

# CONNECT

Monthly Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church

re **LENT** less  
*pursuit*

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Lent

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Bible  
Studies

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Camp

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Generosity

March 2023

# Celebrating on Sundays

## Sunday Worship Services

- 8:30am: Traditional Worship (with livestream)
- 8:30: Sunday School
- 9:30am: Coffee Fellowship / Adult Education / Family Events
- 10:30am: Contemporary Worship (with drive-in)
- 10:30am: Sunday School

For drive-in worship at 10:30, please drive through the canopy at the front of the church to pick up a bulletin etc., before parking in the back parking lot and tuning your car radio to FM 87.9.

Holy Communion will be part of all worship services on the first and third Sundays of the month. All members receiving communion are asked to complete an electronic communion card at [ZionBuffalo.org/card](http://ZionBuffalo.org/card) or text CARD to 763-335-1245.

If you are attending the online worship service, we know you won't have the exact same elements that we use when we are in worship in the sanctuary. Gather any variety of wine or fruit juice and any kind of bread product.

## Worship Volunteers

Individuals and families are welcome! Help us make Zion a place of generous hospitality!

- Join a Sunday Welcome Crew to serve once a month
- Volunteer for one Sunday
- Volunteer on Lenten Wednesdays
- Volunteer during Holy Week

Look for the signup link at [ZionBuffalo.org/volunteer](http://ZionBuffalo.org/volunteer) or [ZionBuffalo.org/lent](http://ZionBuffalo.org/lent).

## ReLENTless

BY PASTOR BAHE

In last month's newsletter article, I shared a quote from Andy McIlvain, who is the author of the blog Enacted Word. Now that we are further into the season of Lent, it bears repeating:

**God deserves more than our attention;**

**He deserves our affections and focus.**

**He doesn't just want us to listen to Him.**

**He desires us to know Him. He wants us to pursue Him.**

We are pursuing the theme "reLENTless" this Lenten season. It is a juxtaposition of sorts. Our Lutheran theology emphasizes God's relentless pursuit of us. Through his study of scripture, Martin Luther happily discovered that God is the one who lovingly pursues us.

It is not only a part of Lutheran theology, it is the Biblical story. Time and time again, God's people wander, disobey, flee, and often misjudge God's love. And, scripture reminds us that even so; relentlessly so, God pursues us, loves us, and welcomes us in, like the prodigal father in Jesus' parable we know so well as the prodigal son. We tend to focus on the son and how wasteful he was by squandering all his father had given him. But the most extravagance was actually shown by a prodigal father whose forgiveness, welcome, and celebration were beyond anything the son could expect. Rarely do we reflect on the son's response to that amazing love.

Maybe that is why Lent is such a special time in the church year. There is no doubt that God's central message to us is that His love is fierce, unending, just, and merciful. And yet, Lent gives us an opportunity to stop and consider our response to that love. Here is where the juxtaposition comes in; God reLENTlessly pursues us, and yet there must be something important about us pursuing Him too. I think that is especially so in our time and culture.

So many things compete for our attention. But Lent reminds us to slow down and consider our relationship with our Lord. And, whenever we are considering our relationship with our Lord, we are necessarily considering our relationship with others and God's creation. We love God by loving others and by stewarding His gift of creation. We also love God by dwelling in His word so that we might ever more greatly come to understand His love for us and our love for Him.

This Lenten season, I hope you have committed to a reLENTless pursuit of your relationship with God. If you've lacked in consistency, start again! Every day is a new beginning with God. Zion has a variety of experiences available for your Lenten pursuits, which you will read about in this newsletter. I hope you have taken advantage of the wonderful devotional written by Zion members, I am especially thankful for that treasure and all who wrote to make it possible.

Take a look at the wonderful opportunities for diving into scripture together---opportunities for middle schoolers, high schoolers, young adults, and us not-so-young adults, too. I'm so proud of the work our staff has done together to make this Lenten season a powerful opportunity for you to focus on your faith. So many opportunities for worship, bible study, service, conversation, and faith

building! And to make it simple---Wednesday can be a "no cook" day for you, because our wonderful kitchen crew, under the leadership of Lora Nichols, will serve a soup supper after worship from 6:30-7:15pm.

