



# Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

## January 2020 Newsletter

Merry Christmas, good people of Mt. Zion!

As we move boldly into the ending of this year and into a new decade, I have two things to say.

First, is thank you. I cannot begin to express the gratitude I have for the generosity, loving hearts, and incredible faith of the people in this congregation. From the men's group's incredibly generous Christmas gifts to local families, to volunteers who give so many hours and talents and skills for the sake of this community (especially around the holidays!), to the gifts you've provided to financially support the ministries and spaces of this church, to the small kindnesses I encounter with you every day - thank you. My heart feels so very full in this season, and I certainly hope your hearts feel the same.

The second is a prayer. When words begin to fail us, I am convinced that music and breathing into prayer are the best ways to center ourselves. So as we breathe our small warm breaths in this chilly winter season, here's what I pray for you all by the power of the Holy Spirit:

I pray that when this season feels dark and cold that you see glimmers of light that warm you from the inside, and learn to love them in their simplicity;

I pray that you feel loved for exactly who you are - not what you can do or perform, but absolutely loved for the fearfully and wonderfully made, genuine human you are;

I pray that you feel worthy of love, care, and grace (because you are!), no matter what energy you may or may not have;

I pray that when you feel small that you know our loving God is greater than anything that ever made you feel that way;

I pray that when you feel discouraged, you give yourself grace, space, and compassion;

I pray that when you feel lonely that you know the Holy Spirit moves and breathes in you always, that our loving God is always close and listening to your heart;

I pray that when you worry about a loved one, that you have the faith and courage to trust in our God, with whom all things are possible;

I pray that you will find healing in whatever way you need it, by prayer, medical or mental health care, by being brave and knowing that to name what you need is always the first step;

I pray that you will be grateful for the many blessings, big and small, that change and sustain our lives every day;

I pray that you are all warm, well-fed, well-rested, and well-loved by those around you;

I pray that you travel safely, and enjoy the journey perhaps even more than the destination;

I pray that you remain curious and open to the mysterious ways God works in our world;

And last but certainly not least, I pray that you find joy and hope in the birth of our very human Christ, who by the love and grace of God, is with us to the end of the age.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Peace be with you, Pr. Carolyn

## HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION

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

#### *Confirmation Class*



Thank you for your continued commitment to developing your faith through

Confirmation!

Our 5 classes for high school youth this year begin on Wednesday, January 8. We will focus primarily on the Pentateuch (early books of the Bible).

Each Wednesday, we will begin with a meal together at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.

We will hold class from 6:30-7:30pm in the lower level. The time commitment for each of these Wednesdays is **6:00 - 7:30pm**.

The dates for Confirmation are as follows:

- **Wednesday, January 8**
- **Wednesday, January 15**
- **Wednesday, January 22**
- **Wednesday, January 29**
- **Wednesday, February 5**



### SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

**Driver's License Ministry –**  
10:30 Worship

**MILESTONE** \*Youth that have received or will be receiving their Permit or Driver's License this past year or in 2020.

If your youth would like to be included, please contact the church office.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Milestone –  
Group Service Project**

Meeting with Pastor and Robin between services to pick a project as a group!

**Nathan Becker, Daniel Brown & Sam Johnson**

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Milestone – Bible Story Stones**

We will meet as a group on Saturday, January 25 at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall with parents to prepare for this Milestone.

On Sunday, January 26 at the 10:30 am service, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class will be honored during worship and show everyone their Bible Stones!

**Marla Powers, Sophia Adams, Elsie Ahren, Sven O'Connell Beard, Kasen Schletz, Lydia Spence, Amelia Stojan, Nadia Yarrington & Olivia Yarrington.**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES JANUARY 5

Looking forward to seeing all of you back at 9:20 on January 5!



### **WEDNESDAY MEAL NIGHTS**

We will be hosting 5 meal nights at 6:00p

Wednesday, January 8 – February 5

These meals are open to everyone. Share a simple meal with your friends.

If you would like to help provide part of the meal, please contact Anna in the church office.

## JANUARY CIRCLE MEETINGS

### DEBORAH CIRCLE

Tuesday, January 7

7:00 pm

Hosted by Katie Jones

### JOY CIRCLE

Thursday, January 9

9:15 am at Church

Host: Joan Christopher

### HOPE CIRCLE

Thursday, January 9

1:00 pm

At the home of Gwen Paulson - RF

## MEN OF MT. ZION



Our January meeting will be

Saturday, January 11

8:30 – 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall

Everyone is invited! We would be happy to have you join us for breakfast and fellowship. If you have any questions, please see Jim Letourneau

## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Have you ever wanted to read the Bible all the way through? Want a great way to deepen your faith as the new decade begins? Then come and join the Wednesday morning Bible Study group as we dive into the beginning, the book of Genesis! Enjoy a weekly time of bible reading, coffee and conversation, and of course, a good sense of humor. We will resume our meetings every Wednesday at 9:30am, beginning on Jan. 8. Can't wait to see you there!





