

THE HERALD

Volume 17, Issue 3

March 2019

Connecting through Grace

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR



Ash Wednesday. The cross of gritty ashes is smeared on our foreheads, as the one who marks says, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." But that same cross-shaped mark tells another truth, remembering the crossed traced upon our foreheads in Holy Baptism: "Child of God, sealed by the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever."

These markings tell the central truths of our lives. We are dust, with so short a time to live and to laugh and to love. It also tells the eternal truth, that each of us is a child of God, beloved, the delight of God's heart. We are dust. We are children of God. In all of this, we are people joined to each other and to God through our baptism into Christ.

On Ash Wednesday, we are summoned into the Lenten invitation: "As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor." In your observation of Lent, remember that you are Easter people, wrapped in the eternal embrace of God's love and promise of new life for you. In your observation of Lent, do not pretend that we are not dust and that there are no deserts and Good Fridays for those around us.

I pray for you a Lenten season of holy reflection, quiet joy in the love of our forgiving Savior. May you have a clear view of all that leads you away from love of God and neighbor. And, we pray, for an Easter of renewed commitment to bringing the fullness of Christ's love and life and grace to all people.

+ Pastor Steve

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WELCOME!

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, socioeconomic or marital status, physical or mental capacities, age or race.

We are a Reconciling in Christ community. All are welcome.

UPCOMING ZION EVENTS

LIVING YOUR BAPTISM

It is Lent. Think of this season as God's gift to us. It is a homecoming journey, where we discover anew what it means to live as God's beloved. It is a time to pray and repent and reflect upon our baptism. Using the Affirmation of Baptism, we commend these thoughts and reflections and prayers to you. Each in their own way, connects us with the covenant God made in Holy Baptism.

Pastor Steve Klemz has written a daily Lenten prayer booklet. We invite you to follow along as we pray together during this season. You can find the booklet at the link below or pick up a physical copy in the Narthex anytime during Lent.

bit.ly/2T3uHca

ASH WEDNESDAY

Christians gather on Ash Wednesday to mark the beginning of the Lenten season's preparation for Easter. On this day people receive an ashen cross on the forehead (a gesture received in baptism), hear God's promise of forgiveness, and and taste God's mercy in the Holy Meal. The day's sermon is from John 5, "Do you want to be made well?" All are welcome. Worship at noon and 7:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Zion will be hosting a Christian Children's Choir Festival again this year on Saturday, March 30, 2019. The day will include rehearsals with our guest conductor, Dr. Loneka Battiste, who is an expert in gospel music and teaches at University of Tennessee. We will have rotations of African drumming, Orff instruments and games. Zion is providing this day free of charge to our guests including all classes and lunch. When we hosted this last year, it was such a good growing experience both musically, culturally and spiritually for our children and volunteers. It was so good for the children to see the bigger Christian community here in Salt Lake.

Please join us for our mini-concert and reception on Saturday March 30 at 12:30 pm. Zion children are encouraged to invite friends who may not be available to visit on a Sunday. Please call the church office to register your child and friends.

If you would like to be involved in helping that day, please contact Susan Swidnicki at sljswidnicki@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Awakening Worship

9:15 AM Sunday school for children & adults

10:30 AM Traditional Worship

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

"Conversations in Grace"

12:15-1:00 Wednesdays, in Lent, beginning March 13. Bring a brown bag lunch and explore scripture and devotional writings on grace. Pastor Steve and Lisa Mensinger facilitate our discussion. No prior knowledge of scripture is needed. All are welcome!

GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY CHOIR



The Grand View University Choir will be performing at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church at 4 pm on Sunday, March 17. A reception follows the performance. All are welcome! We are honored to host them as SLC is one of the farthest locations west they will venture on their choir tour. Grandview University is an ELCA college in Des Moines, Iowa.

Grand View University is an ELCA University, in Des Moines, Iowa. Dr. Kathryn Duffy, choir director, says the concert exemplifies the quality and vitality of our Lutheran heritage in music and higher education. The concert will be followed by a reception with the singers and attendees.

