

Hello



MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hate winter, HATE. I am always cold. The only time I am not cold is if it is 90 degrees out and I'm in the sun, but if it's 90 degrees out and I'm in the shade, well, then I might need my sweatshirt. Sometimes I have no idea how a person with my inability to handle cold weather ended up living here. I do my best to manage and adapt. In the winter, I spend most of my time wearing long underwear under a sweat suit and pile blankets on top. When it's really cold, I've been known to wear mittens to bed. No joke.

I usually like winter until Christmas is over, but without the sentimentality and celebration of the Christmas season, the snow just becomes cold and bleak. January is always hard, February is worse but I think March is the worst month of the year.

By March, winter has gone on so long that I've about given up hope that spring will ever come. By March things have gotten so hopeless that I'm pretty sure I'm just going to stay in bed under my down comforter with my mittens on, rather than go out in the cold. I think that March is called March because you have to be militaristic with yourself to get yourself out of bed. You have to MARCH out the door to face the cold.

A friend of mine has a green house in her yard. Every year in March, the worst month, she invites me over to help plant my herbs for the summer. When the ground is still full of snow and the air is still biting cold, I go into her cozy little green house and pick out my seeds. I plant them in tiny clay pots and leave them. A couple weeks later, when it's just the middle of March and still cold and sometimes snowy, I go back and find my little seeds have become small green shoots. The shoots begin to smell like tarragon or rosemary or thyme and as I repot them into bigger pots I always start to hope for the first time that winter will be over soon and spring will arrive.



I think there is a reason that part of Lent always falls in March. Lent and March are similar. Just when things get so hopeless you feel like you can't go on, little pieces of hope start springing up, like small buds growing on trees.

The word "Lent" comes from an Old English word meaning "Spring". I try to remind myself each year that Lent is the spring for our souls, the spring of our spiritual lives with Christ. We start out Lent with Ash Wednesday, the day we confess that we have not been the people God wants us to be. On Ash Wednesday, we acknowledge that we are hungering, lonely, scared, sick, and hurting, we confess that we are sinners, that we are cruel, forgetful, selfish, prideful, arrogant and unkind. We remember that we are mortal, headed to death and all of these realities are signified by a dirty smudge of ash on our foreheads.

We then spend the rest of Lent reflecting on these realities, preparing our souls through prayer, fasting, sacrifice, loving acts and more, to be better followers of Christ. We work on our souls, just like I work on those little shoots of herbs.

When Easter finally comes, not only is it spring outside, but there is finally hope and spring in our step. The flowers bloom and as we celebrate Christ risen, we celebrate the love and hope for the future that Christ brings to each of us.

So, if you are like me and March seems cold and miserable, just remember that each day of the 40 days of Lent is a new chance to till the soil of your soul and prepare for the blossoming of Easter hope.

Blessings,

Erin Nelson

Pastor Erin

YOUTH & FAMILY

THE 4TH – 12TH GRADE CONFIRMATION

You are invited to attend our next outing



Saturday, April 8
11:30-1:30 pm
Eagan, MN

A group of 40 adults and youth from Mt. Zion will be heading to Eagan on April 8 from 11:30a – 1:30p to pack meals to be shipped to starving children all over the world!

Please follow link below

<http://www.mtzionhudson.com/missions-a-community/feed-my-starving-children.html>

Want an EASY way to help donate to FMSC AND get rid of old prescription bottles?

FILL THEM WITH QUARTERS AND RETURN THEM TO CHURCH ON OR BEFORE MARCH 26!

It only takes 22 cents to give a child a life-saving meal. Your quarters along with donations raised at Fellowship and Lent Meals will also be donated to FMSC that afternoon.

SENIOR BLANKETS



The 9th Grade Confirmation Class will be making Sr. Blankets on Wednesday, March 15

Please meet in the Lower Level of the church at 4:45 pm. Dinner will be at 6:30 and we will worship together as a class at the 7:00p Holden Evening Prayer service.

MUFFIN BUNCH FOR MARCH

ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS -

Muffin Bunch will meet on March 19 at 9:10 am!
As always – friends are welcome!



2018 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING KICK OFF MEETING

Sunday, March 26
9:20 am in the Fellowship Hall.

