

1/16/2024 email to congregation

Midweek Activities and Dinner on Wednesday, January 17th at 5:15p. Menu is Swiss Chicken Casserole, Buttered Carrots, Apple Cranberry Coleslaw followed by 6:15p Midweek Kids, Bible Study and Confirmation Class.

Inclement Weather / Cancellation Reminder: **UPDATED INFORMATION** Zion and Friends of Jesus follow Kalamazoo Public Schools for canceling events. This means unless otherwise notified Zion and FOJ will be closed. Going forward the closing notice will be on TV WWMT Ch. 3 only. Radio WKZO is not answering their phones on a regular basis so updating the radio over the past few days was not an option. Also, WWMT Ch 3 had a difficult time keeping their website up-to-date. However, the streaming on TV was current. It is suggested you watch the TV for the most up-to-date information.

Special Note from the board, "Mindful of the value our congregation places on ministering to our youth, Pastor Mike has been asked to deliver a special children's message during second service worship. Whereas children will be invited to sit on the chancel stairs, in full view of the congregation present and those watching from home, we feel it best to do this in lieu of communion on the second and fourth Sundays of every month. This way the communion table will not be an obstacle for viewing nor a challenge for the children as they navigate their way forward. For the sake of consistency across all three services, we will therefore have communion on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday's. We beg the congregation's patience as we try this out."

We have just updated our livestream software and equipment and are in need of volunteers to run it! **We are trying to form a team of people to provide streaming for the service each week.** This is an important ministry that reaches many, including our homebound. We will provide the training! If you are interested, please let Aaron or the office know!

Save the Date: Chili Cook-off, Sunday, January 21 at 11:30am! Join us with your pot of chili or just with your tastebuds as the contest for Zion chili-master continues! We will have the Gathering space opened at 11:30am with anyone who entered a pot of chili. Tasting tickets are \$10/person and include a goodie bag, along with a bowl for the chili of your liking after the tasting has ended. Concessions will also be available to douse the chili. Sign up on the kiosk or just come on in! **More entries are needed and prizes will be awarded. This is a Youth Fundraiser to help support our servant event trip to North Carolina this summer.**

AN AFTERNOON OF AWARENESS

Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." Psalm 82:4

JANUARY 27, 2024

12:30-4:00 P.M.

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
7211 OAKLAND, DR., PORTAGE, MI



An Afternoon of Awareness is a special presentation discussing the plight of HUMAN TRAFFICKING within our community and surrounding area. You can sign up using the QR code or calling St. Michael at 269.327.7832.

Friends of Jesus Open House: Monday, January 29th from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. A great time to share FOJ resources with your friends, neighbors and family.

FOJ Snack Drive: January is Snack Drive Month for Friends of Jesus. Items needed: Applesauce, tortillas, canned fruit or fruit cups, grained crackers, nutri-grain bars, peanut butter, pretzels, animal crackers, ranch dressing, mild salsa, rice cakes, veggie sticks, 100% fruit juice. Donations are greatly appreciated and bins are in the main hallway and in the preschool.

Food Gathering for LOAVES and FISHES! January is Beef Stew month. Donations can be placed in the gray tubs outside the office.

Thank you for your continued financial support. Any additional, regular support would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you also for your prayers and the many other ways you are involved in and support our ministry!

To make an online donation, or to set up regular online giving, follow this link:

<https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/zionkazoo>

Weekly meditations continue to be posted Mondays and Fridays on Zion's Facebook (**On Wednesdays we share a preview of Sunday's lessons to ready you for worship – fill free to share with friends!**)

WKZO radio ministry / Sundays 9:30am / WKZO

Pastor Brelje Tuesday 10:00am, Proverbs (Cancelled until further notice)

Pastor Mike Wednesday 6:15 Bible Study Class

Pastor Tim Men's Study, Saturdays 8am, Book of Acts

Pastor Tim Sunday 9:15am, Gospel of Mark (in Gathering Area)

Church Office hours:

Mon - Thurs 9am to 4pm

382-2360 / zion@zionkazoo.org

For pastoral assistance:

Pastor Mike 419-203-6770 / Pastor Couch 598-8167 / Aaron 271-2848

If you have been hospitalized, are newly confined to home or a residence facility, or have a new address or phone number, or email address, please call the church office and let us know!

Prayers: Linda Stieve and family in the recent death of her father-in-law.

Pastor Larry Brelje having surgery today.