Thank you for thinking of me with this awesome gift box of goodies. I really appreciated it.

Sincerely,  
Cody Hines

Dear Mt. Zion,

Thank you for the lovely and warm quilt. It is beautiful! I greatly appreciate the thoughtfulness in the quilt and card. It was a pleasure to serve and proclaim Christ's good news alongside you.

Thanks again and Merry Christmas!  
Peace, Rev. Kirstin Kellaher

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Giving Tree this year for the Homeless youth in St. Croix County (T.H.U.G. Life) \*Totally Humbled Under God

Thank you for the Men of Exodus house once again! Your love always shines so bright – especially over the Holiday Season!

Outreach Committee

### **PRAYER CHAIN**

One of the privileges of being part of the body of Christ is the opportunity to share in the joy and the sorrow of others. If you

have a special prayer request or would like to place someone on the prayer chain, please call the church office at (715) 386-5409 or the Prayer Chain Leader: Joyce Johnson and we will make sure to add that person to our list.

You can also email the church office at:

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



### **GIGI'S SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY**

Saturday, January 4 9:30-10:30am LMNOP

Tuesday, January 7 5:30-7:30pm

### **Tutor Training**

Thursday, January 9 5:30-6:30pm Leaps and Bounds

Saturday, January 11 10:00-11:00am PJs and Books

Tuesday, January 14 3:00-7:00pm Tutoring

Saturday, January 18 Tutoring 9:00-10:00am

Destination Discovery 10:00-11:30am

Tuesday, January 21 Tutoring 3:00-7:00pm

Saturday, January 25 Tutoring 9:00-10:00am

Tuesday, January 28 Tutoring 3:00-7:00pm

### **NEW MEMBER CLASS AND CELEBRATION SERVICE!**

New Member Class is January 12 between services in the Fellowship Hall

New Member Celebration will be at the 10:30 service on January 19.

If you are interested in joining Mt. Zion or would like more information, please talk to Pastor or email her at [pastor@mtzionhudson.com](mailto:pastor@mtzionhudson.com).



### **IT'S HERE! OUR 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SMORGASBORD!**

On Sunday January 19, we will be having a

Swedish Smorgasbord potluck at Mt. Zion - 11:30 AM in the fellowship hall.

Please bring a dish to share. If you have a Swedish food from your family's history, we would love to have you bring that. If you are not Swedish but feel daring and wish to find a Swedish dish to prepare, that would be great as well. Otherwise, please bring a food to complement our smorgasbord. We will circulate a clipboard for you to sign up for a main dish, side item (salad or other) bread, or dessert.

### **Walking Together**

#### **"Practice, Not Perfect"**

#### **(Getting Closer to Jesus with Faith Practices)**

Our Northwest Synod of Wisconsin sponsors this event yearly. It is a time for lay people and clergy to get together to learn about what is happening in our synod through workshops, worship, information sessions and connecting with others. You don't want to miss it.

Registration is open now.

We will undoubtedly carpool as there are usually 6-8 people who attend, and it would be great if we had more!

There is a \$25 registration fee, but it is a very good price (includes lunch) for a day of learning and connecting. Call the church if you are interested in attending.

Saturday, February 22

All day event (9am-4pm)

Davies Center, UWRF campus in Eau Claire

# MILESTONES



## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

January 3 - Jim Eral  
January 3 - Billy Johnson  
January 3 - Sullivan Nelson  
January 4 - Margie Bungum  
January 4 - Dominic Meincke

January 4 - Jaclyn Metz Thorson  
January 5 - William Oswald  
January 6 - Greg Veenendall  
January 7 - Krista Hallen  
January 8 - Angela Adams  
January 8 - Kathy Hunter  
January 10 - Robin Arneson  
January 12 - Tara Sanders  
January 16 - Sylvia Albers  
January 18 - Rachael Saathoff  
January 19 - Corey O'Keefe  
January 20 - Brian Magnuson  
January 20 - Howard Schletz  
January 22 - Andrew Tonsager  
January 23 - Henrik McConville  
January 26 - Todd Johnson  
January 26 - Lily Romzek  
January 26 - Mark Romzek  
January 26 - Nadia Yarrington  
January 26 - Olivia Yarrington  
January 27 - Emily Melzer  
January 28 - Deb Matzek  
January 28 - Hugo Melzer  
January 29 - Joan Saathoff  
January 30 - Harley Saathoff  
January 30 - Melody Wahlberg  
January 31 - Tracy Schletz

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If we have missed your day or have incorrect information,  
please let the office know.  
715-386-5409.

