



THE LIGHT

The Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Southington, CT
January /February Vol. 3 Issue 1

A LETTER FROM PASTOR

On Christmas Eve, we once again heard the good news that Jesus Christ, the Word Made Flesh, came into the world for us. Under the most unlikely of circumstances, with a manger for a bed, Jesus came into the world to save us. He also came to meet us where we are, and experience humanity - finding that experience in the cradle of family.

This season of Epiphany is one of the two great journeys in the liturgical year. During Advent we waited and prepared; on Christmas, God came into the world; and now we journey with the wise men to tell the world what we have seen by the light of the star.

Barely two weeks after we celebrated Christmas, on the great festival of Epiphany, we heard the story of the wise men finding Jesus still in the cradle of family, at home, with Mary.

This year as we read through the gospel of Luke, Mary appears a number of times, an ever-present reminder of that cradle. In Saint Luke's second book, The Acts of the Apostles, he again informs us of Mary's activity. Even after the ascension of Jesus, Mary is still in the community of believers, still supporting the faith, still loving Jesus.

Mary is the only person in the Bible present at Jesus' birth, and death, Saint John gives us this information in his account of the crucifixion.

What does all this mean?

Mary brings our attention to those that support us along our way. Her presence spotlights that the humanity Jesus came to experience, is the humanity we find supporting each other through life.

As we journey through this season of Epiphany, let us all hold the ones we care for close. Let us remember those who are supportive, those who nurture and love us unconditionally through all life's journeys.

Let us journey with them, and one another, as we follow the light of Christ wherever it leads us this season.

Pastor Hall

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

531 Woodruff Street,
Southington, CT 06489
(860) 628-5759
www.zionlutheranct.org



STAFF

Reverend Daniel W. Hille, Pastor
Pastor@zionlutheranct.org
Chris Messner, Director of Music

Council News...

As the new year begins, we are thankful for the dedicated work of all those serving on Council. Our gratitude and thankfulness also comes with sadness as some members are rotating off having completed their second consecutive term. Looking ahead this year, the positions of Council Secretary and Director of Facilities are coming open. If you are interested in filling one of these vital roles, or you know someone who is, please contact our Vice President Robyn Kroll, the head of the Nominating Committee.

Current Zion Council Members

John Miller, President
Robyn Kroll, Vice President
Peter Redline, Treasurer
Christine Spataro, Secretary
Cindy Miller, Financial Affairs
Lisa Proffitt, Christian Welfare
Rebecca Kessler, Christian Education
Cindy Babon, Christian Fellowship
Helmut Jobs, Facilities
Joan Cockcroft, Membership & Witness.

Seeking Director of Religious Education

The religious education of our children at Zion is a rich and powerful part of our story. Those involved with the Sunday School program know it is much more than just a simple hour on a Sunday morning. The director of our religious education program will be required to have a love of children, a commitment to lead them to the Lord, and a knowledge of Christian education and curriculum. In addition to Sunday School, this person will oversee Vacation Bible School, the Christmas Pageant, and offer support to the Confirmation process, as well as developing new opportunities for children. The Council is looking into hiring a paid, part-time Director of Religious Education, to provide support to the Pastor in this most critical of our ministries for approximately 15-20 hours a week.

If you know any **non-member** that might excel in this role, please have them contact Pastor Hille at 860-628-5759 or pastor@zionlutheranct.org.

Welcome New Members (of all kinds!)

This past fall the family of Zion celebrated new members joining in different ways!

On December 9th, we welcomed Dean and Jude Radke of Unionville, Roxanne Tonn of Terryville, and her son Matthew Tonn with his children Jona and Savana of Southington, CT as well as Melissa Russell of Bristol who has been our children's choir director for more than a year.

As well as these members, we've joyfully welcomed children into the faith through the waters of baptism: Elizabeth Grace Oliver and Jolene Dayton Connor on 10/28/18, Michael Vincenzo Colasanto on 12/9/18, and Eleanor Marie Serafino on 1/13/19.

"Light" Questions with Pastor Hille...

Pastor, This Sunday you read the story of the wise men, but in the story they didn't have names. Where do we learn the names of the wise men? Jason L.

Great question! The traditional names of the wise men (Balthasar, Gaspar, and Melchior) are traced back to an early Greek manuscript dating back to the 6th-8th century. Like a lot of the details in the stories we know, the Bible remains silent, though these other bits of information have become part of their common telling. - PDH

Pastor, I loved the live Christmas tree in the Gathering Place, but why was it up for such a short time? Rob H.

