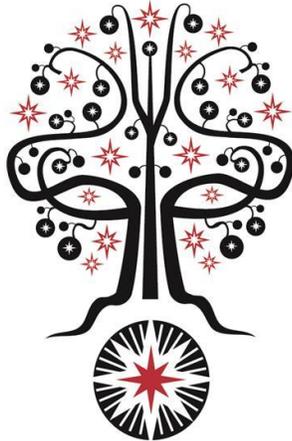
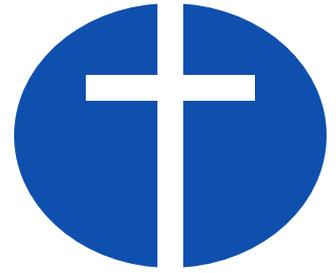


Zion Lutheran NEWSLETTER

February 2020



New Mission Statement

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Celebrating the
Gospel of Jesus Christ:
Believing, Witnessing, Teaching,
Sharing and Serving with all.

Pastor's Message

Candlemas features the witnesses of two elderly prophets: Anna and Simeon. It was a day to remind Zion that even as we feel old, God isn't done with us yet.

I shared a couple of stories of the great ministry and witness of elders in my life. One particular story was of the group of women who surrounded the Salvation Army captain in Wiarton, Mary Millar. I shared how whenever Mary had a new idea or new vision she would go to the women of the county long term care facility and ask them to pray for her, the ministry of the Salvation Army and the vision she had. These women Mary lovingly called her prayer warriors. She knew these women would faithful pray without ceasing.

The surprise was that in both Mary and the prayer warriors were gifted. Mary had prayer support and the warriors who were often the backbone of their church just years before felt valued and helpful in the reign of God. Those women who could no longer manage the physical work of the church, were still pivotal in lifting up the church in prayer.

God wasn't done with those warriors. God still has work for us to do.

We acknowledge that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory and that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinabek and Metis people.

Luke 2:25-31
(NRSV)

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

Mission Sunday + January 27th

Sunday, February 16 is Mission Sunday at Zion. Our guest preacher will be the Rev. Riitta Hepomäki, assistant to the Bishop. Riitta has been a guest at Zion many times over the years. This will likely be her last visit to Zion as she is returning to Finland in March to be with her husband Olavi who accepted a call to serve a parish in Finland. She will share about the wider mission that we have in common through the Eastern Synod.

There will be a brunch hosted by the youth of Zion following worship on that day. The brunch will feature Finnish oven pancakes and sausages.

Lenten Worship + ELCIC Emphasis on Prayer

National Bishop Susan Johnson has called the church to spiritual renewal with a different emphasis over the next 4 years. 2020 we are called to prayer. Our worship during Lent will feature various aspects of prayer and we will also hear about prayer from the Archbishop of Canterbury who shares some personal reflections from his prayer life.

During Lent you will notice that the liturgy will be different with more silence, different music and an opportunity during community to gather in the John St. Chapel (behind the pulpit to the west) for private prayer and healing prayers.

Lutheran Church Women (LCW)

Lutheran Church Women (LCW) will be meeting on the 3rd Monday of February (17th). This is also Family Day. The topic chosen is 'Scams'. Check out how you can protect yourself. Hosts for this meeting are Elvi Riutta and Bonnie Henry. All women in the church are invited.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Save these dates!

St. Vincent Place Hot Meals:

St. Vincent Place Hot Meal is on Wednesday, **March 11th from 2:30 to 6:00 pm.**

Joyful Noiz Sunday February 16

Holy Trinity Men's Breakfast is on the first **Saturday, March 7th at 8 am.**

GOSPEL JAM is the last Sunday afternoon in March from 1-3 at St. Jeromes.

Spring Garage Sale
you can store clean, recyclable items in the basement now.

Fellowship Opportunity - 'Zion and Friends' Walk around the top of the GFL Gardens happening each Monday and Thursday starting at 1 pm. Come join us and invite a friend!

4 Laps around equals 1 KM and 6.44 Laps around equals 1 Mile. No snow, ice, hills, rain, cold weather, hot weather, strong winds to deal with. No running. Walk at your own pace and for the length of time you prefer. Sit and rest when you want. Be in the company of friends. Elevator access. Washrooms available. No cost. More information?

Connect with John Gabriel (705-945-8741).

'New Testament Bible Study' each Wednesday at Vincent Place at 1 pm. Ends at 2 pm. Enter main door on parking lot side. Bring your own Bible (any version you are comfortable with) and your own coffee or water. This is non-denominational and open to anyone. Ask a friend to join you. Gene Monin is the Bible Teacher. He uses *Expository Type Teaching* which is exposing scripture so that an individual has an understanding of the Scripture they are reading...understanding for an ordinary person. Gene teaches from a practical viewpoint on how to apply the Bible to your everyday life. No cost. More info? Contact Pat Mathews (705-945-8741).

'Early Morning Bible Study' each Wednesday at 7 am until 8 am at The Canadian on Great Northern. A Men's Bible Study originally, but women are also attending. Bring your own Bible. No cost. Bible Teacher is Gene Monin. Great for the early risers! Some stay longer for breakfast. For more info?

