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January 27, 2023

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# Zion Connection

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Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

We're all about helping you get connected -

With one another, with your faith, with the greater church,  
and with opportunities to serve our community & beyond.

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## Two Separate Meetings - One Special Day

### Sunday, Feb. 12th, Immediately Following the Worship Service

Both the Annual Congregational Meeting and a separate meeting to consider a pastoral call will be held February 12, 2023. Members of our worshiping community have previously received notice of both meetings via emails and past issues of *Zion Connection*. Also, the information that you have previously received is reprinted on page 3 of this ZC issue. To quote our Zion Council President, Mike Harrass, "We look forward to an exciting day! Thanks be to God!"

## Monthly Birthday Celebrations Return

### 1st Sunday of Every Month Immediately Following Worship

Thanks to our enthusiastic birthday party team of Dona Olesen, Susan Moser and Gail Huntley, we're going to party like it's 2019, Zion! During the past almost 3 years of Covid-19 restrictions, we have definitely missed being able to celebrate one another's special days together. Starting in February, all are invited to stay after worship for an ice cream get-together on the first Sunday of every month, just as we used to do. And, yes, we'll have sprinkles and syrups, too! **Special note:** Our kick-off celebration, to be held on Feb. 5th, will include both our January and February birthday folks (Joan, Jim, Dee & Etta).

## Church Calendar

(For more info re: any of these events, [please email the church office.](#))

### Weekly Worship Service -

11:00am - In-person and via livestream ([Link](#))

### Men's Prayer Breakfast -

Mondays, 8:30am @ Rainbow

### Pastor's Bible Study via

Zoom - Thursdays, 2:00pm

### Mah Jongg Fellowship -

Fridays, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

### Ice Cream Party for Jan. &

Feb. Birthdays - Sun., Feb. 5th, right after worship.

### WELCA Monthly Bible Study

& Mtg. (Hybrid) - Mon., Feb. 6th @ 10:00am ([Link](#))

### Two Congregational

Meetings - Sun., Feb. 12th, right after worship.

## Sanctuary Flowers in February -

The chancel flowers in February are given by Stephanie Stankiewicz to the Glory of God.

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## Prayer Ministry - Volunteer Opportunity

Submitted by Diane Brown - Thanks, Diane!

Now that the holidays are over and we're in a new year, are you wondering where you might volunteer your time (or more of your time) to make an impact in our local community?

I would like to invite you to consider assisting me with the ministry at the Lake County Jail (a/k/a Detention Center) in Tavares, specifically with the Christian book carts. We have 2 book carts, but I can only push one. With a second person, we can offer a larger and more timely selection of Christian books to the female inmates.

Your time commitment would be Wednesday from 12:30 to around 3:00pm. Unfortunately, I am unable to provide transportation as I spend the whole day. The jail is a unique environment that most of us haven't had any contact with in any capacity, so you may have lots of questions. I've been doing this for many years now, so I'm confident that I can answer any questions you may have.

The Lake County Jail only allows volunteers to work with inmates of the same sex, so I'm looking for a woman (or women) to help with the women's book carts. If any men are interested, I can answer any questions you may have and put you in touch with the Chaplain to discuss taking the men's Christian book cart to the male inmates. At present, we do not have anyone doing that. Thank you for considering this ministry opportunity.

## Lutherans You Should Know in Black History

**JUST Love Team Honors Black History Month - Feb. 2023**

The FL-Bahamas Synod's JUST Love team works toward racial justice, authentic diversity and JUST Love. Throughout Feb., the JUST Love Team is presenting *Lutherans You Should Know in Black History*.

Starting with this issue, info about one of four outstanding African Americans who made a meaningful difference in the Lutheran Church will be attached to the newsletter by which you receive the next 4 issues of *Zion Connection*. The stories of these faith-filled church leaders are not widely known, but each had a significant impact within and upon the church. We will hear how they persevered during the following four eras in U.S. History: Pre-Civil War Era, Jim Crow Era, Civil Rights Era, and Contemporary Era.

Don't want to wait for the bi-weekly installments? [Click here](#) to learn more about the work of the JUST Love team and/or to get a 'sneak peak' at all four of the featured church leaders.

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## Sunday Scripture Readings

**Sunday, January 29th**

*(4th Sunday After Epiphany)*

Micah 6:1-8

Psalms 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

**Sunday, February 5th**

*(5th Sunday After Epiphany)*

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Psalms 112:1-9 [10]

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

Matthew 5:13-20

**Sunday, February 12th**

*(6th Sunday After Epiphany)*

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 119:1-8

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-37

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## February Birthdays

**7th** - Jim McGovern

**15th** - Dee Shields

**18th** - Etta Brown (99yrs. ❤️)

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## Prayer Request List

Our prayers are requested for:

**Healing & Strength:**

Nalja, Leif, Monika, Malcolm, Dylan, Mike, Bob, Jim, Karen, Chris, Kim, John, and Linnea.

**Comfort in Sorrow:** The Thompson family upon the loss of Martin's brother, Harold.

**To add a name(s)**, please speak to Pastor, Susan S., or Joy, or [email the church office](#).

**Special Notices/Reprints:**  
**Two Separate Congregational Meetings**  
**Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023**

**Congregational Meeting to Consider Pastoral Call (Meeting #1)**

Our Zion Lutheran Church Council is excited to announce that there will be a special Congregational Meeting to consider extending a call to Pastor Karin Albaugh. This will take place on February 12 (Sunday) at about 12 noon (immediately following the worship service). A written ballot will be provided with a single motion for congregational voting. Active members of Zion present in-person will be eligible to vote.

**Please note:** The previously-announced regular Annual Congregational Meeting, also to be held on February 12th, will immediately follow this meeting. Further info will be coming on both meetings.

**Annual Congregational Meeting 2023 (Meeting #2)**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held February 12, 2023, immediately following the meeting to consider a pastoral call. The Annual Congregational Meeting will be live-streamed ([Link](#)) for members who are not able to attend in person. At present, the agenda includes the following items:

1. Proposed amendments to the constitution, mandated by ELCA synodical action last year. **Full details of the proposed amendments are attached to the email with which you received this ZC newsletter.**
2. Election of Council: Two council positions for 3-year terms need to be filled, and congregational approval of Becky Wehman to continue for the two remaining years (she was selected by the council in early 2022 to fill a vacancy).
3. Approval of the 2023 Budget.

Copies of the proposed agenda items will be made available in late January. Annual reports about Zion's activities in 2022 will also be shared. Additional agenda items should be proposed to the Council no later than January 22, 2023.