

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

# Call to Worship



Zion Lutheran Church, Snohomish, Washington  
<http://zionsnohomish.360unite.com> \* [snohomishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:snohomishsecretary@gmail.com) \* 360-568-2700

December 2017

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## Pastor's Page



### Christmas an Inconvenient Intrusion?

*"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor..." 2 Corinthians 8:9*

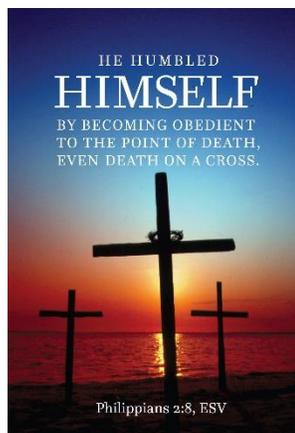
It seems that to the extent that Christmas gets significant coverage at all in the secular media these days, it pertains to the upheaval which the season brings to peoples' lives. We are, for example, reminded of the often-dreaded busyness that marks the month of December, the expenses that mount up in our pocketbooks, and the heightened awareness of the isolation of those who for one reason or another (either intentionally or not) are bystanders with respect to the events that surround Christmas. I am in no way passing judgment on the feelings that these real and weighty factors entail. Neither am I denying that there is an inconvenient aspect to Christmas. Indeed, what I wish to highlight is that this notion of upheaval is actually a vital and central aspect of the Christmas season. Amazingly it is this very inconvenience undergirding this Christmas story that is extraordinarily good news for every person, with no one excluded.

"From heaven above to earth I come  
To bring good news to everyone.  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To all the world and gladly sing."  
*(Martin Luther)*

Of course, one might, on first consideration, be troubled by the array of troubles which Joseph and Mary experienced in the course of events leading up to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. For example when Joseph first heard Mary was pregnant prior to their wedding day, he almost divorced her until

the angel Gabriel persuaded him that the living person inside Mary was a gift of the Holy Spirit. Additionally, prior to the actual birth of the child, the couple was required to leave their home in Nazareth and travel to Bethlehem where reasonable accommodations were nowhere to be found. In actual truth however, God used each of these apparently troubling events to bring about His own purpose and to fulfill prophesy (Isaiah 7:14, Micah 5:2). Furthermore, we likewise may find comfort from this story that God is surely working in our lives (as we ask Him) in spite of the apparent upheaval around us.

Yet the greatest upheaval of all behind the Christmas story occurred within the life of the baby Himself laid in a manger after having been born in a cold dark stable. What an astonishing transition between the occasion of His being worshipped in the glories of heaven on the one hand, and the cold damp straw of his temporary "bed" in rural Bethlehem nine months later!



"...who though He had been [was] in the form of God Did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, But emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, Being born in the likeness of men."

Furthermore  
"...He humbled Himself unto death, even death on a cross."  
*(Philippians 2:6-8)*

Christmas is the celebration of the loving inconvenience of God for the sake of the entire world. In this light let us relish the opportunity to remember His unspeakable intervention on our behalf in order that it may rekindle the fire of new life within our otherwise dark souls! Truly, Merry Christmas!

Your Servant Pastor,

*Gary Jensen*



### **Bible Studies!**

- ★ The **Sunday morning Bible class** meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room, studying the major themes of the *Augsburg Confession* from the *Book of Concord*.
- ★ **The Wednesday Men's Bible Breakfast** will be on holiday hold from Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> and resume next year on Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ★ **The Ladies' Bible study** is *Daniel* by Beth Moore, meeting on **Wednesdays** [Nov. 29, Dec. 6 & 13<sup>th</sup>], 9:15-10:15 a.m. We meet at Jana Ostlund's house (7124 60<sup>th</sup> St SE, Snohomish). Anyone who wants to join should contact Jana (425-397-9339 or [djswostlund@juno.com](mailto:djswostlund@juno.com)).
- ★ *The Case for Christ* Bible study meets **Wednesdays** [Nov. 29, Dec. 6 & 13<sup>th</sup>] at 1 & 7 p.m. (1pm in the church office & 7pm in the Parish Hall Meeting Room), led by Pastor Gary Jensen.
- ★ *Between the Testaments* Bible study meets **Thursdays** [Nov. 30, Dec. 7 & 14<sup>th</sup>] at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room, led by Pastor Gary Jensen.
- ★ Youth meet at Michelle's house (13020 Hwy. 2, Snohomish) at **7 p.m. on Saturdays** for a fun movie-based Bible study. Questions? Need directions? Call or text Michelle! 425-501-4925 or message Michelle Bartelheimer on Facebook. Looking forward to seeing you there!



### **Thoughts from an Elder**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we prepare to put 2017 behind us and look forward to 2018, I am excited to see what changes will come to Zion. There are new people added to the different boards and we have a full executive board for the first time in years. We have some newer members that have had experience at other congregations with church growth and they have some ideas that we can use. Just adding numbers is not the goal, but to follow Christ's command to "go and make disciples." While there have been some through the years that have followed that command faithfully here at Zion, others have been content to wait till they come to us. It is the "GO" that is the important word in the command and we must go to where they are and not the other way around.

It is said that 80% of the population in Washington is unchurched. I think that the number is higher. What that means is that the field is ripe for the harvest. We each have a circle of friends and if we are involved at church our friends are usually other Christians which limits possibilities of interaction with non-believers. As I write this I am talking to myself more than anyone else, but it applies to others as well. We need to actively look for opportunities to share our faith with family, friends, and neighbors.

