

Connecting  
through Grace  
**ZION**  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

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# THE HERALD

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Volume 18, Issue 3 | March 2020

## A Word from the Pastor

It is Lent. This season, I invite you to read and to live inside of Isaiah 55.

It is a message about homecoming to people in exile. This Word of God to the exilic community in Babylon, as encouragement to the exilic community in Babylon, to sing to this broken, dispirited people that they might know God's comforting breath once more, trust in God's strength for them for their renewal and return.

Now, the ancient prophet's words come alive, especially in the living of these days. It is a message for all who hunger and thirst and long to be filled with God's amazing grace. It speaks to our exhaustion, ambivalence, and little faith. It is for everyone who is cynical, resentful, depleted.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;  
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk, without money and without price.

Free bread. Free wine.  
The gifts of God for the people of God!  
It is the Eucharistic life ... a life of endless gratitude, with free gifts freely given.  
It is grace ... graciousness ... gracefulness ... a grace-full life.

The offer comes with a piercing question:  
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread?  
Why do labor for that which does not satisfy?  
Why get caught up into exhaustion, always having to give more and more with nothing left to give?

Do not settle for Babylonian junk food. It's like living in the world of trans fats and sugars, which does not work for growth.

Make this your Lenten Sunday diet. Bread broken. Wine poured. The gifts of God for the people of God!

Pastor Steve Krenz  
+

## upcoming...

**For Newcomers, the Curious and those interested in Membership** — All are welcome to join conversation with Pastor Steve about our life together in Zion. Sunday, March 22, 9:30-10:15 in the sitting area for the south entrance.

**Social Justice Forums** — with Jan Chamberlin. We are re-starting the post worship forums. However, we need to focus on one general issue. Please join our discussion, Sunday, March 15, 9:15-9:30, in the sitting area for the south entrance.

# A Vicar's Voice

We have hit the halfway mark of our partnership with Elim and my internship year. Wow, time is flying. This internship has been a growing experience while serving two different congregations. At the same time it is amazing to witness how Our Lord Savior, Jesus Christ, shows up in many ways in and through all the people. I thank you people of Zion for walking with me and Elim as we discover ways in which Jesus Christ is bringing in the Kingdom of God.

My internship project at Elim was to develop a Lenten Series for Sunday worship. We will be exploring the Signs of Lent as we make our journey from death to life. I wanted to share the series with you briefly here, and invite you to consider how these signs may or may not guide you along your Lenten journey.



*"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."*  
Matthew 16:24



*"And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you."*  
Exodus 12:13



*"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."*  
Luke 22:42



*"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."*  
Acts 4:12



*"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."*  
John 11:25-26

Greetings, Sunday School Families! After a busy February, filled with choir performances and visits with Pastor Steve, we have a quieter March in store for us. Our one big event for March will be on Sunday, March 1st. During the Sunday School hour on that day, we will be holding an intergenerational event for all members of our congregation, including the Sunday School children! Please plan on attending as a family as we explore our Spiritual Gifts and the ways in which we can grow as a community of faith.

-In Peace,

*Melissa*



## “What are you giving up for Lent?”

As the church begins the 40-day journey of the season, this question will be repeated in many a coffee-hour conversation. The question reflects some of the central themes of Lent: self-sacrifice, repentance, and humility.

It is an austere season of self-reflection on sin, death, and fallibility. Sandwiched between the bright lights of Christmas and the glowing pastels of Easter, Lent is a somber reminder of the distance yet remaining between the world as it is and the world as we know, by faith, that it one day will be.

That may be why it seems odd for this year’s 40 Days of Giving theme to be “Hope.” Lent, certainly, is a season for reflection on temptation, sin, and loss. But it is also a season for reflecting on hope. What else but God-given hope could have sustained the spirits of the ancient Hebrews wandering in the wilderness? What else but hope could have nourished Jesus’ resistance to temptation and sustained him on his march to the cross?

The invitation to reflect this Lent is not “What will you give up in repentance for your past?” but “What will you take on in hope for our future?”

We invite you to join us throughout the season in reflection, prayer, and action. Find ideas for each day in our devotional calendar, and use the weekly study as your guide. In a weekly email, you’ll find an excerpt from the study and accompanying story, as well as a quote from a participant or leader from an ELCA World Hunger-supported program around the world.

via ELCA World Hunger

Download the calendar at [bit.ly/2vwohHO](https://bit.ly/2vwohHO)

Download the study guide at [bit.ly/39fE6Bu](https://bit.ly/39fE6Bu)



Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let Choice Dollars expire! Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2019 Choice Dollars. These dollars can be directed to Zion to help support all the great ministries of this great community.

Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt. Or call your local Thrivent Financial advisor (Travis Breitling, Darren Morrison, Ron Sheltra or Andy Schrank). The church congregational coordinator, Angie Reuschel, may also be able to assist you.

