



The Rosette

February, 2024

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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It typically happens in late November, just as Advent is getting underway: pastors, musicians, and worship planners start receiving emails and ads reminding us that Lent is coming.

Lent *is* coming! It seems we have only just put away the Christmas decorations, and Lent is on the horizon, beginning a bit early this year on February 14. As I write this in January, I'm not quite ready for Lent yet, but I am moved by the fact that Ash Wednesday and Valentines Day come together in 2024. February 14 is a fitting day to talk about the health of our hearts and the gift of love. The invitation I am sensing in this is to approach Lent as a season of love.

The traditional "invitation to Lent" from the Ash Wednesday liturgy lifts up the theme of love and says this: "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."

How do we resist whatever leads us from loving God and neighbor? How can we grow in love of God and neighbor? Lent calls us to prayer and spiritual practices to aid us in answering these questions.

With Lent on the horizon, I celebrate the many, many ways Zion is active in loving our neighbors and in responding to community needs with generous giving. Zion is a community overflowing with God's love! At the same time, it is good to ask: how well do we know our neighbors – their interests, gifts, burdens and needs?

This Lent, let's engage in a season of prayer, asking how God wants us to love our neighbors. I invite you to pray with me, for our own immediate neighbors, and for the neighbors around Zion on Hazel St. Pray with me for the parents and grandparents who drop their little ones off at our preschool. Pray with me for the children and staff at Baron Elementary, for homeowners and renters, for the residents of Summy House, for the staff at the Borough offices, MAWSA, the library, and local businesses. These are our neighbors! Choose 5 or 6 specific "neighbors" and pray for them intentionally, and daily through the season of Lent. When we begin with prayer, who knows what God will do!

Lent is coming! Let it be a season shaped by prayer and love.

Pastor Kate

Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. We will offer a spoken service of worship at 11:30am, and a service with musicians at 7:00pm. Both services will include holy communion and the imposition of ashes.

The beginning of Lent gives us the occasion to admit that we will die and that we are sinners. On Ash Wednesday we are marked with ashes—a sign of our death and of our sorrow for sin—but the ashes trace a cross on our forehead, where the baptismal water first marked us with God's grace.



This internet meme has been popping up regularly in church related social media posts in recent weeks. While the shape of the ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday will not change at Zion this year, we give thanks for the love hidden in the sign of the cross.

Bible Study

Beginning Feb. 11, the Sunday morning Bible study will follow up the book of Ruth with an 8 week exploration of First and Second Samuel. These 2 books are foundational for understanding the history of Israel and Israel's expectations about a messiah. First and Second Samuel tell the story of an important leadership transition for Israel and introduce the roles that will dominate Israel's leadership going forward—the roles of prophet and king. As Israel grew and developed as a nation, their well-being depended on their willingness to respond to God's faithfulness, recognizing God as their ultimate ruler and king. Faithfulness to God and God's kingdom (before the kingdoms of this world!) continue to be our struggle even today.

All are welcome as we meet together following worship and explore God's word.

Souper Bowl of Caring: January 28 – February 11

This year, the churches in Manheim have been challenged to collect 5,000 cans of soup for the food pantry. (Beef Stew and canned chili are also welcome) All donations may be dropped off on the table outside the office either when you come to church on Sunday or during regular office hours in the week. Together we can!

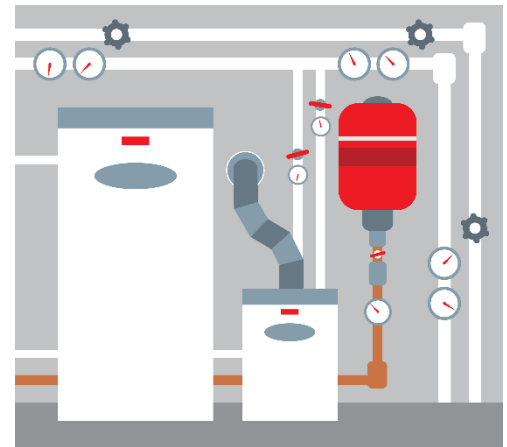


"LORD, EVEN AS WE ENJOY THE SUPER BOWL FOOTBALL GAME, HELP US BE MINDFUL OF THOSE WHO ARE WITHOUT A BOWL OF SOUP TO EAT"

TACKLE HUNGER
with the
SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Sanctuary Heating System

We are currently seeking bids for replacement of the steam boiler serving the sanctuary and meeting space. Not many companies work with commercial steam boilers so we are slowly collecting the necessary information and will keep the congregation updated.