The Nation Youth Gathering – a mission extravaganza of ELCA for High School Students from across the nation.

Join 30,000 other high schoolers in a week of service projects, worship, fellowship, speakers and spiritual discovery in Houston TX during July of 2018.

Youth who are currently **7th grade – 11th Grade** in School are invite to this meeting to learn more about this awesome event and amazing opportunity.

<http://www.elca.org/YouthGathering/About/Overview>

MALAWI MISSION TRIP



**2017 ADULT/YOUTH
MALAWI TRIPS**

**July 1-July 16, 2017 - Adult
Trip**

July 16-August 1, 2017 -

High School and College Student Trip

For more information please visit the Synod Website at <http://nswi.org/home/calendar-of-events>

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.
Hebrews 13:16

YOUTH & FAMILY



BOARD/CARD GAME NIGHT

Join us for board games and old fashion card games in the lower level on Sunday, March 26. Middle School, High School and 50+
3:00 – 5:00 pm

SUMMER CAMP

Luther Point Brochures are HERE! Grab yours today at the Information Center.
Scholarships are available for anyone interested in attending one of the exciting weeks at Camp!
It's a camping experience you'll never forget and friends you will make for a life-time!



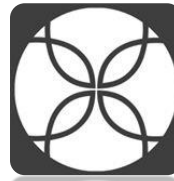
LUTHER POINT SUMMER 2017

Theme Verse:
"When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you."
(Isaiah 43:2)

Water is something that we come in contact with every day, and yet we often take it for granted. We all need water to live our physical life and through this theme campers will discover that water is also the source of Christian spiritual life. All campers, whether they are experiencing Vacation Bible school for the first time or they are on a week-long backpacking adventure, will dive into Bible stories that shower them with a new awareness of how water and life are gifts from God.

Visit <http://lutherpoint.org/> for all the information you need to make this summer unforgettable!

NETWORKS



MIDDLE HIGH (6th – 8th Gr)

2:50-4:45 pm

We pick up students from the Middle School in the bus and drive them to the Crossing Point (220 Vine St.).
Pick-up time: 4:45.

SENIOR HIGH (9th – 12th Gr.)

5:00 -6:00 pm Hangout time.

6:15 pm Dinner

7:00 pm--worship, message, and small groups.

Message from NETworks Youth Director, Aaron Steffen:

A lot of great stuff is going on at NETworks so far in 2017! We've been averaging about 20+ kids between the two groups and the numbers seem to keep rising. We've been studying Christian Apologetics, and looking at what it really means to be a Christian. Good times for sure. Stop by and bring a friend or two!

UPCOMING NETworks EVENTS

BREAKOUT

March 4-11

13 Students and chaperones will be traveling to Denton, LA to work on houses for flood victims.



SPRING GETAWAY!

Spring get-a-way is April 7-8 at Metropolis Resort in Eau Claire, WI.

Everyone is invited and so are your friends. More information will be coming soon.

MISHPACK

We're also beginning to think about our summer missions tri: Mishpack! We're hoping to head east this year. Planning will begin soon!

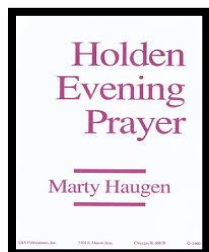
If you want to keep updated on all the fun things

NETworks is doing or planning – please like them on Facebook!



WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY'S DURING LENT



HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

Lenten Services will begin in March.
March 1 – Ash Wednesday
March 8, 15, 22, 29 & April 5
7:00 pm Worship.

Please join us before services for a Soup & Sandwich Meal at 5:45pm

SOUP & SANDWICH

March 1 – Mt. Zion Senior Choir
March 8 – Mt. Zion Tone Chime Choir
March 15 – Sunday School
March 22 – Individual Acct for Camp or Outreach
March 29 – Feed My Starving Children
April 5 – World Hunger Relief

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Led by Pastor Erin

The Lenten Bibles Studies will meet Wednesday, March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5 at 7:30 pm. We will be concentrating on Hunger and Homelessness.