In His Service,

*Richard Hellman*



... we will tell  
to the coming  
**GENERATION**  
the glorious  
deeds of  
the LORD ...

Psalm 78:4, NRSV



## Taking A Walk with Your Servant Leader

### Milepost #6

Hi! Ready for a walk in this weather? As long as we are bundled up, let's go. Doesn't the air feel cold and damp? It doesn't look like many people are walking in this colder weather.



Do you remember from our last walk we were talking about God making Adam in His likeness? God's details are so intricate. His making of Adam's central nervous system is unmatched from anything else in all creation. God's hands made the nervous system in Adam able to communicate back to God on quite a few levels. Just imagine opening your eyes and seeing what was all around you for the first time, not to mention SEEING YOUR MAKER. Adam was given a voice to speak to God. Adam could understand God immediately through his ears. Adam could also listen to all the sounds of God's creation. He was given tasters on the tongue to enjoy eating the products from God. Adam could feel the differences of temperature and the sensation of pressure under his feet, and any pressure applied to his skin. Adam's nose could smell the fragrances in the air along with providing a passage for air to enter the body to fill his lungs with life-giving oxygen. The interdependence of all of the parts of the central nervous system is mind blowing.

Now, along comes a chilling reality, (not unlike this cold, chilly breeze), that one of God's own created creatures, in serpent form, rebelled at God's creation around him and went to God's hand-made humans and spoke that fateful question to Eve, "Did God say....?" Things don't go well when you question God, and it certainly didn't go well for Eve and then Adam. That part of the central nervous system we know as trust suddenly was shattered and the pain of guilt and conscience took over. Adam and Eve tried to run away.

HOWEVER, in that bleakest hour of shame and loss, God makes a promise to Adam and Eve, found in Genesis 3:15. The love of God was so complete and great that He decided to send His only Son to restore man to Himself. It's understandable that Eve could think that God's promise would take place

sooner than later. After all, she was bearing children, and surely one of her sons would be the Savior. That was not to be.

God had many more people in His plans. Throughout recorded history, mankind has been reminded of the promise over and over as found in Scriptures. At the right time, God's time, He sent His only Son, to complete the promise made, to be born of a virgin, a woman of God's choice, not Eve. God's Son, Jesus, was to become in the form of a human, the very substance of what He made with His own hands. Now, Jesus was in a position to accomplish what no other person could ever do, that is, right the wrong of all mankind for all time. What a gift of love. Jesus was able, and did carry all sins to the cross, died for those sins, and on the third day arose victorious over the devil. The originator of the temptation in the Garden of Eden was totally defeated. This all took place from God the Father's Grace and Love, and with the calling of the Holy Spirit, we are given faith to believe and thus be saved. That faith sustains us on our paths we're on, even if it's cold and rainy.

It's time for me to go inside and warm up with some hot chocolate. I've enjoyed our walk.

Believers have what makes Christmas so special.  
Merry Christmas!

A part of the Fishnet,  
*Gary Gable*



## Decorate the Church for Christmas

Decorating our church sanctuary and narthex for Christmas will take place on Saturday, **December 2<sup>nd</sup>**, at 9 a.m.

*Please come join us. Many hands make the work go quickly - and we have a great time together adding Advent and Christmas touches to our beautiful church!*



## Community Kitchen

Zion is providing the Snohomish Community Kitchen meal on Monday, **December 4<sup>th</sup>**. **We really need more help when we serve!** We begin the meal preparations at 2 p.m. and begin clean-up at 5 p.m.



Thank you so much to those who helped last month. If you need more information or would like to help, please contact Carolyn Jensen (360-568-9384) or Janet Zwar (425-346-3565).

The Snohomish Community Kitchen offers a **FREE meal** every Monday and Thursday from 4:30 – 6 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 913 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Snohomish. Everyone is welcome!



## **YOU'RE INVITED ...**

### **to join us for a Taproot Theatre Performance**

Wednesday, **December 6<sup>th</sup>**

at 7 p.m.

at Zion Lutheran Church  
329 Avenue A, Snohomish

**Soup Supper at 5:30 p.m.** in Zion's Parish Hall (330 Union Ave.)

For more information: Contact Zion Lutheran Church at 360-568-2700 or [snohomishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:snohomishsecretary@gmail.com)

## ZIG (Zion's Intergenerational Group)

[from Lisa Tuengel]

Join us Sunday, **December 10<sup>th</sup>**, for ZIG!

