

Connecting
through Grace
ZION
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

THE HERALD

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Connecting through Grace

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

We are a Reconciling in Christ community.

All are welcome.



A Word from the Pastor...

"For you." It is my joy and high privilege to offer this profound mystery in bread broken, now given, "for you." The power of these two little words is staggering. The Creator of all that is, seen and unseen, deeply cares about every single person who comes forward for this piece of bread and sip of wine. "For you." Those two words make a claim on each person who receives, calling us to trust that God in Christ is *for us*. Pretty amazing.

A few Sundays ago the Spirit surprised me. I became caught up in prayer for each of you as I placed that broken bread in your hand.

"For you" --- "the gift of strength" I silently prayed, during your journey through chemotherapy.

"For you" --- "God's blessing in your comings and goings," I prayed for the visitor.

"For you" --- "that your burden may be light" for the one with the heavy heart.

"For you" --- "the promise of comfort for that day when every tear will be wiped away."

"For you" --- "the gift of patience and the hope of healing."

"For you" --- "the Spirit's guidance in your uncertain future."

"For you" --- "that you may grow in the joy of God's good creation"

"For you" --- "do not be afraid."

"For you" --- "in thanksgiving for your witness."

"For you" --- "during your transition."

As each of you step forward to receive the bread and wine, we hear these powerful words: "for you." They carry us into all times and places, connecting us with Jesus. With him, there is no time or place that the gospel cannot reach to heal, sustain, and give new life. Then you move along, and the person behind you steps forward --- and we hear those words again. We are reminded that God's promises are for each of us and yet not for any one of us alone. The "for you" is for you and for each of us in this community of faith. Together, sharing in our joys and sorrows, we celebrate Christ with us and for us. Pretty amazing.

Connecting through grace,

Pastor Steve Klemz

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. Sunday school has had an exciting, fun, and successful end to 2017.

Our Christmas program on December 17th was a service to remember. All students shined and blessed us with their talents, creating a really spiritual evening for all. Eternal thanks to Susan for all her creativity and effort to the evening.

On December 10th, we enjoyed Zion's Annual Gingerbread Decorating and Lunch Party. This year we had the most participants ever! Candy and frosting abound with a good deal of fun and laughter.

January 7th will be the Epiphany Potluck. We will celebrate with foods of all cultures and nationalities. Please bring your favorite and join us during the Sunday school hour in the Terrace room.

Looking to the new year, Sunday school returns to its usual times and places. Dates to note are:

January 28th – First Communion class with Pastor Steve following 10:30 worship. Anyone interested should plan to attend including parents.

February 11th - Confirmation Sunday

February 14th - Ash Wednesday



View from the Pew

Every Sunday, I marvel about the ability of Zion members such as Denny Gross to introduce themselves to visitors and other people they don't know. That is a gift, and it is an important part of life in a congregation.

The most outgoing effort I can possibly make is wearing a nametag. I'll give myself some credit for doing so; in a Lutheran context, that expression of self-promotion is the equivalent of waving one's arms and shouting. And I'd like to make another plea for others to do so.

As I study human interaction, I'm sure I'm not the only one who is reluctant to ask people their names, when we've seen them many times before (Denny could figure out a way to do it, but again, he's unique). So nametags have value in breaking through that barrier, as well as the simple effect of placing names with faces.

So before taking a break from my monthly observations in the Herald, I'm using this forum one more time to encourage everyone to find their nametags or create a new one and use them every week. With so much turnover in our pews, as a natural evolution in every church, it seems more vital than ever to do this.

Before I go, I just want to say thanks to everyone for reading and responding to my newsletter submissions. I'm not even sure for how many years I've been doing this, in two stints, but it has been fun. And as history shows, I'll be back.

~Kurt Kragthorpe



Library Corner

The following books have been added to the library:

In the Children's section: "Jesus Calling Bible Storybook" by Sarah Young; "Winter Days in the Big Woods" by Laura Ingalls Wilder; "Snow Day" by Moira Fain.

In the adult section: "Concordia Self-Study Bible"; "A History of the Lutheran Church in Utah" by Ronnie L. Stellhorn; "Medieval Times to Today" published by Prentice Hall.

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!

Children's Christmas Program



Epiphany Potluck





WIFI PASSWORD: **Zion5822321**

Greetings and Happy New Year! May your hearts overflow with joy as we continue to celebrate the good news of our Savior's birth!

