

# MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER 2017



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

There is a scene in the movie "When Harry Met Sally," where on New Year's Eve as the song "Auld Lang Syne" plays, Billy Crystal's baffled Harry wonders, "What does this song mean? My whole life, I don't know what this song means. I mean, 'Should old acquaintance be forgot?' Does that mean that we should forget old acquaintances? Or does it mean that if we happened to forget them, we should remember them, which is not possible because we already forgot them?"

"Well, maybe it just means that we should remember that we forgot them or something," Sally reasons. "Anyway, it's about old friends."

The confusion over the song is almost as much of a tradition as the song itself. Who among us hasn't stumbled over the words, to only ask as the song ends "What does 'auld lang syne' mean?"

The title of the Scottish tune translates to "times gone by" and is about remembering friends from the past and not letting them be forgotten. Even though we typically associate this song with New Year's Eve, "Auld Lang Syne" was written by Scottish poet Robert Burns in the 1700s and never meant it to be a holiday song. "Auld Lang Syne" became associated with New Year's Eve in 1929 when Guy Lombardo's band used it during a live performance at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City on New Year's Eve. By coincidence, they played the song right as the clock hit midnight and a New Year's tradition was begun.

This time of year, we think of auld lang syne, or in English, times gone by. We think of the past year and reflect on it and often-times, we think about how we want to change in the upcoming year. I'm talking about New Year's Resolutions.

Who hasn't made a New Year's Resolution at one point or another (and then broke it!)? We start the year new! We make a fresh start with new diets or exercise regimens or new Bible studies or reading plans. We try to be more organized or manage our time better. We promise to break bad habits, restore broken relationships and just be better people. But if you are anything like me, most years by the end of January you forget your well-intentioned resolutions and life goes back to normal. Things get busy and hard and it's just easier to do what I've always done.

This year I want to do things differently. I'm skipping resolutions this year and instead trying something that I hope I can actually stick to!

Romans 12:1-2 says, "So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering ... Fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it ... God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you." (The Message)

When I read this passage, I realize that Paul is telling us to take our lives and place them before God as an offering. This year, instead of a resolution, I'm planning on prayerfully offering my life to God daily. It is hard to change ourselves, even with resolutions. But when we willingly offer our lives to God, he will change us.

Today I'm beginning with the first step; prayerfully offering God my life. We will see what the New Year will bring!

Blessings, Pastor Erin

## OUTREACH

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### WELCA CIRCLES

#### **DEBORAH CIRCLE**

Tuesday, January 3

7:00 pm

Hosted by Katie Jones

#### **JOY CIRCLE**

Thursday, January 12

9:15 am at the Church

Hosted by Joan Christopher

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**FEBRUARY 12, 2017**

**9:25 am**

Fellowship Hall  
between services



- ALL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ANNUAL REPORT NEED TO BE EMAILED TO THE OFFICE ON OR BEFORE JAN. 16 AT NOON.

[secretary@mtzionhudson.com](mailto:secretary@mtzionhudson.com)

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**American  
Red Cross**

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to work or donate blood at the Dec. Blood Drive.

Our goal was to collect 25 pints between Noon – 6:00 pm but because of the weather and road conditions, we had to call off the last two hours of the drive. That being the case, we still collected 24 pints!

Our next Drive will be Feb. 17. If you want to help with the event – please see Anna Peterson or to donate – visit website at

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) and enter zip code 54016.

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## WORSHIP

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### **JANUARY 1**

#### **PJ SUNDAY**

9:00 am Worship

10:00 am Fellowship

It's a "Pajama Party"

If you want to wear church appropriate sweats and PJ's!

No Sunday School



Special Music provided by Maggie Gustafson

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### **JANUARY 8**

John Sutherland – Assistant to the Bishop will be preaching during Worship.

Make plans to come to either service and hear his message.

### **JANUARY 8**

#### **BAPTISMS**

8:15 am Brantley Feyereisen

Mason Matzek

10:30 am Autumn Schleicher

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### **JANUARY 15**

#### **BAPTISM**

10:30 am Ellianna Lardinois

Driver's License Milestone – Both Services

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### **JANUARY 22**

#### **BAPTISM**

10:30 am Hannah Adams

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### **JANUARY 29**

**3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE MILESTONE** – Both Services

#### **FAVORITE HYMN SUNDAY**

Voting on your Favorite Hymns will take place Jan.

