

ZION'S JOURNEY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

----Joel 2:13

This is the call of the season of Lent: to return to God. And thanks be to God for this word from the prophet Joel who tells us *why* we return. It's because of who God is and what God promises to us. And God promises that he is gracious and merciful, longsuffering, and overflowing in his faithfulness and love for us, not wanting to punish but extend mercy. We return to the One who, in the midst of our confession of human frailty and weakness and even death, gives us the only true Word of Life.

This Lenten season, you are also invited into the community of saints. Actually, you already belong to that community by the promise given to you in baptism! But our Wednesday worship in Lent will center around the theme "Created for Community" as we encounter and explore both the law and gospel of belonging.

And that brings me to exciting news about our next steps in worship planning! Thanks to some generous donors, we have purchased livestreaming equipment and will be able to begin livestreaming our worship services on our Facebook page on Ash Wednesday. All of our livestreams will be available to watch on-demand after the service. We also plan to move back to in-person services (still with our Covid protocols in place) each Sunday beginning February 21. We have a new worship schedule that looks like this starting in Lent:

Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

12:15 PM & 6:00 PM (same traditional service at both times)

5:30-5:50 PM – kids' time with Pastoral Assistant Sandra in the fellowship hall

Both services will be in-person (with masks and social distancing), livestreamed, and on-demand after the livestream. In-person worshippers will pick up both prepackaged Communion and ashes as they enter the sanctuary and impose ashes on themselves or their family members and Commune in the pews.

Beginning Sunday, February 21 at 8:30

We return to 8:30 traditional worship each Sunday. This service will be in-person, livestreamed, and on-demand after the livestream, as well as on our live radio broadcast. We will not have a prerecorded contemporary service on Sundays.

Wednesdays in Lent: Created for Community

12:15 PM – in-person and livestreamed traditional worship in the sanctuary

5:30-5:50 PM – kids' time with Pastoral Assistant Sandra in the fellowship hall

6:00 PM – Praise Band-led in-person and livestreamed worship in the sanctuary

6:30 PM – take-out meals will be ready for you to grab after worship

After Lent, we have plans to continue the Praise Band-led service on Wednesday evenings. The same Scripture readings and sermon will be at both Wednesday and Sunday services.

These are exciting developments in our worship life at Zion! Thank you to all, especially our Worship & Music committee members, who have been thinking and praying about moving into our next faithful step in providing worship.

In Christ's peace, Pastor Erin



THANK YOU - Thank you pastor Erin for the beautiful sermon for Howard, Sue Gates for playing the piano and Zach & Saundra Anderson for their beautiful singing and stepping in as ushers. We thank the people of Zion for your kind thoughts, prayers and donations made to Zion.

God Bless you all,
LaVina Nelson & family

Noah's Park Preschool Taco Johns fundraiser:

Wednesday, February 24
from 4-8pm. The preschool will receive 25% of all sales during this time, so let Taco Johns take care of cooking for you that evening! Thanks for your support!

Special Offering for the Month of February is Habitat for Humanity!

Please see the bulletin board for more information.



MARDI GRAS STROLL-THROUGH Tuesday, February 16 Noon-8:00 PM in the fellowship hall

Stop in to the fellowship hall anytime between noon and 8:00 PM on "Fat Tuesday" to stroll through our stations as we get ready for Lent! There will be something for all ages. Stop at the "Lent to Go" station to pick up your take-out church box, which will include a variety of things to help you and your family observe the Lenten season at home, a Noisy Offering station to drop your loose change in support of our monthly special offering ministry, and a few other surprise stations! This will be self-guided, so that all are able to stroll through in a safely-distanced way.

Thank you for your continued giving!

Zion remains active in ministry and mission, and the church's ministry will depend on your support. Please mail in checks (rather than dropping them off) to the church office: Zion Lutheran Church, 1732 S Main St, Aberdeen SD 57401.

Or give online today (multiple ways) by going to zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving.

Or just scan this QR code with your smartphone and it will take you to our giving page.



ZION HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Bethesda Home

Martha Zimmerman
Ben Schroeder
Carol Knispel
Jane Fischer
Janice Peterson

Bethesda Town Sq.