ZIG stands for Zion's Intergenerational Group. This is an opportunity to gather with your church family at the group opening for our Christian education time. All ages from our adult Bible class and our Sunday school classes are invited to get together in the Parish Hall Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

**We'll look for you there!**



## **Advent – Preparing for Jesus' Birth!**

### • **Wednesday – Dec. 6**

**Taproot Theatre ~ 7 p.m. (no 1 p.m. service)**  
**Soup Supper ~ 5:30 p.m.**

### • **Wednesday – Dec. 13**

**Worship Services ~ 1 & 7 p.m.**  
**Soup Supper ~ 5:30 p.m.**

### • **Wednesday – Dec. 20**

**Worship Service ~ 1 & 6 p.m.**  
**Light Supper (TBD) ~ 5:15 p.m.**

*(Worship is at 6 p.m. on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> to allow people time to get to the Bronn Journey concert that evening.)*

## **Come for Soup and Fellowship!**



**Wednesdays – Dec. 6 & 13**

**At 5:30 p.m.**

- The LWML will be hosting the first Wednesday evening soup supper during Advent (Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>).
- On December 6<sup>th</sup>, we expect extra guests due to the Taproot Theatre performance that evening, so additional food will be needed!
- Other volunteers (both individuals and groups) are needed for Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>.
- We are asking your help in bringing soups; salads; bread, butter, and crackers; desserts (cookies, bars, cake); and milk or juice to share. Coffee/tea will be provided. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex.
- If you have any questions, please contact any Parish Ministry board member: Kathy Sturlaugson (425-334-4604); Lynne Hereth (425-327-7839); Laraine Hunt (360-568-6219); Pat Bjerkan (360-568-3683); or Ann Jensen (425-212-9337).

## Newsletter & Sunday Bulletin Deadlines



The Newsletter Deadline is Monday, **December 18<sup>th</sup>**, for the JANUARY 2018 Newsletter!

All items for the Sunday bulletin must be received in the church office by Noon on Thursdays. Thanks!



## Lutheran Annual 2018

The 2018 *Lutheran Annual* is on sale now. If you would like to order one, please contact the church office at 360-568-2700 by **December 15<sup>th</sup>**. The cost this year is about \$30.

For your information – much of the information in the *Lutheran Annual* is also available online at <http://www.lcms.org>.

## December Retirees

The Retirees will **not meet** as a group during December. Have a great Christmas!

## Annual Reports Due

The executive board, all board directors, and organizational chairpersons are reminded that their annual reports are due to the church office by **January 22, 2018**.

## Bronn Journey Concert

(Zion Lutheran School Fundraiser)



Local harpist Bronn Journey and his wife Katherine will be presenting a Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. in the Everett Performing Arts Center, and has generously offered to donate half of the sales from their concert to our school! **Tickets are \$20 each and are on sale now.** Contact Ann Jensen at church or at the school office (425-334-5064). A great gift idea!

## Reformation 500 – Can You Help?

Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest (LMS) experienced a shortfall of more than \$20,000 in producing the Reformation 500 Celebratory Service we all were able to be part of at Overlake Christian Church on October 29.



You know that LMS provides much needed service to our people in the Puget Sound region. I can tell you that people from Idaho, Montana and Alaska are blessed because of their ministry also.

Offerings can be earmarked “Reformation 500 Shortfall.” The address is Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest, 7040 36th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Please remember LMS now and in the future.

Thanks so much. *Rev. Noel Koss*

## *Christmas Services!*

### • Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

**Worship Service** (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent)  
at 9:30 a.m. (one morning service only)

**Christmas Eve Worship Service with Lessons & Carols**  
at 7 p.m.



### • Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Day Worship Service with Holy Communion**  
at 9:30 a.m. (one service only)



**Will You Make Time for A Visit?**

Listed below are the names of our members who are homebound or hospitalized. Many of these people would really enjoy visits, cards, and letters. Also, keep them in your thoughts and prayers. If you're unsure of an address, or need encouragement or more information, contact the church office.



Homebound" list as of November 27, 2017: Dale Bartelheimer, Jane Britton, Esther Carlson, Joe & Georgia Chonzena, Carol Gessner, Annie Ginder, Arlene Hallanger, Salle Jackman, Viola Kanaar, Mark & Arta Rose Lucas, Shirley Neel, Dean & Shelley Pratt, Dave & Connie Schwarzmiller, Edith Stocker, George & Marion Stocker, Loren Troupe, and Darlene Wognild.



**Thank You for the Donations!**

Thank you to everyone that provided Jell-O, canned food, gloves, mittens, hats, and other food items to the Snohomish Food Bank. Over 60 lbs. of food and items were collected. Thank you for all your generous giving.

**Caps for Kids**..... [from Lillian Bartelheimer]

**Christmas House Nov. 29 – Dec. 16, 2017**

Children will receive caps this Christmas thanks to congregants like Judy Bosse who knitted 83+ caps while on vacation! Compassion and efforts of all who have participated is appreciated. This was a continuation of a Thrivent project done last year (using leftover yarn).



There is still yarn in the Parish Hall Meeting Room if anyone wants to make caps and **return them by Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!!

**Celebration Garden 2017**

[from Lillian Bartelheimer]



Zion Lutheran Church's 125<sup>th</sup> year anniversary was the spark that led to the Thrivent project called "Celebration Garden."

Reformation 500 was the fuel that led to a boost along the way.

Being a growing season like no other (really wet spring, very warm & dry summer) truly led to this being more of a gratitude to our Lord than quantity of produce. We still managed to deliver some produce to the Snohomish Food Bank, the Maltby Food Bank, Snohomish Community Kitchen, and pumpkins for Zion's Fall Festival!



Thank you to all volunteers who made it possible.

**Praise God!**

[This was an action team event sponsored by Thrivent Financial.]



