



THE LIGHT

The Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Southington, CT

January 2021

Vol. 5 Issue 1

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Community of Zion,

"After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was" (Matthew 2:9).

Before there was GPS and Siri, people used the location and movements of stars to guide their travels. We know the story of the Wise Men following the star to Jesus. Said another way, the star led or guided them. We may have grown up hearing stories about how sailors used the stars so they could safely travel to their destination since they could not see where they were going.

On January 6th, we celebrate Epiphany. The twelfth day of Christmas. Three Kings Day. The day we remember that having followed the star, the Magi completed their journey and found Mary and Jesus.

It is a new year. Often seen as a time of new starts, resolutions, re-starts, maybe even new journeys.

Attached to this newsletter is a star with a guiding word on it. A word (randomly selected) to guide your journey in 2021. If we could meet in-person, we would give each person a guiding star. But this was the best way we could do it and invite everyone in your household to share this word.

You could cut out the star and put it on the refrigerator or bathroom mirror. Someplace, where everyone can see it. As you go through the year ahead, let this word guide you. Then next Epiphany, we can share how this word guided our journey throughout the year.

Peace (and light),
Pastor Jeff



Zion's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held

Sunday, January 31st, 2021 at Noon via ZOOM.

Please see the 'Yellow' email for codes as it gets closer or call the office for more information on how you can participate.



For Pastoral Care and Concerns,
 please contact Pastor Jeff Stalley
 by phone: cell # 860-490-5784 or
 email: pastor@zionlutheranct.org



Zion Lutheran Church
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 Southington, CT 06489
 860-628-5759
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The Council Needs You!!!

The next term for Council begins on February 1, 2021 and we have two open positions on Council that need to be filled; Director of Christian Education & Director of Facilities. If you are willing to serve, would like more information on what the positions entail, or know someone who you think would be a good fit, please reach out to Robyn Kroll at robyn.kroll@gmail.com or John Miller at president@zionlutheranct.org or 860-620-4041. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

An Unexpected Advent Gift

I discovered a new gift during the Advent season and I asked Pastor Jeff if I could share it with you. I make my living by searching real estate titles on commercial properties. I usually get difficult searches because of my background as a commercial real estate attorney. I enjoy the work but it tends to be very stressful because I usually have only a few days' time to finish each search. Frequently, the title is very complicated. I am usually juggling two or three searches at any given time. This December was especially busy with year-end deals needing searches.

When Jude suggested that we attend the Wednesday night Zoom Advent series, I reluctantly agreed thinking that here was one more obligation to add to my ever growing list.

I found each Service was structured but informal in tone and they felt like a prayer meeting with a group of friends in someone's home.

Pastor Jeff started each service saying "Let us turn away from what is troubling us and focus on God and at the end of the service turn those troubles, problems and concerns over to God in prayer." When I heard that I could not help but think of my favorite bible verses from *Matthew 11:28-30*: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Each service was an opportunity to reflect on God's message to us. In my case, I also felt that it was an oasis from the stress of my life. I definitely experienced the "rest" that Jesus was speaking of.

I am very much looking forward to the Lenten midweek services and I hope that you will join us.

Dean Radke



WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY ON SATURDAYS at 4:00PM!

If you would like to attend a Saturday service, reservations are required so that we are certain to comply with capacity restrictions. Please call or email the church by **12 NOON EACH PRECEDING THURSDAY** to let us know how many will attend. *(You will need to call each week to confirm spot.) (Please wear a mask, and adhere to ushers directions.)*

WORSHIP IN THE PARKING LOT ON SUNDAYS AT 10:15AM!

Come to Zion on Sundays, park in our lot and turn on your FM radio to participate in worship in a new way. You will be directed upon entering the driveway and given an individual communion kit and bulletin. Worship from the comfort and safety of your vehicle! No reservations are required. We look forward to seeing you!

ABOUT COMMUNION... If you can not attend in-person worship during these times, and you would like to have communion, we have a solution. *Prepackaged* juice and wafer sets will be available on a table in the entry area of the church. The doors will be unlocked on Saturdays, between 9-11AM and 3-5PM, if you would like to pick some up. Then, when you watch the service *virtually*, you can commune at the appropriate time.

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: Ruth Kurtz; Pat Beaudin; Jane Darling; Ginny Freeman; Linda Graham; Sue Skrzypiec; Melissa & Patrick Russell; Joan Cockcroft; Jean Wiltse; Beverly Clark.