Meta Vetter
Shirley Wagemann
Viola Tetherow
Gladys Voegelé

Minnesota

LeRoy Buechler

California

Erna Schmierer

Groton Health Care

Leon Tobin
Marge Rhodes
Joe & Ruth Bosmoe

Colorado

Ella Aipperspach

Primrose Cottages

Charleen Hargens
Frances Wolff

Arizona

Hazel Martell

Idaho

Marvin Bucholz



"GRATEFUL FOR YOU"

☺ Thanks to Shane & Cindi Schauer for helping with Advent banners.

☺ Thanks to Norma Miller for taking care of the poinsettia plants.

☺ Thanks to all the 2020 Auditors: Joel Albrecht, Marcie Andersh, Scott Geffre, Brian VanderWeyst & Mae Click. You are greatly appreciated.

☺ Thanks to our 2021 call committee for all the time they spent finding our council members for this year.

GRATEFUL FOR YOU!

- Thank you members of Zion for the lovely card and greetings. We miss being a part of our church. We couldn't do to much but it was nice to see smiling faces of friends. We are doing well and send greetings to Zion for a happy and normal 2021.

Joe & Ruth Bosmoe

- Thank you for your continued support of Journey Home. We would not be able to do what we do without you! We are looking forward to what 2021 brings. Happy new year!
- Thanks so much for your donation to Aspire Foundation. Your gift helps provided a wide array of services to people with intellectual disabilities.
- Thanks for your donation to Safe Harbor. Your financial support helps us continue in our mission and assist those in our community.

SUNDAY RADIO BROADCASTS

Will you consider sponsoring a Sunday Radio broadcast? Radio sponsorships are \$110.00 and we have several openings. (You may also sign up for half a broadcast and share with someone for \$55.00).

Please call Donna in the office @ 225-6755 to sign up and let her know what you would like it to be in honor or memory of. Thanks for your continued support of this important ministry.

Noah's Park Preschool

Hello from Noah's Park! We are back to school after a very needed and relaxing Christmas holiday break.

It seems like both parents and children were ready to come back!! It was certainly nice to hit that milestone of Christmas and being able to continue being in the classroom.



We have been reading The Mitten by Jan Brett and have had a great time acting out the story and making polka dot mitten art and our own paper mittens with animals that fit inside to retell the story.

Some of the children also made hedgehogs out of play-doh complete with toothpick quills. The older children also had a taco party based off of Dragons Love Tacos. It was both yummy and fun! ~Jami



STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

Web: zionlutheranaberdeem.org
YouTube: bit.ly/ZLCYouTube
Facebook: facebook.com/ZionAberdeen
Instagram: [@zlcaberdeensd](https://www.instagram.com/zlcaberdeensd)

PASTOR'S CONTACT #'s

Pastor Erin - 605-252-0320
Pastor Tim - 605-290-6297

SAVE THE DATE IN 2021!

Synod Assembly

June 4-5, 2021

Scheduled to take place at Our Savior's Lutheran in Sioux Falls. A final determination on whether or not assembly will be online will be voted on at the March synod council meeting.

Are you signed up for the weekly synod news?

Head over to sdsynod.org and click the sign-up on the homepage to be included on the weekly synod news email. Each week you will find updates and news happening across the South Dakota Synod and in the ELCA.

Join us.

If you aren't already getting Mailchimp emails, go to
bit.ly/zionmailchimp and sign up.

SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD CONNECTIONS

FROM THE BISHOPS DESK



Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! - You have heard me say it from the beginning and since then over and over again that as the church we will never be able to go back to normal as we learn to live with COVID. You may wonder: "What does that mean?" It means that even if we would be able to return to the church that we were prior to COVID, we would need to examine, if that is even what we would want to do. Prior to the pandemic

I have heard you say, that you didn't like the way the church was and that you wished for it to be different. I want you to know that I hear you, that your synod staff hears you and that we are currently assembling a task force that works on revitalizing ministry as we learn to live with COVID in our midst and continue to be church and the people of God. The task force will be working on a framework that will help you in your ministry site to lean and live into revitalizing ministry in God's name in your context. Please watch for details to come soon.

