



## The Herald

Published monthly, to provide both  
inspiration and information on  
the activities of the Zion Family

**Zion Lutheran Church**

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**No. 1**



By the time some of you read this newsletter, Christmas is over. The lights are put away. The trees that have been dried up and taken outside. Ornaments are put away. The living room feels enormous again with the decorations placed in storage—it seems bare and empty. The presents so lovingly wrapped and placed under the tree— a reminder of the joy of Christmas morning – have to be put away too. Radio stations aren't playing Christmas music anymore. There is no "On the *thirteenth* day of Christmas, my true love gave to me."

January 6 marks the Epiphany of our Lord. Sometimes called Twelfth Night, "Epiphany" means "manifestation." It comes from Greek roots that mean "to show, to display". The season begins with the Magi visiting the child Jesus and his mother and father. The Biblical narrative the next weeks will include Jesus' Baptism, the calling of the disciples, the Sermon on the Mount, and Jesus' teaching about salt and light.

Epiphany is a season that lifts up the light that has come into the world to enlighten the darkness. In this season we hear how the gift of Christ Jesus— the child born for us, the Son is given to us- will never stop giving. Giving forgiveness, life, and salvation.

The Word who became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14) is dwelling with us still. The joy of knowing that Christ's light has come, and the darkness cannot overcome it. No matter how deep,

how threatening, the darkness of sin gets, the light of Christ is greater. The world around us seems very dark at times. Perhaps blowing out our Christmas lights makes it seem even darker still. The prophet Isaiah (60:1) calls us--**Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Arise! The light that breaks the darkness shines. The glory of your Lord's birth, the glory of his life, the glory of his death and resurrection, the glory of his forgiveness. These are given for you. This is the light you now live in. This is the light we carry into the world.

I look forward to beginning our ministry together during this season of light. The fourth verse of the hymn "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" offers a prayer for us as we move forward in trust and hope: Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word; grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou; that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany, and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.

May God bless and keep you and yours.

Pastor Kristin Ostercamp

**WELCOME, PASTOR KRISTIN OSTERCAMP**

**Zion joyfully welcomes you as its new  
shepherdess.**

**May God guide us on our new journey together.**

## Annual Reports

Board chairman, please have annual reports in the office by January 12.



- January 1 – Worship – 9:00
- January 4 – Confirmation resumes
- January 5 – Quilting – 1:00
- January 5 – Prayer Shawl Ministry – 10:00
- January 8 – Sunday school resumes
- January 8, February 5, March 2 – Blood pressure screening
- January 10 – WELCA at 10:00, board meeting at 9:00
- January 12 - Board annual reports due in office
- January 15 – Food and Fellowship breakfast after worship
- January 15 – Silver Creek Annual Meeting
- January 16 – 20 – Falls Delivered Meals – Zion responsibility
- January 19 – Quilting at 1:00
- January 29 – Annual meeting – after worship
- January 29 – 10:30 - Potluck Thank You for Pastor Mark
- February 5 – Installation of Pastor Kristin Ostercamp at Zion



Women of the **ELCA** 

**WELCA  
January 10**

All women of Zion are invited to join in fellowship, Bible study and refreshments on Tuesday, January 10 at 10:00 a.m. Hostesses are Sandy Knutson and Ruth Ostby. Board meeting at 9:00 a.m.

## Quilting Resumes January 5

Anyone interested in helping put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief is invited to join in the activity on Thursday, January 5, at 1:00. You don't need to have experience in sewing or quilting; help is needed for assembling, pinning, and tying. The group meets on the first and third Thursday of each month (January 5 & 19 this month).

## President's Message Laura Rude

Hello Zion Family,



I hope you had a great Christmas filled with old and new memories. Time is impossible to slow down, and it's hard to believe we are starting a new year already. A new year fills us hope and possibility and we will always have both of those if we trust in the Lord with all our hearts!

This year brings us the joy of welcoming in a new pastor. **Welcome Pastor Kristin Ostercamp!** We look forward to your leadership, spiritual guidance, and vision as Zion moves forward doing God's Work with Our Hands.