FYI

In case of inclement weather on the morning of worship, please check Zion's facebook page, or call the office for the status of worship or other activities. Pastor Kate will record a message for the church answering machine (*press 1 for worship schedule*) in the event we need to cancel worship. If Sunday morning in-person worship needs to be cancelled, we hope to offer an alternative online.

OH, THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS ...



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If weather conditions are questionable, please use your own discretion as to whether you want to go out or not. We certainly do not want to have anyone experience an accident trying to get here. Please, be safe. We will see you at another time.

Daughters of Zion

Fourteen “Daughters” gathered on January 15, despite the frigid temperatures and impending snowstorm. After devotions, and our normal business conducted, we welcomed Corinna (and her five-month-old baby girl), Teresa and Megan, representatives from **Manheim Community Life Group**. This group manages the “**Home on Ferdinand**”, a six to twelve month transitional program for women and children experiencing homelessness. Currently housing three families, the program offers not only a safe and clean place to live, but also offers emotional support, financial counseling, wellness and nutrition classes and more. This is a vital program for the Manheim Community, and all donations necessary for the support of the program will be greatly accepted. In response to that need, the Daughters will be asking for the congregation’s participation in a “Gift Card Gathering” beginning the 1st Sunday in Lent, February 18th. (Yes, that’s right...Lent is right around the corner, coming fast on the heels of Souper Bowl Sunday!!) More details regarding purchasing gift cards will be announced closer to February 18th.



Upcoming Events:

February 19th – Zion’s own Design Duo (Karen and Stacy!) will present a program detailing the process for the creation of our stunning paraments, banners, etc.



March 18th – We will welcome a representative from the Ronald McDonald House to explain their program of benefits for parents of children needing overnight care at Hershey Medical Center.

Please join us for these interesting meetings, and for future meetings on the third Monday of every month beginning at 1:30pm. Hope to see you then!

Bridge of Hope

Bridge of Hope(<https://lancaster.bridgeofhopeinc.org/>) is a well established program in Lancaster County connecting families in transition with local churches, one family at a time. Bridge of Hope seeks to make neighbors out of strangers, to build networks of support, and to strengthen families.

Bridge of Hope is coming to Manheim -- to a house on Hazel Street! The organization is looking for a small group of 6 – 7 “neighboring volunteers” from local churches to provide a support and mentoring team. Bridge of Hope provides case management, financial assistance, budget coaching and accountability, but depends on church volunteers to help make the family feel loved and cared for. This can happen in a variety of ways:

- Drop off a meal when they know the family has had a hard week.
- Babysit if the mom has a doctor's appointment.
- Help provide home items like a child’s bed, or kitchen table.
- Throw a birthday party for a child and celebrate them, making them feel loved.
- Mobilize community connections for help in job hunting.
- Support the family in other creative and organic ways.

Bridge of Hope is one way we can respond to God’s call to love our neighbors. The support team in Manheim will most likely be made up of volunteers from a number of churches, ensuring that the work of “neighboring” is shared ministry. Talk to Pastor Kate if you are interested in learning more and being a bridge of hope for others.



Preschool News



As we try to get back in the swing of things from a busy holiday season, we have been hit by some winter weather. The kids are ecstatic to have snow in the forecast and I wish I could say the same! Kids have been in and out trying to stay healthy!

Enrollment planning for next school year is underway and I can't believe we will be gearing up for the 2024/2025 school year. We have conferences on the horizon and look forward to a chance to meet one-on-one with parents.

As we get through the winter months, please pray for mild weather and health!

Thank you!

Katie



Food Pantry Needs



During the month of February, the Manheim Central Food Pantry is looking for beef stew, canned chili, soup, Spam, and boxed rice (no bags). They could use some reusable grocery bags. They no longer need plastic grocery bags at this time.

Please make sure any food items you may be donating are not out of date. Please put your donations in the grocery cart outside the church office or drop them in the collection box on the front porch of the food pantry located at 334 W. Gramby St., Manheim. Monetary donations may also be sent to the MC Food Pantry, c/o Salem United Methodist Church, 140 N. Penn St., Manheim, PA 17545.