Let Me Shine is back in full swing on January 8 with a lot of exciting activities planned as we begin the New Year. Please visit us anytime and see the wonderful things happening here!

Let Me Shine Christian Playschool and Preschool enrollment begins on January 8, 2018 for Zion members, currently enrolled students and siblings. Enrollment forms are available in the school and church offices as well as on our website: www.letmeshine.org. They are accepted on a first come-first serve basis with enrollment opening up to the general public on February 1, 2018. Classes fill up quickly so make sure to get your form turned in as soon as possible to guarantee your space.

Please call with any questions or to schedule a tour of our school!

Peace,
Barb Ballif
Director

Connecting Through Grace: Financial Stewardship

Look for updates in the February newsletter.

Yours in Christ,
Leslie Miller,
Church Council Treasurer

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meets each Wednesday morning at 7:00am downstairs. Come have breakfast with us and discuss God's Word! We are studying the weekly scriptures from the Taking Faith Home bulletin insert.

Sunday Worship

8:15 AM or 10:30 AM
Education hour 9:15 AM

Beautiful Blessings Group—*Join us!*

This new small group of women meets at 10 AM on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at Honeysuckle Coffee Co (8745 South 700 East, #2, Sandy, UT). Bring your child(ren) because there is a play area for them while you enjoy sharing beautiful blessings with other women. We will begin exploring the book by Linda Dillow, *Calm My Anxious Heart*. A link to the first chapter can be found on our website. Contact Lisa Mensinger at youth@zelc.org.

In Our Prayers: Christ's healing presence with Diane Teece, Dianne Krehbiel, Rodney Schroeder, Marie Newton, Jim Wright. God's grace with Dorothy Nielsen. For Juan de Dios Lopez and Lisa Mensinger in their call to ordained ministry.

Bible Study with Pastor Steve

All are welcome. Sundays, in the Atrium, 9:15-10:15 AM. In January, we continue to explore the Gospel of Mark.

The Children's Center is looking for your retired jewelry. The Children's Center annual jewelry luncheon is now collecting donated jewelry. Please clean out your jewelry box and pass along any pieces (men's or women's) that you no longer wear and are willing to part with. The items can be **anything** from older costume jewelry, to a newer piece that you do not wear. We will happily take them and repackage them to sell at the event. If you would like to come to the event, it is March 15th at The Little America hotel 11-1pm. Please drop off any and all items in the Let Me Shine office or the church copy room.

Thank you for taking a moment and cleaning out your jewelry box to help support the children.

Opportunity for Teens to participate in the 2018 Ulster Project

The Ulster Project is a Christian peace project for teenagers which will be held for the 33rd time in Utah in July of 2018. The project brings Protestant and Catholic teenagers from Northern Ireland to be matched with their Utahn peers for a month long program in Salt Lake City which focuses on teaching trust, tolerance and mutual respect. The structured program is a mix of fun activities, service projects and exercises led by trained counselors to help the teens develop trust in each other, particularly as it relates to the religious sectarianism which the Northern Irish experience in their daily lives.

We are inviting teenagers who are in 9th grade or are 15 years old to apply for the 2018 Project. If selected you and your family will be asked to host a teen from Northern Ireland for the month long duration of the Project. Zion has a long history of supporting the Ulster Project and we are hoping to continue that tradition in 2018. For further information please visit our web site at utahulsterproject.org or you may also contact Julie Langie (801-601-8310) or Nikki Schlehuber (801-209-4055).

Prayer and Action for an End to Racism, Monday, January 15th, 7-8:30 PM, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, 4914 South 2200 West, Taylorsville, UT. Join Bishop Solis, Bishop Hayashi, Pastor Jerod Lowery, Pastor Steve Klemz, Pastor Curtis Price for this Interfaith Prayer Service.

Faith & Poverty Day at the Utah Capitol

Come be part of a multi-faith effort to reduce child homelessness and address other issues of poverty in Utah. Hear from faith community leaders and state legislators about legislation that would make life better for low income Utah families. Meet your own legislators and learn how to stay in touch with them. We will meet in the Auditorium in the State Office Building behind the Capitol at 10:00 AM and then go talk to individual legislators at 11:00 AM. **January 25, 2018, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM, Utah Capitol Complex.** For more information contact Bill Tibbitts at Crossroads Urban Center, bill@crossroadsurbancenter.org or 801-364-7765 ex 107.

