

# Tidings from



February 2016

Volume 57, Number 3

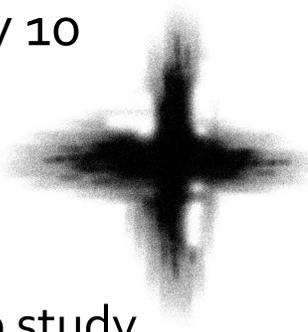
## Mid-week Lenten gatherings begin Ash Wednesday, February 10

### Beginning February 10:

5:30 pm - Supper

6:30 pm - Worship

7:15 pm - Small group study



The mid-week Lenten meals will be served by the following groups:

February 10	Women of Zion	March 2	Wed. Bible study group
February 17	Christian Ed		and Union Cong. Church
February 24	Worship & Music	March 9	Confirmation group
		March 16	Wellness Committee

## 40 Days of Giving to World Hunger

by Pastor Krehl Stringer

The season of Lent is a 40-day time of penitence, prayer, and preparation for the Three Days (of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday) before the final celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. The year 2016 marks The Campaign for the ELCA's year-of-emphasis on ELCA World Hunger, and we'll be joining Lutheran congregations and ecumenical partners across the country with a special Lenten initiative to raise \$2 million by Easter Sunday, March 27.

- 795 million people—that's 1 in 10—can't access the food they



need to live active lives.

- 1 billion people live in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 per day.
- In the United States, more than 48 million people were unsure where their next meal might come from at some point last year.
- 46.7 million Americans are living in poverty.

Our plan for the Wednesday evenings in Lent (beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 10) is to gather at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a simple meal of soups, breads, and beverages. Lenten Vespers begins at 6:30 pm based on the Holden Evening Prayer service and devotional material provided each week by the 40 Days of Giving educational

series. Then at 7:15 pm, everyone is invited to participate in small group discussion of the weekly theme and Bible study. Confirmands will have one-on-one time with their mentors during the supper, after worship, or at any other agreed upon time.

Now about that pig! Lent invites people of faith to increase traditional spiritual disciplines (like prayer, fasting, and almsgiving) that help focus attention on Christ's sufferings and sacrifice on our behalf, and answering Christ's call to love and serve our neighbor. By "feeding the pig" a dollar per day through Lent (an offering intended to be above members' regular giving), we hope to raise \$4,000 (\$1,000 designated for the Warroad Food Shelf and \$3,000 designated for ELCA World Hunger).

Use these 40 days of Lent to grow in your faith, to become better informed on world hunger issues, and to invite your friends and neighbors to experience something meaningful for the benefit of others. Δ

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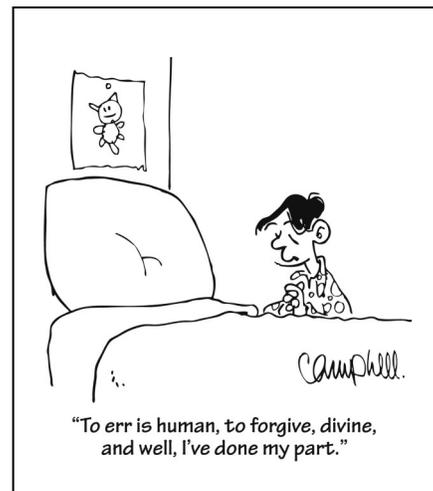
## Scheduling another Food Packing Event at Zion is awaiting your input!

At this time of the year, we would be looking ahead to schedule a Kids Against Hunger/Food for Kidz food packing event to be held at Zion in late April or early May. It has worked well to get into a routine of doing a large Zion service project twice a year—one in the fall in conjunction with the ELCA's "God's work. Our hands." Day of Service and one in the spring. Since the fall has the potential for nicer weather, it's been great to take advantage of that possibility and include an outdoor service project in the fall and save the food packing event for spring.

