

# THE BEACON

A Ministry of Zion Lutheran Church



2022 First Edition

## Upcoming Events and Service Opportunities

- **Wednesday, March 2nd**—7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship
- **Thursday, March 3rd**—6 p.m. Table Talk at Main Cup
- **Wednesday, March 9th**—6 p.m. Midweek Lenten Meal
- **Wednesday, March 9th**—7 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship and Children's Activities
- **Sunday, March 13th**— 9 a.m. Footprints Sunday
- **Wednesday, March 16th**— 6 p.m. Midweek Lenten Meal
- **Wednesday, March 16th**—7 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship and Children's Activities
- **Wednesday, March 23rd**—6 p.m. Midweek Lenten Meal
- **Wednesday, March 23rd**—7 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship and Children's Activities
- **Wednesday, March 30th**—6p.m. Midweek Lenten Meal
- **Wednesday, March 30th**—7 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship and Children's Activities
- **Wednesday, April 6th**—6 p.m. Midweek Lenten Meal
- **Wednesday, April 6th**—7 p.m. Midweek Worship and Children's Activities
- **Thursday, April 7th**—6 p.m. Table Talk at Main Cup
- **Sunday, April 10th**—9 a.m. Footprints Sunday
- **Sunday, April 10th**—Palm Sunday
- **Thursday, April 14th**—7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service
- **Friday, April 15th**—7 p.m. Good Friday Worship Service
- **Saturday, April 16th**—10 a.m. Community Easter Egg Hunt
- **Saturday, April 16th**—5 p.m. Easter Vigil
- **Sunday, April 17th**—6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service
- **Sunday, April 17th**—9 a.m. Easter Sunday Contemporary Worship
- **Sunday, April 17th**—11 a.m. Easter Sunday Traditional Worship
- **Thursday, May 5th**—6 p.m. Table Talk at Main Cup
- **Sunday, May 8th**—9 a.m. Footprints Sunday
- **Saturday, May 14th**—Community Day of Service

# Zion Lutheran Church Middletown, MD

Share Christ's Love, Grow in Faith, and Serve Others

# A Letter from

Pastor Diane Day

I am a queen of lists and color-coding. I remember getting my first planner in middle school and going at it right away with glittery gel pens to plot out my assignments and other life events. In college, I worked in the Financial Aid Office and started a whole color-coding system for the sets of work-study applications I processed. My fellow student co-workers laughed at my special pen drawer that had assigned highlighters and everything I needed to streamline data entry. (My mother was an account systems analyst if

you wonder where I might have gotten this from!) I am still the connoisseur of the perfect planner. I have tried all the ones there are. I have even designed my own so I would have exactly what I needed on the pages.

Needless to say, when I am scattered about what to do next or overwhelmed with the amount of things I need to do, I go right to making a list or mapping things out. It can be electronic. It can be pencil and paper. It will make me happier to have it color-coded. When I take the time to slow down and think about what needs to be done, what I hope to achieve, how I am going to go about getting things done, I find myself taking some breaths and remembering things are possible. I can smile seeing a trajectory of what is to come and a way to get there.

There is a word of caution though in this, as well. Lest I think that **I** can make everything happen on my own, I have to remember that even my carefully color-coded lists and maps are nothing without my Creator's help and sustaining. I am well-trained in the analytical way to make a plan and execute it. However, plans are seldom straight shots without human feelings and failings wrapped up in them. Things will take time. Mistakes will be made. Feelings and emotions will be encountered. We are not machines after all. When these things happen, what will I learn from them about how I interact with the world around me? How will that change how I plan for next time? Will the plan need to change? Does the end goal need to change? These are real questions that all play a role in our life processes.



We as a community are about to enter into one of these processes of planning. It has been some time with a leader and other leaders moving to new places of call. COVID has and is continuing to leave its mark on not only Zion, but all of our lives. We are trying to remember who we are and what is important to us. We are going to come together and think about some steps we need to take to move forward. We are going to think about where we want to be headed and what it is going to take to get there.

I ask for your continued feedback to and prayers for our Council Members as we gather on February 26th at Mar-Lu-Ridge to discuss and plan together about what is ahead in the year and hopefully a few after. Please share your hopes and dreams, what is important to you about Zion, and what you hope this community can be in the years ahead. If you are not sure who those folks are, check out page 22 which has their names and what service they go to. If you need further help connecting, please do not hesitate to ask Pastor Matt and I and we will introduce you.