Upcoming Meetings

Monday, March 6

Outreach Committee Meeting 7:00 pm - FH

Monday, March 13

Executive Committee Meeting 6:00 pm

Tuesday, March 14

Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 pm – LL

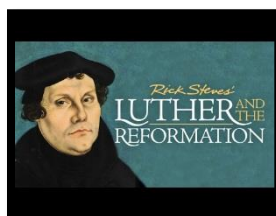
Council Meeting 7:00 pm - LL

Monday, March 20

Networks Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 26

Christian Education Meeting 11:30 am - FH



ADULT EDUCATION HOUR

Sunday, March 19

9:20 am in the Fellowship Hall

“Rick Steve’s Luther” video presentation on Martin Luther and the Reformation

Sunday Music Schedule 8:15 & 10:30

March 5
Special Music – Both Services

March 12
Jr. Choir – Both Services

March 19
Tone Chimes – Both Services

March 26
Sr. Choir – Both Services



DEBORAH CIRCLE

Tuesday, March 7
7:00 pm
Hosted by Katie Jones

JOY CIRCLE

Thursday, March 9
9:15 am at church Hosted by Nancy Weeks

OUTREACH



FLOWERS FOR EASTER

Included in this newsletter is an order form to place your Easter Flower Orders.

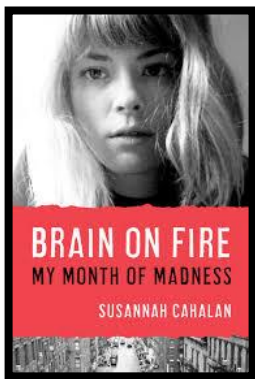
We invite members and friends of Mt. Zion to provide flowers to grace our **EASTER ALTAR** in celebration of our Risen Lord! If you would like to purchase a flowering plant (which is yours to take home after the 2nd Easter service) please indicate the flower of your choice and return to the church.

Deadline for ordering is March 19.
Gertens will be supplying the flowers.

DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU WISH TO PLACE ON THE 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!



BOOK CLUB

Monday, March 13
"Brain on Fire"
by Susannah Cahalan

This book is a memoir by a young New York Post reporter. Cahalan describes how she crossed the line between sanity and insanity after an unknown pathogen invaded her body and caused an autoimmune reaction that jump-started brain inflammation, paranoia, and seizures.



ROCKING FOR A CURE!

Are you ready to Rock-n-Roll for a cure? The 2017 Relay Kick-off is Tuesday, March 14 at 6:00 p.m. at Mt. Zion Church and the Relay is

Friday, June 23 from 4-midnight.

Register today at www.relayforlife.org/hudsonwi!

If anyone is interested in forming a team this year – this is the meeting to attend!



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Set-up Crew:

David Miller, Debbie Miller & Andrea Goetz

Event Workers:

Eileen Wymer, Karen McConville, Jane Mlinar, David Miller, Andrea Goetz, Andrew Gustafson & Ray Voss.

Clean-Up Crew:

Craig Gustafson & Dana Okerlund

Without your help, these events wouldn't be possible! Together we collected 27 units which will help up to 81 people!

We had 4 Members of Mt. Zion give at this event and 1 Member of the church donated for the first time (Courtney Peterson!)

UPCOMING EVENT



Our next Blood Drive will be Friday, May 19

Noon – 6:00pm

Anyone wishing to help – please contact Anna Peterson or sign up on-line at www.mtzionhudson.com

under Missions & Community.

MILESTONES



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH!

March 4

Laurie Johnson
Amanda Olson
Andrea Sempf
Lydia Spence

March 5

Oscar Nemitz
Henry Okerlund

March 8

Dave Anderson
Gwen Paulson

March 9

Keenan Becker
Valerie Lardinois

March 11

Don Flatt

March 17

Laura Romzek

March 19

Harrison Jungbauer
Holly O'Connell

March 20

Martha Solfest

March 26

Claire Hoier

March 27

Riley Ferguson

March 28

Jim Stolzenburg

March 29

Henry Gigure

March 30

Jennifer Engh
Krista Spreeman

March 31

George Pavel



CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARYS IN MARCH

March 21

Terry & Marcia Teschner

March 27

Bob & Cindy Beckman

March 28

Jason & Karen Gigure

CELEBRATING BAPTISMS IN MARCH!