However, due to us not meeting our fundraising goal before last year's event, Zion's leadership has

decided to hold off on scheduling a food packing event until all the funds have been raised. It costs about 10 cents for each meal packed, plus we provide the Kids Against Hunger organization a donation to help offset the cost of their travel expenses from Park Rapids, MN.

Once all the necessary funds have been raised (about \$2,400 for about 20,000 meals), we'll schedule a date to hold the next event. If you would like to see us hold another event at Zion, you can make a donation and designate it to the "Food Packing Event" and drop it in the offering plate. It's a valuable ministry to feed hungry people around the world. And it's good for us to gather together as a congregation, young and old side-by-side, to meet a need! Thank you for supporting this important ministry Δ



### Church Office Hours & Contact Info

**Pastor**  
 Krehl Stringer  
 386-1733, ext 11  
 218-290-2863, cell  
[lightstringer2@gmail.com](mailto:lightstringer2@gmail.com)

**Christian Education Director**  
 Shawn Brunelle  
 386-1733, ext 15 or 386-3644

**Parish Nurse**  
 Karen Cran  
 386-1209  
[charles.cran@live.com](mailto:charles.cran@live.com)

**Church Office**  
 Vicki Dalager, Office Manager  
 Lynn Ann Kofstad, Admin. Asst.  
 386-1733, ext 10  
[zlcw@mncable.net](mailto:zlcw@mncable.net)  
 Core hours are Monday-Thursday  
 10:00 am to 4:30 pm  
 with additional appointments  
 by prior arrangement.

## Zion Lutheran Church Financial Update

### General Operating Account as of December 31, 2015

Income	Dec	YTD
General Envelopes	\$16,459	\$34,952
Electronic	\$6,245	\$19,154
Loose Offerings	\$160	\$800
Misc.	\$1,770	\$7,827
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,633</b>	<b>\$62,733</b>

Expense	Budget	YTD
Support Staff	\$174,562	\$42,475
Benevolence	\$12,500	\$3,055
Parish Wellness	\$200	\$198
Admin	\$16,900	\$3,912
Worship & Music	\$1,600	\$330
Christian Ed	\$2,250	\$46
Outreach Services	\$4,100	\$1,066
Property	\$24,835	\$5,385
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$236,947</b>	<b>\$56,467</b>

### Building Fund as of December 31, 2015

Dedicated Funds	Nov	YTD
Gifts Received	\$58,971	\$176,915
<b>Building Fund Account Balance</b>		
Security State		\$362,122
MIF		\$371,210
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$733,332</b>

Payments	Nov	YTD
HyTec	\$152,948	\$753,004
YHR	\$0	\$11,469
Peterson Sheetmtl.	\$8,847	\$71,626
Red River Testing	\$0	\$6,425
Misc	\$0	\$847
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$161,796</b>	<b>\$843,371</b>

*Tidings from Zion* is a communication tool circulated monthly among the members and friends of Zion Lutheran Church, Warroad, Minnesota. The copy deadline for the next publication is February 19, 2016.

Pastor Rev. Krehl Stringer  
 Office Manager/Editor Vicki Dalager  
 Newsletter Editors Kari J. Sprenger  
 Jeneé Provance  
 President Dan Curtis  
 Vice President Keith Landin

## My Neighbor is Muslim

by Pastor Krehl Stringer

*The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.*

*(Acts of the Apostles 17:24-27)*

When it came to engaging people on their experience of God, no apostle in all of Christian history was more effective than the Apostle Paul. He often made a study of local customs and religious beliefs to base his witness to the gospel, believing firmly that God meets people where they are, and Paul wanted to do that with genuine humility and Christ-like love. This is our aim as we use a resource developed by Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (in consultation with the Islamic Dawah Center in St. Paul) to assist small groups in better understanding (and thereby to better love and serve) our Muslim neighbor.