I agree with you, I love the live tree, and it's wonderful aroma! Sadly, I don't make the rules, and so we had the tree up for the Christmas season, From Christmas Eve up to Epiphany. I often think, that like many things in life, the tree's short appearance helps make it's time at Zion even more special, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord. Thanks for asking. - PDH



Remember in Your Prayers



Our prayer list is updated monthly - Let us remember these people as we pray daily.

Members of Zion

Lord in your Mercy: Tom Buchanan, Pat Beaudin, Dawne Cappellino; Justin Cappellino; Faith Schneider; Jane Darling; Hudson Cinque; Ron Rockwood; Joan Cockcroft; Kate Skrzypiec; Sharon Kleinhen; Vanessa, Marcus, Nicole & Juliana Kleinhen.

Those in Care Centers and Homebound: Ruth Kurtz, Faith Kjellson.

Wedding Anniversaries: Peter & Debra Kurtz, 01/17; Elke & Freddy Kuhr, 02/12; Diane & Steve Rauss, 2/14; John & Sandy Darling, 2/18; David & Diane Woolley, 2/19; LeAnn & Steve Kroll, 2/20; Becky & Todd Isaacson, 2/22; Cathy & Eric Watson, 2/23.

Family & Friends of Zion

Lord in your Mercy: Liz Peri, niece of Lee Bluis; Tom Pedano, Carrie, daughter-in-law of Ken Crooker; Carolyn, friend of Ken Crooker; Faith, mother of Dawne Cappellino; Linda, friend of Dawne Cappellino; Rick and Barb Klemm; Richie C.; Melissa and Family; Alyssa Boncer; Coons Family; Sam Bahr; Casey; Dominic Garafola; Lynn, niece of Carol Wright; Cheryl, friend of the Miller Family; Edward Garrett, father-in-law of Jeanne Garrett; Doyle Family; Walter, brother of Joan Cockcroft; Dawn Cockcroft and Barbara Hanesworth, nieces of Joan Cockcroft; Roy Hinez; Courtney Campbell and family, Mark, cousin of Lois Griszkauskas; Linda, friend of Lois and Ron Griszkauskas, Paul Godwin, Lee Bluis's brother; Bonnie Farrar.

Deaths: Richard Johnson, 12/17/18; Father-in-law of Carol Wright, Grandfather to Jessica

Service: For the men and women in the military serving our country: Russell Karshis, cousin of Dawne Cappellino; Master Sergeant Conan Mauro; Staff Sgt. Michael McKenney; GM Andrew Rauss, USCG, son of Steve and Diane Rauss; Zachary Fulton, nephew of Lisa Proffitt; Capt. Steven Hole, cousin of Cindy Miller; Danny Woolley, son of Diane and Dave Woolley; Matthew DeLorenzo, U.S. Navy, friend of the Doran Family.

**For prayer requests, please complete a prayer request card located
in the pew racks in the sanctuary, call or email the office.**

(860)628-5759

office@zionlutheranct.org

Sunday School News

Zion Lutheran Church

GATHER



Are you receiving Sunday School e-mails?
If not please contact:
Rebecca Kessler at

sundayschool@zionlutheranct.org

MEAL

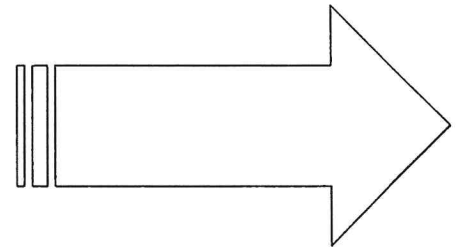
First Communion for
4th Graders will be on
May 5th at 10:15AM



First Communion Class
April 28th at 2:00PM
Make-up: May 1st at 6:00PM

SEND

Offering Envelopes
for Sunday School
will be coming home
in the weeks ahead.
Keep your eyes peeled!



2018 Christmas Pageant



A special "Thank You" to the children, teachers, fritter maker, and others who helped with "Gluten Free Jesus" on Sunday, December 23rd.

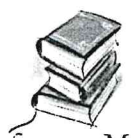
Thank you also to those families who contributed these photos.



