



# The Zion Messenger

March, 2023

*Using Our Gifts Together and Sharing God's Grace*

Greetings Saints of God,


By the time this newsletter arrives in your box, we will have entered into the season of Lent. We will have gone through Holy Hilarity of Shrove Tuesday, and been marked with the sign of the ashen cross, hearing the words, "From dust you came; to dust you shall return." We will close the lid on the box that hides the A\_\_\_\_\_, and we wait expectantly.

What does that phrase, "we wait expectantly," actually mean? Another way we say it is we wait actively. While God is acting and on the move, and we wait and watch, God also asks that as we wait we do so in movement and with intentionality. It is the gift of Lent. We slow down, and we take notice of that which is around us.

This Lenten season, if you have not done so already, I am asking you to pick up something. We normally think about Lent as a time to give something up. While you might still decide to do this, I would ask that you think about taking up a practice. What do I mean by this?

Here are some practices that you might pick up for Lent, and after 40 days, you might just continue them as a personal spiritual practice:

Pick up the Spiritual Act of Kindness

- Return a shopping cart that wasn't yours.
- Pick up a second food item for HOPE.
- Pick up the art of positive affirmation (for you and a stranger).
- Compliment one person a day. 
- Pick up the art of curiosity, asking, "I wonder..." in a positive way.

That is just a short beginning of a list. So many more are waiting for you to discover and to put into practice. I would love to hear about what ones you decide to do! Thank you for all that you do and all that you are to this world!

Living in the Amazing Grace of God,

Pastor John

**Rev. John W. Stevens, Pastor**

720 Jefferson St ~ Oregon City, OR 97045 ~503.656.4437 ~[www.zionlutheranelca.org](http://www.zionlutheranelca.org)

## Pastor John's Report - February 20th, 2023

**Worship:** We held a Worship Committee, and have scheduled the next one for March 1st. Lots of discussion, and that can be found in the worship report. Couple of highlights: Acolyte Training will be held on March 4th, in the morning. Readers will also be reading parts of the Prayers of Intercession. Lent is starting, and we are sharing an order of palms with Zoar Lutheran.

**Lutherwood Sunday:** Our Community Giving partner for April is Lutherwood. The last Sunday of April (the 30th), Lutherwood will be present at church, and helping with worship, and bringing greetings from camp.

**Communion Wine:** My short lived idea of using the Concord Grape Juice for communion was ... short lived. We used to be able to get smaller jars, but we can now only get the larger ones. So, in hopes of reducing waste, I suggested Concord grape juice (available in smaller containers). Ultimately, that led to confusion (and anxiety) whether what we were getting (kids and those of us who don't drink) actual grape juice. So, back to the white grape juice.

**Installation of New Members:** We installed 7 new members, and 2 have joined as well, but were not able to be at worship that day. So, 9 in total.

**Communion Class:** We held a communion class on February 4th, and it was very well attended. Along with the teaching, we made a lot of communion bread, and will be using it for the coming months.

**Lutheranism 101:** Our morning Lutheranism 101 class has come to an end, though I will be holding another one after Easter. Time to be determined.

**Bible Study:** During the season of Lent, we will be having Bible Study during our Lenten Wednesday gatherings. We have done this before, called, "Wondering and Wandering through Scripture." Wednesday Noon gathers will be with First Baptist, and we will take turns hosting, with the first one (March 1st) to be held at Zion. Soup and Bread will be served.

**Continuing Education:** January 23-25th, I was in Seaside at the Byberg Preaching Conference. It was a fantastic event and Rev. Traci Blackmon, the keynote speaker and preacher, was amazing. The worship, conversation with friends, and the teaching, all made this a great three day event.

**Susi Holecz:** Attended a small gathering for Susi's birthday. I was honored to be invited. Fun gathering. 10@10: We continue to hold 10@10 Monday through Thursday.

**Vesper at Mary's Woods:** February 19th, I lead and preached at vespers for the ecumenical vesper service at Mary's Woods Community.

**Congregational Deaths:** We have had two deaths in the congregation these last two months: Catherine Davidson, and Thea Bialas. Catherine's service is planned for March 25th, and Thea's service is still being scheduled. Funeral: February 25th at 11:00 will be Lyle Howard Warnke's funeral. Lyle used to be a member at Zion in the 1980's, and the family asked if they could have the service here at Zion. I said yes, of course, and we will have service in the sanctuary but no luncheon afterwards.