Ending Child Homelessness Sabbath January 19-21, 2018

Offering prayers and collecting diapers for homeless children. Join faith communities around the state in praying for children in Utah who are homeless right now and for the adoption of policies that will prevent children from becoming homeless in the future. This year we are adding a diaper drive to this weekend of prayer and reflection so that participating congregations can collectively have an immediate impact on the lives of homeless families. For more information about how your congregation can participate, or to learn more about the Coalition of Religious Communities contact Bill Tibbitts at Crossroads Urban Center, bill@crossroadsurbancenter.org or 801-364-7765 ex 107.

ZELC Council Highlights from December Meeting:

- Rocky Mtn. Synod Meeting in May- Pastor Steve said Lisa and Brian Mensinger would like to attend and be the two voting members. This was approved.
- New Communication System- Steve would like Doug to talk to Jen Jesse, who is training Zion members on the sound system. Doug will get in touch with her to discuss communication systems.

Action Forum, January 21st at Noon:

Learn about proposed legislation on food sales tax and clean air initiatives. All are welcome—invite your friends and neighbors. We meet downstairs in the terrace room.

YOUTH NEWS

Contact: Lisa Mensinger, Director of Youth Ministries at (801-582-2321 ext 11) or email: youth@zelc.org

Faith Formation Disciples Schedule

Jan. 14-20, 2018 ----- Meet with Pastor Steve & Lisa
Caring conversations about questions.

Sun, Jan 21, 2018 ----- 11:30 am—2:30 pm
Celebratory Luncheon & Practice
Faith Coaches invited to give toast.

Sun, Feb 11, 2018 ----- 10:30 am
Affirmation of Baptism

Fri-Sun, Feb 23-25, 2018 ----- Souper Bowl of Caring
Faith Coaches invited to Dinner Sat, Feb 24

Souper Bowl of Caring

February 23-24, 2018

American Ninja Warrior Theme

RSVP to Lisa by Feb 4

**Overnight Retreat + Service Projects
on Saturday**

Bring a friend



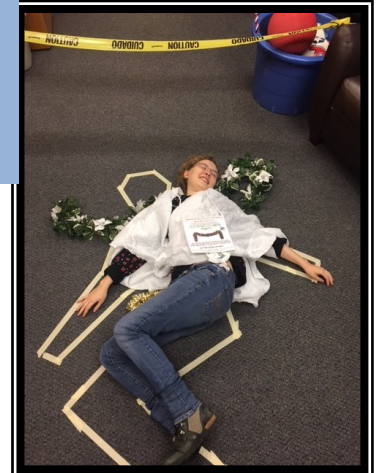
June 27—July 1, 2018

Please keep in your prayers youth and adults going to Houston this June. Luke, Rex, Zoe, Jenna, F., Andrew Hall & Thomas, “Dr. Quinn” (Micaela) & Lydia, Chris, Connor & Jasmine, Jacob, Andrew, Maya, Jordanelle, Kyleigh, Bob, Steve H. Carla & Lisa

Ugly Christmas Sweater Murder Mystery Party

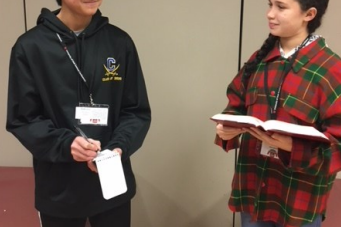
Who killed Roxy Rich (Claire Nelson)?

Was it the town gossip, toy maker, news reporter, choir director, zoo keeper, principal, banker, professional victim, movie star or Roxie’s assistant?



Isabella Rudolph &
Tendo Clause

Snow Flake Lodge



Donnor Curic &
Alexis Harmony

Snow Flake Lodge



December Porter &
Eva Evergreen

Snow Flake Lodge



Brad Carols, Axi Dente, Sam Sugarplum, &
Parker Mistletoe

January, 2018



at a glance...

Assisting Ministers:

10:30 AM
 Jan 7 Denny Gross
 Jan 14 Marsha Gilford
 Jan 21 Erin Basta
 Jan 28 Rachel Kibler

Ushers:

Volunteers Needed!!!

