

3/21 email

**We expect a decision from Pastor Saylor by the end of March.** Please keep Pastor Saylor and his wife Laura in your prayers!

**Special thanks to Aaron and his crew: Chuck, Debbie, Andrew, Jacob, Andrew, Ashley, David, Ryan, Kevin, Todd, Mike, Bella, Eli, and Nick** who spent so many hours over the past two weeks helping many of our members with storm damage cleanup. Helping hands indeed!

As we look for more ways to serve within our community, please let Aaron know if you are interested in helping with future projects.

Last Saturday 6 Zion youth and 2 adults helped at St. Luke's Diaper Bank. Over two hours the group repackaged close to 20,000 diapers (over 400 packages) that will be distributed to the local community. That's 400 families that will be impacted by 2 simple hours of service! Great job, Youth, in having a heart for others!!!

**Christian Art! Calligraphy in BLENDS!** We have an incredible exhibit of calligraphy in BLENDS this month. Art has always been important in the Church, whether in illuminated manuscripts, altar pieces, woodcarvings, paraments, or even the architecture of our places of worship. Also check out several books on **display in our library** that show how calligraphy brings attention, color, and life to the words of faith. This is well worth your time!

**COVID brought many changes both in our personal and work schedules.** Consider the value of faith in your life, and the nurturing of your own life and the support you offer others as you are present here for worship, fellowship, holy communion, and prayer.

**Interested in serving on a ministry team but not sure who to speak with?** Contact Marta in the church office, Aaron, or Pastor Tim. We can help with questions.

**Lenten Midweek services on Wednesdays at Noon and 6:30 pm.** Join us on Wednesdays as we reflect on the passionate love of God through Jesus Christ. We will use the children's book "Charlotte's Web" this year for illustrations to help us focus on some of the major themes of Jesus' ministry for us. Join us each Wednesday in Lent.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS** are still available. They are not dated so you can use them not only in Lent but later on. Feel free to grab an extra copy or two for sharing with other family members or friends!

**Friends of Jesus Preschool is now offering wraparound childcare beginning Fall 2023.** As an addition to its preschool programs, Friends of Jesus will now offer before care beginning at 7 AM and after class care until 5:30 PM. For more information, contact Director Jen LaPorte at [jen@zionkazoo.org](mailto:jen@zionkazoo.org).

### ***Worship This Week***

***Wednesday Noon or 6:30pm***

***Saturday 5:30pm***

***Sunday 8:00 or 10:30 am***

***Classes for all ages at 9:15 am***

**Join us for the weekly Wednesday Meals at 5:15pm.**

**Menu for this week is: Soups are Ham N Bean, Corn N Potato Chowder**

*Have you ever wanted to be a “**better pray-er?**” Do you want to understand what it means to pray? Curious about different types of prayer? Join DCE Aaron Grube as he leads us through a study on prayer. This adult cluster will meet at **Zion during Lent (Wednesday's starting Feb. 22nd at 4:30pm)**. Consider joining the group as part of your Lenten discipline. To sign up for this class, contact the church office.*

**Ministry with Community** - We are collecting health care items to serve those in need. Please continue making this a success by donating. Baskets are set up in front of the church office along with a list of those items needed to make your shopping a bit easier. Many of these items are available at our local dollar stores.

**THANKS TO ALL who continue to bring new and gently used blankets to our collection box in our lobby.** We will get them to St. Luke's Episcopal Church downtown to support their efforts for those with housing difficulties. Call for more information.

**Food Gathering for LOAVES and FISHES!** We continue to feed the hungry in our community through Loaves and Fishes. Any canned and boxed food items are accepted, but the greatest need is: **Canned Fruit – no sugar!**

**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>

**SYMBOL IN THE WINDOW:** One of the symbols for Christianity is the fish. Our window has this symbol which you will find on the New Testament side, second panel in from the right. The word “fish” is an acrostic of a Greek word that stands for Jesus Christ Son of God, the Savior.

**Adult Choir practices on Thursdays**, under direction of Roxanne Nieboer. Come when you are able, we are always looking for more voices. Call Roxanne or church office for more info.

**Weekly meditations** continue to be posted Mondays and Fridays on Zion's Facebook page! Lessons for Sunday worship posted on Wednesdays.

**We have been blessed with a number of guests and visitors over the past few months! Please introduce yourself to anyone you don't know! Help everyone (even fellow members) to feel welcome and special enough for you to talk to.**

#### **Pastor Seeber's Classes:**

Sunday 9:15 am Gathering Space / relating Biblical characters and stories to daily living

Saturday Men's study 8:00 am (zoom) / real world issues and the Gospel of John

(Contact Pastor Seeber for Zoom link if you would like to be included!)

#### **Pastor Brelje's Class -- Book of Romans**

Tuesdays 10am in Gathering Space

Church Office hours:

Mon - Thurs 9am to 4pm

382-2360 / [zion@zionkazoo.org](mailto:zion@zionkazoo.org)

For pastoral assistance:

Pastor Seeber 501-3624 / Pastor Couch 598-8167A

Aaron 271-2848 / Pastor Brelje 330-9538

**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!**

**Weekly Ministry:** LCMS North American Missions - The LCMS Office of National Mission works within the borders of the United States to support the programs and resources available to congregations, districts, schools, Recognized Service Organizations and other Lutheran organizations. LCMS National Mission coordinates the work of many specific emphasis areas.

**Prayers:** Gail Nelson - surgery this week, Janis Dinda – recovering from broken leg