### Events

Courage Reins – Saturday, March 28th  
12:30 pm – 4 pm

Meet at Zion & then we will head to Highland, UT to help with feeding and tending to the horses. Please RSVP to Lisa at [youth@zelc.org](mailto:youth@zelc.org) by March 22nd.

Save the Dates:

April 11, 2020 – Easter Egg Decorating from 9 am to 10 am

\*After Egg Decorating, the youth will set up for Easter Brunch.

April 12, 2020 – Easter Brunch from 8:30 am – 10 am

\*Free-will donation for sponsoring a horse at Courage Reins

youth

Vacation Bible School

# Zion VBS Music Camp

Vacation Bible School

July 27-31, 2020

Monday - Thursday || 9 am- 3 pm  
Friday || 9 am- 1:30 pm

Children will sing for worship on  
Sunday morning, August 2

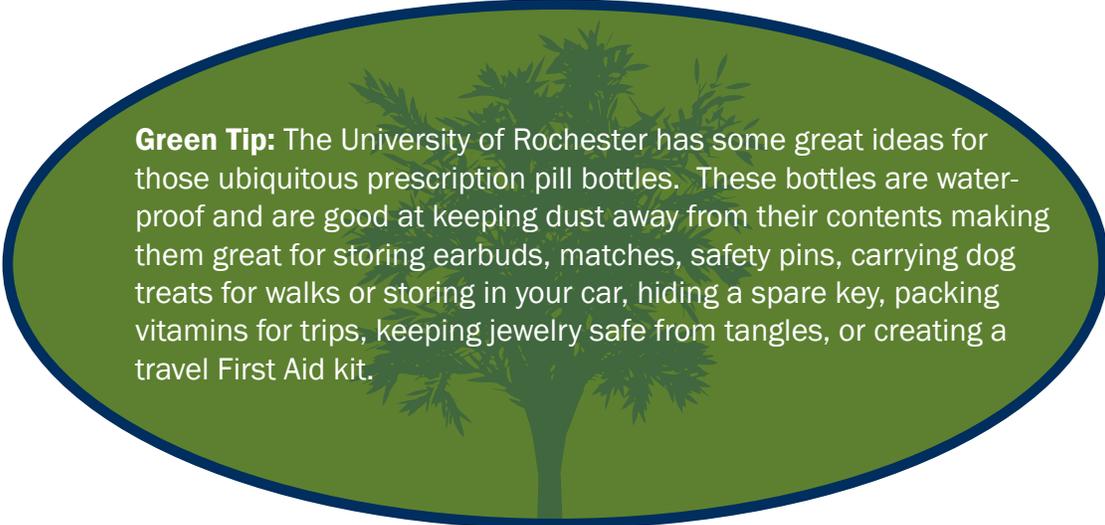
Singing, Bible study, prayer, service, art, African drumming,  
outdoor games, Orff instruments, creative movement,  
skits, lap dulcimer, and praise band  
(grades 5 and 6) and instrument demonstrations.

Ages: completed Kindergarten- 6th grade  
Kindergarten children have a half day option.

Contact the Zion office to register: 801-582-2321  
Registration before July 13, 2020  
\$20 for the entire week -full day  
\$10 week K 1/2 day option

After July 13  
\$30 full day  
\$15 K 1/2 day option  
Some need-based scholarships available.

To volunteer as a teen counselor please contact Susan Swidnicki-801-953-2301  
Questions text Susan or email: sljswidnicki@gmail.com



**Green Tip:** The University of Rochester has some great ideas for those ubiquitous prescription pill bottles. These bottles are water-proof and are good at keeping dust away from their contents making them great for storing earbuds, matches, safety pins, carrying dog treats for walks or storing in your car, hiding a spare key, packing vitamins for trips, keeping jewelry safe from tangles, or creating a travel First Aid kit.



# Volunteers of America®

You're Invited to Volunteers of America, Utah's Founders' Day Breakfast. The free breakfast allows you to hear about the agency's mission from clients, staff, and supporters. Join us at the Little America Hotel (500 S Main St, Salt Lake City, UT 84101) on Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 am. Contact Erin Basta at erin\_basta@msn.com or 801-541-1711 to reserve your spot. For more information about VOA go to: [www.voaut.org](http://www.voaut.org).

For the month of January, Zion's weekly envelopes and loose offerings, amounted to \$37,758.89 with a monthly need of \$40,065.

If you have not already done so, we encourage you to submit your statement of intent for 2020, as it helps us to plan. We ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your contribution if your budget allows as we fell short of our projected income for 2019 and have needed to withdraw funds from our reserves to meet church expenditures.

