

# the herald

NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

JANUARY 2024



**Happy New Year**  
**From Zion Pastors and Staff**



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### In-Person Worship

5 pm (Sat)  
8, 9 & 11 am (Sun)

### Livestream Worship

9 & 11 am (Sun)

### Cable TV

10 am & 5 pm (Sun)

### Radio Broadcast

106.1 (BOB-FM)  
9:10 am (Sun)

### Gospel Readings

**Jan 6-7**  
Mark 1:4-11

**Jan 13-14**  
John 1:43-51

**Jan 20-21**  
Mark 1:14-20

**Jan 27-28**  
Mark 1:21-28

Back Row: Pastor Sue Wallager, Denise Lewandowski, Tracy Kinn, Jon Campbell, Lee Neitge, Josh Myroniuk, Pastor Brent Campbell, Ann Campbell; Middle Row: Katie Weiland, Suzanne Gaboury, Pastor Connie Tiede, Sharon Will, Kristine Johnson, Cathy Westrum, Ken Johnson; Front Row: Steve Dussl

Not pictured: Pastor Jim Barsch, Mary Jo Gothmann, LeaAnn Barnett, Deb Oas Koepsell, Diane Shuldheisz, Sylvia Goldman, Jackie Pipenhagen, Sandy Steinbring, Samantha Sigafoos, Mark Braaten, Ken Hendricks, David Frank, Greg Nelson, Adrienne Pendergrass, Gavin Langaard, Carl Wallager, Soren Wallager, Brooke Stokes, Zion Worship Team, Zion Pre-K staff

## Weekly Worship Opportunities

### In-Person Worship

Saturdays @ 5 pm and Sundays @ 8 am, 9 am & 11 am

### Livestream Worship

Sundays @ 9 am & 11 am

### Radio (BOB-FM, 106.1)

Sundays @ 9:10 am

### Cable TV Channel 6 Broadcast

Sundays @ 10 am & 5 pm

## a message from pastor brent



One of my favorite Bible stories is Jesus' healing of the paralytic in Luke 5. In a nutshell, four friends take their paralyzed friend to see Jesus in the hope that he would be healed. The home where Jesus is teaching is so crowded that the friends carry their friend up to the roof of the home, remove some roof tiles, and lower their friend, who is on a stretcher, through the roof, and he is healed by Jesus. One of the lessons from the healing of the paralytic, is that we, the Church, are called to go to considerable lengths to make God's healing love available to all.

At Zion we do so in a number of ways:

- Hearing devices are available at the sound booth for those who may be hearing impaired. If you would like to try one of the hearing devices, just stop at the sound booth at the back of the church before the service and our sound staff will be happy to provide one for you.
- Closed captioning is available on the screen for all of our livestreamed and Cable TV services to assist those with hearing impairment.
- The pastors or communion servers will bring communion to you in your pew during communion distribution, if mobility is a challenge for you. Please let one of our ushers know if you would like communion brought to you in the pew.
- We offer multiple "virtual" worship options for those who are homebound, including our BOB-FM radio broadcast, Cable TV broadcast on Channel 6, and our livestream at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- We know that standing can be difficult for some. That is why we say "Please stand in body or in spirit." Please feel free to remain seated in your pew if this is more comfortable for you. We know that you are standing in spirit!
- All of our restrooms throughout the building are accessible and are marked with blue "Accessible" signs.
- ONE TIP: Our Adams Street parking lot (on the corner of 3rd and Adams Street) has several spaces for those with disabilities, and door #4 from the Adams Street lot is completely accessible—no steps or elevator are needed to access the Sanctuary from this parking lot.

May our Church home always be a place where all are welcomed and all may experience the love and grace of Jesus in and through this place we call Zion Lutheran Church.

God's Peace,

*Pastor Brent*

## Zion: A Place to Gather and Grow - Thank You!

Thank you to all those who have made commitments to our congregation for 2024 through our Stewardship campaign, Zion: A Place to Gather and Grow. As of December 10, there have been 530 commitments to the General Fund totaling over \$1.1 million and 335 commitments to the Building Fund totaling \$330,000. We have also received many generous gifts to the mortgage reduction fund. These gifts will be matched by the Zion Foundation. We look forward to making an announcement about our mortgage reduction in early 2024 when all of the gifts toward mortgage reduction have been received. Thank YOU for all the ways you support the life and work of our congregation! It's not too late to turn in your commitment for 2024. Extra stewardship materials are available at the front desk.