Journeying in Christ with you,
Rev. Constanze Hagmaier

FAITH & FAMILY

Sunday School Update

In person: Our next in-person Sunday School time will be Sunday, February 7th at 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. Masks will be required for all over the age of two, and physical distancing will be practiced between family groups.

Packets: There will be two packets available for at home Sunday School in February. These packets will be available at the in-person date or in the church office throughout the month. These packets are available to all kids, whether they were officially registered for this Sunday School year or not. Please feel free to pick up packets to take home to your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews, etc. Materials, along with a video of the story and musical selections for each packet will be available on the Zion Youth Facebook page on February 21st and February 28th.

<https://bit.ly/zionyouthFBpage>



Council Highlights

The Education committee is working on painting parts of the Sunday School wing to update it and make the space inviting for kids.

The Social Concerns committee is holding their freezer meal gift card drive until the 31st to help stock the freezer.

Livestreaming services was approved; this will allow more consistency in service schedules, and all services could be livestreamed and made available for those who cannot worship in person.

A policy has been approved to allow the spouse or family member of a staff member to serve on council as long as the council member recuses themselves from voting on any matters affecting staff.

The preschool is self-sustained through the tuition that families pay; however, due to decreased enrollment this year, they have had to dip into the contingency fund to pay Jami's salary. If enrollment doesn't increase in the fall, there may not be enough money to pay Jami's salary next year. The door project has also been put on hold due to lack of funds.



ZION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Zion will once again award two \$350 scholarships for the coming academic year. One will go to a 2021 high school graduate and one to a continuing college student.

See the application for full instructions. Printed applications are now available in the fellowship hall. **Completed applications should be returned to the church no later than April 1, 2021.** You can also find the application on our website at zionlutheranaberdeen.org/signupcentral

TAKING FAITH HOME

The *Taking Faith Home* sheets will now be available each week inside the front entryway of the church. You can pick up a copy if you attend Sunday worship or anytime during the week. We'll also include these with Sunday School packets that families will be receiving.



Zion Lutheran Church
 1732 South Main Street
 Aberdeen, SD 57401
 (605) 225-6755 zion@nvc.net
 zionlutheranaberndeen.org

Staff

Rev. Erin Heidelberger.....Pastor
 Rev. Tim Sersen.....Visitation Pastor
 Saura Anderson.....Pastoral Assistant
 Donna Steckler.....Office Manager
 Jami Ringgenberg.....Preschool Director/Teacher

ZION'S KEY MISSION

Rooted in faith + Growing in Spirit +
 Reaching out to those in need



ZION'S MOTIVATING MISSION

+ Centered in prayer, nourished through the Sacraments, empowered by God's Holy Spirit, Zion is spreading the Good News through new and innovative ministries.

+ Rooted in a strong heritage, Zion focuses on developing ministries of caring to help those in need.

+ Zion opens her doors to singles, families, special needs, young and old, church and unchurched, welcoming all into the family of God.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Officers / Executive Committee:

Mike Bretsch.....President
 Jena German.....Vice President
 Ed Suchomel.....Treasurer
 Lisa Lambrechts.....Secretary

Council Representatives:

Kelly VanderWeyst.....Education
 Kathy Johnson.....Fellowship
 Rod Wiedrich.....Finance
 Shane Schauer.....Properties
 Nicole Schutter.....Social Concerns
 Chastity Madsen.....Stewardship
 Sharon Paranto.....Visitation
 Phyllis Gab.....Welcome & Outreach
 Monica Tietz.....Worship & Music
 Jennifer Wagemann.....Youth

ZION MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

LeRoy Friedrichsen
 Allen Gates
 Ida Fauth
 Hilda Hoffman
 Curt Suedmeier
 Patricia Lyle
 Sally Isaacson
 Howard Nelson
 Howard Nelson
 Howard Nelson
 Howard Nelson
 Howard Nelson
 Howard Nelson
 Howard Nelson
 Howard Nelson
 John Guthmiller

For:

Organ
 Organ
 Organ
 Organ
 Organ
 General
 Altar Guild
 General
 General
 General
 General
 General
 General
 General
 General
 General
 Freezer meals

From:

Carmel Heyd
 Carmel Heyd
 Carmel Heyd
 Carmel Heyd
 Carmel Heyd
 Loren\April Nehlich
 Kathy Heffernan
 Dick\LaVonne Brick
 Melinda Brown
 Shelly Unga family
 Wilma Zimmeran
 LaVern Albrecht
 Roger\Audrey Remen
 Sandy Maier
 Pat\Karen VanKealen
 Allen\Bonnie Kolb

In Honor of:

Mary Jane Kabrud
 Birthday

For:

Altar Guild

From:

Mary Jane Kabrud

**Thank you for your ongoing gifts in memory
 of loved ones.**

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR DONATING POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISMAS WORSHIP:

In Memory of:

Marvin Franz &
 Emily Wagner

From:

Kathy, Kevin &
 Tina Franz

Jordan Daniel Heyd His family

A very special friend Ed Suchomel &
 Ronald Wright Millie Suchomel

Alna Norton Delila Norton
 Leland Norton

Anna Weber Pastor Erin
 Bobby\Betty Ranard
 Judy Johnson

Deb Hardy



Virtual Coffee
 with the Pastor

VIRTUAL COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR AT 11 ON THE 11TH!

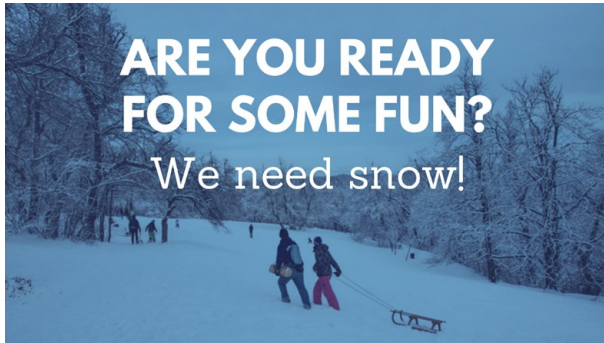
FEB 11 AT 11 AM

Brew your own coffee, pull up a comfy chair, and check in with Pastor Erin and your Zion family in our Zoom "living room"!

Just go to this link and follow the prompts:

bit.ly/ZionCoffeeHour

FAITH & FAMILY



CROSS YOUR FINGERS! People usually don't wish for a bunch of snow, but we are! The next time we have a good snowfall, we want to get congregational members of all ages together to go sledding. Be watching our Facebook pages and Instagram for all the details after the next significant amount of snow.



IT'S TIME TO START PLANNING!

Pastor Erin and Saundra will be holding an informational meeting for those interested in attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next year. Students who are eligible to attend are this year's 7th-11th graders.

PLEASE NOTE: the dates have changed. The same information will be presented at both meetings, so please pick the one that best suits your schedule:

Sunday, February 14th at 1:00 pm on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6052256755?pwd=YXRyWFFXb2hBVUFvd3pzTVpjb2Y1UT09>

Meeting ID: 605 225 6755 ~ Passcode: GATHERING

Wednesday, February 17th at 6:30 pm in person

This meeting will be held following our Ash Wednesday evening service in the Fellowship Hall.

CAMP ————— Summer 2021 Registration Now Open! ————— CAMP

Hooray! Summer Camp registration is now open! We are so excited to welcome you back to the camps of Lutherans Outdoors for summer camp in 2021!

Remember to visit losd.org to register for a wonderful faith-filled experience at a Lutherans Outdoors camp for the summer of 2021.

All registrations are done online at losd.org. Register now!

If you have any questions please contact Erica who will gladly walk you through the process. Please be released as we get closer to summer. Our Year-round staff are following the guidelines of the American Camp Association.

Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota welcomes ALL to explore and experience Christ's love in community and creation. Let the countdown to the return to camp this summer begin!



(800-888-1464 or info@losd.org), our registrar, Safety protocol and information will be re-currently putting together protocol fol-

Zion parents, If your child(ren) is currently in third grade or older, talk to Saundra if you'd like to get signed up for camp and be a part of our fundraising this spring and summer.



COME AND GO COMMUNION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Continuing in February, we will offer two different times on the same day for Come-and-Go Communion. Stop in anytime **noon-1:00 PM** and **5:00-6:00 PM**, and you will be able to partake of the Lord's Supper individually or with your family group in a brief service (about 5 minutes). Come join in the feast!