**Personal:** Our dog, Sunny, is not doing well. Prayers please.

ZION LUTHERAN COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 20, 2023  
(Approval at March Meeting)

**Present:** Pastor John, Susan Arterberry, Lis Horton, Eileen Wiedrich, Diane Berreth, Susan Lamb, Gudrun Hartfeil, Deb Bartel, Lorilee Cronn, Cheryl Steinhebel

**Absent:** Jane Arterberry

Meeting was called to order at 5:56 pm

**Devotions:** Pastor read from his devotional book, "Because Grace, A Lenten Devotional."

Minutes from January were approved as written.

**Financial Report:** Thanks to faithful giving our income exceeded expenses for the month of January by \$4,577. Concern was raised about the high heating and electricity bills. These items continue to be over budget. Eileen will discuss thermostat settings at the next Maintenance meeting on Monday, February 20.

**Pastor's Report:** A Pastor from Lutherwood will assist in the service with Pastor on April 30. First Baptist and Zion will partner for the noon Lenten Service alternating the location. Pastor's full report is printed in the newsletter.

**Old Business:** Deb presented her findings on Emergency Preparedness. It was decided a congregational committee needs to be formed with Deb's guidance to look at essential procedures in case of any type of emergency at the church.

Eileen reported that Zion has an earthquake insurance policy in case of such a disaster. The church is insured for \$4,275,000 with a 10% deductible in case of an earthquake. The Maintenance committee will discuss an emergency gas shut off valve at their next meeting.

Lorilee will research the cost of buying an artificial Christmas Tree for the sanctuary.

**New Business:** Council will be installed on Sunday, March 5 during service.

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is September 10, 2023 and will be the 10 year anniversary of this event. The witness committee will research and plan this event.

Saturday, March 11, "LOVE ONE" will have a presentation at First Baptist Church on how to love your neighbor. This is one of the groups we give to for our community giving. All are welcome to attend to learn more about this ministry.

**Committee Reports:**

Worship - The liturgy will change during lent. Acolyte training will be on March 4. Several students have expressed interest in this ministry. The wearing of robes was discussed. Unfortunately, the acolyte robes are too large for most of the children.

Service - Monthly Egress reports and inspections are done. Toilet flaps have been changed in handicap bathroom. The railing on the south side of the building has been repaired.

We will start getting more bids for the roof.

**Learning** - Youth and advisors met on January 22 for a planning session. Ideas that were presented were: June carwash, July barbecue, November Harvest Festival, Summer Parking Lot sale. Next meeting will be March 5.

The pie sale was a success selling 48 pies. The youth made \$590.

**Witness** - The committee recommended an amendment to to funeral/memorial policy manual. To be inserted under the section of Cost/Fees: "This committee and the use of Kraxberger Hall serves those who have an affiliation with Zion Lutheran Church only."

Pastor will still be available for memorials and funerals in the sanctuary for others at his discretion.

Council voted and passed this policy change.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, March 21 at 6:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm followed by The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Wiedrich

Secretary



**Prayer Requests:** Family of Thea Bialas, Family of Catherine Davidson, Melanie Cronn, Paula Granville, Leslie Ford, Don Nissly, Dee Hanson, Tad Hyman, Ron Cole, Heidi Stevens, Lisha Keeble, Krista & Rich, Baby George, Carol Goodale, Katie O'Donnell, Cooper Davis (4yrs old diagnosed with Leukemia), Lydia, Bob Dalmeny, Mark Eide, Julia Doughty, Sharon Little, Olivia McCallum (6yrs old diagnosed with Leukemia), Dennis Martin.

**Prayers for Zion's Homebound Members:** Esther Betts, Lavon Edwards, Ethel Miles, Donna Ronning, Verna Fuson, Dorothy Krueger, Ellie Woodford, Ron & Dorothy Cole.