# a personal reflection

## The Sound of Silence

By Colleen Nelson

It's telling of my age when I mention that Simon and Garfunkel's music helped to shape me in my tender years. Recently, while listening to one of my favorites—*The Sound of Silence*, I was compelled to pull up the lyrics written by Paul Simon. It begins with:

*Hello darkness, my old friend, I've come to talk with you again,  
Because a vision softly creeping, left its seeds while I was sleeping,  
And the vision that was planted in my brain, still remains within the sound of silence.\**

It continues to tell of a dystopian existence, where people are isolated and lonely in their silence and that the only light that can penetrate their darkness is a neon god they made. In the book [Celebration of Discipline](#), author Richard Foster writes about Christian disciplines, one of which is solitude. Solitude, he explains is an essential practice of listening for God in silence. Foster continues, "Of necessity, therefore, we must come to understand and experience the transforming power of silence if we are to know solitude." Jesus practiced solitude regularly. For instance, following the feeding of the 5,000 he "went up on the mountain by himself to pray." (Matthew 14:23) For Jesus, it was imperative that he set aside time away from his disciples and the crowds. He did not experience silence as the song suggests, in an isolated or lonely way, but rather he used his self-imposed solitude to better understand his Father's will through prayer and contemplation. As for us, in the busyness of life and with the distractions that selfishly demand our attention, it is difficult to hear God's voice. So, we too need to be intentional in our silence and solitude by carving out a time and place that is conducive for prayer and meditation. In Psalm 37:7 David encourages us to "be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him." Finally, something to ponder—If you were to write your own lyrics to this song, would you tell of Christ as the only light that can penetrate our darkness?

\*Source: LyricFind

## welcome

### Upcoming Baptism Class - January 14

If you are expecting, have had a baby or adopting and would like to know more about baptism, we will be having a baptism class on Sunday, January 14 at 12 p.m. Baptisms are part of the traditional service on Saturday nights at 5 p.m. or at our blended service on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. To register for a class or for more information, contact Kristine [kjohnson@zionanoka.org](mailto:kjohnson@zionanoka.org) or Pastor Connie [ctiede@zionanoka.org](mailto:ctiede@zionanoka.org).

### Cinnamon Roll Sunday - January 21

On Sunday January 21, Zion high school youth will be serving fresh-baked cinnamon rolls in the Cornerstone between 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. This is a freewill offering fundraiser for our youth's Mission Trip to Tacoma, Washington next summer.

### Fare For All

JANUARY 25 | 4 - 6 PM | LOWER COMMONS

Fare For All is a program that allows people to come and shop at Zion once a month for deeply discounted, nutritious food. Fare For All is open to everyone and accepts CASH, CREDIT, DEBIT and EBT cards.

# welcome and worship

## JOYA Concert - Sunday, February 18

Mark your calendars for another free JOYA concert Sunday, February 18 at 3 p.m. Back by popular demand the trio includes Minnesota Orchestra members James Garlick, violin and Silver Ainomäe, cello along with pianist Mary Jo Gothmann. The program will include Mendelssohn's masterpiece, *Trio in D Minor*. For more information visit [www.joyachambermusic.com](http://www.joyachambermusic.com).



## Zion Annual Meeting on February 25 - Save the Date

The Annual Meeting of Zion Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, February 25 at 10 a.m. The meeting will be in person in our Sanctuary and will also be livestreamed. Watch for more details in the February Herald, Life Together bulletin inserts and the weekly E-update.

## Camp Wapo Scholarship Fund

Zion has a long history of providing scholarships to kids active in our children and youth programming to go to Camp Wapo Bible Camp and we need your help in supporting the Camp Wapo Scholarship Fund. Our main sources of funds for the scholarship fund are Thrivent Choice Dollars along with direct donations. Thrivent Financial members can check their eligibility to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars at [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or 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. You can also send donations directly to Zion for the Camp Wapo Scholarship Fund. Checks should be made out to Zion Lutheran Church and "Scholarship Fund" written in the memo line.

