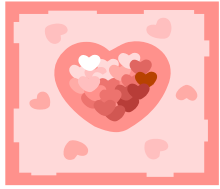


FEBRUARY
2021



MESSENGER

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



From the Pastor



“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing, you may have life in His name.”

John 20:31

LENT

Lent is a 40 day period of time preceding the celebration of Easter. Lent is a season of reflection for Christians. We study the redemptive work of Jesus. We refresh our understanding of the things which Jesus allowed and the things which Jesus did to be the Savior. The omnipotent Christ allowed Himself to be taken into custody. The omniscient Son of God knew exactly what sinful men were planning to do to Him. The holy Son of Man became sin on the cross, to save humanity from it’s sin. Lent is the time to focus upon Jesus’ passion.

We typically have Lenten services in our Mid-week Wednesday night service. And Lent begins on Wednesday, February 17. We will use the Wednesday nights for Lenten services using the theme—”Hands of the Passion.” These services will study New Testament texts and involve a rotation of Zion along with 4 other sister congregations.

In addition, Zion will also focus on Lent during the Sundays of Lent this year. We will use Old Testament texts using the theme-”Shadows of the Cross.” The services on Sundays will be completely different than the services on Wednesday. And the Sunday services will involve a rotation between Zion and St. Paul’s, Monroe.

Why do 2 completely different yet complimentary Lenten services?

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing, you may have life in His name.”

John 20:31

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COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Communion is offered regularly on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, and the Wednesday that precede that Sunday. Individual Cup will be available at the Sunday and Wednesday Communion Services.



Wed., Feb. 3 & Feb. 17
Sun., Feb. 7 & Feb. 21
Ash Wed., Feb 17

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Please join us for an afternoon worship service on the second Tuesday of each month. Individual cup communion will be served.

1:30 p.m., Tuesday
February 9

WELLSPRING

Zion conducts worship services at The Wellspring Lutheran Home on the 3rd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Services begin at 10 a.m.

The Wellspring Lutheran Home is located at
1236 S. Monroe St.
Monroe, MI
48161



February Schedule:

**Due to Phase 4
COVID-19,
NO SERVICES**

Here's what you can look forward to starting this Lenten season:

Wed., Feb. 17- "Hands of the Passion" -

Luke 18:9-14—Hands of Repentance

Sun., Feb. 21—"Shadows of the Cross" -

Genesis 22:1-14—The Lord Will Provide

Wed., Feb. 24—"Hands of the Passion" -

Matthew 27:15-26—Hands of Self Preservation

Sun., Feb. 28—"Shadows of the Cross" -

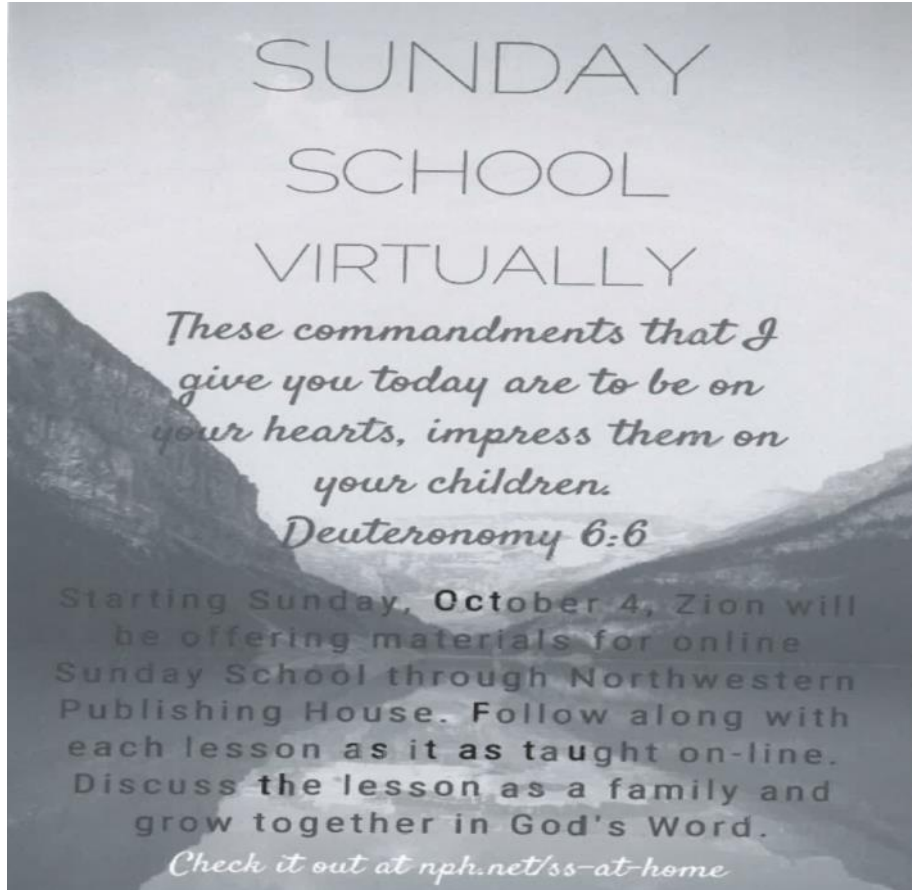
Genesis 37:12-36—Joseph—Evil Overruled

Take the opportunities available to study what Jesus accomplishes to redeem us. It will strengthen your faith, increase your knowledge, and expand your understanding. Worship is on WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 p.m. and SUNDAYS at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. for February.

***"But these are written that you may believe that
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by
believing, you may have life in His name."***

John 20:31

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL — Zion started a school in 1858. Currently we teach students from Preschool through 8th grade. Our staff of five teachers are both certified and experienced to provide instructions in all academic areas, but especially in God's Word. They are:

- Deanna Schneck — Preschool
- Stacey Sordahl—Kindergarten
- Michelle Roth — Grades 1 & 2
- Kurt Nielsen — Grades 3, 4, & 5
- Bryan Schneck — Grades 6, 7, & 8 and Principal



Principal's Report – February Zion Messenger

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. - 1 John 4:10-12

February already! The year seems to be flying by. Christmas decorations have long been replaced by Valentines cards and candy in the stores. How quickly people like to move on from one season to the next. While Christmas marks the blessed birth of the Word made flesh, God's Son and our Savior, Easter recounts the innocent suffering and death of that same Son for our sins, that we might be reconciled to God. It is rather fitting that the holiday sandwiched in between celebrates love.

But the love spoken of in the Bible verse above is not the mushy romantic love of cards, roses, and heart shaped boxes of candy. It is the genuine love of a perfect and holy God who loved the unlovable: a mankind dead in wickedness, rebellion, and sin. His love for us showed itself in action, Christ making the ultimate sacrifice – himself – for undeserving sinners.

Now as his redeemed and beloved people, we share that love in our words and in our actions. And as God's people at Zion Lutheran School, students, staff and school families seek to share that love with each other and the world.

In the new year we are continuing with the theme "Light the World". We have been pleased with the opportunities we have had so far this year to reach many new families with the message of Jesus' love for us. Though our school activities are restricted by circumstances, we still find many opportunities to share that love.

January saw us finishing our second academic quarter. We are thankful for the normalcy that in-person classes have provided for our students, and pray that the need for restrictions will diminish as we continue our progress through the school year. Especially important has been the weekly Wednesday chapel services that allow our students and parents to take the time to focus on God's Word together.

We have moved with some restrictions into our basketball season. While we are not yet able to play games, we have plans in March for a limited season. This year we are playing two co-ed teams: B team (grade 3-5 girls and boys) is coached by former students Hanna Liechty and Grace Horn with assistance from Mr. Nielsen, and A team (grades 6-8 girls and boys) is coached by Mr. Steve Sordahl. We thank all of our coaches for their service. There are no tournaments scheduled this year, but we are thankful for any opportunities to play. We also are taking the opportunity on the first week of February to have a week of fun dress-up days of a Spirit Week.