I am putting up some **"Help Wanted"** signs. As the saying goes, "many hands make light work." Simply stated, we need more hands! Our church boards are in desperate need for more members. We also need a 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president to help serve on the Congregation Council. These positions are very rewarding and not overly time consuming. We know that life happens, and folks are not able to attend every meeting or event. That's ok! That's why the "many hands" are so very important. There are open positions on Stewardship, Christian Ed/Youth, Evangelism/Lay Ministry, Parish Fellowship, Properties and Public Relations. We have a very active church with many, many talents which makes the possibilities endless. However, we need more of our church family to step into these roles make these possibilities a reality. God is good and will reward your service in so many ways. Please prayerfully consider serving on one of these very important boards and/or positions. If you are interested, please contact the church office or reach out to me.

I am looking forward to our annual meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup> and a well-deserved Appreciation Potluck for Pastor Mark Helgeland. He has been such a blessing to Zion, and we are so very grateful for his service. Potlucks are always a special time to fellowship together and this one is no exception.

New Year Blessings to you all!  
Humbly Serving, Laura Rude

## Faith Community Nurse



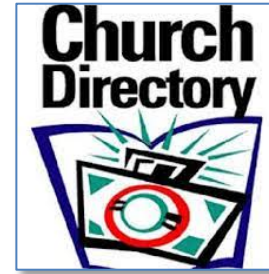
Holidays are a good time to have honest conversations about your wishes. Many of us put off the things in life, including advanced care planning. The upcoming holidays can be a perfect time to bring up the subject with family members. It's a good time to catch up and unfortunately talk about some tough discussions. Advanced care planning is the process of making decisions about your future health care in the event you won't be able to make them because of an illness or trauma.

Having an advanced care plan helps your family and friends speak for you when you can't speak for yourself. It also lets you make your wishes known to health care providers so they can provide the level of care you desire. It can help your loved ones feel less stressed by taking the decision-making burden off of them. Talking about decisions now means they won't have to be made during a crisis.

Finding the right time and place to have a conversation about this is important. Make sure you're in a quiet place with no distractions. It can be helpful to start by mentioning a family friend or acquaintance who recently went through a difficult health circumstance or died. This can start a conversation where an adult child can ask their parent what they would want to happen in a similar situation. Being proactive with an advanced care plan allows you to tell your loved one how you want things handled. It helps them know where your heart is on important decisions and gives assurance that they're doing what's right for you.

Completing a plan is not complicated. There are some forms available in the Parish Health office if you'd like one to review or fill out. Your physician or clinic would be able to provide a form too. Once completed they want it to be scanned and added to your medical record.

When your advanced care plan is made, you'll need to choose a health care agent or proxy to carry out your wishes. It is important to choose a person you trust who will be there for you when you get sick. The ideal person will be an advocate for you and follow your directives. Prioritizing advanced planning is one of the most caring things you can do for your family to take away some of the burdens and stress in a stressful situation. Please feel free to call the office if you have any questions. Wishing you God's rich blessings, joy, and perfect love! Parish Health



It is time to update Zion's church directory. We have not done so since 2016.

Zion invites you to have your photo taken and receive a free 8 X 10 picture and a free church directory.

One photo and one directory will be given to each family photographed. If you have more than six (6) people in your family, please schedule two photo sessions. If you want grandparent pictures taken with your family, please select two photo sessions, because only one photo and one directory will be awarded per photo session.

All photos will be scheduled online. If you do not have a computer or are uncomfortable using your cell phone to schedule, someone will schedule for you. If you have not supplied an email to the office, you will receive a phone call. **FYI: Once you have scheduled pictures, you will not be able to change the time to another slot by yourself. Only an administrator can do that, so please make sure all family members are available at that time you select.**

If you are **homebound or in a care facility**, you **may submit a picture** to be used in the directory. Universal allows eight submitted pictures. If the picture is from another studio, Universal Church Directories requires written permission from that studio to use the picture in Zion's directory. There is a form that must be completed for submitted pictures.

We have contracted with Universal Church Directories and set photography dates for **February 28 through March 4 and May 11-13**. The online site for scheduling will be open after January 5. Please watch the **bulletin** and **Zion's Facebook page** for details and contact people.

The Public Relations Board is looking for **volunteers** for scheduling photos and for hosts and hostesses at photography sessions. If you can do online registration or hosting, please call Darlene at 218-689-8921.

Public Relations Board  
Darlene Hulteen, Chairman





## REAL – Resources Enriching African Lives

The church council recently voted to renew its agreement with REAL, an organization dedicated to enriching lives of Ethiopian girls and young women.

In the past, Zion has committed to spending just three dollars a day (\$1.00 per day per girl) to support three Ethiopian girls, giving them and their families a chance to break the cycle of poverty.

The REAL organization began in 2004 in Ethiopia and has supported over 420 girls. Giving girls the opportunity to complete their basic education, REAL has allowed 85% of the girls to complete higher education and become employed as medical doctors, nurses, teachers, etc.

Currently Zion is supporting Meron Asana Biratu, a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, Idoshe Sebeta Gameda, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, and Sara Shora Teso, an 11<sup>th</sup> grader. In the past Zion supported Alami Lmesa Tarfa and Wondimne Basha Tucho who completed IT programs and are employed, Tsiyon Markos who completed a nursing program and is working at Paulos Hospital, and Amelawork Kebede who graduated from university with a degree in biology.

Kathy Coskran, the REAL sponsorship coordinator for MN, thanks Zion for its support of the REAL program and of the girls.

She invites Zion's congregation members to individually become part of the REAL program and donate just \$1.00 a day to support the education of an Ethiopian girl. More information is available at: <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Real-Africa>



## Zion Lutheran's Congregation Council Minutes Tuesday December 20, 2022

The Congregational Council Meeting was called to order by President Laura Rude at 4:04 pm.

In attendance were President Laura Rude, Pastor Mark Helgeland, Denny Minks, Renae Franke, Penni Nelson, Mike Spears, Glenice Johnson, Deb Fulton, Darlene Hulteen, Marijo Nabben, Patty Schob and Deb Holtan.

Pastor Mark led the council in devotions.

The Secretary's Report from November 15, 2022, was presented. A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented. Another gift of \$8,000.00 from the Laliberte Trust was received. A special assessment was paid in the amount of \$9,939.00 on December 10, 2022. Linda Hamrick was paid a bonus of \$2,000.00. A refund came from the WCRA (Worker's Compensation Reassurance Association) in the amount of \$78.02. The report was filed for audit.

Pastor Mark gave his report. Since the last meeting he has had no baptisms, no weddings, no home visits but had three hospital visits, one counseling session, and including David Morken's, has had three funerals. Pastor Mark has offered to pulpit supply for January 1st.

**Silver Creek:** Penni Nelson reported that they had their congregational Christmas program with a potluck meal afterwards. Their annual meeting is tentatively set for January 15, 2023.

**Health Committee:** Patty Schob gave the committee's report asking for prayers for Darlene Wiseth, who is in the hospital. The AED demonstration and informational meetings have been presented to several groups of the church. The old AED will be sent back to the manufacturer and in doing so, a discount will be applied towards the new one.



Volunteers will be needed for two programs that are slowly getting restarted. “Handy Man Program” and “Groceries to Go” The monthly communion for November at TFCC and OPNH were postponed due to a funeral scheduled on that day.

**R.E.A.L.** Resources Enriching African Lives is a program that Zion has been a part of for several years which supports three girls in Africa. The cost is \$1,080.00 which is \$360.00 per girl. Discussion was held and a suggestion was made to have a presentation giving information on the program at one of our coffee times to let people know more about the program and the three girls. A motion was made to continue the support. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Office Hours:** Linda will continue with the office hours as is, which is 8:00-4:00.

**Pastor Kristin Ostercamp:** Volunteers are needed to help with Pastor Kristin’s moving which will take place on Thursday December 29th. Due to weather conditions and rescheduling for Kristin’s daughter’s appointment for medical reasons, Pastor Kristin will be out of the office on January 5th.

The resolution regarding Pastor Kristin’s Housing Allowance was presented. A motion was made by Mike Spears to approve the allowance and was seconded by Denny Minks. The motion carried. Installation for Pastor Kristin Ostercamp will be on Sunday February 5, 2023.