## Noisy Offering for Camp Ministries

Thank you to everyone who brought in their Noisy Offering in December! We gathered \$633 which will go toward our camp ministries. The next weekend our Noisy Offering buckets will be out is January 6 & 7. We will also have a bucket at the Welcome Desk if you would like to drop off your Noisy Offering during our normal office hours. (The cost for a child to attend Camp WAPO for one week in summer 2024 will be over \$600 per child-so your gifts to the Bible Camp Scholarship Fund make such a difference!)

## Choir Opportunities Winter/Spring 2024

Zion kids (grades 2-5) are invited to sing for worship in a Children's Choir on Sundays, February 18, March 24 and May 19. Rehearsals will be held Saturdays from 10-10:45 a.m. on the dates listed below. All kids are welcome! Contact Jon for more information [jcampbell@zionanoka.org](mailto:jcampbell@zionanoka.org).

- Practice on Jan 27, Feb 3, Feb 10  
Sing on Sunday, Feb 18: Transfiguration Sunday
- Practice on March 2, 16, 23  
Sing on March 24: Palm Sunday
- Practice on May 4, 11, 18  
Sing on May 19: Pentecost

## Adult Small Group Studies

Our winter semester of small group studies begins the week of January 15 with a study called “Why? Making Sense of God’s Will.” In this 4-week study, best-selling author Adam Hamilton brings fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, Hamilton addresses how we can comprehend God’s plan for the world and ourselves.

Sign up for a class at the Welcome Desk – classes will be Mondays at 1 p.m., Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m., Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and via Zoom at 1 p.m. on Thursdays. Books can be purchased at the front desk for \$10.

## Upcoming Adult Forums

Our Sunday morning Adult Forums start back up in January.

- January 21 - Selena Fischer will share about the work of World Vision child sponsorship and how you can be the answer to a child’s prayer.
- January 28 - Join us for a conversation with Pastor Brent.

Adult Forums are held Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

## Zion Pages Book Club

JANUARY 22 | 6:30 PM | THEATER

We will be discussing *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration* by Isabel Wilkerson. From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson compares this epic migration to the migrations of other peoples in history.

Zion Pages meets the 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Theater. All are welcome!

## News from Middle and High School Ministry

### 6th Grade Retreat

On Sunday January 14, we will have our 6th Grade Confirmation Retreat from noon to 4 p.m. We will gather for lunch and participate in activities centered around what it means to reaffirm our baptism. All 6th grade confirmation students are required to attend, email [kweiland@zionanoka.org](mailto:kweiland@zionanoka.org) if you have a conflict.

### Whirly Ball

On Friday January 19 from 7-8:30 p.m., all middle through high school students are invited to join us for the first Lutheran Late Night – an evening of fun at Whirly Ball Twin Cities! Whirly Ball is a Lacrosse-style game played with bumper cars. The fast-paced game requires teamwork and is an exciting way for our youth to build relationships. The event is \$20 and you must register in advance online at <https://cutt.ly/WhirlyBall> or email [kweiland@zionanoka.org](mailto:kweiland@zionanoka.org).



## Zion Addiction Recovery Team

### Zion Shares Hope as We Begin a New Recovery Ministry

Members of our congregation are planning a ministry in the area of alcohol and other drug misuse and addiction. If you feel our congregation has a role to play in supporting recovery and could do more to prevent alcohol and other drug problems among young people, you're a candidate for this ministry. You are also a candidate if you've found help in a recovery program or other spiritual discipline for problems like alcoholism, drug abuse, or if you want to hold out your hand to those who suffer. Join us for lunch and conversation about beginning this new ministry on Sunday, January 28 at 12 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Pastor Connie [ctiede@zionanoka.org](mailto:ctiede@zionanoka.org). If you are unable to commit to a team, we will be asking the congregation to fill out an online survey that will help with the direction and ministry of the team. We are collaborating with Faith Partners who will be training our team and helping with the survey. The link will be live February 4-18. For more information on Faith Partners, go to their website at [www.faith-partners.org](http://www.faith-partners.org).

