

**Northeast Kansas
Lutheran Church Partnership
LCMS
FEBRUARY, 2023**



*From the Pastor's study
1/17/23—36 days until Lent*

Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return

Words spoken by a sinner to a sinner. Words spoken by the dying to the dying. Words spoken by a man wearing ashes to those wearing ashes. The smell of myrrh is in those ashes. The smell of death is marked on us. *Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.* Words spoken to our first father are now spoken to us again (Gen 3:19). But when these words were first spoken to our first father, he did not hear them as we do. For we hear these same words of death but we also hear them as we are marked with the sign of the cross. As we consider that one day we will return to the dust in death, we can only be rightly prepared if we are under the cross.



As we embark upon this austere and humbling season of the church, it behooves us to remind ourselves that one day we will die. When we pray the last petition of the Lord's Prayer, "*Deliver us from evil,*" the Small Catechism teaches that we are asking that "when our last hour comes, our Father in heaven would give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven." To pray for a blessed end or a blessed death is to pray to retain God's gift of faith even until death. The Church's role is to keep you safe in this faith until you die. Your pastor's job is to prepare you to die this blessed death. Yes, as we say on Ash Wednesday, you are dust and to dust you shall return (Gen 3:19) but, remember also—under the cross—you are also Christ's and to Christ you shall return. The only true preparation is faith in Jesus.

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Member Congregations:

First Lutheran, Sabetha
311 Cedar
Sabetha, KS 66534
785-284-3566

St. Paul, Fairview
110 East Maple
Fairview, KS 66425
785-467-8816

Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha
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With that faith in Jesus, it is wise to think about your Christian funeral before it happens. When we think about and plan our funeral, the most important thing to remember is that the Christian Funeral— like all services of the Church— is a proclamation of the hope we have in the crucified and risen Christ. Which means that it isn't about us, it is about Jesus *for* us. With that in mind, the Christian funeral should be planned to exalt and promote the Person and work of Christ. It should proclaim all that He has done for the blessed dead. When we bury someone, the funeral should proclaim that Jesus has spent everything, even His own life, to buy that field where they are buried (Matt 13:44).

There is a lot to consider when we think about funerals. My recommendation to you this Lent is as follows: remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. Spiritually, I pray that this lent is a time of self-denial and dying-to-self. But I also hope that you will consider pre-planning your funeral. As you do, I have a funeral planning guide that I would like as many people to fill out as possible. I can email that to you or print one out and hand deliver it. In the guide, you will find pretty much every question about planning a funeral: readings, hymns, pall bearers, visitation or no, open casket or no, etc. If you have time, I would love to sit down and plan this out with you. I will say that for those in the churches who have done this, when they do fall asleep in Christ, it has made the whole process much easier, quicker, and less confusing to those who mourn.

As you enter into Lent marked by ashes, remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. But as you get to Easter, marked by the cross, remember also that you are Christ's and to Christ you shall return.

Pastor Kinney

SERVICE SCHEDULE

January 29th – St. Paul at 8:30am – First at 10:30am

February 5th – Zion at 8:30am – First at 10:30am

February 12th – St. Paul at 8:30am – First at 10:30am

February 19th – Zion at 8:30am – First at 10:30am

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: (F) Cory Holsapple, Kelsey (Blum) Holsapple, Liam Blum, Aaron Foist, Allan Feek, Kevin Remmers; (IMM) Tristan Knott, Daniel Wheeler, Paul Reynolds Jr.; (SP) Spencer Ernst, Bert Ernst.

College: (F) Madisen Cochran, Paul Pearson; (IMM) Megan Brockhoff, Aydan Bass, (Z) Paige Stover, Gunner Smith.

Care Facilities & Shut-Ins: (F) Stan Kohlmeier, LaVonne Thieme; (Imm) Nancy Brockhoff, Gene Rice; (StP) Betty Allen, Carol Bauer; (Z) Darlene Covert, Connie Kneisel, Jaynell Robidoux, Don Robidoux, Charles Fritz, Lois Voss, Tom Hansen.

Also in our prayers: (F) Ted Remmers, Brett Trentman, John Perry, Joyce Paulsen, Evelyn Goodman, Karen Aeschliman, Grayson Unruh, Carla Bishop, Roger Riekenberg, Curtis Cook, Lisa Riekenberg, Crystal Kinkler; (IMM) Doris Rice, Traci Rahe, Fred Meeks; (St.P) Wanda Barrett, Wes Duesing, Deb Bailey, Chris Torrey; (Z) Lyle Broxterman, Dale Mueller, Mark Mueller, Carl Mueller, Sherry Hartley.