The students need housing for two nights—Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17. Anyone who can open their hearts and their homes are encouraged to host a pair of students for those nights and provide transportation to church Saturday for supper and Sunday for the concert. A sign-up sheet to volunteer is available in the Narthex.

If you are not able to provide housing, there's another opportunity for your support. Zion will be hosting the choir for supper on Saturday night, March 16th. We need some volunteers to help with the dinner setup and 7-8 volunteers each to make a meat loaf (your favorite recipe) and a pan of brownies (your favorite recipe) for dessert and bring them to church that Saturday.

LENTEN WORSHIP

On March 13th, Midweek Lenten Worship begins at 7:15 PM with Holden Evening Prayer. Bible study and discussion groups will meet from 6:30 until 7:15 with Pastor Steve Klemz and Lisa Mensinger. Our traditional soup suppers precede the evening's events, beginning at 6 pm.

3/13 - Beloved

Luke 3:21-22

3/20 - Blessed

Luke 3:21-22

3/27 - Called Out

Ephesians 4:11-13

4/3 - Gathered

Acts 2: 42-45

4/10 - Finding Your Voice

John 9:1-41

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Adult Open Forum Bible Discussion

All are welcome to discuss the current Sunday's lessons, focusing on the Gospel. We meet at 9:15-10:15 in the room across from the sanctuary.

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP

The Women's Small Group meets the first and third Monday at 7:00 PM in various homes and is studying The Gospel of John. All women are welcome.

Contact Alvce Gross: 801-557-9646

or adgross1@msn.com

CROSSROADS URBAN CTR

Needs for March:

Food: Chili, canned pasta

Thrift Store Items: Blankets

ADULT STUDY

With Pastor Steve

All are welcome. We will explore and work through some of the difficult, but important issues in our day. We will use ELCA Social Statements, which are teaching documents.

Sunday, March 3 "How the Church Can Resist Racism"

Sunday, March 10, "Conversation on Church Addressing Issues in Society"

Sunday, March 17, "ELCA Message on Immigration"

Sunday, March 24, "Church and the Care of Creation"

Sunday, March 31, "Church and the Care of Creation"

LIBRARY CORNER

The Library Guild is excited to announce that during the month of February, we reached a major milestone - we processed our 10,000th book into the church library! To celebrate, we will be hosting Sunday's refreshments on March 3. We will also be honoring the memory of Helen Burnett who is the namesake of the library. Helen loved Dr. Seuss. She would celebrate his birthday every year by wearing a red and white hat in church around his March 2 birthday. Without her, we would have never reached this milestone.

The Library Guild meets Tuesdays at 10:30 AM. 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!

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray Christ's healing for Bonnie Judge and Terri Moffitt/Finner. Terri is a resident at Avalon Care Center, 6036, 523 N Main St, Bountiful, UT 84010 We pray for continued strength of healing for Chuck Gettig and strength of wholeness for Rhonda Joa, Ron Finner, Dianne Krehbiel. Continued healing and peace for Susan Swidnicki, Linde Wrathall, Louise Nelson, & Cindy Haverkost.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Hello, Sunday School Families! We have an exciting March coming up. On March 10, our Sunday school hour will be in intergenerational event, with the theme "The Word of the Lord came to Jonah..." More details to come. At the 10:30 service that day, we have our annual Bible Presentation and a performance by the Children's choir. Then, Saturday, March 30th from 8:30-12:30, we will be hosting the Christian Children's Choir Festival. This was a big hit last year, and we are hoping to see many of your children and their friends at this event. Finally, on March 24th all of the youth will be performing at the 10:30 service. What a joyful musical month for us!

Blessings,

Melissa Butson, Sunday School Superintendent

LET ME SHINE PRESCHOOL



March is a busy, fun-filled month!

National Lutheran Schools Week is celebrated March 4-8. We are thankful to be a Lutheran School where we are able to pray and hear God's word! We are so grateful for the Zion congregation and families and for the privilege of teaching the children in our community. We'll have a fun week dressing up for the theme of the day and donning some fun Utah Ute swag donated by Tom Farden, head coach of the Utes gymnastics team! We also look forward to a visit from Hogle Zoo and another Storytime with Anderson Library at the end of the month!

