



VOLUME 14, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER, 2016

MISSION STATEMENT:

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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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 TIMES :

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

The Herald

A Word from the Pastor...

Jesus' name means, "The Lord makes room."

Luke the Gospel writer plays with the name when he tells Jesus' story. He says they laid Jesus in a manger, because there was "no place for them in the inn."

The baby Jesus grows up to befriend any and all people who had no place, making a place for them at his table. Everyone had a place with Jesus. Once Jesus visited the home of Zacchaeus, a tax collector with no friends and no place in society. When he arrived at his home, Jesus announced, "Today salvation has come to this house," which was a play on words since the word for salvation was also Jesus' name. Today the Lord makes a place at your house, Zacchaeus!

"The Lord makes room." Period. We not only invoke the name of Jesus but we embody Jesus' welcoming presence in our congregation. In our welcoming statement, we confess: 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.

"The Lord makes room." Period. All are welcome. Period. Our welcoming statement goes on to list those who are valued and welcomed. It is a welcome that reflects God's welcome. This means that gay, straight, transgendered, bisexual, queer, or not sure --- you are welcome. If you are married, partnered, divorced, single, widowed --- you are welcome. Besides listing socio-economic status, physical or mental capacities, age or race, we could go on to list how all are welcome, no matter what language you speak, whatever country you or your ancestors came from, and whatever documentation you may or may not have --- you are welcome.

"The Lord makes room." Period. All are welcome. Period. Really? Our nation is deeply divided following the election and the same division finds its way into our community. Can we welcome and accept one another, as fellow sisters and brothers in Christ or will we align ourselves (consciously or unconsciously) with those who share our own perspectives? Our need for mutual acceptance and welcome does not rest upon our need "to just get along and be nice to one another." Our need for community lies in our need to stand together so that we can offer welcome for those for who find no room in this world.

"The Lord makes room." Period. All are welcome. Period. There is no place we can ever be but where God, the Lord, makes room for us. May this be our comfort for this community of faith, especially in this Christmas tide.

--- in and through Christ,

~Pastor Steve

## GENERAL FUND BUDGET UPDATE for 2016

For the month of October, Zion's weekly envelopes and loose offerings, including one-time gifts spread across the year amounted to \$47,318, compared to our 5-week donation budget of \$43,195. This is 109% of the amount needed to balance our budget for this period. Year-to-date, you have given \$343,694, or 90% of the funds needed to balance our annual budget. Please consider all the good work ZELC does when considering your weekly offering.

For the Organ Capital campaign, we have pledges for \$53,015 (of \$220,000 total including the original proposal plus a 10% tithe.) We currently have received \$70,968, including \$2,725 donated in July. Of this amount, we have already committed \$20,000 to start work.

We praise God for your generosity.

Yours in Christ,  
Fred Strohacker, Church Council Treasurer



## View from the Pew

This month's installment may not be much fun for University of Utah football fans to read, or maybe it will console them.

The Utes have been overtaken this season by Colorado, formerly the Pac-12's worst program. The encouraging part of this development is the Buffaloes' turnaround has been directed by coach Mike MacIntyre, who's outspoken about his faith and recently said that "patience, perseverance and prayer" were behind Colorado's success.

He deserved to have some good things happen in his fourth year on the job. But in any context of life, including sports, it is always more complicated than that. If everyone involved were praying fervently for things to go their way on the field, there would probably be a lot of tie games.

MacIntyre not expecting every close game to go his way, nor is he merely showing up at work with the idea that no matter what he does, Colorado's weekly outcome has been decided as part of God's plan for him. MacIntyre is just faithful enough to know that there is a bigger mission for him beyond football, and he's able to maintain consistency in a volatile profession.

The song "Thy Will Be Done," written by Hillary Scott, makes the point that God indeed has good things in store for us. Not everything will go as we want it to every day, and I don't believe that God is orchestrating every detail of our lives. Yet we can be assured that a guiding presence is always with us.

~Kurt Kragthorpe



## CROSSROADS URBAN CENTER NEEDS FOR DECEMBER:

We now accept donations to our Emergency Food Pantry online! You can purchase any of the items, or make a monetary donation. Go to [crossroadsurbancenter.org](http://crossroadsurbancenter.org).

**Baby formula and diapers are always in high demand.**

**Food Pantry:** Any non-perishable foods, full size shampoos & lotions for families, diapers size 5/6, and infant formula.

**Thrift Store:** Blankets, sleeping bags, warm coats, towels, bedding, new socks & underwear.



## Library Corner

The following books are available in the library: *"Bible Dictionary & Concordance"* by Castle Books; *"The Mormon Corporate Empire"* by John Hinerman & Anson Shupe; *"A Chanukah Present for: Me!"* by Lily Karr; *"Sparkling Hanukkah"* by Elizabeth Spurr; *"God Bless Our Christmas"* by Hannah C. Hall; *"Make Your Own Christmas Treats!"* by Judith Moffah; *"The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery"* by Dandi Daley Mackall; *"Little Shepherd"* by Dandi Daley Mackall.

The Library Guild usually meets on **Tuesdays at 10:30 am** 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!

### 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 children) to be respectful of the church library books!

**WIFI PASSWORD: Zion5822321**

**ANNUAL WINE & CHEESE PARTY:**

**Saturday, December 3rd**, starting at 7:00 PM, to be held at the Clubhouse at Three Fountains of Cottonwood (5036 Three Fountain Circle). Visitors are warmly welcomed to get to share some fellowship and beverage.

**Zion Ministry Needs** — You are prayerfully invited to serve in Zion’s outreach ministry. Our congregational council is in need of a person to serve with **Evangelism** (the inviting and welcoming ministry); and, **Communication** (sharing events both within and outside the congregation). These positions offer the grace-filled satisfaction of sharing the good news. If you are interested or desire more information, please contact Pastor Steve or Erin Basta.

**Awakening Worship at 8:00**

We are experiencing changes in this worship and our attendance is growing. Thank you for your enthusiasm. Please join us on a Sunday morning before you hit the slopes!



**Christmas gift for staff**

It is the time of year that we like to remember those that are near and dear to us by giving gifts in honor of our Saviour's birth. If you would like to contribute to monetary gifts that will be given to our fabulous Zion staff, please place your gift in a special envelope and mark it "**Christmas gift for staff**". Make checks out to ZELC. Either send to the church office or place in the collection plate during worship. Please make your contributions no later than Sunday, December 18th so we can deliver in time for Christmas. Merry Christmas, Erin Basta, ZELC Council President

**Yoga Pad Round Up**—Many homeless people sleep on the cold, wet, hard ground. If you have an old yoga pad you are not using, drop it off in the bin in the Narthex. We will see that it gets to a homeless person who can use it. Thank you.

**Altar Flowers**—Beginning in January, a long-lasting plant will be placed in front of the altar. You will have the opportunity to honor individuals by contributing to the undesignated memorial fund or general fund rather than paying for altar flowers. Insert your contribution in one of the pew envelopes and place it in the offering plate. If there is a Sunday when you wish to provide an altar arrangement, you are free to do so.

**2016 National Vigil to #EndGunViolence;**

**Sunday, December 11th from 7 to 8 PM** at All Saints Episcopal Church, 1710 Foothill Drive. Come together to remember the more than 120,000 Americans killed by gun violence since the Sandy Hook school massacre. Help us shine a light on this tragic toll. Sponsored by the Gun Violence Prevention Center of Utah.

21+ Join us in good conversations about God + Love + Faith 2nd Wed of every month

Wednesday  
December 14th  
7:00 PM at



Let Lisa know you're interested youth@zelc.org

**Wasatch Brewery**

2110 Highland Dr. (Across from Barnes & Noble in Sugarhouse)

**HELP WITH CHRISTMAS TREE SETUP**

December 18, 2016 after 10:30 am service

Helpers needed to set up the Christmas tree in the sanctuary on December 18th after the 10:30 service. The task goes really quickly! Questions? Ask Paul Mogren.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP:**

**6:00 pm** Lessons & Carols, a child-friendly worship (no communion)

**10:00 pm** Festive Organ Recital by David Chamberlin

**10:30 pm** Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion and Choir.

**December 25—Christmas Day Worship—10:30 AM**  
*Finding Solace and Hope -- A service of reflection and healing*

**January 1—New Years Day Worship—10:30 AM**

# Sunday School News!

Zion Sunday School is very blessed to have great teachers, students, and families participating. We ask for your continued prayers for all.

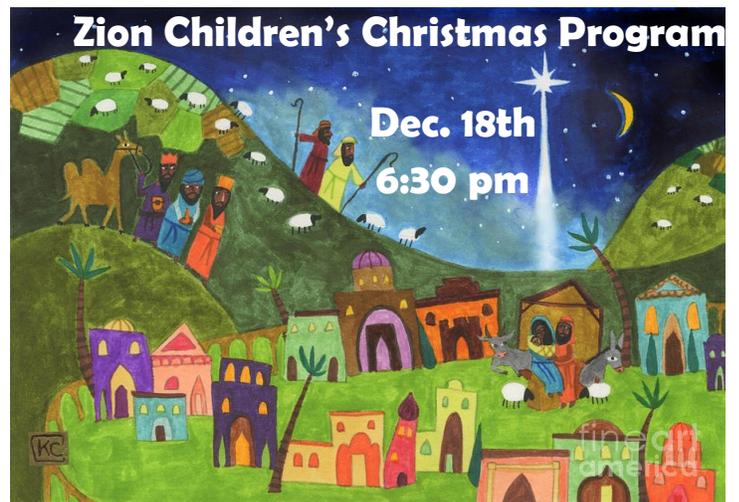
**December 11<sup>th</sup> is Zion's Annual Gingerbread Decorating and Lunch Party** following 10:30 worship. Kids of all ages will be able to decorate a graham cracker gingerbread house to celebrate the Christmas season. A pizza lunch will be provided. Please bring a decorating item(s) to share with all. Some ideas are: cereals, small candies (M&Ms, smarties, skittles, etc.), string licorice, and marshmallows. Please **RSVP** by signing up on the bulletin board outside the library or email or call Louise Nelson [mlcnelson@yahoo.com](mailto:mlcnelson@yahoo.com) or 801-281-4824. In order to have enough houses assembled for all, please **RSVP by Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**.

**December 18<sup>th</sup>** will be the **Sunday School Annual Christmas Program at 6:30 pm**. The students will tell the Christmas story through song and music. Zion is truly blessed with many children. Please show your support by attending this service.



## Keep an eye out for Zion's Children's Christmas Tree....

The children of Let Me Shine and Sunday school are working together to display a Christmas tree in the narthex. Each student from Let Me Shine Preschool and Sunday school will be contributing an ornament to fill the tree. Zion is truly fortunate to have the opportunity to minister to so many children. We want all to see the many children God blesses.



**January 8<sup>th</sup> is Zion's Epiphany Potluck**  
Epiphany Potluck during Sunday school hour. All families are encouraged to attend and bring an ethnic dish to share from your heritage. You won't want to miss the great food, from herring to rosettes and jambalaya to chili verde. You never know what graces our table.

**Group Spiritual Direction**  
In a separate attachment to the newsletter you will find an invitation to participate in a **Group Spiritual Direction opportunity** that will be offered at ZELC, Our Savior's, Mt. Tabor and St. Matthews Churches in **January**. Pastor DanaLee Simon will lead. Please take a moment to read through and prayerfully consider taking part in this meaningful prayer practice.



**In Our Prayers:** God's grace be sufficient for healing Carol Thompson; strength and healing for Lacy Foulks, Cindy Haverkost, Bruce Sigvardt, Alice Schroeder & Doc, Mark Brown, Eila Cagle; peace with Paul Krehbiel, Bryce and Christian, our brothers in Christ in the UT prison. For Kent in time of trial. Pray for our community of faith in Zion and new life for those in addiction. For all in troubled marriages. For all in mental distress & their caregivers. For Juan de Dios Lopez and Lisa Mensinger in their call to ordained ministry. For health and safekeeping for Hannah Raasch, Beckie Schmoll, Beth Martial, Tiffany Klemz Sessom, Sara LaFleur Hickey, Amalija Staks and all mothers with child. First Communion for Dara Sok.



Contact: Lisa Mensinger, Director of Youth Ministries at (814-360-6283) or email: [youth@zelc.org](mailto:youth@zelc.org)

## December Activities



**CURLING**



**AT OLYMPIC OVAL**

### Faith Formation Disciples

#### Studying the Gospel of Matthew

People of Zion beware you may be R.A.C.K.d during Advent.

(Random Acts of Christmas Kindness)

NO Boot Camp (Sunday School)  
Dec 25 & Jan 1



### HS Youth Trip—Summer 2017

Join Lisa and others in Pacific Grove, CA learning about Ocean stewardship from July 1– 8, 2017. Register by **Dec 18** to secure your spot (plus \$150 deposit). Form located on Zion Youth page ([www.zelc.org](http://www.zelc.org))



### Star Wars Jesus Continued

**Pizza + Jesus Talk + Movie**

**Friday, Dec 2nd** (Revenge of the Sith) *RSVP Lisa by 12/1*

**Saturday, Dec 10th** (The Force Awakens) *RSVP by 12/9*

6-9 pm at Rex Graham's house 1834 Nevada Street

Bring a snack to share.

### Youth Advent Party

**Dinner + Games + Gift Exchange**

**Wednesday, December 21** at Zion at **5:30 pm**

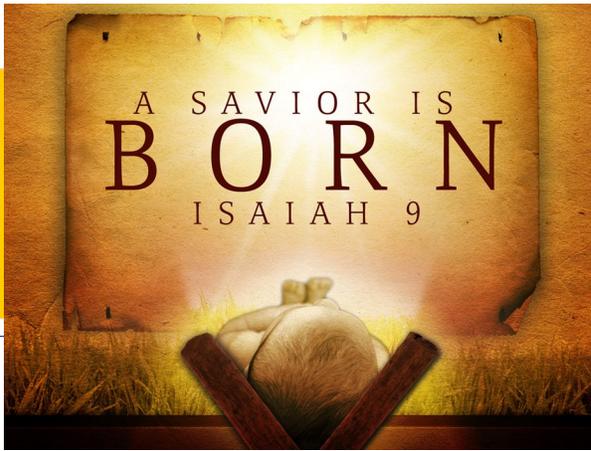
Bring a gift & snacks

## Connecting through Grace Visits

Date	Leave Zion	Visiting	City
Jan 29 (??)	9:30 am	St. Matthew's	Taylorville
Feb 5	9:15 am	Mt. Tabor	Salt Lake City
Apr 30	10:45 am	Our Savior's	Millcreek

The High School and Middle School youth will continue their Amazing gRace tour of ELCA church visits. We hope to connect with other Evangelical Lutheran youth throughout the valley. Parents please encourage your youth to attend and be sure to send them with some money for lunch. Please mark them on your calendar.

# DECEMBER 2016



## at a glance...

### Assisting Ministers:

- 10:30 am:
- Dec 4 Rachel Kibler
- Dec 11 Marsha Gilford
- Dec 18 Erin Basta
- Dec 24 10:30 PM
- Dec 25

### Ushers:

- Bob Steensma, Hal Sinn, Ron Chytraus, Marilyn & Chet Johnson

### Altar Guild:

- Dec 4 Ann Marie Mogren  
Denny Gross
- Dec 11 Carrie Hinderaker  
Melissa Livengood
- Dec 18 Steve & Marie Newton  
Holly Graham
- Dec 24 Carrie Hinderaker  
Ann Marie Mogren
- Dec 26 Ann Marie Mogren  
Carrie Hinderaker

### Counters:

- Dec 4 Ann Marie & Paula
- Dec 11 Doug & Paul
- Dec 19 Warren & Janice
- Dec 27 Angie, Marci, Diane & Ann Marie

### Greeters:

- Dec 4 Strohacker's 8 AM  
Marci Hall
- Dec 11 Kragthorpe's
- Dec 18 Doris Mason 8 AM
- Dec 24
- Dec 25

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

*“For a child has been born to us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”  
Isaiah 9:6*

The church offices will be closed on Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th.