Contact John Gabriel (705-945-8741).

Psalm 150 Club This is a no-alcohol, no drugs, uplifting music, good-clean-fun, positive fellowship, family-friendly monthly event of games and dancing ministry, that has the side benefit of raising money for our local Pregnancy Centre. Donations at the door (suggested \$10 or \$5 youth) and its from 7 to 11 pm although anyone can come a bit later or leave earlier to suit your schedule. Treats and refreshments are for sale. There are prizes during the night. Next event is on **Saturday, February 22nd**.

More info? Contact Pat or John



ST. MARY'S/ZION FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTAL INFORMATION

Per day:

Fellowship Hall - \$200

Kitchen with Hall - \$ 50

Kitchen alone - \$200

Janitorial Fee - \$ 50

plus renter is responsible for their own liability insurance. Any questions, please contact the church office.



Pastoral Hospital or Home Visits:

Pastoral visits are available and welcomed by Pastor Brad. It is important that ***you inform the Church Office or Pastor Brad of anyone wishing a visit.*** Home Communion is available.



Ash Wednesday is February 26

Leftover palms from last year can be placed in the basket in the Narthex by February 23 for the making of the ash.

The Sewing Room @ Zion meets every Friday from 9:30 to noon during February. We are presently working on bags for 'Period Purses' as they will be having a spring blitz in Sault Ste. Marie. As well we are focusing on 'Pillowcase Dresses' for little girls in third world countries. IF you prefer, you could sew some of the dresses at home and just bring them back to the sewing room on any Friday morning. More info? Contact Pat Mathews (705-945-8741)

The Manna Basket has a new co-ordinator...Heidi Slotegraaf (with help from Thomas!) This usually happens the last Sunday of the month but there may be times when the Sunday may change depending on Heidi's schedule. As you know, donations can be brought in anytime during the month. Thank you for supporting Pauline's Place in this way.

Lenten Lunches

Back by popular demand, Zion will once again be hosting the Lenten Lunches in 2020. Beginning Wednesday, March 4 and going to April 8 we will gather at noon on the Wednesdays in Lent to share in food, fellowship and learning with our Anglican brothers and sisters. Zion will be providing the food for ONE of these lunches (the date will be announced shortly).

Living Our Faith - PRAY (Focus for 2019 – 2020)

A Taize Prayer Service Taize is an Ecumenical Christian Community in France whose music and meditative reflection on God's Word has nourished people throughout the world. ***(Ecumenism seeks to remind Christians of the things that unite them.)*** In 1944, a young Swiss Lutheran named Roger Shutz founded a community of prayer in Taize, France. His motivation came from seeing the devastation of war and the atrocities against his Jewish brothers and sisters. People of all traditions have found their way to Taize ever since to pray and to seek reconciliation. The singing of distinctive and much-repeated prayer chants during candlelit prayer services is one of its trademarks. Taize music highlights simple phrases, usually lines from the Psalms or other pieces of scripture, repeated or sung in canon. The repetition is designed to help meditation and prayer.

At Zion, a Taize chant you would be familiar with is when we sing going up to communion.
#616 Jesus Remember Me.

"Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom."

These simple lines from Luke 23:42 are typical of Taize chanting.

Taize Services are held at St. Jerome's Church on Carmel Road off Nicholas Avenue monthly from 7 to 8 pm on Wednesday evenings: February 12, March 11, April 22, May 13.

Pastor Brad is cooking for you on Valentine's. A lovely pasta and salad supper will be ready for all to enjoy at 6pm on February 14. You are simply asked to bring a dessert or snack food to share. After the dinner is over the games will begin. There is a signup sheet outside the small kitchen in the gathering space.





ZION TEEN SCENE

Mission Sunday

Sunday February 16 is Mission Sunday. Riitta Hepomaki, assistant to Bishop Michael Pryse will be here as our guest. The youth will be hosting a Finnish pancake lunch (Pannukakku) after worship. A free-will offering will be accepted. The menu includes... Pannukakku, coffee, tea, strawberry sauce, and breakfast sausages.



Tubing

On Sunday February 23, after heading to the Sault Seal Recreation of the leaders will be enjoying some welcome to attend. The cost is children under 12. We invite all who to join us. Lunch is on your own, and around 1pm when it opens. You can stay as long as you desire.



worship, the young people will be Area for an afternoon of tubing. Some hot beverages inside the chalet. All are \$10.00 for adults, and \$6.00 for wish to come out for some fun outside we will meet at the recreation area

Stew Lunch

On Sunday March 15 after worship, the youth are bringing back their famous beef stew and biscuit lunch. Free-will offering will be accepted. St. Patrick's Day themed desserts as well as tea and coffee will also be available.



Looking ahead...

Saturday April 4 we will be hosting 2 paint parties in the Zion/St. Mary's fellowship Centre. One beginning at 3pm, and one at 7pm. Your \$40.00 ticket gives you instruction and all the materials you need to make a lovely Easter scene painted on canvas. No experience required and is suitable for all ages. Refreshments included too! We will be only selling 25 tickets to each event. We will let you know when those tickets will be ready. Invite a friend.