## Readings for the month

**Sunday, March 5, Second Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm: 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

**Sunday, March 12, Third Sunday in Lent**

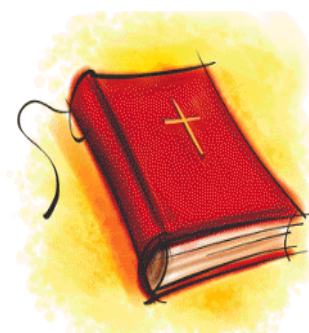
Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm: 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

**Sunday, March 19, Fourth Sunday in Lent**

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

**Sunday, March 26, Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm: 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45



## ADOPT A SPACE:

## 1st Quarter 2023 Workers

Please consider signing up individually or as a family  
for the 2nd quarter, April - June 2023.  
The 2023 sign up sheet is located in the upper narthex.

Wiedrich/Dowen, Schnell	Sanctuary & Balcony	Vacuum, dust, clean ( <b>as needed</b> )
Hartfeil, Horton	Office & Office Narthex	Vacuum, dust clean, garbage ( <b>weekly</b> )
Stevenson	Main Floor Men's Bathrooms	Clean toilets, mop, sink, garbage ( <b>weekly</b> )
Cheryl Steinhebel	Main Floor Women's Bathroom	Clean toilets, mop, sink, garbage ( <b>weekly</b> )
Bill & Judy Heerdt	Wuest Fellowship room	Vacuum, garbage, straighten up ( <b>bi-monthly</b> )
Crew Phyllis	Main floor hallway & stairs	Sweep, mop, vacuum mats ( <b>bi-monthly</b> )
Pastor John & Coleen Kyne	Kraxberger Hall	Vacuum ( <b>as needed</b> )
Jessica Dowling	Downstairs bathrooms (3)	Clean toilets, mop, sink, garbage (weekly)
Bill & Judy Heerdt	Elevator	Sweep and dust ( <b>as needed</b> )
Mark & Terri Hammond	Kraxberger kitchen	Sweep & mop floor ( <b>weekly</b> )
Bartelli Family	Downstairs hallway & stairs	Sweep/mop, vacuum mat ( <b>bi-monthly</b> )



### RAISE THE ROOF CHALLENGE is still going!!

I have a challenge for anyone who was married at Zion. I was married on December 21, 1956 in this beautiful church. In recognition of that special day in my life, I am donating \$25 to Zion's roof fund and challenge the many of you who also were married at Zion to do the same or more.

If you accept my challenge, send the tax deductible donation to the church office along with **your names** and **wedding date**. It will be interesting to find out who was married at Zion throughout the years.

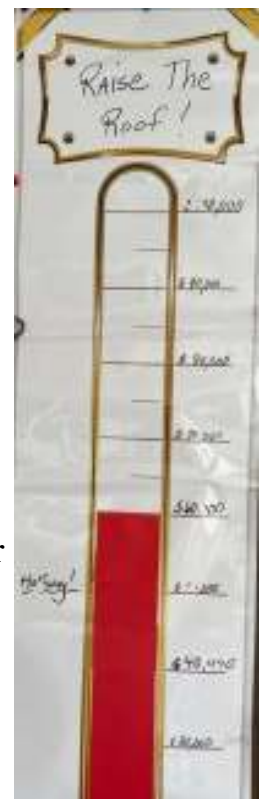
Thanks you for considering my challenge. Your donation will help "raise the roof".

Nancy (Tom) Combs

### Roof Fund Progress Report

Our roof fund is steadily climbing towards our \$100,000.00 goal. As of today, we've raised **\$63,781.70!** Thanks to everyone who's participated so far. We'd also like to add a special thanks to Nancy Combs who challenged anyone married in our church to add \$25.00 to the fund. This is an open-ended challenge but so far we've added \$585 thanks to her thoughtfulness. We'd also like to thank the Zion Quilting Group for the beautiful quilt they raffled off. Congratulation to the winner of the Quilt—Jana LaGrange. We'll have more opportunities for folks to participate in fun ideas to help us raise the roof - stay tuned!

Thanks, Deb Bartel. You can reach me at [barteldeb@yahoo.com](mailto:barteldeb@yahoo.com) or 503-522-1601 if you have any questions or suggestions for fun ideas.





# A bit of Lutheran Humor

**DON'T GIVE UP! MOSES WAS ONCE A BASKET CASE!**

A note from the church secretary:

I'm not a magician!  
But I understand the confusion.