Those in Hospitals, Care Centers and Homebound:

The Summit - William Brown

Wedding Anniversaries: Peter & Debra Kurtz, 1/17; Karin & John Thompson, 1/20

Family & Friends of Zion

Lord in your Mercy: Sam Bahr; Melissa & Family; Alyssa Boncer; Lynn-niece of Carol Wright; Richie C.; Courtney Campbell & Family; Kristen; Mark, cousin of Lois G.; Paul Godwin, brother of Lee Bluis; Gertrude Marquardt; Pesce Family; Jason; David Neals; Alex Meyer, grandson of Ron & Lois Griszkauskas; Carlos and Brian, friends of John Miller's family; Mark Pavao, nephew of Lois Garafola; Katherine, granddaughter of friend of Mary Jobs; Abby Sullivan, friend of Mark & Lisa Proffitt; Megan Adole; Hala Jaser, friend of Cindy Babon; Danielle; Donald Reinert, father of Paul Reinert; Amber, David and Michael, family of the Cappellino family; Kevin Dolce; Heidi R., friend of Pastor Jeff; Bob Steindl, father of Rob Steindl; Michael Colella; Dick, brother of Lee Bluis; Ralph Clough, father of Kara Bouteiller; Matthew & Lindsay Babon, son and daughter-in-law of Mike & Cindy Babon; Debbie & Fred, friends of Carra Rockwood; Darrell, friend of Joan Cockcroft and Cindy Miller; Reno, friend of Ron & Lois Griszkauskas; Ann Crossman; Linda Azato, Aunt of Lynn McCormack and Carol McCormack Wright; Rita, sister-in-law of Carra Rockwood; Barbara; Mary Palmer, mother of Leslie Sanchez; Sue, Thelma and Shelby, friends of Joan Cockcroft; Adelle; Penoyer Family, family of Pastor Jeff and Debbie Stalley; Karen McDonald, partner of Debbie Stalley's father; Joseph Bolduc; Daniel Buerk, family of Dean & Jude Radke; Kristen; Simon.

Deaths:

Service, For the men and women in the military serving our country: Russell Karshis, cousin of Dawne Cappellino; Staff Sgt. Michael McKenney; GM Andrew Rauss, USCG, son of Steve and Diane Rauss; Major Zachary Fulton, USAF, 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;

Those in medical service during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Cyndy Woolley; daughter of Dave & Diane Woolley; Tori Kryzwick, daughter of Christine Kryzwick; Christine Armour, daughter of Bill & Deb Celani; Donna Derwin; Cindy Babon; Janet Hanson; Katie Miller, daughter of John Miller

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO LOOK OVER THIS PRAYER LIST SO THAT WE CAN ENSURE IT IS CURRENT. CONTACT THE OFFICE VIA EMAIL OR PHONE TO MAKE CHANGES.

THANK YOU!

To update or add prayer requests, please call (860)628-5759, or email - office@zionlutheranct.org

January 2021

Sunday School News

submitted by Ali Frega

Sunday School

We enjoyed celebrating Jesus's birth on Sunday, December 20th during our Sunday School class. Together we read the Gospels and Sang Carols.

We missed getting dressed up and performing for all of you and are looking forward to doing it for you next year.

There is no class on December 27, Classes will resume January 3.

Enjoy Your Holidays with your Families!

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First Communion

Attention: Parents of students in 4th & 5th grades,

Look for information coming in January about First Communion classes.

After Christmas, Pastor will work on the logistics for doing the classes via ZOOM.

Confirmation

There is

NO CLASS on December 27th

Please enjoy the holidays with your families.

We will resume classes via ZOOM on January 3rd

Grades 6 & 7 meet at 9:00AM and Grade 8 meets at 5:00PM.

Youth Group

At our December meetings we discussed socially distanced activities we can do in person as well as virtual team building activities to do over ZOOM. We played Christmas Trivia and answered some 'Would You Rather...' questions.

For our January meeting, please bring any questions you have for Pastor Jeff. It can be about being a Pastor, religion or things you want to know about him. This will be a chance to get to know him even better.

High School Youth Group Meeting

January 10th at 6:00PM
ZOOM Meeting

Middle School Youth Group Meeting

January 24th at 5:00PM
ZOOM Meeting



A Peek into Zion Nursery School

It's hard to believe that we made it through to the end of the year! Our children had a wonderful December in school filled with all our normal activities, including visits by Pastor Jeff who shared the Nativity story. We even had our Christmas concerts that we videoed and sent to parents. Now we are beginning the registration process for the next school year so if you know of anyone interested in sending their child to Zion Nursery School, have them call Colleen at (860)628-6007. I'm always ready to share the good things going on at Zion!

THE CLOTHING SHED IS OPEN!

