

life ^{6 ft apart} ~~together~~

THIS WEEK'S NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020 - JANUARY 2, 2021



ZION
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHING

Pastor Sue Wallager

PRESIDING

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Pastor Connie Tiede

BLENDED SERVICE

Pastor Brent Campbell

Pastor Mike Rueckert

VERSE OF THE WEEK

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 2:40

today -

CHRIST CARE PRAYERS...We pray for all those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and for the safety of all health care workers, doctors, nurses, etc. and we pray for all those who are unable to gather with loved ones during this Christmas season due to the pandemic.

RADIO BROADCAST SUPPORT FUND...Thank you to Tina Erickson for donating to our Sunday morning radio broadcast fund.

YEAR-END GIVING TO ZION AND IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

Financial contributions for 2020 should be postmarked by December 31 or delivered to the church office by 4 PM on Thursday, December 31. Thank you for your generous and faithful stewardship in 2020!

REMINDER - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed New Year's Day. If you have a pastoral need, please call the main church number (763-421-4656) and the answering service will connect you to the pastor on call.

NOISY OFFERING FOR CAMP WAPO

One of the commitments of Zion's Capital Appeal *Zion 150 years + Forward in Faith* is a pledge of donating \$150,000 over the 3 years of the Capital Appeal to expanding Camp Wapo's dining hall. To help with this commitment, last year we held a monthly Camp Wapo Noisy Offering between the months of October 2019 to March 2020 which helped to raise \$2,540.16 towards this commitment. While we can't take a Noisy Offering when we aren't meeting in the building, we will have the Noisy Offering bucket on a table inside the main doors for donations during December. During Zion's regular office hours until December 31, you can empty your jars of spare change (bills are accepted too) into the Noisy Offering bucket.

CAN YOU HELP NICARAGUA?

Nicaragua was hit by two hurricanes this past November causing the rivers to flood which destroyed crops, the seed stocks to plant, and washed out roads. It also contaminated the drinking water. People escaped with just the clothes on their back. In addition, the COVID 19 Pandemic has also hit Nicaragua hard since people were not able to take precautions during the Hurricane. The Hospitals are short beds and medication. For more information or to give go to: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/Our-Impact/Hurricane-Response>

this week

PASTORS

Pastor Brent Campbell
Lead Pastor

Pastor Mike Rueckert
*Pastor for Children, Youth
& Family*

Pastor Connie Tiede
*Pastor for Worship,
Welcome, & Missions*

Pastor Sue Wallager
Pastor for Spiritual Care

Pastor Jim Barsch
*Pastor for Adult
Education*

Ken Johnson
Visitation Minister

Pastor Mawien Ariik
*Missionary in
South Sudan*

Pastor Stephen Deal
*ELCA Missionary in
Central America*

Steve & Kim Blewett
*Missionaries in
Papua, New Guinea*

ELECTRONIC GIVING

*Scan the QR code below
for electronic giving via
your cell phone!*



MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Worship Team Rehearsal

5:00 PM | SANCTUARY

The River Worship Service

7:00 PM | LIVESTREAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

NEW YEARS DAY

(Building Closesd)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

Traditional Worship

5:00 PM | LIVESTREAM ONLY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

Traditional Worship Service

8:00 & 9:00 AM | LIVESTREAM ONLY

Blended Worship Service

11:00 AM | LIVESTREAM ONLY

SUPPORT OUR RADIO BROADCAST ON BOB-FM

Every Sunday morning at 9 AM, Zion's 8 AM worship service is broadcast on BOB-FM (106.1). Our radio broadcast covers a good portion of the State of Minnesota and reaches several hundred listeners each Sunday, including many who do not have internet capability. Special gifts to support Zion's Radio Broadcast Fund are welcome. Gifts may be given in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion such as a wedding anniversary. Thank you to recent supporters of the Radio Broadcast Fund.

BAPTISMS AT ZION

Due to the rise in the number of Covid cases, we are changing how we do baptisms at Zion and will be pre-recording the baptisms at Zion on a Sunday morning at 9 AM or a week day evening and then inserting the baptism into the livestream worship service on the date the family decides. We are still limiting the family members present to 10 people and all wearing masks, but pre-recording the baptism will limit the amount of people in the Sanctuary. Please call or email Kristine Johnson or Pastor Connie Tiede for more information or to schedule your child's baptism.

CONGREGATIONAL GODPARENTS NEEDED

Every child needs AAA (authentic, available and affirming) adults in their lives – the more the better! At Zion we believe in “marinating” our children in prayer and being present from the beginning. That is why we have Congregational Godparents – AAA adults who are willing to be present at the baptism of a child and pray for them every day and send cards (which are provided) on their birthdays and the anniversary of their baptism. It's an easy job, but a vital one. We are in need of people who would like to be part of this ministry and be present at the baptism. Contact Kristine Johnson or Pastor Connie for more info.

