing activity while we gather. Once we are all present, we go to the carpet for a prayer and this week's story, to the table for our themed fine motor learning activity and wrap up with continued work on The Kindness Rock Project. Please, be on the lookout for kindness rocks at Zion and know these special messages are from the youth of our congregation.



# February Serving Schedule

Date	Ushers / Greeters	Organist/Pianist	Communion Server
<b><u>February 4</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Harry & Louise Janke	Kathy Meunier	Arlene Severson
<b><u>February 11</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Roger & Sandy Nelson	Selisa Erickson	Barb Longwell
<b><u>February 18</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Hugh Kohlmeyer & LaVonne Prudlick	Selisa Erickson	Chuck Forster
<b><u>February 25</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Mike & Carol Rasmussen	Nancy Martinovici	Joan Burken

Date	Lectors	Offering Counters	Coffee Fellowship
<b><u>February 4</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Arlene Severson	Arlene Severson & Sheryl Arms	Julie & Duane Evanson
<b><u>February 11</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Barb Longwell	Arlene Severson & Sheryl Arms	Sue Breitung & LaVonne Prudlick
<b><u>February 18</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Chuck Forster	Arlene Severson &	Cheryl Nelson & Joan
<b><u>February 25</u></b> <b>9:00 am</b>	Joan Burken	Arlene Severson & Sheryl Arms	Kathy & Wayne Meunier

**Communion:** Cynthia Redsten

**Candle Care:** Steve Putz



**Pianists for Wednesday Night Lenten Services:**

**February 14th:** Kathy Meunier

**February 21st:** Selisa Erickson

**February 28th:** Kathy Meunier

Please consider sharing flowers for our worship services. A signup list is on the table in the Narthex near the volunteer signup sheet for you to note if and when you would like to bring flowers to add beauty for our services. If flowers are for a special occasion, please note that on the signup sheet.

Volunteers needed to serve as a greeter/usher, lector, or for other worship service tasks, please sign up on the sheet that is on a clip board in the Narthex.



# February 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Sunday School 4:00 pm Small group	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Quilting / FS Hall 9:30 am Pastor's meeting / Fireside room	<b>7</b> 8:30am - noon MOPS meeting 5:00 Confirmation 6:36 Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Sunday School Annual Meeting "Souper bowl" donation drive 4:00 pm Small group	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 am Pastor's meeting / Fireside room	<b>14</b> 8:30am - noon MOPS meeting 5:15 Lenten Supper & Confirmation 6:00 Lenten Worship Happy Valentine's Day!	<b>15</b> 1:00pm—W-ELCA Bible Study in Fireside Lounge	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Sunday School 4:00 pm Small group	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:00 am Quilting / FS Hall 9:30 am Pastor's meeting / Fireside room 6:30 Council Meeting	<b>21</b> 8:30am - noon MOPS meeting 5:15 Lenten Supper & Confirmation 6:00 Lenten Worship	<b>22</b> Tidings articles due	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Sunday School 4:00 pm Small group	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00 am Quilting / FS Hall 9:30 am Pastor's meeting / Fireside room	<b>28</b> 8:30am - noon MOPS meeting 5:15 Lenten Supper & Confirmation 6:00 Lenten Worship	<b>29</b> Tidings crew		



**WORSHIP  
SCHEDULE**

***Sunday 9:00 am***

**Church Website: [ziongale.com](http://ziongale.com)**

**Contact Information**

**Church office**

Phone: 608-582-2818

Open 9:00 am to 2:00 pm,

Monday-Thursday

*e-mail: [zziongale@gmail.com](mailto:zziongale@gmail.com)*

*Pastoral emergency:*

Pastor Joe Iverson

608-865-0203

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
20335 West Gale Avenue, PO Box 684  
Galesville, WI 54630**

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