**Important notes:** There is a very important need for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Stewardship needs auditors to help with the 2023 budget. At least three people are needed for this. Several boards need more members.

**Worship Board:** Deb Fulton submitted her report. Deb pointed out that Baptism of Our Lord is Sunday January 8th.

**Properties:** The new sign is close to being done so it can be shipped and installed. Electricians have been contacted about the sign as they need to get the electrical finished to the sign. The electricians will also repair the lighting on the canopies. The south doors by the old offices have been repaired as they did not want to latch properly.

**Evangelism and Lay Ministry:** Marijo Nabben reported the board sent out Christmas cards. The Tree of Thanksgiving was considered successful with 90 leaves being written on and hung on the tree. This event will be continued next year! The board is anxious to start working with Pastor Kristin! Name tags will be worn every Sunday for a while once Pastor Kristin starts to help her put names and faces together.

**Christian Ed and Youth:** There was no representation from the board. Laura Rude stated that Berta Kalsnes is still a signer on the youth’s checking account. The youth need someone else to take over Berta’s job with the account.

**Parish Fellowship:** Glenice Johnson reported that the board is thinking about making up a new Sharing Servants booklet with all the updated names that have been missed. It was pointed out that one of the ushers’ duties on Sunday mornings is to take a head count of everyone that is in church. This includes the children not just adults. Some Sundays the children are not being counted.

**WELCA:** Glenice Johnson reported the ladies had their Christmas Tea, played games, and sent extra cookies for the Holiday Train. Quilting is on hold until January.

**Publications:** Darlene Hulteen reported on the registration process for the new directory. The board will need help calling people to call non active members. Registration hopefully will start on January 5th before and after services. This has to be done online.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m. after praying the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by  
Deb Holtan, Council Secretary.

**"May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed!  
On account of his vast mercy, he has given us new birth. You  
have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead." – I Peter 1:31**

## Fall Delivered Meals

If you can help deliver meals for FDM from January 16-20, please call Koni Johnson – 218-681-1344 or 218-689-7746.



## Worship Together in the Sanctuary

Zion – 9:00 - Silver Creek – 10:30  
Zion Sunday School – 10:00

## Worship Online

If you choose to worship from home, take advantage of the alternatives to in-house worship.

- KTRF radio – 1230 AM at 9:00
- Cable TV – Channel 3 – KTRF – 9:00
- Garden Valley – Channel 37 – 12:00 Noon
- Log in to Zion's webpage – [ziontrf.org](http://ziontrf.org) and listen to the service over the internet.
- Facebook Live – 9:00 on Zion's Facebook Page



## Confirmation

Another reminder to please sign up for Remind. This is where important announcements are made about confirmation schedules and sign ups. Please make sure at least one in your household is signed up!

Our schedules for the second half of the year are very open. Please check your schedules and sign up for days that are available. We have been doing an awesome job so far, and our congregation is so appreciative and thankful for all that our youth are doing for Zion!

Let's show Pastor Kristin what a wonderful group of confirmands we have!

Get those sermon notes done!

**Confirmation starts again January 4th!** Supper at 5:15, Lessons at 6:00

**Meals: January 4** - Baked macaroni and cheese

**January 11** - BBQ's

**January 18** - Chicken alfredo

**January 25** - Hot ham and cheese sandwiches


Attendance is important! You are allowed two absences without having to make them up. After two, make up work and sessions will be required!!

Thank you to all who helped at the food shelf, the humane society blankets, and Christmas for Pennington County. Your help was greatly appreciated!

**Remember: 8th graders** - Seder Meal Service Project is April 6.

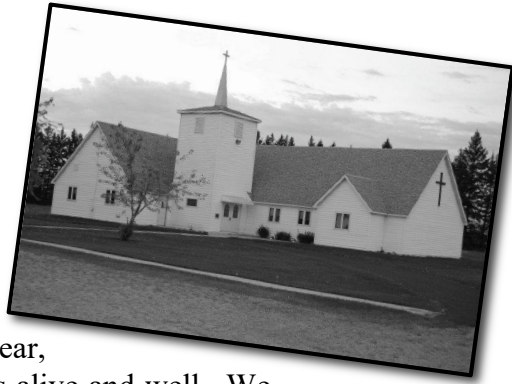
**10th grader s-** Easter Sunrise Service is April 9.