March 1

Chris Johnson
Kim Pilarski
Anna Runck

March 7

Krista Hallen

March 8

Cindy DiGidio
Carl Meincke

March 10

Lucy Adams

March 11

Martin Halvorsen

March 12

Andrew Tonsager

March 16

Craig Gustafson
John McConville

March 20

Joan Saathoff

March 21

Lauren Dombrock

March 22

Dylan Nitti

March 24

Rachael Saathoff

March 25

Gail Gerdts
Scott Veenendall

If you have missed your special date, or have the wrong information, please contact the church office at (715) 386-5409



UPCOMING MILESTONE

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

3 yr. old Prayer Pillows

Milly Jungbauer
Levi Lockwood
Rosie Nelson
Sullivan Nelson
Keelan Tepper-Eng

**Please contact the church office if you will be able to attend the 10:30 worship on March 19*

**If we have incorrect information OR your child is missing from this list and should be included, please contact the church office at (715) 386-5409*

MARCH HOSPITALITY TEAMS

MISSION:

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

7:00 pm

Ushers: **OPEN**

Communion Helpers: Karen McConville, Nora Flavin
& Joan Christopher

Acolyte: Arabella Campana

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

8:15 – Nicole Gelina

Greeters: Sonja Johnson & Mark Arneson

Ushers: The Gelina family

Reader: Jim Johnson

Communion: Robin Arneson

Acolyte: Sofia Gigure

Fellowship: **OPEN**

10:30 – Olive Olson

Greeters: Paul & MaryKay Mahler

Ushers: Bill & Olive Olson

Reader: Mitch Nelson

Communion Helper: MaryKay Mahler

Acolyte: Ailee Neumann

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

7:00 pm

Ushers: **OPEN**

Acolyte: Brooke Dreier

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

8:15 – Jim Eral

Greeters: Jim Eral & Mary Ellefson

Ushers: Harley & Joan Saathoff

Reader: Randy Prawalsky

Communion Helper: Joan Christopher

Acolyte: Emily Gerdtz

Fellowship: **OPEN**

10:30 – Karen McConville

Greeters: Sally Nuebel & Lucy Larson

Ushers: Einar & Mic Hanson

Reader: Chris Gustafson

Communion Helper: Sandy Gillis

Acolyte: Ailee Neumann

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

7:00 pm

Ushers: **OPEN**

Acolyte: Noah Gerdtz

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

8:15 – Kristen Johnson

Greeters: Katie Jones & Carol Gustafson

Ushers: Mike Yde & Jack Johnson

Reader: Judy Meincke

Communion Helper: Karen Gigure

Acolyte: Sam Johnson

Fellowship:

10:30 – LEAD IS **OPEN**

Greeters: The Adams Family

Ushers: Jim & Gwen Paulson

Reader: Jon Schneewind

Communion Helper: Jon Schneewind

Acolyte: Mason Keyes

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

7:00 pm

Ushers: **OPEN**

Acolyte: Henry Nemitz

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

8:15 – Chris Gelina & Jack Johnson

Greeters: Jim & Linda Letourneau

Ushers: Dennis & Cindy Saathoff

Reader: Jim Letourneau

Communion Helper: Florence Hopp

Acolyte: Oscar Nemitz

Fellowship:

10:30 – Karen McConville

Greeters: Kendra Margl & Donna Revoir

Ushers: **OPEN**

Reader: Mic Hanson

Communion Helper: Nora Flavin

Acolyte: Ailee Neumann

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

7:00 pm

Ushers: **OPEN**

Acolyte: Nora O'Connell Beard

CONTACTING US

www.mtzionhudson.com
Church Office (715) 386-5409

Pastor ~ Erin Nelson
pastor@mtzionhudson.com

Secretary ~ Anna Peterson
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 ~ Aaron Adams

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

MARCH 5

8:15 am Worship w/ Communion
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 am Worship w/ Communion

MARCH 12

8:15 am Worship w/ Communion
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 am Worship w/ Communion

MARCH 19

8:15 am Worship w/ Communion
10:30 am Worship w/ Communion
MILESTONE
3 YR. OLD PRAYER PILLOW

MARCH 26

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