**HARVEST**



**FOR THE NEEDY!**

# CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



## 2017 CROP Hunger Walk Update

Thanks to all walkers and sponsors for our 2017 CROP total of \$12,310. In the last seven CROP Hunger Walks, this is the second time we have exceeded the high mark of \$10,600. We had five pastors walking with us this year - the largest number ever! This year also marked a resurgence of youth and children on the Walk, as well as many of our senior generation who tackled the short version of the walk. It is inspiring to know that within a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon, we of all ages can raise such a significant amount to ease the suffering caused by natural disasters, poverty, and hunger. See you next year at the CROP Hunger walk!

## FRED MEYER REWARDS!

Did you know that shopping at Fred Meyer can benefit Zion Lutheran School? Just register your Fred Meyer Rewards Card under the Community Rewards section on the Fred Meyer website, select Zion Lutheran School as your Community Rewards recipient (our # is 80187) and your Fred Meyer purchases will benefit our school with NO reduction in your personal Rewards benefit! NOTE: you must register your card each year.

Go to [www.fredmeyer.com/comunityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/comunityrewards) to renew your Rewards Card registration.

## Lutherans for Life

“God gave you what you couldn’t do for yourself. What a great Christmas gift you have in the unconditional forgiveness of your sins through the person and work of your Savior Jesus Christ! Thank You, God!”

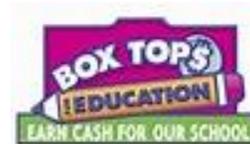


Rev. Mark Jeske, ([www.timeofgrace.org](http://www.timeofgrace.org)) – A Life Quote from *Lutherans For Life* •

[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

## Box Tops for Education

Keep on clipping those *Box Tops for Education!* They will be used to help support Zion Lutheran School. Each Box Tops Clip is worth 10 cents for your school. There is a collection box in the church narthex. Thank you for your help!



## Gift Cards Support Zion Lutheran School

Going to the grocery store for bread or milk? Buy a grocery scrip/ gift it benefits Zion Lutheran School. Please see Ann Jensen or Lynne Hereth for more details. Ann has several cards available every week between services in the Parish Hall – come check out the selection!



## December 2017 ~ LCMS Stewardship Article

Christmas is coming. It is a joyous time of feasting. The Church feasts upon the Word of God in sermon, song, and sacrament.

We hear the proclamation of the message of the angels: “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10–11).

We mingle our voices with theirs as we sing, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased” (Luke 2:14)!

We receive the proclaimed Savior, Christ the Lord, not wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in manger, but wrapped in bread and wine placed into our mouths for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

We feast in great joy indeed because of this great blessing from our Lord and God.

God’s people in ancient Israel also feasted with great joy. The Lord showered His abundant blessing on His people. And He commanded them to feast upon it (Deut. 16). The people were to go to the place appointed, where the Lord would make His name dwell, and give offerings, each man as he was able, according to the blessing of the Lord that He had given them (Deut. 16:10, 15, 17).

And there the Lord would bless them with joy as they feasted upon what the Lord had provided. They ate of the choice parts of their offerings. They enjoyed the company of all the people of God as they together heard His promises of blessing, sang of His bountiful goodness, and partook of what He gave.

We feast on the Word who became flesh to dwell among us, not just during Christmas, but throughout all the year.

We feast not just on the salvation He has wrought for us in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, but we feast also on all the temporal blessings that God gives out of His fatherly

divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us.

We enjoy the rich bounty that God provides, not only in Word and Sacrament, but also in house and home, property and income, family and friends.

Let us then, as did our brothers in the faith from ancient Israel, give as we are able, according to the blessing of the Lord our God that He has given us.

Let us, like them, give generously of the first fruits of our income, which He gives, so that all may know and enjoy the salvation He gives and the joy we have in the Savior born in the city of David, who is Christ the Lord.

Source is LCMS Stewardship Resources at <https://blogs.lcms.org/2017/lcms-stewardship-ministry-bulletin-sentences-and-newsletter-article-december-2017>



**TAPROOT THEATRE**  
COMPANY

**SILENT NIGHT**  
By Daniel Stoltenberg

**You are invited to join us for a  
Taproot Theatre Performance**

**Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 7 p.m.**

at Zion Lutheran Church, 329 Avenue A,  
Snohomish

**Free-will offering**

For more information: Contact Zion Lutheran Church  
at 360-568-2700 or [snohomishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:snohomishsecretary@gmail.com)

A pair of strangers find themselves trapped with an angel,  
caught between time and continents. While not happy to  
find them in her space, the angel helps them find their ways  
home. This charming Christmas comedy spans centuries and  
reminds us that peace on earth begins in the hearts of every  
individual. *Silent Night* is written by Daniel Stoltenberg and  
directed by Nathan Kessler-Jeffrey.

## LWML Washington-Alaska District Mission Grant 2016-2018

*Opportunity Mission Outreach, Washington-Alaska District \$6,000 Short Term Missions Committee*

The funds would provide help for those participating in a short-term mission trip. Each request would be between \$500 and \$1,000. It is possible that six to twelve short term mission requests could be partially or totally funded during the biennium. The decision to accept a request for financial assistance for an individual LCMS woman in our Washington-Alaska District to participate on a short-term mission trip would be made by the Short-Term Missions Committee.

### Prayer:

*Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for all whom You call to serve in the mission field. We pray that the LWML Washington-Alaska District mite gift of \$6,000 is a blessing to Opportunity Mission Outreach— Washington-Alaska District as needs arise to serve on short term missions. We ask for Your blessing on those who will carry out the work accomplished with these funds, and that You are glorified by such deeds. Amen.*

### LWML Bible Study & Meeting

No LWML study or meeting in December. Have a blessed Advent & Christmas season and we'll see you in January!