We Remember the blessed saints who now rest in the Lord (Mike Ogden) , and we pray for their families that they remember all who die in the Lord live with the Lord. (Romans 6:5)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb 2-Chris Rosenberger, Feb 4-Nanci Oswald, Feb 5-Cathy Brockhoff, Feb 6-Larry Walter, Feb 8-Aubrey Rahe, Feb 10-Marty Martinson, Feb 10-Ken Meyer, Feb 10-Kortlan Kleopfer, Feb 11-Kathy Heiniger, Feb 11-Tammy Sisk, Feb 13-Tinner Bachelor, Feb 13-Jason Steiner, Feb 16-Marcia Spellmeier, Feb 16-Avery Davidson, Feb 17-Steve Bauman, Feb 21-Ursula Bauman, Feb 21-Nick Blaske, Feb 23-Eva Maria Kinney, Feb 23-Caleb Sullivan, Feb 23-Dawn Stephens, Feb 24-Dennis Manche, Feb 24-Kurt Killman, Feb 25-Brian Burenheide, Feb 25-Aaron Georg, Feb 25-Darin Georg, Feb 26-Paige Strahm, Feb 27-Milan Kloepfer, Feb 28-Martha Pearson, Feb 28-Margo Fries

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Feb 5-Caroll & Roberta Plattner, Feb 6-Chuck & Deb Sjulín, Feb 11-Dwight & Charlotte Kruse, Feb 16-Maurice & Darlene Atland, Feb 19-Gary & Nanci Oswald

MEETINGS

JOINT COUNCIL – February 13th @ 6:30pm



Partnership Ladies Bible Study

*Tuesday nights at 6:30pm
at Zion Lutheran.
Please join us!*

VISIT THE PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE

Our website, (www.neklutherans.org), contains the history of the partnership and partnership churches, a calendar of events, recent happenings and future events.

Special announcements are also placed on the website.

New pictures are added frequently.

It has past copies of the newsletters and the calendar for you to reference.

Go to www.neklutherans.org.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We invite all kids to come and join us for Sunday School!

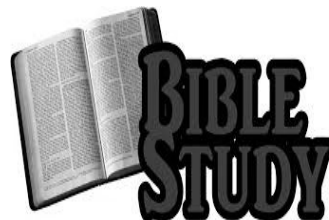
Sunday School meets each Sunday morning at **9:15am** at **First**.

Sunday School at **Zion and St. Paul** starts after the service at **9:30am**.

Adult Bible Class at St. Paul and Zion meet on Sunday mornings after worship.

First Adult Bible Study meets at 9:15.

Please come join us!!



SERVERS FOR FEBRUARY

FIRST LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Feb 5th: **Elders**–Michael Bachelor & Dwight Edelman, **Acolytes**–Tyson Detweiler & Hadden Bachelor, **Ushers**–Steve Aeschliman & Steve Goodman, **Greeters**–Les & Sharon Trentman, **Counters**–Vicki Edelman & Steve Aeschliman

Feb 12th: **Elders**–Kurt Detweiler & John Feek, **Acolytes**–Millie Stoller & Jethro Steiner, **Ushers**–David Bauman & Patrick Sheik, **Greeters**–Steve & Karen Aeschliman, **Counters**–Heather Lehwald & Glenna Strahm

Feb 19th: **Elders**–Allan Spellmeier & Scott Schremmer, **Acolytes**–Paycen Schremmer & Tinner Bachelor, **Ushers**–Stan Remmers & Matt Bosworth, **Greeters**–Chuck & Deb Sjulín, Linda Swogger, **Counters**–Allan Spellmeier & Darrell Schuette

Feb 26th: **Elders**–Dwight Edelman & Michael Bachelor, **Acolytes**–Lily Pearson & Louke Hunt, **Ushers**–Darrell Schuette & Ed Hatheway, **Greeters**–Matt & Sydney Bosworth, **Counters**–Patty & Stan Remmers

Altar Guild for February: Glenna Strahm, Sarah Strahm, Martha Pearson

Trustees for February: Matt Bosworth & Ed Hatheway

ZION LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Feb 5th: **Elder**–Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**–Marissa Lee, **Ushers**–David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen, **Greeter**–David Middendorf, **Lector**–Jessica Gigstad, **Sound System**–Leon Wissmann

Feb 12th: Church at St. Paul at 8:30

Feb 19th: **Elder**–Kurt Killman, **Acolyte**–Myriah Lee, **Ushers**–Leon Wissmann & Richard Clay, **Greeters**–Gigstad Family, **Lector**–David Middendorf, **Sound System**–David Middendorf

Feb 26th: **Elder**–Leon Wissmann, **Acolyte**–Brady Killman, **Ushers**–David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen, **Greeters**–Killman Family, **Lector**–Leon Wissmann, **Sound System**–Derrick VanDusen

Altar Guild for February: Anne Arnesen, Debbie Reschke, Lela Middendorf

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Feb 5th: **Greeters**– Church at Zion at 8:30am

Feb 12th: **Greeters**– Darryl & Helen Hoppe

Feb 19th: **Greeters**– Church at Zion at 8:30

Feb 26th: **Greeters**– Mark & Becky Meyer

Altar Committee for February: Charlotte Kruse, Cindy Manche, Doug Kleopfer

ZION LWML

The regular meeting of the Zion Lutheran LWML was called to order by President Lela Middendorf on January 10, 2023 with 4 members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Anne Arnesen and approved, and the treasurer's report was given by Diane Davis. Thank you notes were received from the Atland's for the Christmas gift bag and from Traci Rahe for our support of her ministry.