Altar Guild:

Jan 7 Ann Marie & Denny
 Jan 14 Marci & Holly
 Jan 21 Jan & Marsha
 Jan 28 Carrie & Melissa

Greeters:

Jan 7
 Jan 14
 Jan 21
 Jan 28 A & M Sutherland

Counters:

Week of:

Jan 7 Marci & Ann Marie
 Jan 14 Bob & Fred
 Jan 21 Diane & Warren
 Jan 28 Ethel & Angie

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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Youth Director attending seminary Jan 2-12, 2018

Office Administrator vacation Jan 21-27, 2018

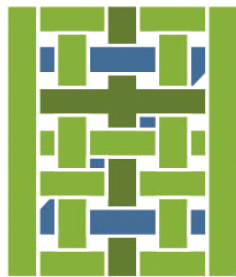
1 2 3 4 5 6
 9 Yoga-based exercise 9 Yoga-based exercise



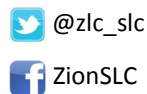
Church offices closed all week

6:30-8:30 Meditation
Group

EPIPHANY 7 8:15 AM Awakening Worship 9:15 AM Epiphany Ethnic Potluck 10:30 AM Worship	8 9 LMS Preschool Resumes 9 Yoga-based exercise 6:30-8:30 Girl Scouts 7-8:30 Yoga w/Julie	9 10:30 Library work 6:15 Cong. Council 6:30-9 G/A Chorus 7 Compassionate Friends Mtg	10 7 Men's Bible Study 9 Yoga-based exercise 9 Staff Mtg	11 6:30-8:30 Meditation Group 6-9 Girl Scouts David-organ work	12 9 Yoga-based exercise G/A Movie Night terrace room	13
14 8:15 AM Awakening Worship 9:15 AM Education Hr 10:30 AM Worship	MLK DAY 15 9 Yoga-based exercise Church offices closed No preschool 7-8:30 Yoga w/Julie	16 10:30 Library work 6:30-9 G/A Chorus	17 7 Men's Bible Study 9 Yoga-based exercise 9 Staff Mtg 6:30-8 Beginner Medita- tion	18 7 LMS Board Meeting 6:30-8:30 Meditation Group David-organ work	19 9 Yoga-based exercise	20 10-Noon Kitchen in Use
21 8:15 AM Awakening Worship 9:15 AM Education Hr 10:30 Worship	22 9 Yoga-based exercise 6:30-8:30 Girl Scouts 7-8:30 Yoga w/Julie	23 10:30 Library work 6:30-9 G/A Chorus	24 7 Men's Bible Study 9 Yoga-based exercise 9 Staff Mtg 6 Serve dinner @ Ronald McDonald Rm 6:30-8 Beginner Medita- tion	25 6:30-8:30 Meditation Group David-organ work	26 9 Yoga-based exercise	27
RIC SUNDAY 28 8:15 AM Awakening Worship 9:15 Education Hr 10:30 Worship 11:45 Pr Steve First Communion class	29 9 Yoga-based exercise 7-8:30 Yoga w/Julie	30 10:30 Library work 6:30-9 G/A Chorus	31 9 Yoga-based exercise 6:30-8 Beginner Medita- tion			



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

1070 Foothill Dr. Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Phone: 801.582.2321

Fax: 801.583.8043

Email: office@zelc.org

www.zelc.org

ReconcilingWorks
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION



DREAMS & VISIONS of the CHURCH RE-IMAGINED

ReconcilingWorks
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION

A Reconciling in Christ  Sunday service
naming, celebrating, and advocating for transgender
and genderqueer people.

As a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, Zion will join with other RIC congregations in special worship on Sunday, January 28. The service is grounded in our belief that "welcome" is a journey and not a destination. We always need to find a more excellent way to deepen and expand our welcome to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people and families by making welcome a lived experience.

Reconciling Works provides some helpful resources at ReconcilingWorks.org which deserve our attention. This little you tube video (2:59) is especially helpful:

"Why can't church just say "All are Welcome!" and leave it at that?" Clunky Questions Ep1 S2

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeJ8_umyMc0

We extend our thanks to Doris Mason for donating these children's books in the Church Resource Center in our library.

We Belong Together, Todd Parr

Heather Has Two Mommies, Leslea Newman

And Tango makes three, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell

2017-2018 ZELC CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT, Doug Graham | VICE-PRESIDENT, Marsha Gilford | SECRETARY, Nicole Reese

TREASURER, Leslie Miller

Team Leaders: Holly Graham, Terri Moffitt, Ann Marie Mogren, Michael Chard