We will not be seeing the Prairie Fire Theatre folks again this year due to Covid restrictions, but we plan on presenting our own school musical in the month of April, *It's Cool in the Furnace*, based on the Bible story of the three men in the fiery furnace. We also plan on putting together our CEA sponsored auction this spring as well, and will be sharing more information and details as we move into spring. This auction event typically takes place every other year and funds raised support the many different activities and projects sponsored by the Zion's Christian Education Association, which provides for special activities for the students, purchases of classroom needs and curriculum, and helps to support sports programs.

As we continue in this new year, we thank God for providing supportive parents and families, dedicated teachers, faith-filled students, and Zion congregation members with zeal to serve Christ's lambs by providing support and prayers for Zion Lutheran School. We thank God for you!

In Christ's Service and Yours,

Principal Bryan Schneck

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: The 2020 Contribution statements are available in the office until Feb. 7th then we will mail them to the address we have on file.

CALL NEWS:

✝ Zion has called Pastor James Hein of St. Marcus L.C., Milwaukee, WI. to be our associate pastor. Please keep him in your prayers that he be led to serve where the Lord wants him to serve. SOLI DEO GLORIA.

✝ Zion's 3-5th grade teacher, Mr. Kurt Nielsen has received a divine call to teach upper grades @ Mt. Olive L.C. in Appleton, WI. He is asked to serve as an upper grades teacher and technology consultant.

✝ Zion's 1st & 2nd grade teacher, Michelle Roth has received a divine call to teach Kindergarten @ Trinity L.C., Jenera, OH. She has been led to decline Trinity's call. We are grateful that Mrs. Roth will continue with us @ Zion.

LILLIES: We are planning on ordering lilies this year to beautify our sanctuary for the Easter season. The lily order forms are available outside of the office. Lilies are \$11.00 per plant. Orders have to be in the office by February 28th. Thank you in advance for your orders.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2021 are available in the school hallway. If you don't see your envelopes, please contact the office.

ALTAR GUILD FOR 2021 — There is a sign-up sheet in the west foyer for Altar Guild volunteers for 2021. We really do appreciate all the help we get through the year with this service of love. If you haven't ever done Altar Guild, please consider helping out. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

ZION AUCTION: Zion's Christian Education Association (CEA) is planning on having their auction on April 18th. There will be much more information and details in the coming weeks. This auction is to help raise money to support the many different school activities and projects throughout the year. The auction in the past has been every other year but due to Covid restrictions was cancelled last year. This year we plan on having a scaled down version so to meet all the Covid restrictions so mark your calendars to come and have a good time.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THANK YOU:

To Zion Congregation,

Thank you for all the cards, prayers and memorials you sent for our loving husband, father and grandfather who has passed. It was sincerely appreciated. Your expression of sympathy will be with us through this sad time. Special Thank You to Pastor Ulrich for all you have done for our family.

Sincerely,
The Tom Norman family

To Zion Congregation,

We want to thank our Heavenly Father for 30 years of marriage blessings. He has always been by our side He has never left us and we look forward to 30 more years together God willing. We also want to thank the congregation for all their prayers and support in this most difficult time for our family, we could never have done it without your prayers.