## Zion's Social Justice Team

Don't let the name scare you off! This is a learning team; the last few meetings have focused on the importance of economic prosperity for the Black community; social equality cannot occur without economic equality. Learning about systems and practices such as racial covenants, red lining, and city planning (such as what occurred within the Rondo neighborhood) all highlight that even northern states such as MN participated in systemic racism. Black folk who find economic, political, and/or social success and power in America have often been faced with threats, intimidation, and violence. Our next meeting is on Monday, January 8 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. where we will talk about a podcast from the 1619 project – here's the link:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/23/podcasts/1619-slavery-anniversary.html?action=click&module=audio-series-bar&region=header&pgtype=Article>

(just press play) If you enjoy this episode, check out the entire series.

## Thank You Recent Radio Broadcast Fund Donors

Zion Circles  
Mike & Julie Kunz  
Shirley Dussl  
Lyle & Marlene Willock  
Randall & Ida Boike  
Cara Fish  
Craig Bakken  
Kristine Johnson

Lois Peterson  
Tina Erickson  
David & Darlene Holmes in memory of Marjorie Campbell  
Mike & Arlene Kelly in memory of Marjorie Campbell  
Bev Fraser in honor of Dottie Carlson's 96th birthday  
Carol Mann in honor of grandchildren: Sadie & Noah Mann, Cody  
Porvaznik, Sarah & Alex Holm

## about our people

### Baptisms

Nov 19 - Charlotte  
Mesenbourg  
Nov 26 - August Harris  
Dec 3 - Peyton Haugen

### Deaths

Adeline Watson  
Lars Brosdahl  
Judith Rootes  
Sharon Beatty

### New Members

Gary Strand & Bev Kopischke  
David, Morgan & Ava Mesenbourg  
Audra Harris  
Emily Zimmerman

# care of creation

## From the Zion EcoFaith Team

Ahhh, a new year! The time to start fresh, to make New Year's resolutions with the intent of becoming a better version of yourself. Does this sound like you? No? Me, neither! Not that I don't need fixing, far from it. But nothing like the present to fix what I think needs fixing, I always say.

BUT, what about resolving to better care for our God-created, earthly home? God formed such a perfect environment for us to live and thrive in, and now it's hurting in so many ways due to neglect and short-sightedness. Thankfully, there are actions each of us can take to care for the land, air and water that we and all other creatures need. So, in the spirit of the New Year, I resolve to:

- be better at examining how an item is packaged and make my purchasing decision from that. Is the packaging material easily recyclable, like paper? Or is much of it plastic, which most likely go in the garbage/landfill? Do I even need this item?
- be sure to always have a reusable food storage container or two in my car. Take-home containers that restaurants typically provide are throw-away containers.

Here are some New Year's resolution suggestions to get you started; perhaps they'll lead you to other creation-friendly ideas:

- Plan ahead and combine trips when doing your errands – and follow the posted speed limit.
- If you haven't already, reconsider how you approach the Reuse-Reduce-Recycle mantra. Aim more of your efforts to Reusing and Reducing.
- Use reusable shopping bags; you'll be amazed at how much they hold! If you're already doing this, then add reusable produce bags.
- Reduce your current meat consumption by 1-2 meals weekly.
- Reduce food waste with better meal planning; join your local organics recycling program if you haven't already.
- Take Navy showers. Where else can your household reduce water usage?
- Use programmable thermostats and LED lights; contact your local utility company for more energy-saving initiatives.
- Make your own homemade all-purpose cleaners – simple, effective, inexpensive, and no more having to get rid of another piece of plastic!
- Plant native trees and native pollinator plants; install a rain barrel and create a rain garden.
- And if you're really committed, join the no-waste movement!

Let us know what you've resolved to do in the coming New Year to care for God's Creation! For your convenience, the EcoFaith team will have sticky notes and pens available at its bulletin board. We'd love to hear from you!

Carol Dixon, Zion EcoFaith Team



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## Zion Youth at Global Health Ministries



On Tuesday, December 12, Zion youth and family members met up at Global Health Ministries in Fridley. We had a great time sorting through boxes of medical supplies to send to global partners in need. Our team got through four pallets of boxes and found all sorts of great supplies to send out.

### WELCOME

You are invited, you are welcome to come and experience God's love at Zion Lutheran Church.

### CONTACT US

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