# January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>WORSHIP BROADCASTS:</b>	<b>9:00 AM KTRF RADIO</b> <b>9:00 AM CABLE CH. 3</b> <b>12 NOON CABLE CH. 37</b>					
<b>1 NEW YEARS DAY</b> 9:00 Zion Worship (Pr. Mark) No Sunday School No Coffee fellowship 10:30 Silver Creek Worship	<b>2</b> 9 SAIL Exercise	<b>3</b> <b>No Faith Community Nurse hours in January</b> 9:30 Staff Meeting Noon Pastors Text Study <b>BOARD MEETINGS</b>	<b>4</b> 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 Confirmation 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir	<b>5 EPIPHANY</b> 9 SAIL Exercise 10 Prayer Shawl Ministry 12-4 LSS Respite Care 1 Quilting/LWR workshop	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD</b> <b>-Welcome Pastor Kristin-</b> 9:00 Zion Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee Fellowship 10 Blood Pressure screen 10 February Sharing Servants Mtg 10:30 Silver Creek Worship	<b>9</b> 9 SAIL Exercise	<b>10</b> 9 WELCA Ex Board 9:30 Staff Meeting 10 WELCA meeting Noon Pastors Text Study	<b>11</b> 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 Confirmation 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir	<b>12</b> 9 SAIL Exercise <b>10 LSS Caregivers Group Discussion Group</b> 12-4 LSS Respite Care <b>ANNUAL REPORTS DUE</b>	<b>13</b>  Wedding Rehearsal	<b>14</b>  4 Peterson/Barth Wedding
<b>15</b> 9:00 Zion Worship/Holy Communion 10 Sunday School 10 Food & Fellowship 10:30 Silver Creek Holy Communion Worship/Silver Creek Annual Meeting to follow	<b>16</b> 9 SAIL Exercise  <b>-Zion/ Falls Delivered Meals Week- Jan 16-20</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30 Staff Meeting Noon Pastors Text Study <b>1 Parish Health mtg</b> <b>ZION COUNCIL</b>	<b>18</b> 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 Confirmation 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir	<b>19</b> 12-4 LSS Respite Care 9 SAIL Exercise 1 Quilting/LWR workshop	<b>20</b> <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 Zion Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Silver Creek Worship	<b>23</b> 9 SAIL Exercise	<b>24</b> 9:30 Staff Meeting <b>10:30 Bereavement Group</b> Noon Pastors Text Study	<b>25</b> 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 Confirmation 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir	<b>26</b> 9 SAIL Exercise 12-4 LSS Respite Care	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00 Zion Worship <b>10 ZION ANNUAL MEETING</b> 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Silver Creek Worship <b>Potluck at Zion—Appreciation for Pr Mark Helgeland</b>	<b>30</b> 9 SAIL Exercise	<b>31</b> 9:30 Staff Meeting Noon Pastors Text Study				

## Silver Creek

Not so sure where this month went, but Darlene says it is newsletter time again. In looking back over this past year, we can truly say Silver Creek is alive and well. We may be small, but we are mighty. The highlight of our year was the Christmas Program which included a real baby, new parents, young children, along with adults and Pastor Mark to bring the Nativity to life, including many animals in the stable. Thanks to all who made this performance a success. It takes lots of volunteers to pull off such a program, and Silver Creek has many talented members.



It was decided that we would not have services on New Year's Day. Our annual meeting will be held on January 15th after services with a potluck dinner to follow. Please turn in reports to Kristi Housey as soon as possible in order to get annual report printed.

In looking ahead, it is noted that 2024 will be 125 years since Silver Creek became a congregation. Let's be thinking about what we might want to do to celebrate this occasion.

Special thanks to the men who have been diligent in keeping our church yard plowed and sidewalks clean. We really appreciate your good work.



A special thank you to Pastor Mark Helgeland for his leadership this past year. We are anxiously looking forward to a new year by working side by side with Pastor Kristin Ostercamp.

Bev Rupprecht