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## **MARRIED IN JANUARY**

January 7 - Paul & Shannon Melzer  
January 9 - Todd & Laurie Johnson  
January 14 - Pastor Carolyn & Mike Veldhuis  
January 16 - Jon & Barb Walczak  
January 29 - David & Debra Miller

## **BAPTIZED IN JANUARY**



Aaron Adams, Robert Baker, Nora  
Beard-O'Connell, Mary Ellefson,  
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, Marcia Teschner,

Terry Teschner and Deb Tonsager.

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

January 3 - Carol Gustafson  
January 3 - Audrey Miller  
January 8 - Brantley Feyereisen  
January 8 - Mason Matzek  
January 9 - Anna Peterson  
January 10 - Jim Eral  
January 10 - Matthew Lardinois  
January 12 - Milly Jungbauer  
January 14 - Rilynn Matzek  
January 15 - Elliana Lardinois  
January 15 - Samantha Lockwood  
January 20 - Dan Hallen  
January 20 - Amelia Spence  
January 22 - Hannah Adams  
January 26 - Paul Dombrock  
January 26 - Keelan Tepper - Engh  
January 27 - Chelsea Spreeman  
January 30 - Kasen Schletz  
January 31 - Sullivan Nelson



# Hospitality Teams for January 2020

## MISSION:

*To provide a welcoming experience for all who walk through our doors*

### Sunday, January 5

8:15a Lead: **OPEN**

Ushers: Randy Prawalsky & Mark Arneson

Greeters: Mary Ellefson & Carol Gustafson

Reader: Jim Eral

Communion: Katie Jones

Acolyte: Henry Nemitz

Fellowship: **OPEN**

10:30a Lead: Olive Olson

Ushers: Scott & Christine Jahns

Greeters: Andrea Goetz & Daniel & David Brown

Reader: Bill Olson

Communion: Olive Olson

Acolyte: Izzi Oswald

### Sunday, January 19

8:15a Lead: Kristen Johnson

Ushers: Mike Yde & Earl Weber

Greeters: Gene Stahnke & Janel Whirry

Reader: Kristen Johnson

Communion: Mark Arneson

Acolyte: Lily Romzek

Fellowship: Erin Prawalsky

10:30a Lead: Scott & Sandy Johnson

Ushers: Mark & Paula Saunders

Greeters: Lori Rayome & Shannon Melzer

Reader: Paul Melzer

Communion: Joan Christopher

Acolyte: Anna Runck

### Sunday, January 12

8:15a Lead: Jim Eral

Ushers: Harley & Joan Saathoff

Greeters: Jim & Sonja Johnson

Reader: Kathy Hunter

Communion: Don Kriegl

Acolyte: Hunter Oswald

Fellowship: **OPEN**

10:30a Lead: Karen McConville

Ushers: Earl Monson & Colin McConville

Greeters: Kendra Margl & Lucy Larson

Reader: Dana Okerlund

Communion: Kendra Margl

Acolyte: Art Okerlund

### Sunday, January 26

8:15a Leads: Jim & Linda Letourneau

Ushers: Einar & Mic Hanson

Greeters: Dennis & Kathy Opland

Reader: Bill Fristad

Communion: Robin Arneson

Acolyte: Kaitlyn Sanders

Fellowship: **OPEN**

10:30a Lead: Andrea Dreier

Ushers: Tim & Nils Dreier

Greeters: Bev Schletz & Nora Flavin

Reader: Andrea Dreier

Communion: Mary Stanton

Acolyte: Grant Stojan

\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**Contact the church office if you can fill in any of the  
OPEN Spots**

### HOSPITALITY LEADS NEEDED:

We need 2 more Hospitality Leads:

8:15 am and 10:30 am

1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of each month.

If you are interest or would like more information, please speak or contact Judy Meincke or Kristen Johnson.



If you would like to be a part of our Hospitality Team, please contact the church office at 715- 386-5409.

# MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



[WWW.MTZIONHUDSON.COM](http://WWW.MTZIONHUDSON.COM)

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

**Pastor ~ Carolyn Staats**

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

**Secretary ~ Anna Peterson**

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

**Organist ~ Deb Tonsager**

**Sr. Choir Director ~ Craig Gustafson**

**Milestone Coordinator ~ Robin Arneson**

**Treasurer ~ Robin Arneson**

**Financial Secretary ~ Joan Christopher**

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

**Parish Nurse ~ Eileen Wymer**

**Custodian ~ Andrea Goetz**

**Council President ~ Olive Olson**