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in becoming a member of our faith family? Or do you know someone who is? Or are you wondering what it means to be a member of Zion? Let Pastor Erin know of your interest! We'll be deciding soon how to hold our New Member Welcome sessions in the months to come (possibly over Zoom), so we'd love to know if you're thinking about becoming a member. You can reach Pastor Erin at the church at 225-6755 or by email at pastorerin@nvc.net



NEW YEAR = NEW FELLOWSHIP GROUP!

Women of all ages are invited to join Pastor Erin for *Café* Group.

Café groups are one way that women across the ELCA have created community within their congregations. They meet to discuss the topics in every monthly issue of *Café*, (boldcafe.org). *Café* is an on-line magazine that shares stories written by young women who write about faith, relationships, advocacy and more. Readers and writers of *Café* include pastors, seminary and college students, and other young adult women who use *Café* as a Bible study resource individually or with a group. Although many women in their 20s and 30s contribute in every issue, *Café* can be used and shared by women of all ages.

Because of our current pandemic concerns, the Zion *Café* group meets over Zoom, but we hope to move to local restaurants and/or coffee shops in future months.

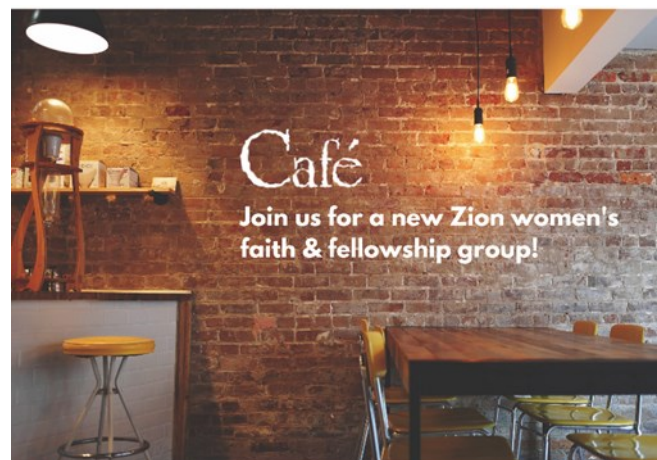
Thursday, February 25 at 7:00 PM

BYOD (Bring Your Own Dessert!)

Just go to this web link and follow the prompts:

bit.ly/ZionCafe

Meeting ID: 873 2618 2589



THANK YOU to Kathy Brumbaugh for making these beautiful stoles for our pastors.

They are in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women in the ELCA.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT—we held three Christmas Eve services at Zion, which ended with the congregation singing “Go Tell It on the Mountain” outdoors. Saundra and Donna made and printed luminaries to line the sidewalk for these evening services.

FAITH & FAMILY



Families, you can access the most updated info for all Confirmation youth on our **Confirmation Central** page on our website by going to this link:

bit.ly/ZionConfirmation2020

You can also get to this page by going to our website: zionlutheranaberdeen.org and clicking on the "Faith Formation" tab, then clicking on "Confirmation 2020-21".

SUNDAY SCHOOL REFRESH

Thanks so much to Jessica Moser and her children (Carter, Adalyn, and Olivia) who are hard at work drawing and painting in the Education wing at Zion. In addition to Noah's Ark pictured, they have also been painting other animals around the preschool room and in the hallway.

Stop in and take a look!



WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A BLAST!



Join Sandra for a story and activity from 5:30-5:50 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

We'll read a story and do an activity related to Lent/Easter before each Wednesday evening Lenten service, and we'll finish in time for the service (and send the kids with an activity sheet to work on). Can't make it by 5:30? No problem! Join us when you can. Open to pre-K – 5th grade kids.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Pastor Erin will meet with fifth-graders and their parents on Sundays during March for First Communion classes. The tentative plan is to hold classes online over Zoom. We'll gather together on **March 7, 14, 21, and 28** (time is TBD).