## Save the Date!



**LWML Washington-Alaska District Convention**  
**June 15 – 17, 2018**  
**Hotel RL by Red Lion**  
**Spokane at the Park**  
**Spokane, Washington**

22 Mission Grants. 1 Mission for God.

2017-2019  
**Biennium**

Mission Goal  
**\$2,075,000**

**\$25,000**

## Tanzanian Sewing Center

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)*

In southeastern Tanzania, many young women from villages do not attend school or have jobs, and so seek unskilled jobs in larger towns, often ending up involved in prostitution. Some end up with AIDS or unexpected pregnancies, with no means of supporting themselves. The ELCT has established the Bishop Makala Sewing Center to teach young women sewing, life skills, and the Gospel. The ELCT goal is to build classrooms with a 50 student capacity, along with a dormitory. Within one year of training, their sewing skills enable women to have pocket money, purchase a sewing machine, and buy materials to create sewn items to sell for income.

### *We Pray Together...*

Precious Heavenly Father, fountain and the origin of all goodness, we give you thanks for daily providing us with all that we need to support our body and soul. Help us to give generously to provide for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania project to teach young women sewing, life skills, and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we always be content at the foot of the cross, trusting that you will always provide for our needs. In Jesus Name, we pray Amen.

For more questions, or to learn more about us  
**1-800-252-5965** [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)



## Parish News

**In case of pastoral emergency contact:**

**Pastor Gary Jensen** at the church office (360-586-2700) or home (425-212-9337) or cell phone (206-914-3593) **or one of the elders:**

- Norm Anderson..... 425-948-7575
- Gene Berner ..... 360-568-5970
- Wayne Franz..... 425-334-5184
- John Hansen..... 425-397-7324
- Richard Hellman (director) ..... 425-232-7666



**My Birthday Gift to Christ**

Thank you for the support you have given to the Birthday Gift to Christ fund. We also seek your support to encourage people to be open to the Lord’s Call to them. Your birthday offerings together with your prayers will help someone to prepare for the Lord’s ministry with scholarships from this fund.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following **DECEMBER** birthday celebrants:

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Riley Heike        | 12 Helen Heck         |
| 2 Marcila Richardson | 15 Marie Tuengel      |
| 3 Phyllis Reynolds   | 18 Whitney Schultz    |
| 4 Brent Tuengel      | 21 Chelsea Hellman    |
| 5 Garry Heike        | 25 Herman Bosse       |
| 5 Rosemary Randall   | 25 Kathy Sturlaugson  |
| 6 Dean Pratt         | 26 Sue Boblett        |
| 7 Dale Bartelheimer  | 27 Becca Bartelheimer |
| 7 Laraine Hunt       | 27 Kelly Wood         |
| 10 Janet Armstrong   |                       |

**OFFICIAL ACTS**

**Official Count:**

- 202 Communicant Members
- 30 Baptized Only
- 232 TOTAL



**DECEMBER**  
**Wedding Anniversaries**

- Dec. 7 Bob & Linda Peyton
- 8 Wayne & Barbara Franz
- 30 Dale & Jana Ostlund

*Every effort is made to keep the birthday and anniversary lists up to date. If there is an error, or your name does not appear on these lists, please call the church office at 360-568-2700.*

## Braille Work Center News

During October the volunteers completed 52 copies of “Primary Bible Stories.” Destinations for this publication included India, Malawi and Sierra Leone as well as recipients in the US.

December will again be a busy month of production. Another 52 copies will be needed for this upcoming assignment.

Fyi all overseas books are required to be enclosed in plastic bags. Therefore, I always have a need for the larger shopping bags from Kohls, Target, Penney’s, Fred Meyer or other stores. If you have extras, please, leave them in the Braille room or give them to me. This is an ongoing request! **Contact** Janet Bernhardt – 360-659-9750

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) is hoping to soon begin large print production of the English Standard Version Bible for prison ministry. A grant proposal of \$6,000 for the Washington/Alaska District of the LWML will be presented at next summer’s district convention. This new outreach is desperately needed and funding must be secured before implementation of this project. I will relate more details in future newsletter articles.

- ✓ If you’d like to join in on a session, please, contact me at 360-659-9750 or by e-mail at [dalebern@frontier.com](mailto:dalebern@frontier.com).
- ✓ Learn more about this ministry by going to LBW website. A wealth of information is available along with downloads of publications and lists of available subscription materials.
- ~~✓ Updated mailings from LBW and donation envelopes are located on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.~~
- ✓ Keep the blind and visually impaired, as well as LBW, in your prayers. Monetary donations are vital for LBW’s existence while providing most materials free of charge to recipients.
- ✓ **ATTENTION!!!** When making donations, please, indicate that your donation is designated for “Work Center #314.” Writing “Work Center #314” on the memo line of your check will assure credit is given to our work center for your donation.
- ✓ If you have THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS to donate, consider directing them to LBW. Don’t let your monies go unused! Please call LBW to inform them of your choice so our Work Center #314 can receive monetary credit (1-800-925-6092). You may also e-mail this info to Deanna Bowles at [deanna@lbwinc.org](mailto:deanna@lbwinc.org).