The weekly offering for parents, grandparents, and other caring adults that our directors of youth ministries have put together is not to be missed. Opening our doors to community leaders who deeply care about youth and have expertise in pursuing our best relationship with God's young people is pure gift, and yet something that is a necessity for every healthy community. The pressures and challenges our youth face can not be ignored. But, they can be conquered if we love those young people together, welcome them, pray for them, and surround them with loving adults. All are welcome and encouraged to join in every Wednesday night at 7:15pm in our sanctuary, to soak up what these local leaders and our directors of youth ministries are so passionate about.

I pray that you will join in as this community of faith reLENTlessly rejoices in the height, depth, width, length, and strength of God's love [Ephesians 3]. So that, as Andy McIlvain writes, you may know the joy and peace that comes from a deep relationship with Jesus, a relationship that deserves your attention, focus, and affection.

Gracious Heavenly Father, as we move toward Holy Week, we are rooted and grounded in Your reLENTless pursuit of us. We give You thanks, that through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, we experience a love that is reLENTless. Amid all that distracts us, may we choose to follow You with a reLENTless purpose and passion. Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Amen.



More Lent and Holy Week information available at [ZionBuffalo.org/lent](https://ZionBuffalo.org/lent)



## Lenten Wednesdays

(March 1-29)

- 10:30am: Bible History Study with Roger Johnson (starting 3/8)
- Noon: Worship
- 6pm: Worship (with livestream)
- 6:30-7:15pm: Soup Supper
- 7:15: Bible studies and speakers

*Additional Bible Study information on page 7.*

## Lenten Devotional

Members have contributed to a Lenten Devotional which is available in print from the office or information desk, online at [ZionBuffalo.org/lent](https://ZionBuffalo.org/lent), or by following our [@zionbuffalo Instagram page](https://www.instagram.com/zionbuffalo).

Luther Seminary also has a daily devotional available to download or read online, which can be found at [luthersem.edu/lent](https://luthersem.edu/lent).

## Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am

Maundy Thursday noon & 6pm

Good Friday 5:30pm & 7pm

Easter Sunday 7am, 8:30am, & 10:30am

## Holy Week Prayer Walk

An outdoor prayer walk experience will be available at Zion from Sunday, April 2, through Friday, April 7, with stations on the walking path around the building.

## The Nursery is Open!

Zion loves kids to be in worship---wiggles, squiggles, and all! However, we also know that sometimes for parents it is nice to have a choice to bring your children to the nursery. The nursery is now open during both worship services for children ages infant through age 3. The nursery is located in the northeast corner of the building, near the back entrance.



# Connecting with Care

## Baptisms

February 11  
Griffin Richard Bujalski

## Funerals

January 19  
Ken Casperson

## Active Military

Vinnie Pecarina  
Stationed in Alaska  
Hope Kellerhuis  
Stationed at Fort Drum, NY  
Michael Christensen  
Stationed in Virginia Beach, VA  
Alexis Nichols  
Stationed in Georgia  
Adam Hartung  
Stationed at FE Warren AFB, WY  
Will Dobbins  
Stationed in Hawaii  
Luc Persson  
Stationed at Aviano AFB, Italy  
Jordan Thompson  
Serving in the National Guard  
Tyler Marr  
Serving in the Air Force  
Ben Pecarina  
Air Force Reserves  
Brianna Marschel  
Serving in the Army  
Christian Marschel  
Serving in the Army  
Collin Lesch  
Serving in the Army.

*And members whose names cannot be  
published for security reasons*



**MYSTERY AT MIKE'S**  
*Back to the 50s Dinner Theater 2023*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4**

**5:30pm**  
*social hour with appetizers & punch  
silent auction*

**6:30pm seating for 7pm**  
*dinner theater*

adults \$20 / kids \$10 / 6 for \$100  
**ZIONBUFFALO.ORG/GALA**



*a fundraiser for Zion Youth Ministries*



**SAT  
MAR  
11**

# Winter Ball



## Daddy Daughter Dance

*Join us for an evening of dancing and delight*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 11 ❄️ 5-7PM**

PHOTOS ❄️ DJ & DANCING ❄️ SNACKS

GRAND MARCH at 5:30pm

Semi-formal attire suggested, NOT required  
\$10/FAMILY at the door

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH ❄️ ZIONBUFFALO.ORG**

## Harvest of Hands Crafts

The Wilderness Room and our supply room are organized and ready to work on crafts. The evening craft group meets on the second (March 8) and fourth (March 22) Wednesday of each month in the Wilderness Room at 7pm. We are working on making earrings this month.