Your generous contributions to Zion help us carry out our missions in the church and our community. There are multiple ways to give:

1. Cash or checks in the offering plate—you choose when and how much to give
2. Online bill pay from your bank account to ours (generally free)
3. Vanco/Paypal—which is easy to use for one time and recurrent giving, but does incur charges of 2-4%. We encourage you to consider adding a little to offset the charges so all of your intended donation can go to fulfilling our mission.
4. Stock shares—transferred to Zion's Fidelity Account.
5. Tax free transfer from your IRA—if you are 70 ½ year old or older
6. Time and Talent—Volunteer opportunities abound as Zion

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions about giving

Phone: 801-582-2321

Email: [office@zelc.org](mailto:office@zelc.org)

In Christ,

*Ellen*

Ellen Liu  
Church Council Treasurer

**Report from the  
Treasurer's Desk**

March is a busy, fun-filled month!

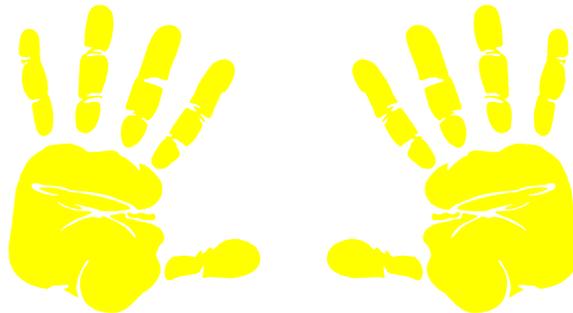
**National Lutheran Schools Week is celebrated March 1-6.** We are grateful to be a Lutheran School where we are able to pray and hear God's word! We are so thankful for the Zion congregation and families and for the privilege of teaching children in our community. We'll have a fun week dressing up for the theme of the day and enjoying magic shows with magician Paul Brewer!

**Parent/Teacher Conferences are March 9-13.** 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*

Barb Ballif  
Director



## Looking Ahead

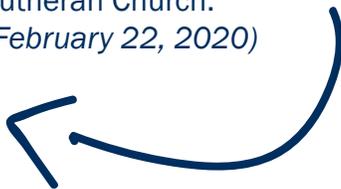


Mark  
your calendars  
for future services:

**Palm Sunday: April 5**  
**Easter Sunday: April 12**

More details soon.

Members of Zion Chet and Marilyn, Pastor Steve, and Vicar Lisa attended Pastor DanaLee's Service of Installation as a Minister of Spiritual Life within The Rocky Mountain Synod and The Utah Conference of the ELCA at Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church.  
(February 22, 2020)



We have heard much in the news recently about suicides in Utah and many are aware that Zion is part of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. The Action Alliance is an organization that promotes Faith, Hope, and Life for those struggling with mental health and suicide. Zion's faith leaders recently attended a conference to train others to be of help in the community. Most families have been affected in some way by a suicide related tragedy and there is much that can be done to help and attempt to help those who are at danger of self harm or who might have experienced a tragedy.

If you or someone you know is affected and would like to give assistance, please contact Pastor Steve, Vicar Lisa, Kathie Supiano, or Marion Ayers. There is much to learn so we can better aid those who are hurting and may need assistance. May we all strive to be "helping hands" on their journey.

# Suicide Prevention

# Sunday Worship in March

March 1 | Awakening Worship - 8:15 am  
| Traditional Worship 10:30 am  
March 8 | Awakening Worship - 8:15 am  
| Traditional Worship 10:30 am  
March 15 | Awakening Worship - 8:15 am  
| Traditional Worship 10:30 am  
March 22 | Awakening Worship - 8:15 am  
| Traditional Worship 10:30 am  
March 29 | Awakening Worship - 8:15 am  
| Traditional Worship 10:30 am

## Altar Guild

March 1 | Marci Hall + Bruce & Lois Stewart  
March 8 | Steve & Marie Newton + Bruce & Lois Stewart  
March 15 | Marci Hall + Denny Gross  
March 22 | Ann Marie Mogren + Jan Heins  
March 29 | Ann Marie Mogren + Jan Heins

## Counters

March 1 | Ann Marie Mogren + Ethel Olson  
March 8 | Bob Hackworth + Jan Heins  
March 15 | Erin Basta + Sandra Kragthorpe  
March 22 | Jane Erdahl + Fred Strohacker  
March 29 | Janice Ruggles + Paula Dastrup

## Assisting Ministers

March 1 | Ross Anthony  
March 8 | Rachel Kibler  
March 15 | Denny Gross  
March 22 | Ross Anthony  
March 29 | Erin Basta

## Coffee Hour

March 1 | Volunteer Needed  
March 8 | Girl Scout Cookies  
March 15 | Volunteer Needed  
March 22 | Volunteer Needed  
March 29 | Volunteer Needed

If you'd like to volunteer for any of these ministries please contact the church office.

Worship Volunteers

To be featured in the Herald  
submit events or news to  
[office@zelc.org](mailto:office@zelc.org)

phone: 801.582.2321  
fax: 801.583.8043  
email: [office@zelc.org](mailto:office@zelc.org)  
email: [pastor@zelc.org](mailto:pastor@zelc.org)

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