### DECEMBER BRAILLE SCHEDULE:

<b>Immanuel General:</b>	Monday	December 4 <sup>th</sup>	9 – 11:00 AM
	Monday	December 11 <sup>th</sup>	9 – 11:00 AM
<b>Immanuel LWML:</b>	Tuesday	December 5 <sup>th</sup>	9 – 11:30 AM
	Tuesday	December 19 <sup>th</sup>	9 – 11:30 AM
<b>Messiah Lutheran:</b>	Wednesday	December 6 <sup>th</sup>	9 – 11:30 AM
<b>Grace Lutheran:</b>	Friday	December 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 – 11:30 AM
<b>Immanuel &amp; Zion:</b>	Tuesday	December 12 <sup>th</sup>	9 – 11:30 AM
<b>Afternoon Session:</b>	Monday	December 4 <sup>th</sup>	12 – 2:30 PM
<b>Extra Session:</b>	Monday	December 18 <sup>th</sup>	9 – 11:30AM

In His service,  
*Janet Bernhardt*  
 Work Center Director  
 Immanuel Lutheran Church

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Lutheran Braille Workers  
 PO Box 5000  
 Yucaipa, CA 92399-1450  
 1-800-925-6092; [www.lbwinc.org](http://www.lbwinc.org)  
 Lutheran Library for the Blind  
 1-888-215-2455  
 Email: [LLB@lbwinc.org](mailto:LLB@lbwinc.org)



Dear friend of Zion Lutheran School,

Our school theme this year, adopted from the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) annual theme is *"It's still all about Jesus"*. Hebrews 13:8 - *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.*

In His name, we serve students and their families who have chosen to attend Zion Lutheran School (ZLS) where *Jesus* is present in our classrooms, in conversation and in prayer. His message of love, grace, and the promise of life eternal stays the same.

Students attending ZLS come from different backgrounds, cultures and religious denominations, yet Jesus binds us all together. As a community built around Christian faith, family and education, our mission, *Building Foundations and Transforming Lives in Christ*, stands the test of time and continues to reflect, *"It's Still All About Jesus."*

This year 144 bright and eager students are enrolled at Zion Lutheran School. With a continued goal of 200 students enrolled preschool through eighth grade, budget planning may be directed toward more student opportunities in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) and the performing arts.

Over the last two years a board-approved tuition increase and an annual facility fee have enhanced student experiences and helped with minor building and grounds upkeep. Rising operating costs, wages, insurance premiums and curriculum updates must be addressed annually. Prospective and current families can be assured that we are doing everything possible to keep tuition rates competitive while building a secure financial base that will maintain and grow our mission.

Currently ZLS uses funds raised by the Annual Fund Campaign and our Annual Auction (May 12<sup>th</sup>) to support daily operating costs, major repairs, technology upgrades, student curriculum and staff salaries. Participation in any school fundraiser or the Annual Fund Campaign is encouraged and very much appreciated as the children are blessed by each contribution.

We want to ensure that generations of students continue to pass through our doors and make their mark in the world, Jesus alongside them and with memories of ZLS in their hearts. Please prayerfully consider donating to the Annual Fund Campaign. Your gift is fully tax deductible and may be allocated to the general fund, technology fund or tuition assistance. We continue to be humbled by the support of our ZLS community. Monetary gifts large or small, and hours spent volunteering all add up to help us ensure that Zion continues to be an institution with a positive impact in our community for years to come.

Thank you for your loyal support! Please call the school office if you have any questions or would like to discuss funding a specific need. [Zion Lutheran School office: 425-334-5064](tel:425-334-5064)

Partnering with you as servants in God's Kingdom,

Lynne Hereth

*Lynne Hereth*

Principal

Amanda Hereth

*Amanda Hereth*

Development Director

## Reconciliation – Peacemaking Message



*Relational Wisdom 360* is a regular e-mail that is published by Ken Sande. We hope you enjoy this month's excerpt. For more information on *Relational Wisdom 360* please visit their website or subscribe to the e-mail at [www.RW360.org](http://www.RW360.org).

### Stupidity of Bitterness

Indulging in bitterness is one of the most stupid things we ever do. How stupid is it? Well, think about it this way.

Imagine that someone stabbed you in the arm with a knife, leaving it there. After he flees, you stare in horror at the knife, then in agony take the handle in your other hand and pull it out.

After a moment, you impulsively stab yourself again. With your own hand and by your own choice. You do it again and again, day after day, week after week. It's one of the most self-destructive acts you could ever do.

But that's exactly what bitterness is.

People betray us, lie to us, gossip about us, fail to support us. It hurts. It hurts badly. It's like they've stabbed our hearts with a knife.

All too often, rather than turning to God for grace to respond to the wrong with wisdom and forgiveness, we choose to indulge bitterness. We keep thinking about that wrong. We play it like a video in our mind over and over. We stab ourselves with the sharp memory of the incident, feeling the pain again and again.

This is why the Bible tells us to "*Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice*" (Eph. 4:31). God wants to spare us from the repeated, unnecessary pain we tend to inflict on ourselves.

How do we find this relief? The answer is found in the words that surround verse 31: "*Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God*" and "*Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you*" (v. 30, 32).

The key to getting rid of bitter memories is to get my focus back on God. In the terms of relational wisdom, to become more **God-aware** and **God-engaging**. How?

First by **remembering that bitterness in my heart grieves my Father's heart** ... which I never want to do.



