

January 1, 2022

Zion Connection

547 So. Main St., PO Box 607, Groveland, FL 34736

(352) 429-2960 | info@zionlutheranfl.com | [Zion Website](#) | 



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.

A New Year, a New Opportunity to Serve

One of the blessings of celebrating a new year is that wonderful feeling of fresh, new possibilities and opportunities that seems to be felt by one and all. As you consider your goals and hopes for 2022, you may want to consider a fresh new way of serving our wonderful church family. Zion is blessed to have several wonderfully gifted worship and music leaders who work tirelessly to provide us with meaningful, uplifting services. Still, there are several ways that YOU are needed to be a part of Zion's worship ministry -

- For our in-person Sunday service, volunteers are needed to prepare the Communion elements, to read the weekly scripture lessons, and to serve as Assistant Minister or Eucharistic Minister.
- For the weekly worship anthem which is recorded on Wednesday mornings to be played during the Sunday service, guest musicians are always welcome to share a musical offering.
- For the weekly livestream of our Sunday morning service, we need volunteers with an interest in technology (no experience required) to learn how to assist with the livestreaming equipment. Livestream volunteers always serve with a patient and experienced partner.

To learn more, please contact:

Pat McCurdy (Reader/Lector), Susan Skyzinski (Communion Prep), Karen McCamant (Music), Maryanne Lenning (Assistant and/or Eucharistic Minister) and Gary Lenning (Livestream Technology).

Church Calendar

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

Men's Prayer Breakfast -
Mondays - 8:30am @ Rainbow
Restaurant in Groveland

Pastor's Zoom Bible Study -
Thursdays - 2:00pm

Mah Jongg Fellowship -
Every Friday (no meeting on
12/31/21)- 1:00pm @ Zion
(For info: Gail Huntley.)

Church Council Mtg. -
Sunday, Jan. 9th @ 12:00pm

WELCA Meeting via Zoom -
Monday, Jan. 10th @ 10:00am

Zion Annual Mtg. -Sunday,
Jan. 30th, immediately
following the 11:00am service

Zion Family Birthdays in January -

4th - Joan Missell

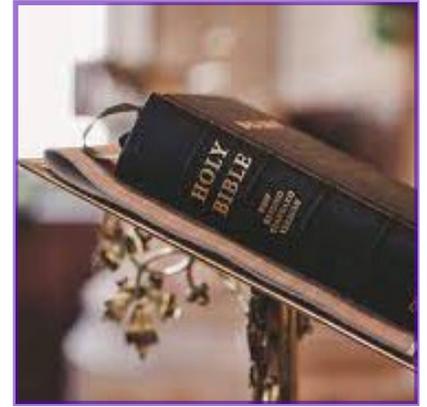
9th - Barbara Bell

May he grant you your heart's
desire and fulfill all your plans!

January WELCA Meeting

Monday, January 10th via Zoom - 9:30am/10:00am

The January WELCA meeting will be held via Zoom Monday, Jan. 10th. (Note: The date was listed incorrectly in previous editions of the *Zion Connection*.) While the meeting will begin promptly at 10:00am, the Zoom link will be open at 9:30am for a time of casual fellowship and sharing. Even if you can't stay for the entire meeting, please join us at 9:30am for the fellowship time. Here is the Zoom link for the meeting: [WELCA Zoom Gathering](#). (You may possibly be asked to enter the Meeting ID: 844 0690 9390 or Passcode: 914993.)



Men's Prayer Breakfast

Monday Mornings - 8:30am @ Rainbow Restaurant

Every Monday morning, the men of Zion gather to start their week with conversation, prayer, fellowship, good food and good coffee, lots and lots of good coffee!

They meet at the Rainbow Restaurant in Mascotte, a family-owned restaurant that's been in business since 1964. For more information, please contact men's breakfast organizer, John Renn. Hope to see YOU on Monday morning!

Living Lutheran: A Look Back & A Look Forward

In *Living Lutheran's* December lead feature, take a look back at the effects of COVID-19 on ELCA members and congregations, and a look forward to where we're headed now. In the study guide, Robert C. Blezard writes, "The COVID-19 pandemic has changed churches forever. Though we have lost some things, congregations and members are bouncing back and finding new opportunities and strength as the pandemic winds down." Read the [article](#) and download the [study guide](#).

Happy New Year, Dear Church

[Click here](#) to watch a brief video message: "New Year's Blessing! Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton." The message concludes with the following prayer:

"God, we turn to you at year's end with these prayers: for children to be safe, for peace to reign, and for hunger to be satisfied. We trust your wisdom and your word, for you are endless love. Amen.

Sunday Scripture Readings

Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

Friday, Jan. 9, 2022

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Sunday, Jan. 23, 2022

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

Sanctuary Flowers -

The chancel flowers in January are given by Jeanne Ferguson in loving memory of her husband, Bill, son, Kenneth, and mother, Betty.

Updated &/or Repeated Information

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2022

Zion Lutheran Church will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 30, 2022, following the 11:00am service. The meeting will be live-streamed ([Link](#)) for members who are not able to participate in the in-person service. The main items of business will be electing Council members, approving the budget, and voting on an amendment to the Constitution.

The amendment would change Sections 12.05 c. and d. to allow the Council to enter into contracts and access up to \$7500 rather than the present \$1500. Given the age of Zion's property and the rising costs of material and labor, the \$1500 cap limits the Council's ability to quickly address emergency needs in a timely manner, such as this past summer's air conditioning breakdowns. Such lag time could mean that Zion's property would be unusable while we wait for the Constitution's requirements (calling a meeting, announcing it for 2 consecutive Sundays, and mailing out notification of the meeting 10 days prior to the meeting and obtaining the approval of the congregation) to be fulfilled.

Following are the portions of the Constitution we are recommending be amended.

C12.05. The Congregation Council shall be responsible for the financial and property matters of this congregation.

- c. The Congregation Council may enter into contracts of up to ~~\$1500~~ \$7500 for items not included in the budget.
- d. The Congregation Council shall prepare an annual budget for adoption by this congregation, shall supervise the expenditure of funds in accordance therewith following its adoption, and may incur obligations of more than ~~\$1500~~ \$7500 in excess of the anticipated receipts only after approval by a Congregation Meeting. The budget shall include this congregation's full indicated share in support of the wider ministry being carried on in ~~partnership~~ collaboration with the synod and churchwide organization.

If you would like a copy of the entire Constitution, they are available at church in the office.

Peace,
Gary Lenning
Zion Congregation Council