				1 11 Adult Bible Study	2 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group	3
				6 David-Organ work 6:30-8:30 Meditation Gr	5:30-7:30 LMS Parents Night Out 6 pm Star Wars Jesus at Grahams	7-9 Wine & Cheese Party
4 8 Worship 9:15 Education hour 10:30 Worship Guest Preacher, Erin Power, Asst to the Bishop, RMS	5 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group 7-8:30 Yoga w/Julie	6 10:30 Library work day 11:40 LMS Chapel 6:30-9 Ger/Am Chorus	7 7 Men's Bible Study 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group 10 UT Conference Mtg 6-7:30 Beginner Meditation Group	8	9 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group	10
REFUGEE SUNDAY 11 8 Worship 9:15 Education hour 10:30 Worship 12 Gingerbread House 6:30 Compassionate Friends Candlelight	12 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group 6:30 Congregational Council Mtg 7-8:30 Yoga w/Julie	13 10:30 Library work day 1 Book Club 6:30-9 Ger/Am Chorus	14 7 Men's Bible Study 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group 11:40 LMS Chapel 6-7:30 Beginner Meditation Group last class	15 11 Adult Bible Study Newsletter deadline 4-6 Girl Scouts Mtg 6 David-Organ work 6:30-8:30 Meditation Gr	16 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group 5:30-7:30 LMS Parents Night Out	17 9 am Readers rehearsal 10 am Joyful NOIZ rehearsal David organ rehearsal
18 8 Worship 9:15 Education hour, program rehearsal 10:30 Worship 1 VA Worship 6:30 Children's Christmas Program	19 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group 7-8:30 Yoga w/Julie	20 11:40 LMS Chapel 6:30-9 Ger/Am Chorus	21 Last day of LMS 7 Men's Bible Study 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group 5:30 pm Youth Advent Party	22	23 OFFICE CLOSED 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group	24 6:00 pm Child-Friendly Worship 10:00 pm Organ Recital 10:30 pm Candlelight Worship
25 10:30 Worship	26 OFFICE CLOSED 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group	27	28 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group	29	30 9 Yoga-based adult exercise group	31
				6:30-8:30 Meditation Gr		

On December 18th, come sing carols at the VA Nursing Home worship that begins at 1:00 PM.





1070 Foothill Drive  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108  
Phone: 801.582.2321  
Fax: 801.583.8043  
Email: office@zelc.org  
www.zelc.org



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



We've been busy at Let Me Shine! We completed Parent/Teacher conferences and had a successful Book Fair earning the school \$700.00 in free books and curriculum! **Thank you** to those who stopped in to support us!

Our Annual Thanksgiving Chapel and Feast was wonderful! We had almost 200 parents and grandparents attend and saw a few Zion faces as well! Thank you for joining us! LMS families also donated to the Crossroads Urban Center Food Pantry!



Operation Christmas Child — the students of LMS donated 38 shoebox gifts!

Let Me Shine once again participated in Operation Christmas Child. Our school donated 38 shoebox gifts! The lives of the children receiving these shoeboxes are changed as they not only receive gifts but hear God's word and receive a Bible.

You are welcome to join us for the children's Christmas programs. Call the school office for times. It's a delight to see and hear the Christmas story told by preschoolers!

*May the good news of our Savior's birth fill your hearts with joy this Christmas and throughout the New Year.*

In His Service,  
*Barb Ballif, Director*



Canned food collected by Let Me Shine! Preschool at their Thanksgiving Chapel & Feast on November 22nd.

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - NOVEMBER, 2016

- Motion was made, seconded, and passed for alcohol to be served at the Let Me Shine Trivia Night fundraiser on February 4th.
- Council will be seeking open nominations for the vacant council positions of Communications and Evangelism at the upcoming semi-annual meeting. Greeters are also needed, a signup will be posted at the meeting.
- Erin is still working on finalizing the directory, and will email copies when it is complete.
- Michael and Brent are researching bids for windows and possibilities for a solar grant.
- The children's Christmas tree will have ornaments with a photo of each child from the Sunday school classes. The children's program is December 18th at 6:30; volunteers are needed for cookies and hot chocolate.
- Please watch for new offering containers for World Hunger near the water fountains.
- Pastor Steve will be visiting the Sunday school classes on December 4 to talk about his job as a pastor.

### 2016-2017 ZELC CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT, Erin Basta | VICE-PRESIDENT, Marsha Gilford | SECRETARY, Nicole Reese  
TREASURER, Fred Strohacker

Communication Team Leader, Open Position  
Faith Formation Team Leader, Alyce Gross  
Advocacy Team Leader, Doris Mason  
Congregational Life Team Leader, Terri Moffitt

Worship Music Team Leader, Diane Gardner  
Evangelism Team Leader, Open Position  
Building Admin. Team Leader, Michael Chard