

Zion Lutheran Church

Newsletter

January 2023



Happy New Year! The calendar year is starting over. Now you have to remember to write your checks with 2023 (At least if you are like me, this is a perennial problem.). Time keeps going on, however. Year comes upon year. As time goes by we might become deluded into thinking that this is all we have – this is all we get.

Most of the time, I think this is centered in the good things of life: my children continue to grow and learn; there are many things that have brought me joy in the past year; there are projects that I've achieved that I can look back upon with joy. But then there are events which rock my world in a negative way – that I look upon with sorrow or regret.

That brings the new year into a perspective of anticipation, but also with a bit of apprehension: what health issues might arise this year; what kinds of financial challenges might I face; what things might go on with my family or friends that might drive us apart or make us weep for sorrow? What a downer of a message your pastor is delivering so far: Happy New Year?

But this is the reality of life, and there are a number of sorrows we will face together as the body of Christ in this age: sickness; suffering; society degrading; and death. This is a part of living in this fallen, sinful world. It might be scary to think about or make us anxious and apprehensive. BUT there is something we have in this coming year and in all the years that we have ahead of us: **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.** (Jn. 1:1,14)

Christ, the Son of God has taken on our flesh, lived a perfect life, and died with our sins upon His shoulders. More than this, He was raised from death with our flesh and is, even now ascended with all authority as God and a human being, ruling and reigning over all things.

So, what does that mean for the year to come? It means that your God who knows all the things you will go through and loves you to the point of death, has all things in His hands. He is caring for you. All of the bad things are going to be turned to good and righteousness. **³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.** (Rom. 8:31-38)

May this be your comfort, and perhaps your theme for the year to come: “God is in control; He wants the best for me; I’m going to be okay, no matter what; I have eternal life before me!” Happy New Year!!!

Your servant in Christ,
Pr. Siebert

Angel Tree Ministry: On behalf of Angel Tree Ministry, I would personally like to thank all of you who participated in this year’s project. You made Christmas a little brighter for these children. God’s blessings to all of you.
Rhonda Voboril

CHEERS TO 80 YEARS!!

Please join us for a birthday party honoring
Dallas Roesener

At Zion Lutheran Church in the
East Fellowship Room

Sunday, January 29, 2023
Lunch will be served at 11:30 am



NEW MEMBERS in 2022

Zion Lutheran Church was pleased to welcome new members during 2022. **Ken and Kathy Marble** transferred from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Kenesaw in January.

In March, we welcomed **Dave and Donna Peterson and Jessica Beatty** who transferred from Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Omaha, NE and **Tiffany Steinkraus** who transferred from Zion Lutheran Church in Plainview, NE.

In August, we welcomed **Chrisella "Chris" Lewis** by profession of faith.

In November, we received into membership **Joanna Utecht** who transferred from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Valentine, Nebraska.

And last but not least, in December **Dennis Kauk** become a member by adult catechesis and confirmed by Pastor Siebert.

We also welcome new members through baptism: **Colson Beatty**, son of Nathan and Jessica Beatty, **Rayker Cookson**, son of Jordan Cookson and Tiffany Steinkraus, and **Madden Good**, daughter of Skyler and Allison (Halloran) Good.

We welcome all of you to Zion's family.

Karen (Reehl) Tiedeman of Orphan Grain Train will be at Zion on Sunday, January 22, 2023. She will give a presentation about Zion's orphanage in Kingisepp and her most recent visit to the Baltic countries at 10:15 in place of our regular Bible study time. You won't want to miss her informational presentation.

Note: in the December newsletter, it said she would be here on January 15. That was incorrect.

Parking Lot Project Up-date

The start of this project has been delayed. We are told that the cold temperatures are not conducive to having the work done properly. The date for this project is unknown at this time.

Pastor Ardis Eglitis December 4, 2022

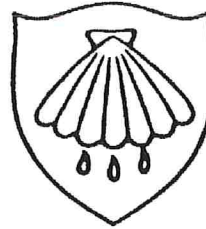


Pastor Eglitis, a Lutheran minister from Latvia, assisting with communion



Pastor Eglitis' presentation during Bible Study. Pictured on the screen is a map of Latvia. It was interesting to hear that growing up as a child in Latvia, it was part of the Soviet Union but is now a free nation. In addition to speaking his native language, he is also fluent in Russian and English.

Million Dollar Life Match The LCMS Life Ministry will match every dollar collected for Wellspring Pregnancy + Health Center by May 1, 2023. Please make your check payable to Zion Lutheran Church and write "Wellspring" in the memo line. Zion is partnering with other congregations in our Hastings Circuit to raise money for this matching opportunity. This is a way we can reach out into our community and help young mothers experiencing unexpected pregnancies to feel supported and cared for when they make the decision to give life to the child they carry. Questions? Call Joan Primrose at 402-469-6335.



January Birthdays

Leandra Gandert Jan 2
Christopher Rooker Jan 3
Benjamin Maendele Jan 6
William Wilson Jan 6
Connie Gerhart Jan 8
Vernon Kranau Jan 8
Braden Hueftle Jan 9
Janey Sittner Jan 11
Melanie Hansen Jan 12
Tori Bourland Jan 14
Brandon Minkler Jan 14
Jane Sorgenfrei Jan 15
Charlene Stapleman Jan 17
Cody Riales Jan 21
Nicole Kathman Jan 23
Morgan Miller Jan 24
Zachary Meyer Jan 25
Kaylin Rosch Jan 25
Kurt Kopisch Jan 27
Landon Eckhardt Jan 29
Dallas Roesener Jan 29
Jordan Torske Jan 29
Douglas Roesener

January Baptism Birthdays

Seth White Jan 3
Conner Robinson Jan 5
Laura Hargis Jan 7
Cassandra Wardyn Jan 8
Dera Goodrich Jan 10
Nichole Johnson Jan 11
Matthew Wallin Jan 12
Tyson Klinger Jan 14
Nancy Kottwitz Jan 14
Tori Bourland Jan 15
Corinne Manske Jan 16
Benjamin Maendele Jan 18
Connie Gerhart Jan 22
Vernon Kranau Jan 25
Susan Nielsen Jan 26
Kieton Armstrong Jan 28
Andy Riales Jan 28
Janey Sittner Jan 29
Aidyn Dobrovolny Jan 31
Greg Eckhardt



January Wedding Anniversaries

Michael and Tori Bourland Jan 25

January 2023

Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	2	3	4 9:30 Bible and Hymn Study 7:00 PM Epiphany Service with Communion	5	6	7 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Breakfast 9:00 LWML 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion
8 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	9 10:00 to 3:00 Quilt Tying at Zion Lutheran Church	10	11 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Siebert 9:30 Bible and Hymn Study 6:00 PM King's Kids	12	13	14 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion
15 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	16	17 7:00 Executive Board Meeting	18 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Tyler Hauptmeier 9:30 Bible and Hymn Study 6:00 PM King's Kids	19	20	21 6:00 PM Worship Service
22 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	23	24	25 9:30 Bible and Hymn Study 6:00 PM King's Kids	26 8:30 ZCA Chapel on Grandparents' Day with Pastor Paul Dunbar	27	28 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion
29 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	30	31				