



VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY, 2015

MISSION STATEMENT:

We invite our neighbors to come to the Lord's table to join us in building up the body of Christ.

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If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself

through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

We are Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, committed to being a loving and welcoming community of faith in Jesus Christ. As a community of God we welcome all. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity enriches, nurtures, and challenges the life and ministry we share in Christ. We embrace actions and attitudes within the Church that assure access to Word and Sacrament regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic or marital status, physical or mental capacities, age or race. We are a Reconciling in Christ community. All are welcome.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

8:00am Worship
10:30am Worship
Education Hour 9:15am

The Herald

A Word from the Pastor...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, gathered by the Holy Spirit into this community of faith in Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, called to be caught up in the Reign of God in this world, which God so dearly loves:

May God's great grace be with you.

The signs are clear. We face new challenges for all that it means to be church in our changing culture. We have experienced significant decline in our congregation's participation and overall attendance in worship. We can no longer stand still and keep up with what God is doing in a changing world.

But the signs are also clear that the Spirit is testing us, calling us to listen to God in a new way, calling us to be church in a new way. Dave Daubert says, "God is going to do what God is going to do. The only question is, do we want to be part of it or not?"

This sign is clear. The sign of Lent with the ashen cross, traced upon our foreheads, is a sign for the way God is making old things new. We call this repentance. It means, "turn around" or "to live life in a new direction." Congregations are no different. A community of faith that desires to be renewed will need to repent. In Zion, we need to be open to the ways God is working for us, with us, and through us.

I believe that the Reign of God is breaking in and all around us, blessing and saving the world. I believe that God is working among us, inviting us to be signs of grace in God's beloved world.

I am inviting you to listen to God and to one another in a new way. How does our ministry together in Zion help you to follow Jesus? We will listen to God's Word and to one another as we discern our purpose in God's mission in the world: "God's purpose for Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church is _____. " **I am encouraging you to participate in this Visioning Retreat on February 21.**

The signs are clear that the Holy Spirit is at work, shaping us to be a sign of God's grace.

TIME: 9:00 am until 2:00 pm

PLACE: Episcopal Church Retreat Center, 75 South 200 East

Plan to carpool from Zion; parking is very limited that day

In and through Christ,
Pastor Steve Klemz



SOUL COLLAGE

PRAYER MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

6:30-8:30pm

at ZELC in the terrace room

As we begin our journey through the Lenten Season, you are invited to come create a prayer collage. This is a creative prayer experience that requires no artistic talent or giftedness. Come join the community and see the surprising ways God sometimes speaks to us. All supplies will be provided. You bring an open heart and a willingness to try something new.

Heather Monkmeyer will lead us through this time of creative prayer. She is a spiritual director, pastor, and retreat leader living here in SLC.

Please see the sign-up sheet outside the Church library.

View from the Pew:

As a Christian, I welcome hearing athletes give credit to God for their success. Yet it becomes complicated sometimes.



The example of Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson is timely. After his team beat Green Bay to advance to the Super Bowl, he praised God for creating the circumstances that forced the Seahawks to make a triumphant comeback. That's taking it too far. For one thing, it implies that God helped Green Bay lose the game, and I know a lot of Lutherans who never could accept that belief.

It's tricky, though. Romans 8:28 promises us that "all things work for good" when we believe, so it's natural to think that everything we're involved in will turn out just the way we want, including winning football games.

But the extreme application of that verse would suggest that we're never going to get sick or have problems with the kitchen sink or experience any heartache or grief. As we know, that's just not true. What that verse tells us is God is with us, in our best moments and toughest times. He may not cause everything that happens to us, but shares equally in the triumph and disappointment.

So Wilson's comments were well intended, and helped to spread the Word. But he should know that God didn't give the Packers a 16-0 lead, just to take it away from all of those Lutherans who love them.

~Kurt Kragthorpe



CROSSROADS URBAN CENTER NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY:

FOOD OF THE MONTH: Go to www.crossroadsurbancenter.org for the details.
THRIFT STORE NEEDS:

Library Corner: The following books have been generously donated to the library:

"The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh" by A. A. Milne; "Come to Me" by Janie Lancaster McMinn; "Time - the Making of America" by the Editors of Time; "Time—V-E Day" by the Editors of Time; "Four Days—the Historical Record of the Death of President Kennedy"; "Sealed Orders" by Agnes Sanford.