## Shrove Tuesday



A big thank you to all who shared their talent and also to those who helped prepare and serve a delicious pancake supper!



Say your prayers



Dear Pastor John and Zion Friends,  
Thank you for the visits, cards, prayers and love you have given me during my recent illness.

After 4 stents and a pacemaker, I am now upright and ready to worship with you again at Zion. Your love made this possible!

Your Sister in Christ,  
Nancy Combs



Zion family,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for choosing me as one of the scholarship recipients once again. It means the world to me and helps more than you know.

With so much love,  
Emi Gunnarson



Thank you all so much for this very generous scholarship! I am so grateful for this & everything you all do for me. I am still working on my zoology/biology degree, and just recently claimed my minor in chemistry.

Thank you all for everything that you do!

Ruby Koepping



Thank you to the scholarship committee and my church for continuing to support my education. I am a third-year student now and recently started working in a research lab at my school, studying a really cool hyperthermophilic virus called SSV1. It is such a blessing to have the freedom to follow my dreams and better myself through education! I couldn't be here today without my church supporting me and God guiding me.

Best, Jane Arterberry



Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful donation of \$145.00 on 01/25/2023 to support Lutheran Community Services Northwest's critical mission to bring health, justice and hope to our communities. **Hope** is the operative word. Your gift aids us in providing life-affirming services to those in need.

We are passionate about helping our clients find opportunities for growth and improvement. We seek to energize them with the tools they need to thrive. LCSNW works with individuals, families and communities to face the future with vision, support and resiliency.

Your generous giving helps us to make this mission a reality. Thank you!

With gratitude,  
LCS Northwest Advancement Team  
Lutheran Community Services Northwest



I want to thank your congregation for the wonderful donation of food during the month of January. Our number of families keep fluctuating from a low of 35 to a high of 52 per week. Oregon Food Bank has been having trouble getting the basic foods that our families need to feed their families. Your donations of family friendly foods are essential to our pantry. Thank you so very much for your continuing support.

We wish blessings to each and everyone of you.

Sincerely, Sharon,  
Methodist HOPE Pantry



A BIG thank you to Dinorah Bauer (Aunt Dee) for the countless knitted hats donated for those needing warmth and comfort. Aunt Dee has made them in all sizes from infants to adult and has been donating them for several years. The hats are given to Love, INC and The Father's Heart for distribution.

Thanks Aunt Dee for this wonderful service to our community.



I want to thank Nancy Combs for the "Raise the Roof Wedding Challenge". Patrick and I just donated to the roof in honor of our Wedding on 6/7/2014.

Ashley Bennett





## **COMMUNITY GIVING — MARCH 2023** **KEX Kids Fund**

The KEX Kids Fund began in 1987, providing for Portland area school children with vision or hearing problems whose families couldn't afford needed eyeglasses or hearing aids. We've been meeting that need ever since, and now serve children in 23 counties of Oregon and Southwest Washington. Kids directed to us by their teachers or counselors are cared for by an amazing network of providers — 125 optometrists and 26 audiologists — who provide examinations, needed glasses or hearing aids and continuing care at greatly reduced cost. Our low overhead, non-profit program is financed almost entirely by donations from KEX radio listeners. The result is thousands of children who previously fell behind their classmates experience immediate improvement after being given the ability to see or hear clearly. We are proud that the KEX Kids Fund has been named the children's charity of the year by the National Association of Broadcasters, and are grateful for the 34 years of donations, large and small, that have helped change for the better so many young lives. Thank you for your consideration of making a tax-deductible donation to the KEX Kids Fund!

**Your donations make a difference!**

Donations can be given throughout the month of February.  
Make checks payable to Zion, or donate through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).



**Love, INC's Non-Food Pantry** is very, very low in supplies. Should you be able to help, suggested donations are: toilet tissue, paper towels, diapers, cleaning products, laundry soap (not from the Dollar Store as they are mostly water), bleach, Clorox wipes, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, etc.

I have created a coffee blend which I am calling, **Raise the Roof!** It is 15.00 a bag, and 5dollars of that will go toward the Roof Fund.