In Christ Love,
Kevin and Virginia Kohler

VOTER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

VOTER HIGHLIGHTS

FROM JANUARY 31 VOTER MEETING

- I. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by chairman Sordahl.
The meeting opened with a prayer by Pastor Slaughter
- II. Membership changes:
M/S/C to accept Samantha Silva into membership from Good Shepherd, Novi (WELS) (Ulrich, Freiny)
- III. M/S/C to approve the minutes from the October 25, 2020 Voters Meeting as printed and distributed.
(Feurstenberg, Kipf)
- IV. M/S/C to approve the 2020 Q4 and Annual Pastor's Report (2020) as printed and distributed. (Kipf, K Heusman)
Devotion: "Can anything good come from Nazareth?"
- V. M/S/C to approve the Oct, Nov, and Dec 2020 (Annual) Principal's Report as printed and distributed. (Freiny, Feurstenberg)
 - a. 3 yr old Pre-K was down as compared to the previous year, this is believed to be largely due to Covid-19
 - b. Prairie Fire will have to be postponed to 2022
 - c. Pastor Fager will be assisting with a Musical program/play
 - d. School is participating in MAP testing
- VI. Board Reports
 - A. M/S/C to approve the Board of Education Report as printed and distributed. (Kipf, Feurstenberg)
 - Welcome Deanna Schneck as the new Pre-K teacher/director. Smooth transition from Miss Gines
 - Enrollment has sustained well despite pandemic
 - Split tuition assistance funds between member and non-member tuition funds/accounts
 - New members added to BoEd
 - Deanna Schneck (ad-hoc called worker)
 - Matt Seibert
 - Julian Ortiz
 - Jeff Grubb
 - B. M/S/C to approve the Board of Elders 2020Q4, Annual and statistical report as printed and distributed. (Feurstenberg, Freiny)
 - C. Board of Outreach – No printed REPORT (Freiny, Kipf)
Christmas mailers went out
 - D. Board of Service and Fellowship verbal report from Pastor Ulrich. (Feurstenberg, Kipf)
 - E. Board of Stewardship submitted by Rob Krueger– (Kipf, Freiny)
 - F. Board of Trustees – NO REPORT (Feurstenberg, K Heusman)
Cottage discussion. Cottage needs to be addressed.

VOTER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

VII. M/S/C to accept the Treasurer's Report through DEC 30, 2020 presented by Chairman Sordahl. (Feurstenberg, Kipf)

- a. Balance Sheet
- b. P & L by Class
- c. P & L Comparison
- d. P & L YTD Comparison
- e. Need follow-up with Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and Asst Treasurer to confirm that we should have two separate tuition assistance accounts
- f. Need to confirm why we haven't distributed Lutheran Charities funds yet

VIII.M/S/C to accept the Financial Secretary's Report for December 2020. (Feurstenberg, K Heusman)

Balanced with the balance sheet

IX. Committee Reports

Financial Staff – no report

Budget Committee – no report

Technology Committee – no report

Nominating Committee – no report

Security Committee – no report

X. Unfinished Business - NONE – Membership change addressed at the top of the meeting

XI. New Business

RATIFY all Church Council actions from the previous period *included in handout* (Feurstenberg, Kipf)

M/S/C to approve the 2021 Parsonage Allowance Resolution as follows: (Kipf, K Heusman)

Section 107-2011

2021 Parsonage Allowance Resolution

The following resolution was duly adopted by the church council at a scheduled meeting on December 17, 2020, a quorum being present:

Whereas, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code specifies that the amount of ministers' compensation that is designated in advance by their employing church as a housing allowance is not taxable in computing federal income taxes to the extent that it is used to pay for actual expenses incurred in owning or renting a home (and for ministers who live in a parsonage and who pay some of their housing expenses) Those ministers who own their own home must not exceed the fair rental value of the home; and

Whereas, Pastor Ross Ulrich is compensated by Zion Lutheran Church exclusively for services as minister, and

Whereas, teachers Bryan Schneck & Kurt Nielsen are compensated by Zion Lutheran Church exclusively for services as teachers (ministers of the Gospel)

Therefore, it is resolved that of the amount paid for 2021 as listed below, includes the amount hereby designated as a housing allowance.

VOTER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

<u>Ministers of the Gospel</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Housing Allowance</u>
Rev. Ross W. Ulrich	<u>\$56,478.22</u>	<u>\$12,000.00</u>
Kurt Nielsen	<u>\$40,485.14</u>	<u>\$9,000.00</u>
Bryan Schneck	<u>\$52,402.00</u>	<u>\$24,000.00</u>

Be it further resolved, that these housing allowances shall apply to all future years that these (Ministers of the Gospel) are employed by Zion Lutheran Church, unless otherwise noted.