Copies of the Lutheran Magazine and the Smithsonian are available in the library!

REMEMBER TO RETURN YOUR OVERDUE BOOKS!

Parents: Please assist your children when checking out the library books by making sure a full name is written on the check out card. Also, remind your child(ren) to be respectful of the church library books!

The Library Guild meets on **Tuesdays at 10:30am** in the library. Come and be a part of this Small Group. We welcome any religious and children's books donated to the church library. When donating, please drop your books into the wooden drop box with a note. Please donate your fiction books to the public library. Thank you!

COUNTERS WANTED! If you are available and willing to join the team of offering counters, please call Jane Erdahl 801.272.7753. We will schedule you during the first part of 2015 for training. You will work with one or two others as you learn the system. Counting takes place on Sundays (after worship), Mondays or Tuesdays during the year. Thank you!

Seeds of Hope Project—The Utah Motorcycle – Final Total. Because of the generosity of the members of Mount Tabor, Our Saviour's, Shepherd of the Mountains and Zion a total of **\$3434** has been sent to the Seeds of Hope project at Rocky Mountain Synod for the purchase of motorcycles for pastors in Madagascar. So this time next year at least one pastor will riding around to his bush congregations in the rain and mud on a motorcycle thanks to the support of Lutherans in Utah. And with the balance of the money another pastor will be thankful to know that most of the parts of his motorcycle were purchased from funds raised in Utah.

Again many, many thanks to all of you who contributed to a project which succeeded far beyond our expectations. I will update you later this year when the motorcycles are actually purchased and put into service.

Michael King, Mount Tabor, SLC



Photo by Maddern Photography

Thank you all so much for the recent opportunities you've given me to preach and share the Gospel of our Lord. I've been asked what led me to Zion's pulpit, and to be honest, the answer to that question is still a work in progress, because I know for certain that

God isn't finished teaching me yet. But several years ago in my previous congregation, my Pastor helped me to understand that our life experiences, even the sorrowful ones, can and should be used to help others. She taught me that my pain could be reframed and that my joy could be channeled, all to glorify God. The truth is that each of our life stories intersect with Christ's story - He meets us in our pain, takes us as we are, and sends us out into the world to love others as he loves us. We're all, each of us, blessed and called to share the Good News.

-Mel Hamor

LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, February 18th
ASH WEDNESDAY: Noon Worship
6pm Soup Supper
7pm Worship

February 25th—March 25th
6pm Soup Supper
7pm Worship

SIGN UP FOR THE VISIONING RETREAT,

Saturday, February 21, 9am to 2pm, at the Episcopal Retreat Center in SLC. All are welcome. We will listen to the Spirit as we dig into scripture, praying and talking about what God is doing and calling us to do in Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.



**Our Life
Together
2015 Synod
Assembly**
May 1-3
Sheraton Hotel
Salt Lake City, UT
*More info coming
next month!*

Helen Plaztke, August 20, 1933—January 18, 2015, member of Zion has died. A memorial service is being planned for the spring at ZELC.

Have you noticed the oil paintings near the south entry to the building and in the lounge? These landscapes were painted by Michael Rusnack. They are for sale with 80% of the amount being donated to Zion. If you are interested in purchasing one of these pieces or seeing more of Michael's work, please contact him at 208-871-8009; michael_rusnack@msn.com or contact Erin Basta.



SPECIAL WORSHIP FEBRUARY 8TH

Zion Youth will lead worship this day sharing their experiences as they wrap up the Souper Bowl of Caring weekend!

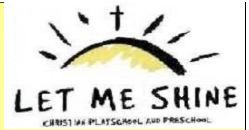
After each worship, the youth will be collecting monetary donations for the Homeless Youth Resource Center in SLC.

SINE NOMINE UTAH YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

If you are between 18-25 yrs old you are invited to Sine Nomine where we talk about living as a Lutheran Christian over coffee or lunch. We will meet MONTHLY at Noon at a designated food establishment. Check out the FB Page: Sine Nomine or contact one of us: James Gardner, jas.Gardner@utah.edu.; Diane Gardner, d52gardner@yahoo.com; Lisa Mensinger, youth@zelc.org

Gathering Dates: February 22, March 22, April 26 & May 31

Location: TBD, check out the weekly bulletins or FB page.