Pastor Stringer is leading us through eight one-hour sessions that touch on the basics of Islamic teachings and practice, acquaint us with the Qur'an, help us learn how we as Christians can relate to others of differing faiths, and in the process come to a deeper

appreciation for interfaith dialogue and collaboration. While the first session of the series began on January 17, drop-ins to any of the remaining sessions are encouraged to join in the conversation. "My Neighbor is Muslim: Exploring the Muslim Faith" continues on Sundays after worship through March 13, 10:15 am. Δ

"As Christians, we are freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbors. Today our neighbors include Muslims—upstanding faithful Americans.

The enemy we face is not Islam, but hatred and fear. I join my sisters and brothers in calling for gestures of solidarity with our American Muslim neighbors.

Together we can witness to the world that God's love will have the last word."

The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## Communion Classes in Lent

by Pastor Krehl Stringer

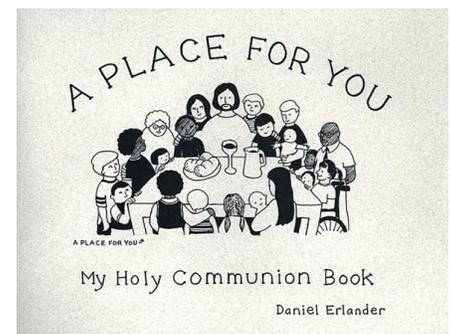
*For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you... (1Cor. 11:23a)*

At Zion Lutheran Church, we celebrate an "open" communion table—the blessings of Christ's Real Presence in the bread and wine are promises for all God's people moved by the Spirit to "take

and eat." That openness of Jesus' invitation isn't just for those "mature" in faith, it's for all of God's children of every age, which is in keeping with Jesus' particular love for children. "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (Matthew 19:14)

For anyone of any age who desires a deeper understanding of the sacrament of Holy Communion, a three-part series of classes (45 minutes each) will be offered over three consecutive weeks during Lent (for three Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm (on March 1, March 8, and March 15) or for three Sunday mornings at 11:30 am (on March 6, March 13, and March 20)). Parents (or grandparents), are requested to accompany their children (or grandchildren) through the three sessions of preparation for celebrating first communion on Maundy Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

These interactive classes aren't just for kids; even long-time guests at the Lord's Supper will discover something new about the sacrament of the altar for sustaining and strengthening faith. Please contact Pastor Krehl if you'd like to register yourself or a child, and to pick up your booklet ([A Place for You](#) by Pastor Daniel Erlander) to get a head start on these fun and informative classes.



# Christian Education News

submitted by Shawn Brunelle,  
Christian Education Director

## Sunday School rotation Teacher and Helper openings available

Teachers are needed for the rest of the Sunday School year. Sign-up sheets are located on the Christian Education bulletin board. Choose which month(s) you would like to teach and which workshop topic such as art, Bible games, video, etc. you'd like to lead.

Youth volunteers are needed to help Sunday School teachers. Please sign up on the Christian Education bulletin board if you can help or contact Kristi Lien at 386-1503 or at zlcwsundayschool@hotmail.com. Δ

**Kids, your help is  
needed!**

Sign up on the  
servant board to help  
collect noisy offering each  
month during worship.

Please collect  
"Our Family" upc  
barcodes



Zion's Christian Education ministries receive \$.05 for every label we send in. The upc barcode collection box is located on the Christian Education bulletin board.

Δ

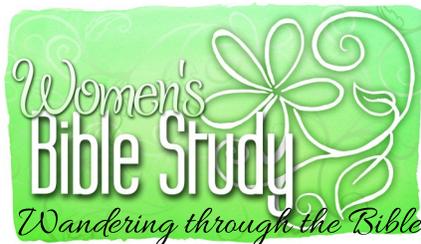
## Winter Family Fun

by Shawn Brunelle



Warroad has a new sledding hill at the new park across the road from Zion and many families and kids have been enjoying this new attraction. Through the month of February, I thought it would be nice for Zion to offer those taking advantage of our winter wonderland some warm beverages and treats. We could offer coffee, hot chocolate, and a snack in our fellowship hall for **anyone** to enjoy—but mostly those who have been enjoying the sledding hill. I would like to offer this each Sunday afternoon in February from 2:00 to 4:00. This would be free will donation collection basket with proceeds going into Zion's World Hunger "Feed the Pig" Lenten project (read more about it on page 1).