### **Roof Fund Wedding Challenge Honorees**

Tom Combs & Nancy Kerbs	December 21, 1956
Don George & Deborah Poppen	August 7, 1982
Edward & Caroline Kerbs	December 31, 1922
Denny Horton & Lis Friedrich	July 23, 1977
Joe & Shirley Cronn	February 14, 1953
Les Bennett & Margaret Rakel	February 14, 1934
George Keeler & Geri Wiedrich	August 17, 1968
Leonard Priester & LaVonne Wiedrich	June 28, 1980
Guy & Ellie Combs	December 21, 2005
Craig & Allison Goebel	September 11, 1993
Patrick Drebin & Diane Combs	March 21, 1976
Wendell Heagle & Phyllis Johnson	August 24, 1962
Patrick Bennett & Ashley Cronn	June 7, 2014
Anton & Mildred Sanetel	January 22, 1921
John & Janet Phillips	December 21, 1968
Al & Pam Mason	September 23, 1972
Jim & Lynne Sorber	June 15, 1974
Gary Dowen & Mary Osborn	June 10, 1972
George Osborn & Helen Krueger	March 7, 1944
William GH Krueger & Lydia M Buol	August 18, 1912
Henry & Elise Dambach	June 16, 1929



**Reminder:** Join us for our weekly gatherings:  
Sunday worship service is held in the Sanctuary and being  
live streamed on **Facebook and Youtube.**



**Topic: Church Service**

**Time: 9:50 AM Pacific Time**

**or Dial by your location 1 253 215 8782 US**

**Meeting ID: 811 2851 1393 Password: 97045**



**Pastor John is doing daily studies online at 10AM.**

**"10 at 10" with Pastor John. Live on facebook and YouTube,  
Monday through Thursday.**

**Bible Study :** Pastor John is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom  
meeting. Thursday, 7pm

**Topic: following Sunday Gospel Lesson**

**Join Zoom Meeting** Meeting ID: 817 7889 8995 Passcode: bible

**REMEMBER: WE DON'T WORSHIP  
THE LORD ON SUNDAYS ONLY!**



**WE WORSHIP HIM EVERYDAY!**

Have you remembered  
Zion in your Will?



*Wierd Facts!!*

There are no female  
leprechauns.



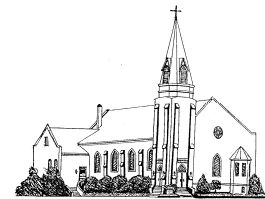
**Can you find the hidden Fish?**

Somewhere in this newsletter is the fish  
symbol. It could be large or small, a  
picture or article. See who in your family  
can locate it first!!



## **Zion Lutheran Church Financial Report at 1/31/2023**

<b>January</b> Offering received	\$ 21,677
Other Income received	<u>772</u>
Total Income	\$ 22,449
 <b>January</b> Expenses	 \$ 17,872
(Admin of staff—\$12,659)	
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$ 4,577</b>



### **Notes:**

January **Community Giving** = \$800

Terri Hammond [markterrih@gmail.com](mailto:markterrih@gmail.com) (503)349-9654 - Questions

## **ZOLY: Youth Events and Info**

Thank you from the Zion youth for your generous support during our pie fundraiser. \$590.00 was raised for the July 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Because the gathering was cancelled during Covid, many youth did not get the opportunity to attend a gathering. ELCA is hosting a Young Adult event to run in conjunction with the Youth Gathering so these young adults can get that opportunity. Including the young adults means we will be sending even more representatives from Zion. Many thanks!

# Worship Helpers



March	5	12	19	26
Ushers	Ryan LaGrange Jana LaGrange	Ashley George Elyjah McFarland Eileen Wiedrich Patti Anderson	Allen Fawcett Dick Keefer Richard Patterson	Chuck Krieger Cathy Krieger Roger Stevenson
Readers	Bill Fox	Ashley George	Denise Wells	Lori Fawcett
Acolytes	-	-	-	-
Communion Assistants	Lorna Kautzky	Susan Arterberry	Lis Horton	Allen Fawcett
Flowers	Bob & Nancy Hargitt		Jeff & Lorilee Cronn	
PowerPoint Operator	Lori Fawcett	Cheryl Steinhebel	Jeanette Kmetic	Eileen Wiedrich
Computer Streaming	Lori Fawcett	Lis Horton	Ashley George	Eileen Wiedrich
Altar Guild	Phyllis Heagle LaVonne Priester	Phyllis Heagle LaVonne Priester	Phyllis Heagle LaVonne Priester	Phyllis Heagle LaVonne Priester
Yard Care/ Mowing	Mike McFarland Elyjah McFarland	Logan Schmit	Ron Rohde	Carston Berreth John Wicklund