Sharing God's love...

when you walk the halls of Let Me Shine that is what you'll hear; from the chapel, from the classrooms and from the playground. There is nothing more important in our day. It is from this point the rest of our learning takes place.

As Mister Rogers once said, "Deep within us-no matter who we are-there lives a feeling of wanting to be lovable, of wanting to be the kind of person that others like to be with. And the greatest thing we can do is to let people know that they are loved and capable of loving."

Happy Valentine's Day! What a blessing it is to share God's love with each other and to remember; "We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

In other Let Me Shine news...

Please plan on joining us Sunday, March 1 as we kick off National Lutheran Schools Week with the children singing here at Zion. The children are having fun in music and are busy learning songs to sing at the 10:30am worship service! We are blessed to be a Christian school and to have such a great facility.

We are currently enrolling and are accepting applications for all ages. If you know anyone who is interested in preschool, please let them know about this wonderful opportunity to provide their child with a Christian education at Let Me Shine!

In His Service,

Barb Ballif

Barbara Ballif, Director



IN OUR PRAYERS:

God's grace be sufficient with Merribeth Anderson and Lorraine Strohacker; strength and healing with Dennis Bird, Ron Chytraus, Bob Pembroke, Vic Ayers; peace with Paul Krehbiel, Bryce and Christian, our brothers in Christ in the UT State Prison. For all who mourn the death of Helen Platzke. Pray for our community of faith in Zion; and new life for those in addiction.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY, 2015

- A ZELC vision retreat is set for February 21st at the Episcopal Retreat Center, Salt Lake City.
- General Fund giving was 4% less than budgeted in 2014, while spending was exactly as planned. The over-run for the year, taken from savings, was \$19,600.
- We have received 11 new confirmed members. Each confirmand completed a paper about their personal faith formation and each designed a ceiling tile conceived as "faith art" to be mounted in the ceiling of the youth room.
- Council has approved two phases of a 4-phase proposal for changing out old, inefficient lights to new environmentally friendly lighting. The net cost will be approximately \$2700, with payback estimated to be approximately 1-2 years. New sanctuary chandelier LED lamps are also being considered as a future change.



LUTHERAN FAITH DAY ON THE HILL

Faith Days provide members of faith communities a chance to meet with legislators and talk to them about issues of poverty. Commit to social justice by visiting the Capitol and participating in the legislative process. On the spot training and materials provided! **Meet in the Aspen Room of the Senate (East) Building at 9am on Thursday, February 26th.**

If you cannot attend this CORC Faith Day, join us for any other Faith Days each Tuesday or Thursday in February. Contact Molly at 801-364-7765 ext. 110 for that day's meeting location or with any other questions. You CAN make a difference!

God is meant to be Experienced
LIVE the Experience
LOVE the Experience
SHARE the Experience

Invite your friends to Experience
 Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

1. Send a Text or Email about an Event
2. Share with your Friends via Facebook
3. Connect them to www.zelc.org
4. Invite them to Worship

All are welcome to Pastor Steve's Lenten Bible Study.

We will meet from 11:00 a.m. to noon, Thursdays in the Church library.

In the study, we will explore the Passion of our Lord through the eyes of those closest to Jesus.

February 26 — James and John, the sons of Zebedee

March 5 — Simon Peter

March 12 — Judas

March 19 — Mary Magdalene

March 26 — "A certain young man" from

Mark 14:51

(Pastor Steve will lead this class on Thursday evenings, if there are three people who would like to participate. Please contact the church office office@zelc.org if you are interested.)



The annual Seder Meal will be scheduled in March. Details coming soon.

Your help is needed **hosting a coffee hour** after worship. The coffee, cream and sugar is provided and all you need to bring are some cookies! You don't have to put on a huge spread - it's just coffee and a cookie (or two) while speaking with your friends at Zion. Many friendships are made and cultivated during this time and what an awesome way for you or you and a friend or two to be of service to your family of faith. Please contact Nettie Priet nettie.priet@Hotmail.com with questions.



Contact: Lisa Mensinger, Director of Youth Ministries at (801-582-2321) or email: youth@zelc.org

Souper Bowl of Caring



February 6—7, 2015

The reaping begins at 6:30 pm Friday and the games end by 5:30 pm on Saturday.

For 24 hours youth (7th to 12th graders) will participate in a Daniel Fast during our 23 hour youth lock-in at the church.

12 Districts will compete in the Hunger & Thirst Games. Bring a friend & your district could earn 1,000 pts!!

Saturday we will participate in a variety of service projects & then each District will participate in a "mystery event".

RSVP to Lisa by February 1st.

Check out the Beatitude Attitude below.

SKIING with PASTOR



Sat, February 28, 2015

Skiing & Brats with Pastor Steve at Snowbird. We will get up to Snowbird early so that we can be the first on the slopes. Pastor will bring the brats. Bring water & snacks to share & your ski-pass.

RSVP to Lisa by Feb 26.

This year's Sunday School Service Project is making **Grace Socks** filled with toothbrush / paste, soap, Chapstick, deodorant, hand sanitizer, etc., for those in need. We encourage you to take a sock & hand it out to someone who can use it. The first sock is **FREE**. We ask for a \$5 donation for each additional sock.

The donated funds will be used to purchase supplies for the socks. Grace socks are on display outside the church library.



Confirmands

Get ready to be involved with the mid-week Lenten Worship Series
February 25 to April 3, 2015



Save Some Dates

MoTown Dinner

Youth Fundraiser

March 21 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Faster Brunch

April 5 from 8:30 to 10:00 am

Detroit Here We COME!!!

Two more people from Wyoming will be joining our group to Detroit. Please keep in your prayers Pastor Alena & Miranda from Buffalo, WY. So now we are taking 13 youth and 4 adults to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit in July. We are blessed to be in partnership with youth attending from Shepherd on the Mountain, Elim & Christ the King & St. Luke's (WY).

Beatitudes

Ask youth who attended the Souper Bowl of Caring what it means to have a Beatitude Attitude.

You're blessed when

You're at the end of your rope.

You feel you've lost what is most dear to you.

You're content with just who you are.

You've worked up a good appetite for God.

You care.

You get your inside world—mind/heart put right.

You can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight.

Your commitment to God provokes persecution.

Adapted from *The Message*

February, 2015



at a glance...

Assisting Ministers:

	8:00 am
Feb 1	Doris Mason
Feb 8	Fred Strohacker
Feb 15	Doris Mason
Feb 22	Fred Strohacker
	10:30am
Feb 1	Erin Basta
Feb 8	
Feb 15	Denny Gross
Feb 22	

Ushers:

Peter Staks, Eric Hinderaker, Scott Reuschel

Acolytes:

Feb 1
Feb 8
Feb 15
Feb 22

Reader

Feb 1
Feb 8
Feb 15
Feb 22

Altar Guild:

Feb 1 Jan Heins
Feb 8 Marsha Gilford
Feb 8 Carrie Hinderaker
Feb 15 Melissa Livengood
Feb 15 AnnMarie Mogren
Feb 22 Denny Gross
Feb 22 Marci Hall
Feb 22 Holly Graham

Counters:

Feb 2 Warren & Janice
Feb 9 AnnMarie & Jan
Feb 17 Paul & Janice
Feb 23 Marci & Jane

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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*“Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love.”*
Psalm 51:1

1 8 Worship 9:15 Ed. Hour 10:30 Worship	2 9 Yoga Noon—Neale Nelson Mem. Lecture at U of U	3 10 Staff Mtg 10:30 Lib work 11:40 LMS Chapel	4 7 Men's Bible St 9 Yoga 10 Utah Conf.	5 6:30-8 Meditation Group 7:30 Organ work	6 9 Yoga YOUTH —Souper Bowl of Caring starts 6:30 Friday and ends Saturday at 5:30pm.	7
8 Youth Led 8 Worship 9:15 Ed. Hour 10:30 Worship ZY Jam	9 9 Yoga 6:30 Cong. Council Mtg 6:30-8:30 Soul Col- lage Prayer Mtg	10 10 Staff Mtg 10:30 Lib work 7 Compassionate Friends Mtg	11 7 Men's Bible St 9 Yoga 11:40 LMS Chapel	12 5-7:30 LMS Babysitting 6:30-8 Meditation Group 7:30 Organ work	13 9 Yoga	14
15 8 Worship 9:15 Ed. Hour 10:30 Worship	16 OFFICE CLOSED PRESIDENT'S DAY No LMS Preschool 9 Yoga	17 10 Staff Mtg 10:30 Lib work 11:40 LMS Chapel	18 7 Men's Bible St 9 Yoga 11:00 Lydia Cir <u>ASH WEDNESDAY</u> Noon Worship 6 Soup Supper 7pm Worship	19 6:30-8 Meditation Group 7:30 Organ work 8 SS Admin Mtg	20 9 Yoga	21 9-2 Visioning Retreat at Epis- copal Church Retreat Ctr, SLC
22 8 Worship 9:15 Ed. Hour 10:30 Worship Youth Choir 12 Sine Nomine	23 9 Yoga	24 10 Staff Mtg 10:30 Lib work Noon -2 LMS Staff Mtg 3 Book Club	25 7 Men's Bible St 9 Yoga 11:40 LMS Chapel 6 Soup Supper 7 Lenten Worship	26 LUTHERAN DAY ON THE HILL 11am Lent Adult St 6:30-8 Meditation Group 7:30 Organ work	27 9 Yoga	28 Youth Skiing at Snowbird

7 Interfaith
Roundtable Bus
Tour

**Office Administrator will be on vacation Feb 28
thru Mar 8, 2015.



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Fax: 801.583.8043

Email: office@zelc.org

www.zelc.org
Your feedback is
welcome on the
information on
our site.



2014-2015 ZELC CHURCH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT
Erin Basta

VICE PRESIDENT
Open Position

SECRETARY
Margo Bird

TREASURER
Fred Strohacker

Alane Boyd
Diane Gardner
Alyce Gross
Doris Mason
Volunteers Needed

THIRD ANNUAL NEALE NELSON MEMORIAL LECTURE **HERETICS AND INFIDELS,** **THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE** **OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY**

Brian D. Birch, Ph.D.

Director of the Religious Studies Program
at Utah Valley University & Director of
The Center for the Study of Ethics

Monday, February 2, 12:00 p.m.

University of Utah
J. Willard Marriott Library, Gould Auditorium, level 1
Free and open to the public.

This event is co-sponsored by Marriott Library Special Collections, The University of Utah's Religious Studies Program and Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. It honors The Reverend Neale Nelson, Pastor at Zion, teacher and student at the University of Utah, and Professor at Regis University of Denver.



 **J. Willard Marriott Library**
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

GENERAL FUND BUDGET UPDATE for the end of 2014

For the month of December, Zion's weekly envelopes and loose offerings, including one-time gifts spread across the year, amounted to \$56,125, compared to our 4-week donation budget of \$32,416. This is 173% of the amount needed to balance our budget for this 4-week period. For 2014, our giving totaled \$394,890. This represents **94%** of the funds needed to balance our annual budget to date.

Income from all sources, not including dedicated funds was **\$421,679**, compared to our budgeted income of **\$440,139**, or **96%** of the funds needed to balance our annual budget.

Total spending was **\$441,295** on a budget of **\$442,863**, or **99.6%** of the budget. About \$10,000 of this was a budgeted Special Repair line paying for roughly half of the Sunday School roof repair.

The net general fund overrun is \$16,900, plus a planned overrun (congregation-approved budget imbalance) of \$2,700, for a total overrun for the year of **\$19,600**. Our general savings account balance was, therefore, reduced by about \$20,000 in 2014.

Our Capital Improvements dedicated account was reduced by \$10,890 in 2014 to pay for the remainder of the Sunday School roof repair. Note that the repair was originally estimated to cost \$24,000. Our actual cost was less than \$21,000.

All told, it wasn't as bad a financial year as we feared. But the concern expressed at the November congregational meeting and the Council President's December letter was justified, and generously acknowledged by our faithful congregation with December giving that was **73% more** than budgeted for the month. Even with this, we had a deficit of \$20,000. Next year, an increase in the budgeted expenses will require a **10% increase** in giving (over 2014 actual giving) to avoid a deficit.

For the Organ Capital campaign, we have received pledges of \$51,515 (of \$220,000 total including the original proposal plus a 10% tithe.) We currently have received \$36,795, which can be used to begin the upgrades.

We praise God for your generosity.

Yours in Christ,
Fred Strohacker, Church Council Treasurer