Second, by **thanking God over and over for all he has done for me through Christ** ... especially for the countless times he has forgiven me for disobeying and hurting him.

Third, by **meditating on the many promises God makes to comfort, sanctify and bless us when others have harmed us** (see, e.g., Psalm 37:1-40, which I have turned to often in life).

And fourth, by **asking him to fill me so full of his grace and love that I naturally imitate him** and obey his teaching as I respond to those who have wronged me.

*"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Eph. 4:30-32).*

– Ken Sande

### Reflection Questions

Think of a time when you felt prolonged bitterness toward someone.

- How did it affect you? (Psalm 73:21-22; Psalm 106:32-33; Acts 8:23; James 3:14)
- How did it affect your relationship with God? (Isaiah 59:1-2)
- How did it affect your relationship with others? (Proverbs 10:12)
- How can focusing on the Lord help you to get rid of bitterness? (Eph. 4:30-32)

For more insights on the role God-awareness and God-engagement play in improving your relational wisdom, go here.

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By Ken Sande 2017-11-06

# December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Zion Ev. Lutheran Church</b> 331 Union Ave. Snohomish, WA 98290 Church office: 360-568-2700 snohomishsecretary@gmail.com			CH = Church (360-568-2855) CO = Church Office (360-568-2700) PH = Parish Hall (360-568-6420) PHMR = Parish Hall Meeting Room ZLS = Zion Lutheran School (425-334-5064)		<b>1</b>  8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. L.E.A.F. Homeschool Association (All facilities)  3 p.m. L.E.A.F. Homeschool Christmas Celebration Set- up (PH)	<b>2</b>  9 a.m. Decorate Church for Christmas 9am – 1pm L.E.A.F. Homeschool Christmas Celebration (PH)  7 p.m. Youth Group (Michelle Bartelheimer's home)
<b>3</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent <b>8 am Traditional Worship/ Communion</b> 9:30 am Sunday School/Bible Class 10 a.m. Contemporary Worship Music Practice (CH) <b>10:30 am Contemporary Worship/ Communion</b>	<b>4</b> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9)  4:30 p.m. Community Kitchen - at St. John's Episcopal, Snoh. (2 p.m. meal prep./5 p.m. clean up)  6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (PH) 7 p.m. Elders Meeting (CO)	<b>5</b> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rms. 8 & 9)  7 p.m. Confirmation (CO)	<b>6</b> Midweek Advent 1 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9) 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Project Linus Quilting (PHMR) 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Class (Jana Ostlund's home) 9:30 a.m. LWR Quilting (Stage) 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. Acad. PE (PH) 5:30 p.m. Soup Supper (PH) 7 p.m. Taproot Theatre Program (CH)	<b>7</b> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9)  9:15 a.m. <i>Between the Testaments</i> Bible Study (PHMR)  12:45-2 p.m. Acad. of Snoh. Chapel (PHMR)  7 p.m. Trustees (PHMR)	<b>8</b>  8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. L.E.A.F. Homeschool Association (All facilities) ??	<b>9</b>  7 p.m. Youth Group (Michelle Bartelheimer's home)
<b>10</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent <b>8 am Traditional Worship</b> 9:30 am ZIG! Combined Sunday School/Bible Class Opening (PH) 10 a.m. Contemporary Worship Music Practice (CH) <b>10:30 am Contemporary Worship</b>  1 – 3 p.m. Junior Holstein Meeting (CH – Rooms 2, 3 - 4)	<b>11</b> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9)  7 p.m. Bd. of Directors Meeting (PHMR)	<b>12</b> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9)  9 – 11:30 a.m. Braille Work (Immanuel, Everett)  7 p.m. Confirmation (CO)	<b>13</b> Midweek Advent 2 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9) 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Project Linus Quilting (PHMR) 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Class (Jana Ostlund's home) 9:30 a.m. LWR Quilting (Stage) 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. Acad. PE (PH) 5:30 p.m. Soup Supper (PH) 1 & 7 p.m. Advent Worship (CH)	<b>14</b> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9)  9:15 a.m. <i>Between the Testaments</i> Bible Study (PHMR)  12:45-2 p.m. Acad. of Snoh. Chapel (PHMR)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  7 p.m. Youth Group (Michelle Bartelheimer's home)
<b>17</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent <b>8 am Traditional Worship/ Communion</b> 9:30 am Sunday School/Bible Class 10 a.m. Contemporary Worship Music Practice (CH) <b>10:30 am Contemporary Worship/ Communion</b>	<b>18</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline!</i> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rooms 8 & 9)  6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (PH) 7 p.m. 4 – H Meeting (CH – rooms 2 – 4)	<b>19</b> 8am–1pm Acad. of Snoh. (PH – Rms. 8 & 9)	<b>20</b> Midweek Advent 3  NO Project Linus Quilting 9:30 a.m. LWR Quilting (Stage) 5:15 p.m. Light Supper (PH) 1 & 6 p.m. Advent Worship (CH)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">                         No <b>Academy</b> Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>                           No <b>L.E.A.F.</b> Homeschool Association Dec 15 – Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> </div>		<b>23</b>  7 p.m. Youth Group (Michelle Bartelheimer's home)
<b>24</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent / Christmas Eve <b>9:30 am Worship</b> No Sunday School/Bible Class  <b>7 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service of Lessons &amp; Carols</b>	<b>25</b> Christmas Day Church Office Closed  <b>9:30 am Christmas Day Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Project Linus Quilting (PHMR) ??  9:30 a.m. LWR Quilting (Stage)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  7 p.m. Youth Group (Michelle Bartelheimer's home)
<b>31</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas / New Year's Eve <b>8 am Traditional Worship</b> 9:30 am Sunday School/Bible Class 10 a.m. Contemporary Worship Music Practice (CH) <b>10:30 am Contemporary Worship</b>	<b>Notes:</b> Church Office closed: Dec. 6, 12, 19, and 26 – 29 <sup>th</sup> .					