We are planning a few craft and baking classes this year. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for potential classes. If you would like to train the class, we would like to hear from you.

Harvest of Hands is a dedicated group that works together to help rid the world of hunger.

Vision Statement: In an environment of growing faith and loving camaraderie, Harvest of Hands sponsors events and creates products for sale that will help alleviate both local and world hunger.

Mission Statement: With a broad partnership of known and unknown entities, Harvest of Hands is committed to end both local and worldwide hunger, one meal at a time.

We encourage you to join one of our sessions for fun, fellowship, and a sense of accomplishment.

## Zion Fishing Club

Zion's Fishing Club meets weekly in the summer to fish on area lakes. If you are interested in fishing with them, please gather in Fellowship Hall at 7pm on Wednesday, April 19, or join the ZionBuffalo Fishing Club on Facebook for updates about specific lakes and details.

## Save the Date!

### Lutheran Night at the Twins

The next Lutheran Night at the Twins will be Tuesday, August 15.

# Living God's Call

## Earthquake Relief

On February 6 two powerful earthquakes, one a magnitude 7.8 and the second a magnitude 7.5, hit Türkiye and significantly impacted neighboring Syria. The two quakes devastated both countries, killing thousands of people and collapsing thousands of buildings. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to supporting ACT Alliance and other partners who are providing immediate aid; a comprehensive response will be coordinated as the full extent of the impact becomes clearer. Gifts to "Middle East Crisis" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the earthquakes and other disasters in the region.

Give online at [community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis](https://community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis) or use a pew envelope marked "Lutheran Disaster Response."

## Supporting Mission Partners

By GARY LEFF, UKRAINE SUPPORT GROUP

There has been a lot of excitement and activity around Zion related to the support being provided to the Ukrainian refugees in our community.

A valid question: What effect do these efforts have on the long-standing commitments of Zion's Global Missions Committee to support All Kids Can Learn, International in Zambia; Redeemer Lutheran Church in North Minneapolis; and Mission Jamaica?

The answer is: Hopefully, none. The Global Missions Committee is fully supportive of the Ukrainian project and prays that members of Zion will generously provide additional support to this important effort while maintaining its support to our current partners.

Support the Ukrainian project, our Global Mission partners, or other mission projects at [ZionBuffalo.org/missiongiving](https://ZionBuffalo.org/missiongiving).

*Photo: Members gathered to hear from Yevhen, Katya, and Natella, about their escape from Ukraine and journey to Minnesota.*



## WiFi Assistive Listening for Worship

A WiFi option has been added to the sound system at Zion, allowing those with hearing difficulties in the Sanctuary to listen to worship audio through their own mobile device and headphones, earbuds, or compatible hearing aids via the Listen Everywhere app.

Download the free app from the iPhone App Store or Google Play Store, and then connect to the dedicated 'ZionHA' WiFi network once you arrive on Sunday.

Contact an audio technician at the sound booth for assistance or more information.







## Wednesday Lenten Studies

### Lent Bible History (10:30am)

How well do you remember the Bible? In it we hear about God's ReLENTless love for us. Rev. Roger Johnson will lead a class to review Biblical History. The class will meet in the library at 10:30 on Wednesdays, March 8, 15, 22, and 29 (note, not March 1), and be done in time for noon Lenten Services. Come and freshen up on the Bible.

### ReLENTless Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart (7:15pm)

This year we are beyond excited to offer an additional opportunity for parents of teens entitled ReLENTless Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart. We will welcome keynote speakers from the community with expertise in many current topics involving teens. Raising teens can be challenging and can sometimes feel lonely. Come and get to know other parents in the same boat. We are all in this together.

### ReLENTless Pursuit of Living Faith (7:15pm)

Lexi Goos and Ellen Schmidt will lead a Young Adult Bible Study for young adults (18-35 give or take). Read and discuss the book of James to gain insight and wisdom on how to live our day-to-day life as faith-filled followers of Jesus. All reading will be completed during the Bible study (no outside reading requested), and a structure for discussion and reflection will be provided. Other young adults outside of Zion are welcome too, so bring friends!

### ReLENTless Pursuit of Joy (7:15pm)

The youth of Zion are invited to participate in a series called The ReLENTless Pursuit of Joy. We will follow Zion's Lenten theme as we remember the idea that God relentlessly pursues us as we relentlessly pursue Him and seek out answers to faith questions including but not limited to; How to Find Joy in a Troubled World.

Joy is a gift from God, but we have a part to play. Once our Joy has been stolen, how do we recover? We will talk about practical ways to reclaim our joy. Dig into the Bible to find the tools that will help us to trust in God's goodness and live a fuller, more joy-filled life! We will meet in the Youth Room. This series is open to both middle schoolers and high schoolers.

Lenten Studies are  
Wednesdays, March 1-29

### Spring Bible History Class

Rick Johnson will present an 8-week Bible History class beginning Monday, April 3, and ending Monday, May 22. The class will run from 6:30 to 8:15 pm in the library. This class will examine the background and creation of the New Testament. The class is for anyone interested in Bible History whether you have been in a previous class or not. Please bring a Bible. This class is limited to 18 participants, so please sign up at [ZionBuffalo.org/events](https://zionbuffalo.org/events).

### Ten Commandments

Zion offers two monthly options for women's Bible study groups. The Naomi Circle meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 9:30am and the Rebecca Circle meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10am. Meetings are at Zion each month and no sign up is needed.

Both groups use the Bible study from the ELCA women's ministry Gather magazine and are studying the Ten Commandments through the first four months of 2023.



# March 2023

## Wednesday March 1

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
9:00am Working Party Fellowship  
12:00pm Lenten Noon Service  
2:30pm Kids' Place  
3:00pm Ring Forth  
3:00pm Blessing Closet Diaper Distribution  
4:00pm Class Ring  
4:30pm Youth Open Gym  
5:00pm Elevate Choir  
5:30pm Lifted & Altared Choirs  
6:00pm Lenten Holden Evening Service  
6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper  
6:30pm Joyful Ringers  
6:30pm Senior Choir  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Joy  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Living Faith  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart  
8:00pm High School Youth Group

## Thursday March 2

8:00am Men Seeking Wisdom Bible Study  
9:30am Buffalo Area Dementia Friends

## Friday March 3

## Saturday March 4

5:30pm Youth Gala

## Sunday March 5

*Holy Communion at all worship services*  
*Change for Children: Color Day*  
8:30pm Traditional Worship Service (with Livestream)  
8:30am Sunday School  
9:30am Executive Committee  
9:30am Coffee Fellowship  
10:30am Contemporary Worship (with drive-in)  
10:30am Sunday School

## Monday March 6

9:00am Quilters  
6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal

## Tuesday March 7

9:15am Storytime with Jesus  
11:00am Staff Meeting  
4:00pm Fare for All

## Wednesday March 8

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
9:00am Working Party Fellowship  
10:30am Lenten Bible History Class  
12:00pm Lenten Noon Service  
2:30pm Kids' Place  
3:00pm Ring Forth  
4:00pm Class Ring  
4:30pm Youth Open Gym  
5:00pm Elevate Choir  
5:30pm Lifted & Altared Choirs  
6:00pm Lenten Holden Evening Service  
6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper  
6:30pm Joyful Ringers  
6:30pm Senior Choir  
7:00pm Harvest of Hands Crafts  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Joy  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Living Faith  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart  
8:00pm High School Youth Group

## Thursday March 9

8:00am Men Seeking Wisdom Bible Study  
9:30am Buffalo Area Dementia Friends

## Friday March 10

## Saturday March 11

5:00pm Daddy Daughter Dance

## Sunday March 12

*Change for Children: Pajama Day*  
8:30pm Traditional Worship Service (with Livestream)  
8:30am Sunday School  
9:30am Coffee Fellowship  
10:30am Contemporary Worship (with drive-in)  
10:30am Sunday School

## Monday March 13

9:00am Quilters  
9:00am Women's Ministry Committee  
6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal

## Tuesday March 14

11:00am CYF Ministries Meeting  
5:30pm Children & Family Ministry Team  
5:30pm Youth Board Meeting  
6:00pm Outreach Committee  
7:00pm Global Missions Committee Meeting

## Wednesday March 15

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
9:00am Working Party Fellowship  
10:30am Lenten Bible History Class  
12:00pm Lenten Noon Service  
2:30pm Kids' Place  
3:00pm Ring Forth  
4:00pm Class Ring  
4:30pm Youth Open Gym  
5:00pm Elevate Choir  
5:30pm Lifted & Altared Choirs  
6:00pm Lenten Holden Evening Service  
6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper  
6:30pm Joyful Ringers  
6:30pm Senior Choir  
7:00pm Church Council Meeting  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Joy  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Living Faith  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart  
8:00pm High School Youth Group

## Thursday March 16

8:00am Newsletter Deadline  
8:00am Men Seeking Wisdom Bible Study  
9:30am Buffalo Area Dementia Friends  
10:00am Rebecca Circle

## Friday March 17

6:00pm Middle School Fun Night

## Saturday March 18

## Sunday March 19

*Holy Communion at all worship services*  
*Sanctuary Sunday*  
8:30pm Traditional Worship Service (with Livestream)  
8:30am Sunday School  
9:30am Coffee Fellowship  
10:30am Contemporary Worship (with drive-in)  
10:30am Sunday School

## Monday March 20

9:00am Quilters  
6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal  
6:30pm Spring Bible History Class

## Tuesday March 21

9:30am Naomi Circle  
11:00am Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Stewardship Committee  
7:00pm Personnel Committee Meeting



### Wednesday March 22

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
9:00am Working Party Fellowship  
10:30am Lenten Bible History Class  
12:00pm Lenten Noon Service  
2:30pm Kids' Place  
3:00pm Ring Forth  
4:00pm Class Ring  
4:30pm Youth Open Gym  
5:00pm Elevate Choir  
5:30pm Lifted & Altared Choirs  
6:00pm Lenten Holden Evening Service  
6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper  
6:30pm Joyful Ringers  
6:30pm Senior Choir  
7:00pm Harvest of Hands Crafts  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Joy  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Living Faith  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart  
8:00pm High School Youth Group

### Thursday March 23

8:00am Men Seeking Wisdom Bible Study  
9:30am Buffalo Area Dementia Friends

### Friday March 24

### Saturday March 25

### Sunday March 26

*Change for Children: Favorite Team/  
Sport*

8:30pm Traditional Worship Service (with Livestream)  
8:30am Sunday School  
9:30am Coffee Fellowship  
10:30am Contemporary Worship (with drive-in)  
10:30am Sunday School

### Monday March 27

9:00am Quilters  
6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal  
6:30pm Spring Bible History Class

### Tuesday March 28

11:00am CYF Ministries Meeting

### Wednesday March 29

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
9:00am Working Party Fellowship  
9:00am Newsletter Assembly  
10:30am Lenten Bible History Class  
12:00pm Lenten Noon Service  
2:30pm Kids' Place  
3:00pm Ring Forth  
4:00pm Class Ring  
4:30pm Youth Open Gym  
5:00pm Elevate Choir  
5:30pm Lifted & Altared Choirs  
6:00pm Lenten Holden Evening Service  
6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper  
6:30pm Joyful Ringers  
6:30pm Senior Choir  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Joy  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Living Faith  
7:15pm ReLENTless Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart  
8:00pm High School Youth Group

### Thursday March 30

8:00am Men Seeking Wisdom Bible Study  
9:30am Buffalo Area Dementia Friends

## Easter Garden Orders

You can help in giving Zion a festive look on Easter morning and there's no shopping for your plant. Plants will be delivered to Zion for use on Sunday morning Easter worship in the sanctuary. After Easter Sunday worship you are welcome to take your plant home for your family Easter celebration.

Place your Easter plant order by March 29 at [ZionBuffalo.org/eastergarden](https://ZionBuffalo.org/eastergarden) or by filling out an order form at the info desk. We are unable to accept orders beyond that date. All orders received by March 29 will be included in Easter Garden booklet. After Easter Sunday worship on April 9, you are welcome to take your plant home for your family Easter celebration. All plants remaining at Zion after 2pm on Monday, April 10, will be delivered to homebound/caring ministry households by Zion volunteer visitors.

Ordering from the Easter Garden fundraiser is an easy way to order & have plants delivered directly to Zion. Alternatively, buy a plant of your choice from your favorite store and bring it to Zion by Saturday, April 8, at 10am. We will have labels ready for you so that you can pick up your plant after Easter worship or donate it to be given to Zion members on Easter Monday. If you'd like your plant included in the Easter Garden listing on Easter Sunday in honor or memory of someone, complete the form at [ZionBuffalo.org/eastergarden](https://ZionBuffalo.org/eastergarden) by March 29 to send your info to the Zion office (select 'none' for your plant).