15 & 22



# WORSHIP

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## HOSPITALITY TEAMS FOR JANUARY 2017

### **JANUARY 1 - ONE SERVICE -9:00 AM**

Pajamas Worship

Lead: **OPEN**

Greeters: Linda Letourneau /Mitch & Rosie Nelson

Ushers: Mary Stanton & Kara Hoier

Reader: Jim Letourneau

Communion: Joan Christopher

Acolyte: Lily Romzek

Special Music: Maggie Gustafson

Fellowship: Kathy Opland

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### **JANUARY 8 – 8:15 AM**

Lead: Jim Eral

Greeters: The Gerdts family

Ushers: Harley & Joan Saathoff

Reader: Mary Ellefson

Communion: Joan Christopher

Acolyte: Emily Gerdts

Fellowship:

### **JANUARY 8 – 10:30 AM**

Lead: Karen McConville

Greeters: Sandy Gillis & Lucy Larson

Ushers: Earl Monson & Chris Gustafson

Reader: Karen McConville

Communion: Mic Hanson

Acolyte: Henry Nemitz

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### **JANUARY 15 – 8:15 AM**

Lead: Jack Johnson

Greeters: Samantha Keyes & Carol Gustafson

Ushers: Mike Yde & Mason Keyes

Reader: Katie Jones

Communion: Judy Meincke

Acolyte: Mason Keyes

Fellowship:

### **JANUARY 15 – 10:30 AM**

Lead: **OPEN**

Greeters: The Nemitz family

Ushers: Jim & Gwen Paulson

Reader: Barb Walczak

Communion: Jon Schneewind

Acolyte: Oscar Nemitz

### **JANUARY 22 – 8:15 AM**

Lead: Kristen Johnson

Greeters: Sandy Huppert & Sharon Tepper

Ushers: **OPEN**

Reader: Kristen Johnson

Communion: Jim Letourneau

Acolyte: Ailee Neumann

Fellowship: Jim & Linda Letourneau

### **JANUARY 22 – 10:30 AM**

Lead: Andrea Dreier

Greeters: Kendra Margl & Lori Rayome

Ushers: The Jahns family

Reader: John Flavin

Communion: Kendra Margl

Acolyte: Art Okerlund

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### **JANUARY 29 – 8:15 AM**

Lead: Nicole Gelina

Greeters: TBA

Ushers: TBA

Reader: TBA

Communion: TBA

Acolyte: Kaitlyn Prawalsky

Fellowship: The Gerdts Family

### **JANUARY 29 – 10:30 AM**

Lead: Olive Olson

Greeters: Paul & MaryKay Mahler

Ushers: Bill & Olive Olson

Reader: Mitch Nelson

Communion: Nora Flavin

Acolyte: Tara Sanders

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### ***CONFLICT WITH SCHEDULE?***

If you have a conflict with the schedule – please contact your Hospitality Team Lead and let them know.

We have a few OPEN spots. If you can help fill any, please let the church office know. You can call them at 715-386-5409

# YOUTH

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## Confirmation Class



### 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> GRADE

High School aged youth meet for five weeks in January and February. The material taught is on a four-year rotation. The focus this time around is on the Pentateuch

Meal & Conversation 6:00 – 6:30 pm

Confirmation Class 6:30 – 7:30 pm

January 4

January 11

January 18

January 25

February 1

### GRACE PLACE 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE OUTREACH

Sunday, January 29

Meeting in the Kitchen to make the Monday, Jan. 30 Grace Place Meal as a group

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Mt. Zion Congregation,



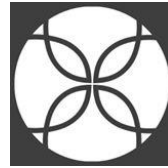
Thank you so much for the wonderful care package. It came to me just in time for finals!

As a psychology major with a double minor in nutrition and at-risk youth, it is a stressful time with many papers, presentations and group projects due.

I am so blessed to be a member of such a wonderful church with such kind people.

Thank you for everything, especially the chocolate and coloring book~

Happy Holidays,  
Lauren Steinhoff



### **NETWORKS**

#### **MIDDLE HIGH**

Middle High will return to its normal time of 2:50-4:45 pm

We will be picking students up from the Middle School in the bus and driving them to the Crossing Point (220 Vine St.).

They should be picked up at 4:45 from this location.

#### **SENIOR HIGH**

5:00 -6:00 pm Hangout time.

6:15 pm Dinner 7:00 pm with worship, message, and small groups.

#### **SKI TRIP**

We also have a ski day planned for Monday, January 16 to Trollhaugen in Dresser, WI.

We'll meet at St. Paul's at 9:00 am that morning, and take the bus up to go skiing.

We will plan on returning by 7:00 pm that evening.

Cost will be \$60 if you're bringing your own equipment. Add another \$30 if you need to rent skis/boots etc.