TEXT TO GIVE

With Vanco's GivePlus, you can quickly and easily give to Zion using your smartphone. For more information call the church office between 9 AM - 4 PM.

COME TO THE RIVER

“The River”, Zion's Wednesday evening worship service, is live-streamed at 7 PM with Holy Communion celebrated virtually the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

coming up

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN

• My Grandmother's Hands

SUNDAY, JAN 10 | 3:00 PM | ZOOM

This book study is being offered as a follow-up to the Dialogues on Race study from the fall. Even if you did not do that study, you are welcome to participate in this one! In this book study, we will be reading the book *My Grandmother's Hands* by Resmaa Menakem. This book focuses on the physical and psychological reactions our bodies have around racial tensions and helps us to explore how to heal and cope with those reactions. If this sounds interesting to you, please sign up!

• Esther

MONDAY, JAN 11 | 6:30 PM | ZOOM

Interested in a Bible Study on Esther? Join us Monday evenings to dive deep in the the book of Esther. This study is open to everyone who is interested and will be online only.

ADULT SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY BEGINS JANUARY 11

Our next study will be a six-week DVD study titled *Galatians: Accepted and Free*. Classes are on Zoom and will be held Mondays at 1 PM, Tuesdays at 7:30 AM, Wednesdays at 10 AM and 6:30 PM and Thursdays at 1 PM. Sign up and purchase the study guide for \$10 at the front desk. *Have you ever experienced a moment when you felt unaccepted? Perhaps it was the way you dressed, your accent, or the color of your skin. When we sense that we're unaccepted, it has this way of unraveling us from the inside out. In "Galatians: Accepted and Free", Jada Edwards shows why it's so important to know in the deepest recesses of your soul that you are wholly and fully accepted in Christ, by Christ and, through Christ. From your birth, God has called and chosen you—yes, you!*

HOW TO DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you are eligible to direct up to \$250 per year to Zion through Thrivent's Choice Dollars fraternal funds. All Thrivent Choice Dollars go to provide Zion's children and youth with partial scholarships to attend Camp WAPO Bible Camp in June. It is a very simple process and takes only minutes to direct your Choice Dollars. Call Thrivent at: 1-800-847-4836, follow the prompts and a Thrivent representative will work with you to direct your Choice Dollars to Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka. Or you may direct your Choice Dollars online www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice. If you are not a Thrivent member and/or would like to make a donation, you can make a designated gift to our Children and Youth Scholarship Fund. Thank you Thrivent Members and ALL supporters of our Children and Youth Scholarship Fund at Zion!

VOLUNTEER NEEDED - DÉCOR LEADER

With each season, the beautiful décor in our Sanctuary and church changes as we celebrate what God has done for us. Thank you to our décor leaders Carol Kronholm and Kathy Johnson as they help to make our church beautiful. Carol has decided to retire January 1 and Kathy will retire next year. We are looking for someone to replace Carol and who would be trained by Kathy and eventually take over the lead for Zion's décor team. A job description is available at the front desk, but each person brings their own gifts. If you have questions or would like to get more information, contact Pastor Connie.

LIVE BROADCAST

SATURDAY 5 PM
SUNDAY 8, 9 & 11 AM

www.zionanoka.org
(click "Worship Online")
and on
[www.facebook.com/
ZionLutheranChurch
AnokaMn](http://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)
(Available anytime)

LIVE CABLE TV BROADCAST

on
Metro Cable Network
Channel 6

Traditional Service

SATURDAY | 5 PM*

*Rebroadcast:

Mon @ 7:30 AM,

Tue-Thu @ 7 AM

Fri @ 2 PM

Blended Service

SUNDAY | 5 PM

RADIO BROADCAST

on
106.1 BOB FM
SUNDAYS | 9 AM

encouraging words

Start each day with encouraging words from Zion! Dial 763-506-8191 to hear a daily message of encouragement and hope.

growing in faith together

UPCOMING LESSONS

JANUARY 2/3
Sirach 24:1-12
John 1:10-18

JANUARY 9/10
Acts 19:1-7
Mark :4-11

JANUARY 16/17
1 Samuel 3:1-10
John 1:43-51

Lesson: Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Sermon Scripture: Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty- four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

prayer request

If you have a celebration or concern you would like the prayer team to include in their prayers, please email it to swal-lager@zionanoka.org.

prayer corner

God of glory, you have given us a new name and robed us in salvation. May we like Anna find our home in your presence, and like Simeon recognize Jesus as the Christ, so that, in joy and thanksgiving at becoming your children, we may join with all creation to sing your praise.
Amen.

WELCOME

God is here for you, in the word and sacraments, in the love of this community.

CONTACT

1601 4th Avenue
Anoka MN 55303
763.421.4656
www.zionanoka.org

OFFICE HOURS

MON - THU: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
FRI: 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
While in the building please wear a mask and maintain 6' social distancing.



ZION
LUTHERAN + ANOKA