Parent/Teacher Conferences are March 11-15. The children have grown and learned so much since school began in September! The Usborne Book Fair is also held during this week. Please stop by - it's a great time to buy books for summer reading. All proceeds benefit our school library!

In His Service.

Barb

Barbara Ballif, Director

Who, Me? Utah Youth Gathering

Fri to Sat, March 15 -16th

What does it mean to live out our Christian Vocation by getting caught up in the ways God is doing new things?

We are taking the RMS Youth Gathering and bringing it to Utah. We will gather Friday night to build community, and then spend most of Saturday living out our Christian Vocation in serving our neighbors.

6th-12th graders are welcome to come. Bring a friend, and \$5.

Friday, March 15 at 6:30 pm to Saturday, March 16 at 5:30 pm

at Zion Evangelical Lutheran 1070 Foothill Drive, SLC, UT 84108

Contact: Lisa Mensinger, <u>youth@zelc.org</u> or Alex <u>Hilse</u>, <u>ahilse95@gmail.com</u>

RSVP by March 10th, 2019

Thank you to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church for hosting this event. Thank you to Thrivent for providing the community meals for Saturday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENT MADNESS

Want to be inspired by some saintly souls this Lent and have fun along the way? Join with thousands of Christians across denominations who have discovered the joyful online learning community that is Lent Madness.

With its unique blend of competition, education, and humor, Lent Madness allows participants to be inspired by the ways in which God has worked through the lives of saints over the generations. This online devotion pits 32 saints against one another in a single-elimination bracket as voters choose their favorites throughout Lent.

Here's how to participate: on the weekdays of Lent, information is posted at www.lentmadness.org about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. Are you curious about how much fun this is? Contact Joan Ogden jpogden@xmission.com

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA

Join Volunteers of America as they invite you to help improve the lives of over 8,000 low-income individuals in Utah at their Founder's Day Breakfast. Pastor Steve Klemz is a table captain at this event and we invite you to sit at his table. The free hour long breakfast program will include video presentations and speakers to illustrate the impact of VOA Utah's work. The breakfast helps raise funds to help sustain the valuable work and mission of the organization.

- Tuesday, April 9, 2019
- ◆ 7:30– 9 am
- ◆ The Little America Hotel Salt Lake City
- ◆ 500 Main Street
- Salt Lake City, UT 84101

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	10:30am Assisting Ministers	Ushers	Altar Guild	Greeters	Counters	Refreshments
March 3	Denny	Volunteers needed	Marci + Denny	Volunteers needed	Bob + Warren	Please volunteer
March 10	Ellen	Volunteers needed	Marsha	Volunteers needed	Ethel + Erin	Lois + Tim
March 17	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Carrie + Holly	Volunteers needed	Paula + Erin	Please volunteer
March 24	Lisa	Volunteers needed	Carrie + Melissa	Volunteers needed	Diane + Paul	Please volunteer
March 31	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Steve & Marie + Jan	Volunteers needed	Jan + Jane	Please volunteer

ORGAN UPDATE

Exciting progress this month. Bigelow has constructed the Swell Box where the six new ranks (sets) of pipes will be housed. Take a look back at the February Herald for some pictures of the construction at Bigelow. A swell box, by the way, according to the Collins dictionary, is a chamber enclosing one or more sets of organ pipes or reeds and fitted with movable shutters that regulate the loudness of tone.

To fit the box behind the organ a new supporting structure will be built. Before that can happen, some rearranging of vent pipes behind the organ was needed and that recently was accomplished. Special thanks to Brent Menlove, Bob Hackworth, Alan Erdahl, Terry Haverkost, and Paul Mogren—and of course, David Chamberlin--for their work on this project.

As always, a heartfelt thanks to those of you who have given donations to support this project. We're about halfway through and have received about half the needed funds in donations. Please consider a gift to the project; mark your donation for the Organ Renovation. Thank you!