Aaron will have permission slips to hand out at NETworks.

Please return it by January 11, 2017 if you want to come!

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### **MUFFIN BUNCH DATES FOR JANUARY**

**Sunday, January 15 and 29**

We will meet in the commons at the church and travel to Keys Café in Hudson for some fun!



As always, friends are always welcome!

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# MILESTONES

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## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

January 3 - Jim Eral  
Billy Johnson  
Sullivan Nelson

January 4 - Margie Bungum  
Dominic Meincke  
Debra Page

January 5 - William Oswald

January 6 - Greg Veenendall

January 7 - Krista Hallen

January 8 - Angela Adams  
Kathy Hunter

January 10 - Robin Arneson  
William Mahler

January 12 - Tara Sanders

January 16 - Sylvia Albers

January 18 - Rachael Saathoff

January 19 - Susan Johnson  
Corey O'Keefe

January 20 - Howard Schletz

January 22 - Lee Halberg  
Andrew Tonsager

January 26 - Todd Johnson  
Lily Romzek  
Mark Romzek  
Nadia Yarrington  
Olivia Yarrington

January 28 - Rosa Gigure  
Deb Matzek  
Hugo Melzer

January 29 - Joan Saathoff

January 30 - Katie Mahler  
Harley Saathoff  
Melody Wahlberg

January 31 - Tracy Fredrickson



## **BAPTIZED IN JANUARY**

Aaron Adams, Robert Baker, Nora Beard-O'Connell, Mary Ellefson, Nicole Gelina, Einar Hanson, Melissa Hines, Kathy Hunter, Kristen Johnson, Roger Leen, Paul Melzer, Jenny Neumann, Sally Nuebel, Olive Olson, Gwen Paulson, Jim Paulson, Les Rayome, Gina Runck, Todd Solberg, Marcia Teschner, Terry Teschner and Deb Tonsager.

*\*If you know your exact date, please contact the church office.*

Jan. 3 - Carol Gustafson  
Audrey Miller

Jan. 6 - Samantha Keyes

Jan. 9 - Anna Peterson

Jan. 10 - Jim Eral  
Matthew Lardinois

Jan. 15 - Samantha Lockwood

Jan. 20 - Dan Hallen  
Amelia Spence

Jan. 26 - Paul Dombrock  
Keelan Tepper - Engh

Jan. 30 - Kasen Schletz

Jan. 31 - Sullivan Nelson



## **SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**

Driver's License Ministry –  
10:30 Worship

\*Youth that have received or will be receiving their Permit or Driver's License this past year or in 2017

## **SUNDAY, JANUARY 29**

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Milestone – Bible Story Stones  
We will meet as a group on Saturday, January 28 at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall with parents to prepare for this Milestone. On Sunday, January 29 at the 10:30 am service, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class will be honored during worship and show everyone their Bible Stones!

**Henry Gigure, Nova Griffin, Isabelle Oswald,  
Anna Runck & Grant Stojan**



## **MARRIED IN JANUARY**

January 7 – Paul & Shannon Melzer

January 9 - Todd & Laurie Johnson

January 16 - Jon & Barb Walczak

January 29 – David & Debra Miller

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church  
505 13<sup>th</sup> St. S  
Hudson, WI 54016

Return Address Requested

**CONTACTING US**

[www.mtzionhudson.com](http://www.mtzionhudson.com)

**Church Office** (715) 386-5409

**Pastor** ~ Erin Nelson

[pastor@mtzionhudson.com](mailto:pastor@mtzionhudson.com)

**Secretary** ~ Anna Peterson

[secretary@mtzionhudson.com](mailto:secretary@mtzionhudson.com)

**Milestone Coordinator** ~ MaryKay Mahler

**Organist** ~ Deb Tonsager

**Jr. Choir/Tone Chime Choir** ~ MaryKay Mahler

**Sr. Choir Director** ~ Craig Gustafson

**Parish Nurse** ~ Eileen Wymer

**Kid's Club Coordinator** – Amanda Stojan

**President** ~ Carl Meincke

**January 1**

9:00 am Service

No Sunday School

**January 8**

8:15 am Worship w/ Communion  
Baptisms

10:30 am Worship w/ Communion  
Baptism

**January 15 – Driver's License Milestone**

8:15 am Worship w/ Communion  
10:30 am Worship w/ Communion  
Baptism

**January 22**

8:15 am Worship w/ Communion  
10:30 am Worship w/ Communion  
Baptism

**January 29 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Milestone  
Favorite Hymn Sunday**

8:15 am Worship w/ Communion  
10:30 am Worship w/ Communion