

November 21, 2021

# 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.

## Share a Square!

### Article by Diane Brown - Thanks, Diane!

Have you noticed the tray of Prayer Squares on the table as you enter the church each week? Help yourself to as many as you want. The tray will be restocked continually.

Many months ago, Rae Starke had the brilliant idea that the clients at FAITH Neighborhood Center might benefit from having a prayer square. She has a standing order for 2 dozen prayer squares each month to distribute at FAITH.

What could you do with some prayer squares? Here are some ideas:

- Last year, a friend asked me for quite a few prayer squares. She said she planned to include one with each Christmas gift she gave out to her family and friends.
- My aunt asked me for 20 prayer squares. A women's group she is involved with was having a banquet and she wanted to place a prayer square at each place setting.
- We offer one to every person who comes to our home whether friend, neighbor or worker. We let them pick their favorite color. You might want to have a selection on hand for that purpose.
- We also carry some in our car and find many opportunities to offer them to people when we are out and about.

## 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 -

Fridays - 1:00pm @ Zion  
(Contact Gail Huntley)

### Women's Christmas Lunch -

Friday, Dec. 10th @ Lake  
David Park (Time TBD)

### Church Council Mtg. -

Sunday, Dec. 12th - 12:00pm

### First Sunday of Advent -

Sunday, November 28th

## Sanctuary Flowers in November-

The chancel flowers in  
November are given by Susan  
Skyzinski to the Glory of God.

## (Prayer Squares - continued)

If you want more prayer squares than the number in the tray, contact me and I will provide as many as you want. Remember that they don't do anyone any good if they are sitting in the tray at church or in a box at my house. They only do good when they are out in the world. I will even try to accommodate requests for specific colors, if desired. Share a square!

## FNC Struggling With 2021 Turkey Crunch

We have all probably noticed while preparing for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday that turkeys are in short supply this year, especially those that are 'not too large' and are reasonably priced. As a result, our local food pantry, [Faith Neighborhood Center](#), is struggling to find enough turkeys for the 800+ families they will serve for the next big family holiday - Christmas. So this year, FNC is asking members of the community who are able to donate \$15.00 gift cards (Winn-Dixie or Publix). A gift card will be included in each client's Christmas dinner food box in place of a turkey so that families can purchase their own turkey, ham, or other protein replacement.

If you would like to provide a gift card, please simply place your donation (cash, check or gift card) in the Zion offering plate on Sunday **or** mail a check to Zion (PO Box 607). Please make checks payable to Zion Lutheran Church, but clearly note on the check (or the cash envelope) that it is to be used for FNC Christmas. Treasurer John Renn will send the funds directly to FNC.

## From Around the ELCA -

### What About Us, the 99?!

A [Brief Video Message](#) from ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton - Most of you have heard of the ELCA's goal to engage 1 million new, young, diverse members by the end of the decade. But what about the rest of us, the ones already engaged?

### Annual Ecumenical Devotion 2021

The four member churches of [Churches Beyond Borders](#) have compiled a 16-day devotional focusing on gender-based violence against women. The devotional is an annual tradition for member churches - the ELCA, the Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church of Canada, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. This year, Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) is the guiding text. The devotional can be found [here](#).



## Sunday Scripture Readings

### Sunday, Nov. 28, 2021

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

### Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1:68-79

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

### Sunday, Dec. 12, 2021

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

## Zion Family Birthdays in Nov.-

3rd - Rev. L.G. Wehman

9th - Mike Harrass

13th - Thais McGovern

23rd - Rich McCamant

23rd - Lou Ann Cousino

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## Updated &/or Repeated Information

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### Christmas Gifts for LSF Foster Kids

LSF ([Lutheran Services Florida](#)) is an organization dedicated to serving those most vulnerable members of our communities by providing life-changing human services to all people regardless of age, background, or belief system. LSF is dedicated to serving children and families, youth and teens, adults and elderly, refugees and immigrants through various programs ranging from substance abuse and mental health to education. The lives of 1 in 50 Floridians is impacted by LSF through various services offered across the state.

This Christmas season our Zion WELCA group is teaming up with LSF to help ensure that all children in the LSF foster care program, both in-home and residential, receive a personal Christmas gift. Rather than the actual gifts, WELCA is collecting monetary donations which will be sent directly to LSF. These funds will be used by LSF to purchase holiday gifts for each child based on his/her wishes.

**If you would like to join Zion's WELCA members in their support of these special children,** please simply place your donation in the Zion offering on Sunday morning or mail a check to Zion (PO Box 607). Please make checks payable to Zion Lutheran Church, but clearly note on the check that it is to be used for LSF Christmas. Our awesome treasurer, John Renn, will see that the funds are sent to LSF.

### Women's Christmas Fellowship

All of our wonderful women of Zion are cordially invited to WELCA's annual Christmas get-together. Whether you are able to participate in WELCA activities during the year or not, this is a time for **ALL** Zion women to join together in a time of fun and fellowship.

Pavilion #1 at Groveland's newly-renovated and award-winning Lake David Park, just a block or two from Zion, has been reserved for us on Friday, December 10th. Details such as exact time, the food we'll be sharing, a possible gift exchange, etc. are still in the planning stages. For now, please mark your calendars and make plans to join your sisters in Christ for a joyful celebration around lunch. (Of course, we'll reschedule if the weather does not cooperate, but we're hopeful.)

### Prayer Concerns List

One of the most powerful and impactful spiritual gifts Zion has as a community of faith is the heartfelt call to prayer felt by so many in our church family. Whether one is in need of special prayer or is responding to that need, we are all blessed in our coming together to ask for God's healing, guidance, and steadfast support. To facilitate our coming together, we now have a dedicated email address specifically for prayer requests: [prayers@zionlutheranfl.com](mailto:prayers@zionlutheranfl.com). Please send your requests for whatever need God places on your heart. We also appreciate receiving updates so that we can keep our prayer concerns list current.