Zion's handbell choirs are coordinating this year's Easter Garden.





# Children, Youth & Family Ministry



## Joining Us at the Lord's Table

Some of Zion's students, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and older, received their first Holy Communion on Sunday, February 5. What a beautiful celebration it was! It is so special walking alongside and partnering with these young children and families. They learned about the Holy Sacrament and received God's gift of grace through the Lord's Supper.





# Camp Green Lake

We are so very excited to announce that we are taking our campers to an amazing new camp this summer! We have chosen Camp Green Lake for this summer's camping experience from July 23-27.

## Register For Week 7: July 23-27

Sign up at [ZionBuffalo.org/camp](http://ZionBuffalo.org/camp).

In some cases you may be waitlisted, but once your spot is confirmed by the Green Lake registration team, your camper will be moved from the waitlist to a registered camper in one of Zion's reserved spots, and you will receive a confirmation email.

The Zion Foundation offers scholarships. After you've registered, more information will follow.

## Camp Options Are:

### Half Blast (July 23-25 for Grades 1-4)

Half Blast is an awesome way to experience camp and all it has to offer, but with fewer overnights. Half Blast begins on Sunday with the full-week campers, but concludes Tuesday evening with a closing worship. Campers still get to experience meaningful worships, exciting games, campfires, spending time with new friends, and growing in faith, just in a time frame that is comfortable for you!

### Andy's Gang for (Grades 2-5)

Spend the week at Shores where you will have an unforgettable time learning and growing in faith! Your day will be spent participating in a variety of fun activities like Bible study, worship, swimming, playing fun games, singing, and making new friends. All of our sleeping cabins are remodeled with new bunk beds, and you just can't beat the view of the sunset on Lake Andrew.

### Trailblazers for (Grades 5-7)

Enjoy swimming, canoeing, and participating in large group games and worships. Plus, enjoy specific programming just for Trailblazers, like Bible studies, small group campfires, and climbing the mobile rock wall. Blaze a new trail at Shores with this innovative program tailored just for you!

*(Summer Bible Camp continued on page 12)*



## Change for Children

February

February 26

Crazy Hair, Hat, Sock Day

Come to Sunday school showing off your crazy socks and hair, or throw on a crazy hat.

March 5

Grade Level Color Day

Come decked out head to toe in your assigned grade-level color.

March 12 (Daylight Savings)

Pajama Day

Come in your PJ's, slippers, robes, or comfy clothes. Bring along your favorite stuffed animal or blanket.

March 19

Sanctuary Sunday - No Sunday School  
Enjoy worshipping together as a family.

March 26

Favorite Sport/Team Day

Dress up to represent your favorite sport/team. Wear a jersey or sports uniform.

April 2

Dress Your Best Day

Time to show off your Sunday best for Palm Sunday (and we will be collecting the 'Noisy Offering' from the congregation).

## Storytime with Jesus

Storytime with Jesus is an opportunity for families with young children to learn through stories, songs, and play that Jesus loves them. Meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 9:15 am to 10:30 am, in Trinity Hall. No registration required, just come and enjoy!

# Finance & Stewardship

## Memorial Gifts Received

A gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of Frank & Betty Pfeifer, from Kent Pfeifer and family.

Memorial gifts to youth programming in memory of Ken Casperson, from Irene Oistad and Carol Casperson.

Gifts to the Zion Foundation in memory of Loved Ones and Janice Olson, from Del Haag.

A gift to the Zion Foundation in memory of Ken Casperson, from Mark & Louise Minkler.

A gift to the Zion Foundation in memory of Marilyn Clarine Engel, from Jill & Eldon Kathman.

Gifts to the Zion Foundation in memory of Clifton Stedje, from Len & Phyllis Bengtson and Family and Friends.

A gift to the Zion Foundation in memory of Marilyn Engel, from Keith & Deborah Rude.

## Have You Remembered

### Zion Lutheran Church Foundation in your estate planning?

When you update your will, trust, or asset beneficiaries, please consider including a gift for ministry, using the following legal directive:

*"I bequeath \_\_\_ % of my estate (or my fund) to Zion Lutheran Church Foundation, located at 1200 Hwy 25 S, Buffalo, Minnesota, EIN #41-1385843."*

Foundation gifts are welcome at any time. A gift to the Zion Foundation keeps on giving.