## Servants in God's House for December 2017

	<b>December 3</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent	<b>December 10</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent	<b>December 17</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent	<b>December 24</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent/Christmas Eve	<b>December 25</b> Christmas Day	<b>December 31</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas / New Year's Eve
<b>Elders:</b> 8 am 10:30 a.m.	Gene Berner Richard Hellman	Wayne Franz Norm Anderson	Gene Berner Richard Hellman	<b>9:30am</b> Norm Anderson <b>7 pm</b> <i>Elder needed</i>	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Elder needed</i>	Richard Hellman Wayne Franz
<b>Ushers:</b> 8 am 10:30 a.m.	Ken Heike, Larry Heike Bud Adams, Harlin Keil	Jerry Sturlaugson Andrew Bartelheimer	Ken Heike, Marlin Heike Bud Adams, Harlin Keil	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i> <b>7 pm</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	Ken Lauterbach <i>Volunteer needed</i>
<b>Greeters:</b> 8 am 10:30 a.m.	Herman & Judy Bosse Rosemary Randall	Jerry & Kathy Sturlaugson Joan Stocker	Lynne Hereth Katie Larchick	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i> <b>7 pm</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	Larry Heike <i>Volunteer needed</i>
<b>Acolytes:</b> 8 am 10:30 a.m.	<i>Volunteer needed</i> Jessica Ostlund	<i>Volunteer needed</i> Sade Palmer	<i>Volunteer needed</i> Jonah Urie	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i> <b>7 pm</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i> Sam Lepse
<b>Readers:</b> 8 am 10:30 a.m.	Ann Jensen Richard Hellman	Wayne Franz Jana Ostlund	Lynne Hereth Doris Brickman	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i> <b>7 pm</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	<b>9:30 am</b> <i>Volunteer needed</i>	Gary Gable <i>Volunteer needed</i>
<b>Scriptures:</b>	Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80: 1-7 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 11:1-10 or Mark 13:24-37	Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 1 Thess. 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28	2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16 Psalm 89:1-5 (19-29) Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38	Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 2 Heb. 1:1-6 (7-12) John 1:1-14 (15-18)	Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 111 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40
<b>Children's Message:</b>	Pastor Gary Jensen	Lisa Tuengel	Pastor Gary Jensen	<b>9:30 am</b> Pastor Gary Jensen		Pastor Gary Jensen
<b>Organist:</b> 8 am	Karen Berner	Karen Berner	Karen Berner	<b>9:30 am</b> Karen Berner	<b>9:30 am</b> Karen Berner	Karen Berner
<b>Musician:</b> 10:30am				<b>7 pm</b> Karen Berner		
<b>Special Music:</b>				<b>9:30am</b> <b>Choir</b> <i>How Quietly</i>	<b>Choir</b> <i>Go Tell It</i>	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	----- Rosemary Randall -----					
<b>Flowers:</b>	Debbie Tuengel (Brent's birthday)	Hansens (in memory of John's dad)	Lynne Hereth (in memory of Mark)			Bartelheimers (in Becca's birthday)
<b>Fellowship:</b>	Wayne Franz	Lepse family	Laraine Hunt	--	--	Michelle Bartelheimer
<b>Counters:</b>	Lillian Bartelheimer Joan Stocker	Loreen Atkinson Dan Miller	Doris Brickman Kathy Sturlaugson	Ken Heike <i>Volunteer needed</i>	--	Lillian Bartelheimer Joan Stocker



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
331 Union Avenue  
Snohomish, WA 98290

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Christmas Eve Worship**  
Service of Lessons &  
Carols at 7 p.m.

**Christmas Day**  
Worship Service with  
Holy Communion at  
9:30 a.m.



December 2017

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*(The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)*

**Mailing address:** 331 Union Ave., Snohomish, WA 98290- 2825

**Church address:** 329 Avenue A, Snohomish, Washington

**Parish Hall address:** 330 Union Ave., Snohomish, Washington

**Phone:** 360-568-2700

**E-mail:** [snohomishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:snohomishsecretary@gmail.com)

**Website:** [zionsnohomish.360unite.com](http://zionsnohomish.360unite.com)

**Mission Statement for Zion Lutheran Church:**

*Reaching out with Christ's gift of grace and forgiveness as we preach, teach, and serve so all may know Jesus Christ as Savior.*

**Zion Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran School Association (LCMS) of Snohomish County.**

Zion Lutheran School office: 425-334-5064  
Zion Lutheran School website: [www.zionls.org](http://www.zionls.org)

**Join us for worship and Bible class this Sunday.**

**Sunday Worship Service Times**

**8 a.m. Traditional Worship Service**

9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class

**10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service**

*Holy Communion is celebrated at both services on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month.*