A Peek into Zion Nursery School

The New Year is off to a great start at Zion Nursery School! The children came back from their Christmas break ready to see their teachers and friends and ready to learn. We are always hopeful for good weather so that we can get outside to play, but as this is being written, it's 23 degrees outside so we will be playing indoors. Indoors or out, children are engaged in play without realizing that they are learning social and emotional skills at the same time. We always have good things going on here at Zion Nursery School - even when it's cold outside!

We have been registering students for the 2019-2020 school year and now have a waiting list for both our 3 and 4 year old programs. Space is limited in our afternoon Pre-K, so if you know of anyone who is interested, please have them contact Colleen Clark, the Nursery School Director, at 860-628-6007 as soon as possible.



FEBRUARY BOOK CLUB

“Hillbilly Elegy” by J.D. Vance is our selection for this month. Written by a former Marine and Yale Law School graduate, it is a probing look at the struggles of America’s white working class through the author’s own story of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town. A #1 New York Times Bestseller, “Hillbilly Elegy” is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis, a deeply moving memoir, with its share of humor and vividly colorful figures.

Books are available in the Gathering Place for \$10.
Our next Book Club is Monday, February 25th at 7:00PM.

Zion Gives Back! A big Thank You...

goes out to everyone who bought gifts for the Christmas tree tags, donated children's books, brought food for the Community Services holiday baskets, served at Bread for Life, and rang bells for Salvation Army during this holiday season!



Southington Community Services Food Pantry The need goes on!

Please place all food donations on the table in the Gathering Place. There are special requests for the following items: Cereal, canned pasta, canned meals (chili, stew, etc.) soups, juice boxes, kids snacks (small bags or boxes please), coffee, hot cocoa.

You might have noticed...

On the illuminated Zion sign in front of the church, there is a new bottom sign listing our worship times. This is thanks to the insights and work of Helmut Jobs.

As this year moves forward, the sign is changeable so we can properly reflect worship times as they change for summer and other special festival days.



Photo Directory at Zion

There has been a lot of talk about a new Photo Directory here at Zion.

Directories are a wonderful opportunity to literally put faces on the congregation. The creation of such a directory needs an organized, proactive, and engaging person to help lead the congregation through its scheduling, and development.

If you would like to help bring this project to life, please reach out to either
Pastor Hille
860-628-5759 or
Joan Cockcroft
201-951-7473.



Bells and Blessings



A heartfelt “Thank You” goes out to all the singers, ringers, speakers, readers, participants, cookie bakers and attendees who made Bells & Blessing a such a wonderful festive Christmas event. This long standing tradition is such a blessed way to prepare ourselves for the joy of Christmas, while celebrating the vast talents and gifts within Zion’s Family. A special thank you to Chris Messner for all the work he puts in with the Chapel Choir, Amen Chorus, and all of the other contributing musicians. Also, special thanks to Melissa Russell who led the Children’s Choir as they raised their voices in praise and adoration.



Mark Your Calendars! Zion’s next Opportunity to serve at Bread for Life is February 18th - 22nd.



February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:00AM Worship 9:00AM SS / Conf. 6&7 9:30AM Adult Forum 10:15AM Worship 11:30AM Confirmation 8 4:00PM Worship 5:00PM HS Youth	4	5 6:15PM Girl Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts	6 10:00AM Bible Study 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:15PM Chapel Choir	7	8	9
10 8:00AM Worship 9:00AM SS / Conf. 6&7 9:30AM Adult Forum 10:15AM Worship 11:30AM Confirmation 8 4:00PM Worship 5:00PM MS Youth	11 7:00PM Worship & Music	12 6:00PM Girl Scouts	13 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:15PM Chapel Choir	14	15 No NS	16
17 8:00AM Worship 9:00AM SS / Conf. 6&7 9:30AM Adult Forum 10:15AM Worship 11:30AM Confirmation 8 4:00PM Worship 5:00PM HS Youth	18 <i>President's Day</i> No NS	19 6:30 PM Council No NS	20 10:00AM Bible Study 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:15PM Chapel Choir	21	22	23
24 8:00AM Worship 9:00AM SS / Conf. 6&7 9:30AM Adult Forum 10:15AM Worship 11:30AM Confirmation 8 4:00PM Worship 5:00PM MS Youth	25 7:00PM Book Club	26 6:00PM Girl Scouts	27 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:15PM Chapel Choir	28		

December 2018

Return Service Requested



ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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