M/S/C to approve the ZLS '21-'22 tuition as follows: (Freiny, Feurstenberg)

K-8 tuition and registration remains unchanged

Pre-K increases from \$180 to \$200/month

Cleaning Fee increase from \$180 to \$250 per student or \$450 max per K-8 family with more than 1 K-8 student. Pre-K students are not included in the Cleaning Fee

XII. 2020 Finance Updates

Balance sheet as of December 31, 2020

\$257,982.93 unrestricted funds available for operation

\$307,611.53 restricted funds on-hand

Balance Sheet	Dec 31, 2019	Mar 31, 2020	Jun 30, 2020	Sep 30, 2020	Dec 31, 2020
Unrestricted	\$280,512.23	\$245,660.61	\$237,032.46	\$271,453.13	\$257,982.93
Restricted	\$333,028.30	\$319,242.44	\$309,739.87	\$298,431.39	\$307,611.53

Income vs Expense

Net Operating Income YTD (1/1/19 – 12/31/19) -> \$ -46,929.29

Net Operating Income YTD (1/1/20 – 12/31/20) -> \$ -22,529.30

XIII. M/S/C With no further business needing attention, adjourn at 1:10 PM (Kipf, Feurstenberg)

XIV. Next Voters meeting will be April 25, 2021 12PM

XV. Close with prayer by Pastor Ulrich

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Husby

MINISTERIAL ACTS



Funerals: † Andy Pinchoff died on Monday, December 28, funeral Monday, January 4

† Tom Norman died on Wednesday, December 30, funeral Friday, January 8

MEMORIALS (GIVEN TO GENERAL FUND, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

† In memory of Howard Pitcher from

Marilyn Gallo	Linda Selvidge	Carol Eshelman
Harold & Karen Pitcher	Barri Pitcher & family	Jami Goth & family
David & Erin LaPointe	Phil & Monica Herman	Jeanette Nickel & Debra Jones
Carol Pitcher	Mary Gerweck	Elaine Stoll & Lori Duwve
Arnette Gahlau	Larry & Delores Simmons	Marv & Jean Baumann
	Brenda Chandonnett	

† In memory of Tom Norman from

Annetta Miller	Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lemerand	Mary Lou Gautz
Russ & Mona Vitale	Fred & Darlene Scholl	Lawerance & Valeri Mangindin
Norman Adair	Lois Breeding	Christy & Thomas McNeil-Zemke
Renea Bunkleman	Victor & Kristi Lucarelli	Germaine & Earl Wiseman
Jim & Kathy Vanisacker	Marv & Jean Baumann	Beth Nied
Bob & Barb Dahl	Bob & Joyce Trowbridge	

† In memory of Andy Pinchoff from

Larry & Delores Simmons	Michael Kelly & family	Irene Kelly & Kim Lee
Pastor John Kelly & family	Jim & Kathy Vanisacker	Jim & Sally Pritchett

† In memory of Betty Bashaw to Killarney Camp from

Ray & Brenda Chandonnett Linda Jaskot Russ & Mona Vitale Annetta Miller

† In memory of Della Premoe from Jim & Kathy Vanisacker

† In memory of Leonard & Leona Selvidge and Robert Selvidge from Linda Selvidge

† In memory of Dannie Younglove from Russ & Mona Vitale

† In memory of Henry & Ethel Gautz from Arnette Gahlau

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Tues., Feb. 2	6:30 p.m. Board of Elders
Wed., Feb. 3	7:00 p.m. Worship Service (IC)
Sun., Feb. 7	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services (IC)
Tues., Feb. 9	1:30 Worship Service (IC)
	7:30 p.m. Board of Education
Wed., Feb. 10	7:00 p.m. Worship Service
Sun., Feb. 14	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services
Mon., Feb. 15-16	Pastor/Teacher Conference cancelled
	No School/Office closed
Wed., Feb. 17	7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service (IC)
Thurs., Feb. 18	7:00 p.m. Church Council
Sun., Feb. 21	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. First Lent Worship Services (IC)
Wed., Feb. 24	7:00 p.m. 2nd Midweek Lent Worship Service
	Noon-6:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive
Sun., Feb. 28	8:30 & 10:30 a.m. 2nd Lent Worship Services