Get all those new clothes you received for Christmas into your closets and then feel free to place those "old duds" into the shed. As you may know, we do receive money on a monthly basis for all donated items. Although it may not be much, the accumulated monies over the year does add up and helps to support the many ministries of Zion

Thank you to all who have donated over the past five years that the shed has been in operation. People all over the globe have benefited from your generosity of used clothing, sheets, towels, shoes, belts, purses, curtains, stuffed animals, and blankets. Your giving has allowed St. Pauly the ability to supply 44 countries and the U.S. with much needed clothing.

It's a great feeling to know we are helping others!

For additional information on St. Pauly go to: <https://www.stpaulytextile.com/>

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE...



Who donated: Angel Tree gifts, books to Prudence Crandall, Operation Christmas Child boxes, food to Southington Community Services and Cans/Bottles for recycling and to those who baked and bought cookies! We are so thankful for your generosity and we know that each of our ministry partners is extremely grateful for your thoughtfulness and support! AND ALSO... Thank you to those who worked tirelessly on Bells & Blessings, the Sunday School Christmas Pageant and our Christmas Eve worship opportunities. You are a blessing to Zion and WE APPRECIATE YOU and your dedication immensely!

ATTENTION LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS...

Given everything that is going on, we would like to support those in our Zion community who own their own businesses. One way is to let people know who in our community owns their own business. If you do, please let Pastor Jeff know and we will try to share that information. (pastor@zionlutheranct.org)

HOW ARE YOU DOING?

Pastor would like to check in with people from Zion and also help people to catch up with each other. If you would like to be part of a small group ZOOM "check-in/catch up" please let Pastor know.

School Staff Virtual Get-Together

Join other teachers, principals, and support staff in a chance to check-in and support one another as school begins again after Christmas. We will meet virtually via ZOOM on Tuesday, January 5th at 7:30 pm.

Contact Pastor (pastor@zionlutheranct.org) for login info.

Bottles and Cans

We had a great crew that started counting all the bottles and cans that have been piled into the Crystal Palace this spring. Once that enormous pile was taken care of we continued with all items placed in the Recycling Shed until the beginning of December. We are still collecting so please keep us in mind. Just drop them off in the small Recycling Shed, or in the wire cage beside it.

For those of you that do not know, the shed was made for Zion by an energetic Eagle Scout looking to complete his scout project. It has been a blessing for clean safe storing of the cans and bottles.

Thank you again to all the ambitious sorters, counters, and people that put full bags of counted bottles and cans away, and thank you to all that donate bottles and cans to keep us going!



Are you or someone you know interested in making Zion your church home?

We will hold a 'New Member class' via ZOOM in January. If you are interested in finding out more about Zion and/or becoming part of the community of Zion, let Pastor Jeff know and we will find a mutual day/time that works for all! (email pastor@zionlutheranct.org or text 860-490-5784.)

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 4:00PM Worship Indoors
3 9:00AM <i>Virtual SS / Conf.gr 6,7</i> 10:15AM WORSHIP Drive-In 11:30AM <i>Virtual Fellowship Hour</i> 5:00PM 8 th Grade Conf via ZOOM	4	5 7:30PM School staff Check-in via ZOOM	6 <i>Epiphany</i>	7	8	9 4:00PM Worship Indoors
10 9:00AM <i>Virtual SS / Conf.gr 6,7</i> 10:15AM WORSHIP Drive-In 11:30AM <i>Virtual Fellowship Hour</i> 5:00PM 8 th Grade Conf via ZOOM 6:00PM HS Youth via ZOOM	11 7:00PM Worship & Music	12	13 7:30PM Bible Study	14	15	16 4:00PM Worship Indoors
17 9:00AM <i>Virtual SS / Conf.gr 6,7</i> 10:15AM WORSHIP Drive-In 11:30AM <i>Virtual Fellowship Hour</i> 5:00PM 8 th Grade Conf via ZOOM	18	19 6:30PM Council	20 7:30PM Bible Study	21	22	23 4:00PM Worship Indoors
24 9:00AM <i>Virtual SS / Conf.gr 6,7</i> 10:15AM WORSHIP Drive-In 11:30AM <i>Virtual Fellowship Hour</i> 5:00PM MS Youth via ZOOM	25	26	27 7:30PM Bible Study	28	29	30 4:00PM Worship Indoors
31 9:00AM <i>Virtual SS / Conf.gr 6,7</i> 10:15AM WORSHIP Drive-In 11:30AM <i>Virtual Fellowship Hour</i> 12:00PM Congregational Meeting via ZOOM 5:00PM 8 th Grade Conf via ZOOM		2	3 7:30PM Bible Study	4	5	6 4:00PM Worship Indoors

January 2021

Return Service Requested

Website: zionlutheranct.org

email: pastor@zionlutheranct.org

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