If you can help by taking one of the Sunday afternoons, supplying a snack item, or if you have questions please contact Shawn Brunelle. When the plans are finalized, there will be advertisements around town and notes sent home with kids at school. Δ



All women are invited to come for a casual time of reflection, fellowship, and Bible study on Tuesdays at noon at Zion. We meet for about one hour to read and discuss the Bible, so you are welcome to bring your lunch if you wish.

We're currently using Max Lucado's study on the book of Ephesians. Plan to come to the church each Tuesday at noon to join in! Δ



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## SAVE THE DATE



June 16-19  
in Detroit Lakes, MN

Concert lineup includes:

Building 429  
Newsboys  
Crowder  
Peter Furler  
Todd Agnew  
Jason Gray  
Colton Dixon  
Mandisa  
Disciple  
and many more!

Bonfire worship, art and face painting, country hay rides, a prayer tent, and inflatable games are some of the activities already being planned. More details are located at hopefestmn.com. Δ



### Wednesday Night Schedule for February and through Lent

February 3

- Supper 5:30 pm
- Bible Study 6:15 pm
- Confirmation 6:30 pm
- Worship 7:15 pm

February 10, 17, 24

- Supper 5:30 pm
- Worship 6:30 pm
- Bible Study 7:15 pm

### February Supper Schedule

Wednesday night suppers begin at 5:30. The suggested donation for these suppers is \$2.50 to cover the cost of the meal.

- 2/3 Cook's choice
- 2/10 Women of Zion
- 2/17 Christian Ed
- 2/24 Worship & Music

Volunteers are needed to help with Wednesday night suppers. Suppers are simple and can be ready to serve for you. Help with clean up is also appreciated. We use paper products for most things so dish washing is minimal. Please sign up on the Christian Ed bulletin board if you can help or talk to Shawn Brunelle at 386-1733 ext. 15 if you have questions. Δ



## Sunday School

10:15 to 11:15 am

Sunday school classes are available for preschool through grade 7

### Sunday School Schedule for February

- 2/7 Class at 10:15
- 2/14 Group time at 10:15
- 2/21 Class at 10:15
- 2/28 Class at 10:15 Δ

It's time to schedule your dates to go to Bible camp!

Time to register for Pathways Bible Camp! Register online at [pathwaysbiblecamps.org](http://pathwaysbiblecamps.org) by March 18 and save some money with their early bird registration discounts! Δ

### Cookies for Campers

What is Cookies for Campers? Families can sponsor a bake sale on a Sunday after worship and money raised helps pay for the students' Pathways Bible Camp experience. Cookies for Campers is starting Sunday, February 14. For questions or to help with a sale, contact Diane Saurdiff at 242-2465 or Barb Bue at 386-1168. Δ

Acolytes, please sign up on the servant board

(across from the men's restroom).

Your help with worship is needed and appreciated.

## Confirmation

Confirmation helpers are needed for the 2015-16 year. There is a sign-up sheet on the Christian Education bulletin board. Contact Shawn Brunelle at 386-1733 ext. 15 or email [zlcwconfirmation@hotmail.com](mailto:zlcwconfirmation@hotmail.com) with questions. Δ

### Confirmation Schedule for February

- 2/3 Mentor/student/parent meeting at 6:30 pm
- 2/10, 2/17, 2/24 Student/mentor time

Beginning February 10, students and mentors can meet Wednesday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 at the church and enjoy a meal of soup and bread, at 7:15 after worship, or any other agreed upon time that works for you. Δ

### Meeting for Confirmation Parents/Students/Mentors

There will be a mentor, student, and parent meeting for all enrolled in confirmation on Wednesday, February 3 at 6:30 pm. Δ

### Congregation Challenge from Christian Ed

Don't forget to pick up your memory verse leaflet from the Christian Education bulletin board and work on memorizing some verses.