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

	Feb. 3 & 7	Feb. 10 & 14	Feb. 17 & 21	Feb. 24 & 28
ALTAR GUILD		Kathy Vanisacker		
USHERS	<p>Feb. 3 Joe Koch Joe Schmeling Dave Bengé Aaron Bengé</p> <p>Feb. 7 8:30 a.m. Rob Krueger Martin Meier Ralph Naveaux</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Klaus Koenig Juergan Koenig Matt McCormick</p>	<p>Feb. 10 Alan Bober Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p> <p>Feb. 14 8:30 a.m. Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Bob Trowbridge Dave McKenzie</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Joe Koch Joe Schmeling Dave Bengé Aaron Bengé</p>	<p>Feb. 17 Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Klaus Koenig Juergan Koenig Matt McCormick</p> <p>Feb. 21 8:30 a.m. Tony Affholter Dan Fuerstenberg Mark Fuerstenberg Tim Fuerstenberg</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Alan Bober Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p>	<p>Feb. 24 Mark Kipf Keith McBee David Krueger Russ Vitale</p> <p>Feb. 28 8:30 a.m. Mark Kipf Keith McBee David Krueger Russ Vitale</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Klaus Koenig Juergan Koenig Matt McCormick</p>

¹⁸ And all these things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. ¹⁹ That is, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them. And he has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, inasmuch as God is making an appeal through us. We urge you, on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

CHURCH COUNCIL & BOARDS

PRESIDENT	Steve Sordahl
VICE-PRESIDENT	Jeff Grubb
SECRETARY	Ben Husby
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Joe Schmeling
ASST. FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Bill Salow
TREASURER	John Hill
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF EDUCATION	Erich Freiny
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF ELDERS	Mark Kipf
CHAIRMAN, OUTREACH	Dan Fuerstenberg
CHAIRMAN, SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP	Mark Fuerstenberg, Ken Vagt, & Mel White
CHAIRMAN, STEWARDSHIP	Rob Krueger
Co- CHAIRMAN, TRUSTEES	Corey & Kevin Kohler

THE MESSENGER is printed monthly for the members of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church for the purpose of informing them of the upcoming events along with sharing the good news of the Gospel and information about our members. It is also intended to help and inform those not in our church family.