Lela announced that registration has begun for the LWML National Convention to be held in Milwaukee, WI in late June.

A discussion was held about relinquishing some of the LWML courtesies provided to Zion because of our dwindling membership in LWML. We will inform the Church Council at the next quarterly meeting for their input. It was decided to continue providing Lutheran Womens Quarterly magazines for all of the ladies at Zion.

Lela closed with a devotion entitled, "Begin With God, He Gives Us Strength" based on Psalm 46:1. The next regular meeting will be held February 14.

Anne Arnesen, Secretary

ST. PAUL DORCAS

There was no Dorcas meeting held in January. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, February 12th, after worship services.

FIRST LWML

First Lutheran LWML welcomed the New Year, 2023 on January 5, 2023 with 5 members present. President Tami Rutten opened the meeting with devotion. "Always Prayers" was given by Brenda Meyer.

Our lesson was the 2nd part of "Lord, Teach us to Pray", with Tami as our leader. We learned what each line means, so very much more to us, and also telling many verses in the Bible where each line was taken from. Ruth Swart, secretary, called the roll with "what we were thankful for". Minutes were read and approved. Carole Feek gave the treasurer's report. She had sent mites to the district. She collected mites and dues. The baby gifts were brought, and Tami had a basket to put them in. Kathy Steiner had checked at the AC Home about having one of our meetings there, so that several members could attend. Our group will continue to collect items for the health care kits. Brenda makes several each month---thanks, Brenda.

Several members are "thinking about" National convention, which will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. June 22-25, 2023.

Our Bible study for Wednesday, February 1st will be from the winter, 2023 Lutheran's Woman Quarterly "Dilemmas and Decisions" page 15. Roll call will be "Something about Valentine's Day".

Ruth Swart, secretary

FIRST PRESCHOOL

Happy New Year from the Preschoolers! We are learning winter poems and rhymes and reading books about snowmen and winter.

We started the new year with two Old Testament Bible stories: Three Men in the Furnace and Daniel in the Lion's Den.

We are busy learning more letters, sounds, and numbers. The kids are working hard and learning so much! We look forward to wearing our pajamas to school when we study Letter P.

We are thankful for each student and their family that attends our school. We pray that we will be a blessing to them.

Check out our Facebook page: [First Lutheran Christian Preschool](#) to keep current with more activities and pictures. We would love for you to spread the word about our school.

Denise Huning
Keremy Bachelor

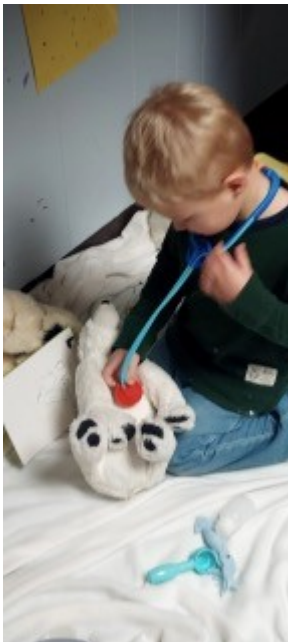


ST. PAUL PRESCHOOL

The students have really enjoyed being back in school and hopefully the break got rid of all the germs. We have began the year learning about the Arctic and Antarctica. We recently talked about the Northern lights. We made projects and snacks that were very colorful. We watched the lights on the ceiling and learned how they are made. The kids are also loving all the animals and taking care of them in the clinic.

Pastor came and told us about Daniel in the Lions Den and the 3 men in the Fiery Furnace. We are learning more songs also.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of our wonderful program.



NEK LUTHERAN CHURCH PARTNERSHIP

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:30 Ministerial Alliance 6:30 Confirmation	2 Groundhog Day Week 1 visits	3	4
5th Sunday after Epiphany Super Bowl 9:15 Bible Study @First Bible Study @Zion (after service)	6 Pr. Kinney Day Off	7 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	8 6:30 Confirmation	9 Week 2 visits 6:15 AHG Troop Mtg.	10	11
12th Sunday after Epiphany 9:15 Bible Study @First Bible Study @St.Paul (after service) St. Paul Dorcas	13 Pr. Kinney Day Off 6:30 Joint Council	14 Valentine's Day 9:00 Circuit 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:30 Zion LWML	15 6:30 Confirmation	16 Week 3 visits	17	18
19 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:15 Bible Study @First Bible Study @Zion (after service) 7:00 First Men's Group	20 Presidents Day Pr. Kinney Day Off Articles Due for Newsletter	21 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Zion Council	22 Ash Wednesday 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service	23 Week 4 visits 6:15 AHG Troop Mtg.	24	25 8:30 Confirmation
26 First Sunday in Lent 9:15 Bible Study & breakfast potluck @First Bible Study @St.Paul (after service)	27 Pr. Kinney Day Off	28 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	