The verse of the month is:

**And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him.**

Mark 1:17-18 Δ



# February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 12:00 pm- Women's Bible study 1:30 pm- Staff Ministry Team meeting	3 12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i>  5:30 pm- Supper 6:15 pm- Adult Bible study 6:30 pm- Confirmation parent/student/mentor meeting 7:15 pm- Worship	4	5 6:30 am- Men's Bible Study	6
7 9:00 am- Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 am- Sunday School 10:15 am- "My Neighbor is Muslim" study 10:15 am- Choir practice 11:00 am- Worship & Music Committee meeting	8	9 12:00 pm- Women's Bible study 1:30 pm- Staff Ministry Team meeting	10 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 10:30 am- Care Center Communion 12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i> 12:00 pm- Staff Ministry Team and Personnel Committee Meeting  5:30 pm- Supper 6:30 pm- Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes 7:15 pm- Lenten Bible study	11  6:30 pm- Alzheimer's Support Group at WS	12 6:30 am- Men's Bible Study	13
14 9:00 am- Worship 10:15 am- Sunday School 10:15 am- "My Neighbor is Muslim" study 10:15 am- Choir practice	15 <b>Presidents' Day</b> Church Offices closed	16 12:00 pm- Women's Bible study 1:30 pm- Staff Ministry Team meeting	17 12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i>  5:30 pm- Supper 6:30 pm- Lenten Worship 7:15 pm- Lenten Bible study	18 12:00 pm- Executive Committee meeting (FR 12-1 pm)	19 6:30 am- Men's Bible Study  <i>Items for Tidings monthly newsletter due</i>	20
21 9:00 am- Worship (Noisy Offering) with Holy Communion 10:15 am- Sunday School 10:15 am- "My Neighbor is Muslim" study 10:15 am- Choir practice 11:30 am- Council Meeting (OR 11:15-1:00)	22	23 12:00 pm- Women's Bible study 1:30 pm- Staff Ministry Team meeting	24 10:30 am- Care Center Communion 12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i>  5:30 pm- Supper 6:30 pm- Lenten Worship 7:15 pm- Lenten Bible study	25	26 6:30 am- Men's Bible Study	27
28 9:00 am- Worship 10:15 am- Sunday School 10:15 am- "My Neighbor is Muslim" study 10:15 am- Choir practice	29					

## February Volunteers

### Ushers/Greeters

#### *Sunday Morning Services*

2/7 Laurence & Avis Wright  
 2/14 Steve & Susan Hagen  
 2/21 Barb Bue and granddaughters  
 2/28 Dan & Susie Lykken

#### *Wednesday Evening Services*

2/3 Dylon Hoy, Nick Dejno  
 2/10 Dylon Hoy  
 2/17 Volunteers needed  
 2/24 Volunteers needed

### Lectors

#### *Sunday Morning Services*

February Cindy Sandahl

#### *Wednesday Evening Services*

2/3 Brenda Windahl  
 2/10 Eilene Marsh  
 2/17 Volunteer needed  
 2/24 Mike Marsh

### Communion

#### *Sunday Morning Services*

2/7 and 2/21  
 Altar Care Marlene Lewis  
 Roxanne Runnels  
 Assistants Kelly Thiele  
 Brad & Brenda Baumann

#### *Wednesday Evening Services*

2/3 and 2/10 Altar Care & Assts.  
 Mike & Eilene Marsh

### Noisy Offering Collectors

2/21 Volunteers needed

### Acolytes

2/7 Volunteer needed  
 2/14 Katelyn Janson  
 2/21 Volunteer needed  
 2/28 Volunteer needed