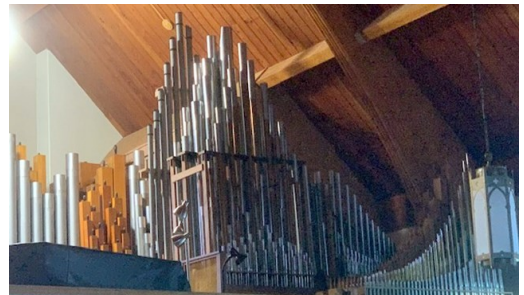
Fifth-graders will receive their First Communion at the Maundy Thursday worship service at 6:00 PM on Thursday, April 1.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH ~ ORGAN RESTORATION

Even in these times of uncertainty there are still things that cannot be forgotten. A small group of us have formed together to work towards how we can revitalize our organ so we do not lose a part of our worship in the future. The organ project has been approved by the Church Council.

We are currently in the process of starting fundraising knowing that we will have a very large journey ahead of us. With the current state of the church, we are looking to fundraise for this project. We are still working with the cost of the project and would like to get started raising money and looking into ideas of how we can get to our goal.

Please stay tuned for some updates or reach out to committee members: Zach Anderson, Sue Gates, Nicole Kempf, Sonya Kempf or Millie Suchomel.



ZION LUTHERAN TRUST FUND MEETING

The Zion Trust Fund Committee met Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. Present were Lory Bretsch, Gary Job, Marcie Andersh and Pastor Erin.

OPENING: President Lory Bretsch called the meeting to order. Pastor Erin opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES: Motion made and carried to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2020 meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kari reported the following Trust Fund balances as of December 31, 2020:

ELCA Mission Investment Fund	69,778.13
Edward Jones Money Market	397.47
Mutual Funds	<u>26,408.46</u>
	96,584.06

Motion made and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report.

GIFT: A gift of \$5,000.00 has been received from the Estate of Gloria Lauinger. Provisions of the gift are for restricted use while earnings on the gift may be expended for property maintenance and improvements.

LUTHERAN PLANNED GIVING OF SOUTH DAKOTA: Information is provided for congregations by the Synod and will continue to appear in the monthly newsletters.

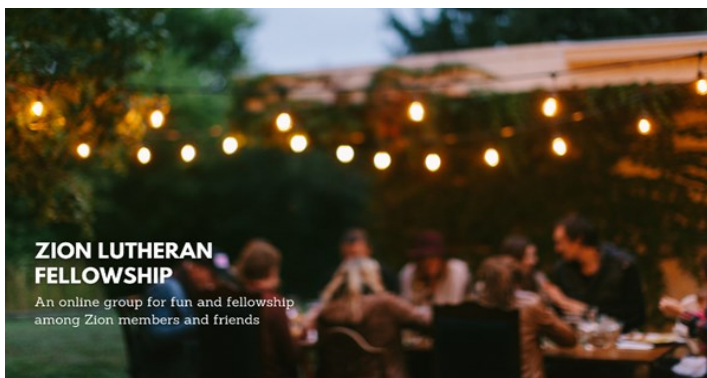
NOAH'S PARK PRESCHOOL: The committee discussed funding for the preschool.

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 31, 2021 following the Annual Meeting.

NOTE: Michelle Clemens and Marcie Andersh will not be seeking reelection. New nominees are Richard Anderson and Shelley Fischbach.

CLOSING: The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully, Marcie Andersh



ZION LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

An online group for fun and fellowship among Zion members and friends

JOIN THE ZION LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP FACEBOOK GROUP

We have a new way of connecting with one another! All are invited to join our new Facebook group that's designed to let us interact with one another throughout the week online. This private Facebook group will be for members and friends of our congregation.

Our Zion Facebook page is a great "bulletin board" but this new group will be more of a virtual "living room". Join us to get to know one another better, engage with each other in some fun ways, and share prayer requests. Go to this link to join: bit.ly/ZionFBFellowship



Online Greeters Needed

Do you worship online with us?

We are looking for people to greet other viewers of our livestreamed services in the chat while watching worship. If you're interested, contact the church office for more details!

STARTING FEBRUARY 17TH

Worship Schedule

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY; RADIO BROADCAST ON 102.1 FM

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

12:15PM TRADITIONAL LENTEN SERVICE

5:30 PM KIDS TIME WITH SAUNDRA IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR PRE K-5TH GRADE

6:00 PM CONTEMPORARY LENTEN SERVICE

ALL SERVICES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE