


THE MESSENGER

A monthly publication of
Zion Lutheran Church
www.zionsuperior.org

2022 E. 2nd Street,
Superior, WI 54880
715-398-3663

“Gathering together, Growing in faith,
and Going into the world in
Jesus’ name.”

MARCH 2024



*“The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the
response is one of terror and amazement”
(MARK: 16:1-18)*

Holy Week ~ Come and Worship

March 24 Palm Sunday, 9 & 10:45 Worship
March 28 Maundy Thursday, 6:30 Worship & First Communion
March 29 Good Friday, 6:30 Worship
March 30 Holy Saturday, 6:30 Vigil

March 31 EASTER
Logos Breakfast 8:30-10:30 &
9 & 10:45 Worship

Church Winter Hours: Monday to Friday 9am - 1pm
Pastor Sarah is available Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays,
call the church office to set-up a time to meet.

Pastor's Page



Our Lenten journey has begun! It's not too late to join small group experiences on Tuesday evenings (6-7pm at church or 7:30-8:30pm on Zoom) or come partake in Wednesday dinners and worship gatherings. Sunday worship during Lent also invites us to dive into our theme "Wandering Heart: Figuring out faith with Peter."

We know that it takes a lifetime of learning and experimenting to figure out who Jesus is and who we are as Christian followers of Jesus. Peter's story is our story! He is called by God's grace and equipped, encouraged, and forgiven as he learns to love God and others in the way of Jesus. We too are all just trying to figure out the next steps of this life of faith. It is a blessing to be surrounded by others who are trying to figure it out along with us. Peter had Jesus and the other disciples to support him, to celebrate the joys and strengthen him in his times of doubt and confusion. What a gift of God's grace it is to have Christian community to do life with!

Some days we may feel like we are on track, got all our ducks in a row, and then before we know it things get messy and hard and complicated again. That is just the way life is! The church should be a place where we can come as we are, however we are on that day. The church as a gathering of people is called to be filled with God's compassion, grace and welcome for each other and our neighbors. Some days we are able to offer that for each other, and other days as a community we fall short. But God does not give up on us! Jesus continues to come to be with us, to encourage us, and to transform us to become God's people who can show up for one another and for the sake of the world. Thanks be to God! Hope to see you in church and out in the community in the coming Lent and Easter Season!

Peace,
Pastor Sarah

Thank you to all who gave for the Souper Bowl of Caring!



Our food shelf cupboard at Zion will be able to be well stocked and ready to continue the good and important work of feeding our neighbors in need.

Thank you to our ELCA friends at Pilgrim, Concordia, and Our Savior's who were also very generous in supporting our shared work as the churches of Superior to love others just as Jesus loves us! Amazing work!

Church Council

Church Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 15th, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Lynn Rochon at 6:07pm. Present were Lynn Rochon, Pastor Sarah Gunderson, Aine Merrill, Sara Schubert McKone, Grace Becken, Margaret Sundet, Donna Meltz, Shannon Johnson, Don Anderson, and Anthony Anderson. Absent Christel Lewis.

Devotions were given by Donna. Next month will be Aine.

A motion was made by Sara and seconded by Donna to accept last month's secretary report. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Continuation of discussion of what to include in the bulletin for financial information for the congregation. Greg Kvam will attend the March council meeting to review and discuss eliminating dedicated funds categories on financial reporting. As of 2/15/24 current checking account balance is \$4,926.22, the savings balance is \$20,070.00, and the remaining mortgage due is \$41,584.29.

Pastor Report: Pastor Sarah reviewed our vision and mission at Zion. She discussed the results from the annual meeting and how we can bring the ideas of the congregation into Zion and the community. The general feeling is we have quite a few ideas, but are unsure as to how to proceed. Discussion about the upcoming Superior ELCA church collaboration on February 25th at Concordia. Pastor completed grief training, and plans to organize a support group. Lent theme is Wandering Heart. A small group will be meeting Tuesdays to discuss the theme. A collaborative art project and banners are in the works for the sanctuary. The ELCA youth gathering continues to fundraise. Next event is Friday, February 16th organized by Vicky Holm. Additional days have been added to their trip plans to gather and do service work with other youth groups in Memphis. She will be on vacation March 8-15 and will be absent for worship March 10 and March 13.

Committee Reports - Discipleship: Continue to have 4-12 children weekly in Sunday school, LOGOS is helping with readings and Lent services on Wednesday. No Sunday school on February 25th due to combined service. Save the date - VBS will be Aug 5-8 to coordinate with National Night Out. March 2nd will be spring cleaning with breakfast at 8:30am.

Worship and Music: Lent has begun! The cross at the front of the church has been draped with fabric and plans for Easter plants and flowers have begun.

Operations: The sewer saga continues. The repairs have begun. A hole was dug to replace the sewer pipe in the basement and the grease trap was pumped. Next a 5x5 hole will be dug to install the new pipe with a pump and then they will move all pipes together in place. Entire project will be completed in a matter of weeks. The sump pump project is also in the works. Unfortunately, they sent the wrong pump, but the correct one is on the way and will be installed upon receipt. The project is currently coming in under budget. Original budget is \$93,000 and it currently sits at \$60,000. It was recommended to find small projects that could bridge the gap.

Stewardship: Planning a fun event May 3rd - pj party! Come celebrate with root beer floats, games and music. Still trying to figure out a layout for communicating finances with the congregation in the weekly bulletin.

WELCA: Sub sandwich sale was a success with 84 sandwiches sold, \$485 profit. 18 subs were put in the food shelf and thank you to Super One for their donation. Possible luncheon or salad bar in the works. A motion was made by Donna and seconded by Grace to accept all reports as given. Motion approved.

Unfinished Business - Constitution Review: Bylaws review. Recommended to change the operations committee to property committee. Also call to reestablish the finance committee. Call for a special meeting to approve changes, announce March 3rd, special meeting March 24 at 10:00am coffee time during Palm Sunday.

New Business - New Year vision sheet: How do we bring new members to the church? What can we do to bring these congregational ideas to light? Ongoing conversation.

Mailboxes: Paul has asked to redo the list for mailboxes and reassign mailboxes to members. Many of the mailboxes belong to members who no longer attend Zion. Don brought up concerns that people may want to keep their mailboxes. Recommended that an announcement be made about if you would like to keep your mailbox to let Paul in the office know.

A motion was made at 7:40pm by Donna and seconded by Grace to adjourn. Motion carried.

Next meeting March 21st, 2024 at 6:00pm. Submitted by Sara Schubert McKone

Church Council

Council, Budget, and Annual Meeting, oh my!

It probably doesn't come as a surprise to most of you, but serving on church council is both a blessing and a challenge. The blessings should be obvious—sitting down monthly with some really amazing individuals to discuss what is being done at Zion and what needs doing. And there's the treats. Snacking is not an option at council!

For most of us, I suspect, the main challenges center around the unknown. We are planning for future events and eventualities which may or may not happen with resources which mostly are not here yet. It's kind of like planning for a road trip when you don't yet have the car. It can be stressful, scary, and exciting, all at the same time.

One doesn't have to look very far to see that most churches are still struggling to return to their pre-Pandemic states. Through no fault of their own, people got out of the habit of church attendance and are working towards trying to get back into that rhythm again. Some have been gone so long that they feel uncomfortable thinking about going back to church because they, well, have been gone for so long that maybe they'll feel like an outsider. (By the way, if that is you or someone you know, there is always a place for you at Zion—no questions asked. We will always be delighted to see you, so put that thought to rest).

Here at Zion, we are experiencing a slow and steady growth. Our congregation has come together, under Pastor Sarah's leadership, to seek ways to serve our community both inside and outside our doors. We are in our second year of having Sunday School back, our youth group is thriving, and we are sending some high school youth and mentors to the ELCA Youth Convention in New Orleans this summer—something that hasn't happened in over a decade. We have gifted people sharing musical talents, the bell choir is back, quilts are being made, we're baking those pasties twice a year, and dedicated members are caring for the church grounds and building. We are determined, with God's guidance, to have a place for worship, service, celebrations, as well as a place for support, mourning and comfort far into the future.

At the end of January, we held our annual meeting. One of the tasks at that meeting is to set the budget to allow our church to function for the year. The budget set for 2023 was about 126,000. Our budget for 2024 is 167,000. This increase is based mostly on staffing needs: calling a full-time pastor, hiring a new office manager, and increasing that salary to what is provided by the other churches in Superior, and increasing the hours of the custodian from the pandemic level of 10 hours a week to a more reasonable 20 hours a week. There is nothing frivolous in our budget—the amounts reflect the bare necessities.

And this is where the “Oh, my!” part comes in. Now we show up, do the work that we are called to do, and watch God at work as well. Last summer we found out that we would need to update our sewer system. It was pretty scary to consider that we might need to find 90,000 to make the repairs. Then, the City of Superior opened a grant process for non-profits, and we were awarded a grant to fully fund the project. All I could say was, “Oh, my!” Do we think that miraculously we'll get the money to meet our budget in one “oh my” moment? Nope. But we're learning to trust that we are not in this work alone. And God is good.

So, what can we do to help our church continue to be here for the long haul? Prayer is appreciated. Come to worship and participate in as many events as you can. Invite a friend if you feel so moved. Can you contribute a little more in time, talents or financially? Feel free to do so. And share any ideas you have with Pastor or your council members. We value and appreciate you!

Blessings,
Lynn Rochon, Council President



First Communion Class Sunday, March 24 from 3-5pm

Children of all ages are welcome who are ready and curious about fully participating in the sacrament in worship, or for those who have already started taking the sacrament, but would like to learn more about it. A parent/adult should attend the class along with the student. First Communion will be celebrated in worship on Maundy Thursday, March 28th. Email Pastor Sarah if you plan on attending so we can plan for you..

2024 National ELCA Youth Gathering Fund Raiser

\$2.00 Seroogy's Chocolate Bars

For every chocolate bar purchased our youth earns \$1.00 per bar for a 50% profit.



Seroogy's COFFEE

Net weight, 14 oz. per resealable foil bag.

\$13.00 for regular coffee - our youth earns \$5.20 per bag with a 40% profit.

\$14.00 for decaffeinated coffee - our youth earns \$5.60 per bag with a 40% profit.

Coffee order forms on table in the Narthex.



Use the PayPal QR code below to pay or order.

Please note for ELCA Youth.

Want to give online via credit card or PayPal today??

Scan the QR code to give using a PayPal account and coming soon, there will be a giving kiosk with card reader to be able to use just a credit card.

Each gift is an important part of supporting the mission and ministry of Zion Lutheran Church as we join together to participate in God's mission in the world. Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!



Flowers for Easter

Zion will be brightening the Sanctuary with lilies this Easter from Engwall Flowers.
Price per lily is \$20.00.

Please fill out the form in the weekly bulletins, call the church office, or email to order.

Orders must be submitted by Thursday, March 14.

715-398-3663 or churchoffice@zionsuperior.org

Cheryl & Dan Kucharyski Mar 14
Gary & Alana Dunning Mar 16

Happy Anniversary

happy birthday!

Jonathan Amundson	Mar 2	Grady Conlan	Mar 16
Cody Roberts	Mar 3	Kenlyn Thimm	Mar 16
Linnea Johnson	Mar 6	August Johnson	Mar 18
Lindon Johnson	Mar 6	Esther Nolan	Mar 21
Haroer Pedersen	Mar 8	Jade Amy	Mar 22
Duane Betterman	Mar 9	Taylor Pedersen	Mar 22
Marsha Checchin	Mar 13	Lucille Sullivan	Mar 22
Nancy Pedersen	Mar 13	Sharon Miller	Mar 25
Sydney Johnson	Mar 14	Amy Adrihan	Mar 27