OFFICE: 734-242-1378

FAX: 734-242-7049

E-MAIL: office@zionmonroe.org

WEBSITE: www.zionmonroe.org

Pastor Ross Ulrich

734-240-3888

Principal Bryan Schneck

907-331-7761

Steve Sordahl, Church Council President

734-770-1149

John Hill, Treasurer

734-288-6798

Mona Vitale , Organist

734-242-8061

Ross Ernest, Organist

Dottie Bober, Organist

Deanna Schneck, Pianist

Kayla Liechty, Pianist

Chris Pitcher, Prayer Chain Contact

734-241-6377

Brenda Chandonnet, Friends in Faith Contact

734-915-5477

Sherry Fuerstenberg, Ladies Serving Groups Contact

734-654-3736

Amy Vanisacker, Office Coordinator

734-790-1481

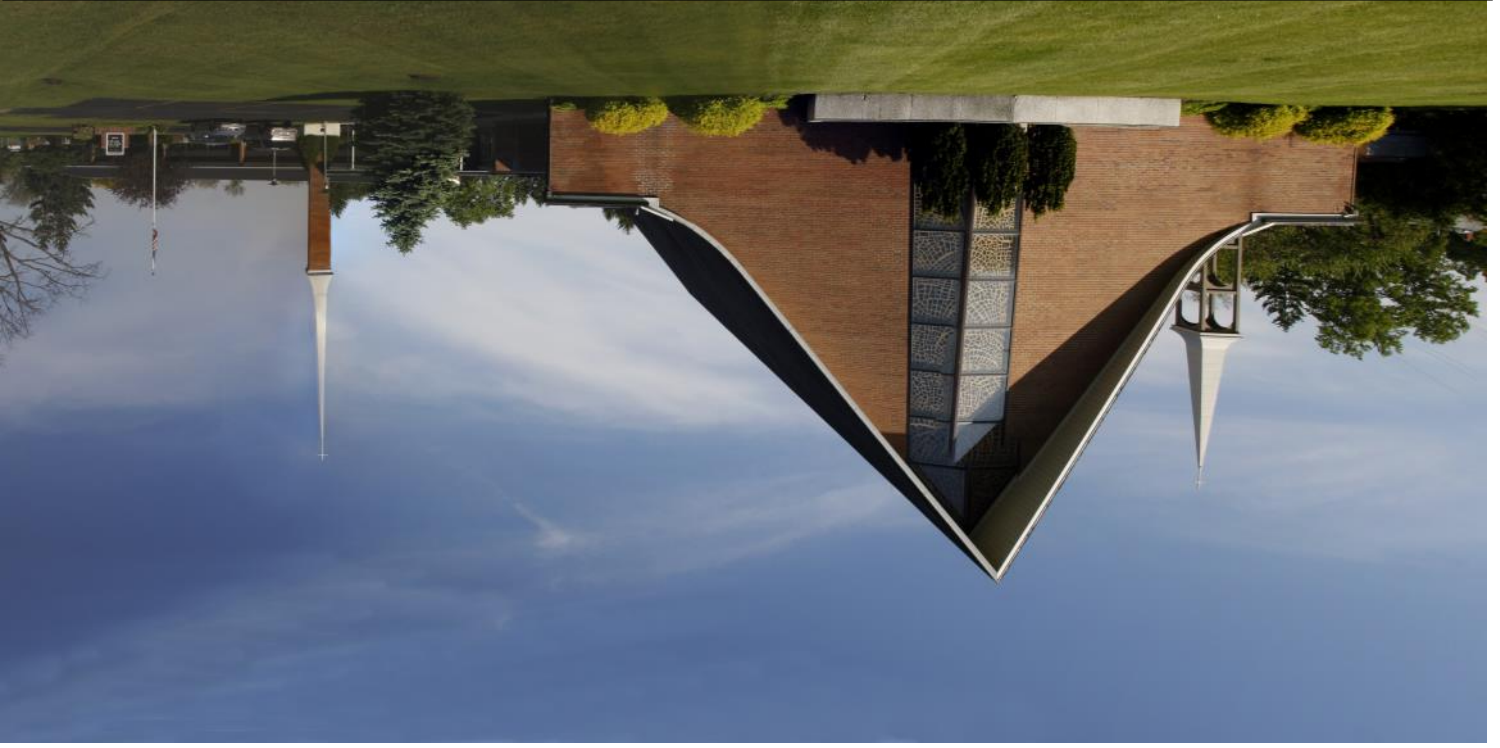
FEBRUARY 2021

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan. 31	1	2 6:30 p.m. Board of Elders	3 7:00 p.m. Worship (IC)	4	5	6
7 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship (IC)	8	9 1:30 p.m., Afternoon Worship (IC) 7:30 p.m. Board of Education	10 7:00 p.m., Worship	11	12	13
14 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship	15 No School— Pastor/Teacher Conference Office closed	16 No School— Pastor Conference CANCELLED	17 Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship (IC)	18 7:00 p.m. Church Council	19	20
21 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship (IC) 3:30-5:30 p.m. BIC #1	22	23	24 7:00 p.m. Worship 12-6 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive	25	26	27
28 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Worship 3:30-5:30 p.m. BIC #2						



ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
186 COLE RD., MONROE, MI 48162



Check out our website:
www.zionmonroe.org

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& SCHOOL
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MONROE,
MICHIGAN 48162
Tel: 734.242.1378
Fax: 734.242.7049
E-mail: office@zionmonroe.org
www.zionmonroe.org