For more information, call 763.682.1245, visit [ZionBuffalo.org/foundation](https://ZionBuffalo.org/foundation), or email [foundation@zionbuffalo.org](mailto:foundation@zionbuffalo.org).

## Financial Report

BY JOHN LINDLIEF, FINANCE COMMITTEE

The January financial reports are another reminder that Zion is moving forward with confidence. Our January offerings to the General Fund were a little over \$75,000 which is about 10.5% above those given in January 2022. Our General Fund expenses were about \$5,500 greater than last January, most of which is attributable to an increase in personnel - another sign of our moving forward. Still, our income exceeded our expenses for the month. Our next financial challenge will come when we add our additional pastor.

January offerings to the Building Fund also exceeded those of last January. The \$17,800 contributed in January exceeded our monthly mortgage payment by almost \$4,000. The Building Fund is financially solid.

Thanks to all for your support of Zion's mission. Your gifts make this a reality.



*(Summer Bible Camp from page 11)*

### Stargazers for (Grades 7-9)

As a Stargazer, you'll do all the exciting camp things -- swimming, boating, biking, crafts, singing, High-Adventures, Bible study, making friends-- but with some night games and a later bedtime. Experience the night sky in a way only Stargazers can.

### High School Program Week (Grades 10-12)

Our campers grade 10-12 will have a customized camp experience facilitated by both Green Lake staff and Zion's youth staff. They will participate in worship with the entire camp, and closing with the entire camp, but the daily details will be tailored to our Zion youth.

### Community Guide for (Grades 10-12)

This is a different experience from that of a camper. The student will have the opportunity to see what it means to be a pivotal community member at camp, and still enjoy some of the top notch programming they have come to love. They will stay in a cabin as a support for a counselor in the Half Blast program. During the day they will assist in leading Bible study and worship, as well as the background tasks that help keep camp running. After Half Blast goes home on Tuesday, their role turns over to complete community support and some off site adventures including a service afternoon and opportunities for high ropes elements!

# Generosity

By TOM MOLINE, STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Pastor Bahe's pointed out seven forms of generosity in her January 29 message from the "5 daily habits from the Bible to truly bring joy" sermon series:

- Generosity of thoughts
- Generosity of words
- Generosity of money
- Generosity of time
- Generosity of things
- Generosity of influence
- Generosity of attention

She went on to say:

*When we are faithful, even in little ways, following these seven forms of generosity; we will also be faithful in much. If we are generous in these seven ways we become more and more like Jesus. We find more purpose in our lives as well.*

Jesus said:

*Where your treasure is there will be your heart (Matthew 6:21)*

Where you spend your treasures (thoughts, words, money, time, things, influence, and attention) is where your focus will be and where your heart will be. Living in a selfish world, as we do, does not mean that we have to live selfishly. Living in a world that is only concerned about selfies and selfish gains, we can choose to live ever more generously. To make that a habit, a daily habit, we can choose to give more of ourselves. We can choose to give more of our money. We can choose to give more of our time. And we can choose to give more of our energy into this world that really doesn't deserve it. But we can choose every day to be more like Jesus and be more generous. Jesus teaches that over and over, not just in this passage but over and over in all of his ministry. It was taught over and over in the Old Testament as well. Why? So that we could have life; and Jesus said for us to have life and have it abundantly, filled with joy. And that just flows out when we find ourselves making generosity a daily habit.

Listen to Pastor Bahe's January 29 message at [youtube.com/watch?v=booiO-oEf88&t=1152s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=booiO-oEf88&t=1152s).



## Our Mission...

Zion seeks to  
Share Christ's Word,  
Strengthen faith, and  
Serve those in need.



## Our Vision...

Helping people  
experience the joy  
of life in Christ by:

### 1. Celebrating on Sundays:

Creating Sunday morning experiences that invite, welcome, engage, and inspire people to live for Christ.

### 2. Living God's Call:

Engaging people in a process of discipleship which inspires them to trust in Christ, grow in faith, and serve God's world.

### 3. Connecting with Care:

Creating a community where people are connected in relationships and supported in need.



# Contact Us

## Connect Newsletter

Upcoming Deadlines

March 16 at 8am for April Issue

April 13 at 8am for May Issue

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CONNECT

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*Lenten Wednesdays March 1-29*

**Worship at Noon and 6pm**

**Soup Supper 6:30-7:15pm**

**Bible Studies & Speakers 7:15pm**