February Birthdays

2/15 Linda Martin
2/16 Barb Evoke
Yvonne Kreider
2/19 Zach Seibert
2/23 Mike Connelly
Terry Fry
Jean Rambler
2/24 Beth Ann Hoffer
2/26 Doug Shaw

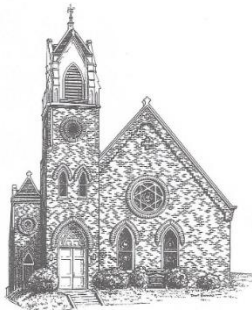


February Anniversary

2/26 Earl & Arlene Gernert

Thank you for your continuing support of the MC Food Pantry through donations and monetary gifts. For the year 2023 Zion donated 1,739 pounds of food to the pantry, including the personal care items that have also been received. Your generous donations really help those in our community who are in need. Every year the number of households that register for the pantry increases. We have now reached 196 households served in a month for a total of 612 individuals. Our congregation is very faithful in its donations to the food pantry. A special thank you to the Daughters of Zion Class which contributes at each of their monthly meetings. Check out our Facebook page.

Cathy Knittle and the MC Food Pantry Steering Committee



Parish Registry

Deaths: Brandon Fasnacht on January 8, 2024

Donna Rhodes on January 21, 2024 (Memorial service will be held
Feb. 10th – 10:00 – visitation / 11:00 – service)

Address Change: Tom & Cathy Knittle, 300 St. Mark Ave., Apt. 1113,
Lititz, PA 17543 Phone: (Cathy) 717-572-2745
(Tom) 717-572-2687

Financial Notes:

with joy and thanksgiving for your faithful stewardship.

<i>OFFERINGS</i>	Mo. Total	Budget
December General Fund offering	33,142	23,165
December Greater Zion Fund offering	3,767	-----
January General Fund offering (as of 1/21)	12,220	18,963
January Greater Zion Fund offering (as of 1/21)	2,751	-----



Prayer Chain

The Expanded Prayer List is published at the beginning of each month. Printed copies are available at the church. **Please contact Linda Keiffer @ 742-2149** to add a name to the list and to initiate the prayer chain. She will, in turn, notify the church office of the name and the reason for prayer.

Current Prayer Warriors to Zion's Prayer Chain include: Rubye Barto, Holly Brosey, Linda Keiffer, and Yvonne Kreider.

Take note: Please have permission from the person whose name you are placing on the list for prayer. The name of the contact person and phone number are also important for updates and further information about the person being prayed for.

February Readings

2/1	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c Proverbs 12:10-21 Galatians 5:2-15	2/10	Psalm 30 Leviticus 14:21-32 Matthew 26:6-13
2/2	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c Job 36:1-23 1 Corinthians 9:1-16	2/11	<i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9
2/3	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c Isaiah 46:1-13 Matthew 12:9-14	2/12	Psalm 110:1-4 Exodus 19:7-25 Hebrews 2:1-4
2/4	<i>5th Sunday after Epiphany</i> Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39	2/13	Psalm 110:1-4 Job 19:23-27 1 Timothy 3:14-16
2/5	Psalm 102:12-28 2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37 Acts 14:1-7	2/14	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
2/6	Psalm 102:12-28 2 Kings 8:1-6 Acts 15:36-41	2/15	Psalm 25:1-10 Daniel 9:1-14 1 John 1:3-10
2/7	Psalm 102:12-28 Job 6:1-13 Mark 3:7-12	2/16	Psalm 25:1-10 Daniel 9:15-25a 2 Timothy 4:1-5
2/8	Psalm 30 Leviticus 13:1-17 Hebrews 12:7-13	2/17	Psalm 25:1-10 Psalm 32 Matthew 9:2-13
2/9	Psalm 30 Leviticus 14:1-20 Acts 19:11-20		