**God's blessings to our members celebrating birthdays! If your birthday is not listed or is incorrect, please call the office at 503-656-4437. Thanks.**





3/4 Chuck Krieger  
 3/8 Murvel Stone  
 3/9 Oriah Mora-Stevens  
 3/10 Cole Cronen  
 Lane Cronen  
 3/14 Deborah George  
 3/19 Roger Stevenson  
 3/23 Virginia Myers  
 3/26 Verna Fuson  
 Eric Gunnarson  
 3/31 Duane Hirsch



3/5 Bob & Nancy Hargitt  
 3/22 Jeff & Lorilee Cronn

# March 2023

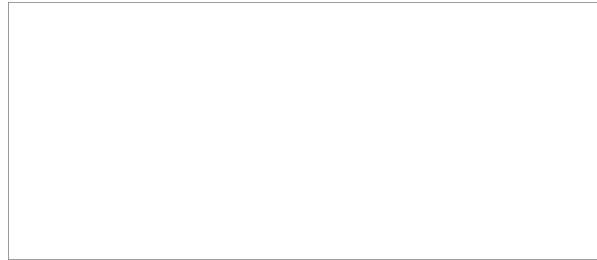
# Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 "10@10" 4:30 Worship Committee meeting Noon & 6pm Soup, Scripture Study 7:30 Choir Practice	2 "10@10"	3	4 9am - Acolyte Instruction Class
5 10:00AM Worship, Sunday School in Sanctuary & Live Streamed Installation of 2023 Council Coffee Hour following service 11:30 Confirmation @WL 4PM Youth Group Meeting	6 "10@10"	7 "10@10"	8 "10@10" Noon & 6pm Soup, Scripture Study 7:30 Choir Practice	9 "10@10"	10	11 1pm LoveOne Presentation at 1st Baptist Church
12 10:00AM Worship, Sunday School in Sanctuary & Live Streamed 11:30 Confirmation @ WL	13 "10 at 10"	14 "10 at 10" 9AM Audit Committee meets	15 "10@10" Noon & 6pm Soup, Scripture Study 7:30 Choir practice	16 "10@10" Newsletter deadline	17 	18
19 10:00AM Worship, Sunday School in Sanctuary & Live Streamed 11:30 Confirmation @WL	20 "10@10"	21 "10@10" 6pm Council Meeting	22 "10@10" Noon & 6PM, Soup & Scripture Study 7:30 Choir practice	23 "10@10"	24	26
26 10:00AM Worship, Sunday School in Sanctuary & Live Streamed	27 "10@10"	28 "10@10"	29 "10@10" Noon & 6PM, Soup & Scripture Study 7:30 Choir practice	30 "10@10"	31	

Zion Lutheran Church  
720 Jefferson St.  
Oregon City, OR 97045

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Oregon City, Oregon  
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**Return Service Requested**  
**TIME MATERIAL**  
**March 2023**



### Zion Lutheran Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 8:00AM - 1:00PM

Pastor John available via text, email or leave a message with LaVonne at the church office.  
503-656-4437

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Thursday, March 16th

#### 2023 Zion Church Staff

Phone: (503) 656-4437  
Pastor: Rev. John W. Stevens  
Admin.Assist: LaVonne Priester  
Minister of Music Karl Gustafson  
Website: [www.zionlutheranelca.org](http://www.zionlutheranelca.org)  
Email [office@zionlutheranelca.org](mailto:office@zionlutheranelca.org)

#### 2023 Zion Church Council

President:	Susan Arterberry	Gudrun Hartfeil
Vice President:	Lis Horton	Cheryl Steinhebel
Secretary:	Eileen Wiedrich	Service: Eileen Wiedrich
Worship:	Diane Berreth	Support: Eileen Wiedrich
	Deb Bartel	Learning: Susan Arterberry
	Lorilee Cronn	Lis Horton
Witness:	Susan Lamb	Jane Arterberry
	Lis Horton	
	Diane Berreth	