MARCH LAY MINISTRY

READER	COUNTERS
Mar 3 Donna Meltz / Lynn Rochon	Mar 3 Polly Lohman, Ken Mertz
Mar 10 Aine Merrill / Tim Ingersoll	Mar 10 Donna Meltz, Aine Merrill
Mar 17 Polly Lohman / Rusty Mehlberg	Mar 17 Paul Freer, Beth Arnson
Mar 24 Micah Gunderson / Sara Schubert McKone	Mar 24 Eve Bagan, Polly Lohman
Mar 31 Donna Meltz / Lynn Rochon	Mar 31 Aine Merrill, Kendra Lohman
MINISTER ASSISTANT	GREETER
Mar 3 Linda Moe	Mar 3 Shirley Boris
Mar 10 Anthony Anderson	Mar 10 Janet Arena
Mar 17 Aine Merrill	Mar 17 Lucy Sullivan
Mar 24 Linda Moe	Mar 24 Mary Hickman
Mar 31 Anthony Anderson	Mar 31 Shirley Boris
USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
Mar 3 Donald Anderson / Vicky Holm	Christel Lewis
Mar 10 Donald Anderson / Ken Mertz	
Mar 17 Donald Anderson / Vicky Holm	
Mar 24 Donald Anderson / Ken Mertz	
Mar 31 Donald Anderson / Vicky Holm	
<p>If you are unable to serve at the scheduled time, please notify the Office at 715-398-3663 with the name of your replacement. Thank you for your service.</p>	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<h1>2024</h1>		<h1>March</h1>				1	2 8:30 Spring Cleaning Breakfast 9:00-11:00 Spring Cleaning
3 9:00 & 10:45 Worship 9:45-10:45 Sunday School	4 4:30 Choir 5:30 Bell Choir 6:00 AA Mtg	5 11:00 Pastors text study 6:00 Lenten Small Groups 6:30 Al-Anon 7:30 Lenten Zoom Groups BULLETIN NOTICES DUE	6 12pm "Giving It Up" Sermon Series, Concordia Lutheran 1:30 Bible Study 5:00 LOGOS 5:45 Dinner 6:15 Lenten Service	7 1:00 Sew 'N Sews	8	9 ZION'S ANNIVERSARY 112 years	
10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 9:00 & 10:45 Worship	11 4:30 Choir 5:30 Bell Choir 6:00 AA Mtg	12 11:00 Pastors text study No Small groups this week! 6:30 Al-Anon BULLETIN NOTICES DUE	13 12pm "Giving It Up" Sermon Series, Concordia Lutheran NO BIBLE STUDY NO LOGOS 5:45 Dinner 6:15 Lenten Service	14 LILY ORDERS DUE IN OFFICE 1:00 Sew 'N Sews	15	16	
17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 9:00 & 10:45 Worship	18 4:30 Choir 5:30 Bell Choir 6:00 AA Mtg	19 11:00 Pastors text study 5:00 Operations 6:00 Lenten Small Groups 6:30 Al-Anon 7:30 Lenten Zoom Groups BULLETIN NOTICES DUE	20 12pm "Giving It Up" Sermon Series, Concordia Lutheran 1:30 Bible Study 5:00 LOGOS 5:45 Dinner 6:15 Lenten Service NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	21 1:00 Sew 'N Sews 6:00 Council Mtg	22	23 	
24 PALM SUNDAY 9:00 & 10:45 Worship 9:45-10:45 Sunday School 3:00-5:00 First Communion Class	25 4:30 Choir 5:30 Bell Choir 6:00 AA Mtg	26 11:00 Pastors text study 6:00 Lenten Small Groups 6:30 Al-Anon 7:30 Lenten Zoom Groups BULLETIN NOTICES DUE	27 1:30 Bible Study	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY / FIRST COMMUNION 1:00 Sew 'N Sews 6:30 Worship Service—First Communion	29 GOOD FRIDAY 6:30 Worship Service	30 HOLY SATURDAY 9:00 Logos Breakfast Prep 6:30 Easter Vigil	
31 EASTER 8:30 - 10:30 LOGOS Breakfast 9:00 & 10:45 Worship	<h1>SUNDAY MARCH 10</h1>		7				

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
2022 East Second Street
Superior, WI 54880

Contact Zion

Pastor Sarah Gunderson

pastor@zionsuperior.org

715-398-3663, ext. 202

Email: pastor@zionsuperior.org

Cell Phone: 715-817-6543

Office Manager & Newsletter Contact

Paul Robinson

Email: churchoffice@zionsuperior.org

Organist & Choir Director

Gretchen Johnston, OSB

Custodian

Darren Velin

Prayer Ministry and Requests

prayer@zionsuperior.org

Sunday School (ages 3 years-5th grade)

LOGOS Youth Group

churchoffice@zionsuperior.org

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March 2024

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

*“Gathering together, Growing in faith,
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Sunday Worship Services

First Service at 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:45– 10:45 am

Second Service at 10:45 am

Coffee Hour between services at 10am

Worship Service is also on website.

Church Office Hours

Mo—Fr 9-1

Pastoral Hours: Tu-Thurs 9-1, and by appointment