### Sidewalk Snow Removal

Week beginning  
 2/1 Jim Hallan, Chris Runnels  
 2/8 Krehl Stringer, Tom Lien  
 2/15 Gordy Streiff

## Attendance

	Sun. AM	Mid-wk. PM	Week Total
12/30		No worship	
1/3	72		72
1/6		30	
1/10	88		118
1/13		30	
1/17	80		110
1/20		33	
1/24	109		142
1/27		35	
1/31	91		126

## Can you help?

The Worship and Music Committee is seeking an individual to serve as a volunteer usher/greeter coordinator. This person (or persons) would seek out volunteers for Wednesday evening and Sunday morning church services. The coordinator would provide training to new volunteers to familiarize them of their duties. For more information, call 386-3692. Δ

**Noisy offerings  
will be collected  
Sunday, February 21.**

All donations will go to future  
"God's work. Our hands."  
projects.

2/22 Mike Marsh  
 Kirk & Deb Erickson  
 2/29 Laurence Wright

### Parking Lot Snow Plowing

Week beginning  
 2/1 and 2/8 Keith Landin  
 2/15 and 2/22 Volunteer needed

## Tithes and Offerings

### **Offerings for year-end 12/31:**

General Offerings: \$1,130.00  
 Building Fund: \$15,000.00

### **Offerings for week ending 1/3:**

General Offerings: \$2,386.00  
 Building Fund: \$5,500.00

### **Offerings for week ending 1/10:**

General Offerings: \$5,083.18  
 Building Fund: \$3,099.50  
 Benevolence: \$27.50

### **Offerings for week ending 1/17:**

General Offerings: \$4,194.00  
 Building Fund: \$1,634.00  
 Computer: \$100.00  
 Noisy Offering: \$62.90  
 (Packing Event)

### **Offerings for week ending 1/24:**

General Offerings: \$2,581.00  
 Building Fund: \$10,534.00

### **Offerings for week ending 1/31:**

To be announced Δ



## Radio Broadcast Sponsorship

January 3 - in memory of Bill Landby.

January 10 - by the Knudson family memorial to the glory of God and in remembrance of their brother Floyd Knudson who went to his heavenly home November 8, 2015.

January 17 - by Rhonda Kruger in loving memory of Richard Kruger who went to his heavenly home January 23, 2012.

January 24 - to the glory of God by the Women of Zion with wishes of many new year blessings and good health in 2016!

January 31 - by the Swift Ladies Circle in thankfulness for our wonderful church family. Δ



P. O. Box 61  
 Warroad, MN 56763  
 ADDRESS SERVICE  
 REQUESTED

(218) 386-1733  
 zlcw@mncable.net  
 www.zlcw.org

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Tidings from Zion  
 February 2016



## Please join us for weekly Lenten Services:

<b>February 10</b>	5:30 pm	Soup Meal
	6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
	7:15 pm	Lenten Study
<b>February 17</b>	5:30 pm	Soup Meal
	6:30 pm	Ecumenical Lenten Worship
	7:15 pm	Lenten Study
<b>February 24</b>	5:30 pm	Soup Meal
	6:30 pm	Ecumenical Lenten Worship
	7:15 pm	Lenten Study

Each Wednesday in Lent, we will have a vespers (evening) service at 6:30 pm at Zion with Union Congregational Church. Please join us for fellowship and spiritual growth each week! More details are on the front page of this newsletter.

Parents are encouraged to bring the whole family to the mid-week Lenten activities to emphasize to our young people the importance of the season of Lent in our church and especially in our individual lives.



## Care Packages for College Students are ready to fill!

Please bring items to help fill the care package boxes (located on the side aisle of the sanctuary) for Zion college students. We will be mailing them in early February. Take a moment to look at the boxes to find out their favorites!