February Readings, cont'd

2/18 *1st Sunday in Lent*
Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

2/19 Psalm 77
Job 4:1-21
Ephesians 2:1-10

2/20 Psalm 77
Job 5:8-27
1 Peter 3:8-18a

2/21 Psalm 77
Proverbs 30:1-9
Matthew 4:1-11

2/22 Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18
Romans 3:21-31

2/23 Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 16:1-6
Romans 4:1-12

2/24 Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 16:7-15
Mark 8:27-30

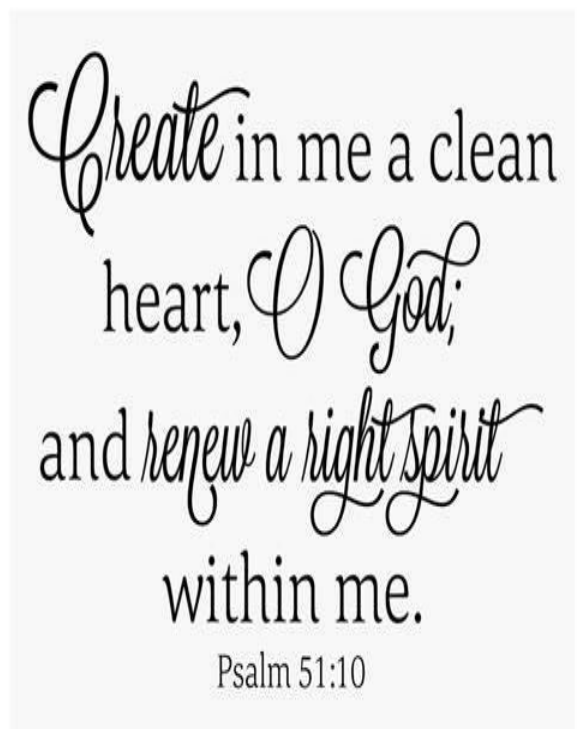
2/25 *2nd Sunday in Lent*
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

2/26 Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Genesis 21:1-7
Hebrews 1:8-12

2/27 Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Genesis 22:1-19
Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-29

2/28 Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Jeremiah 30:12-22
John 12:36-43

2/29 Psalm 19
Exodus 19:1-9a
1 Peter 2:4-10



Create in me a clean
heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit
within me.
Psalm 51:10

Altar Flowers



- Feb 4 *This space available. Please call office at 665-5880.*
- Feb 11 Marc & Carol Phillips in honor of A.J.'s & Katherine's birthdays
- Feb 18 In honor of Earl & Arlene Gernert's anniversary by their family
- Feb 25 Dan Rambler in honor of Jean Rambler's birthday

Note: Flowers are \$40 per week, and must be paid to the church by the beginning of the month for the flowers you are sponsoring. Thank you.

Bulletin Sponsors

Month of February – *This space available. Please call office at 665-5880.*

Bulletins are - \$9.00 per week



Worship Help Schedule

We need helpers for this position. Please sign on the volunteer sheet outside the church office.

Date	Greeters/Ushers	Lay Readers	Communion Assistants
2/4	Jody Hess	Brian Miller	
2/11	John Stouch	Denny Valins	Lenny Burns
2/18	Doug & Susan Shaw	Kyle Spohn	
2/25	Dan & Jean Rambler	John Blanck	
3/3	Dennis Obetz	Fay Varner	
3/10	Kelly Barthold	Ronda Moore	Lenny Burns
3/17	George May	Donna Moore	
3/24	Sandy Quesenberry	Carol Atherholt	
3/31	Terry & Cheryl Fry	Sue Shaw	

Zion's Prayers

Please remember Zion's members as you pray:

Helen Blank	Kate Eichelberger	Patsy Gabel
Barbara Grunenberger	Missy Hoffman	Bill Martin
Erma May	Jackie McKinney	Betty Minnich
Joe Murray	Sue Murray	Donna Ober
Nic & Stefan Spohn	Mary Welliver	

Please remember our Friends of Zion in your prayers:

Emily Bair	Daryl Barry	Edna Barto
Neil Bartsch	Tom Beil	Kathy Brosey
Winnie Cammauf	Mike Dieter	Bill Duncan
Jaxson Eberly	Lee Elgire	Judy Erb
Lewis Ettinger	Dave Faus	Judy Fiene
Jeff Fry	Hana Haatainen-Caye	Heidi
Mason Heishman	Yasir Makki	Sandy Pennell
Brandy Rhodes	Mahlon Schreiber	Abby Shipe
Kyler Shupp	Sierra	Frank Smith
Michelle Spaeder	Weston Strausbaugh	Rachel Toole
Thad Toole	Joyce & De Warn	

Please remember those in Military Service as you pray:

Ryan Plowman, Blake Reber, and Mikaela Adams

*Please take some time to remember
all these people in our prayers.
They each have individual needs that
your prayers can help them with.*