As we move forward, let us always remember that no matter what we decide and or what plans we make, it is nothing if we don't ask God to guide us in it. Let us pray for the Spirit to work and to call us to a faithful vision and mission for what our community and world need. Holy Spirit, come! And may it be so!

*Pastor Diane Day*

# A Letter From Pastor Matt Day

The great fast of Lent is quickly approaching us, though, we have been given a “reprieve” with Lent being so late this year. Lent is one of my busier times as a pastor, but I really enjoy this liturgical season because we Lutherans do Lent very well. We do contemplation and reflection very well. We Lutherans love to feel guilty because in guilt, there is forgiveness. We are all about forgiveness, but we do not always do a good job telling others about the forgiveness we feel and experience. I think the statistic is that a Lutheran invites someone to worship with them once every 25 years. Yeah, we are pretty bad at the inviting part and often assume it is someone else’s job, when in reality it is our job as a member of Christ’s body. Don’t be ashamed to tell someone, anyone, about the freedom you feel in being a part of our congregation. And in these days of Covid, inviting someone to worship is even easier. All you got to do is hit that share button on Facebook and boom, you shared the gospel. You can make it even more personal and say, “My pastor said this thing that was really meaningful to me this week and I think my friends and family would appreciate hearing it too.”

Whether you are worshipping in-person or virtually, please use this upcoming liturgical season to extend an invitation to someone who does not have a church home and invite them to join you on Sunday or during the week.

I am very excited about our Wednesdays in Lent this year. This year we are focusing on why we do the things we do in worship. Each week, we are going to look at a different part of our liturgy and wrap up our discussion with preparing for our Holy Week worship. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and Evening Prayer will be at 7pm starting March 9th. Wendi is going to have a children’s program as well at 7 p.m.

Before we get to Wednesdays in Lent, we first must go through Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is a strange day in the church year. We scratch dirt on our foreheads and are reminded of our mortality. We will have one worship service at 7 p.m. Spread the message on Facebook and with your colleagues at work. Or what would even be better, is for you to bring someone. People have the tendency to come if they know someone at the church. We need you to be bold and brave!

Ash Wednesday is also a good time to make a commitment to your faith and building it up. I suggest you take on a spiritual discipline this year. You can find some ideas on our website or in our newsletter. I am not really big into giving up things like chocolate or coffee for Lent. How will giving up coffee benefit your faith? Will giving up chocolate bring you closer to Jesus? Maybe giving up coffee and chocolate will benefit your faith, but what if you added something to your daily routine? What if you add reading your Bible or the Small Catechism to your daily routine? I am more about adding something to your life or taking something away so that you can add a new discipline. We are going to talk about spiritual disciplines at the next Table Talk on March 3rd at 6 p.m. at the Main Cup.

Whatever you do for Lent, I hope you tell someone what you are doing to help hold you accountable. A spiritual discipline should challenge you just like a good workout session. Studies have shown that people who have accountability partners, say a gym buddy, tend to have more success. So, find someone to share your spiritual discipline with and ask them to hold you accountable. One year I gave up watching TV and instead set out to learn new things. That same year, I took my HAM radio license and passed on the first try. I later joined a club and began to learn about the hobby. After Lent was over, we decided that we didn’t need to spend \$120 on cable each month. We cut the cord, saved a ton of money, and I got to do something that I had put off since I was a high schooler. Remember, Lent is busy and you might fail more than I succeeded with your discipline. With that said, I encourage you all not to be afraid to fail at your discipline. Failure teaches us how to succeed. So tell me, what are you going to do this Lent? We would love to hear what you are doing and help you stay accountable.

May God continue to bless you all this Lent. Until next time...

*Pastor Matt Day*

# Need a spiritual discipline for Lent?

For many people, Lent is a time when we give things up, but there is so much more to Lent than just giving up cake or coffee. Instead of giving something up for Lent, try doing something instead:

**Reading a book, waking up in the morning and praying, reading a chapter from the Bible a night, working at a soup kitchen, walking to work, walking once a night with your family, playing a game with your family once a week, turning off your phone one day a week and spending that time with your family, volunteering to help around church, doing some manual labor, or simply cleaning the garage.** These are a few ideas, but really all you need to do is look at your life and see the places that are lacking your presence. The possibilities are endless. Here are a couple of good ones that people have done over the years...

**Come to both the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services.** These are very important worship times in the Church for we will hear how Jesus won our salvation. These services remind us of our salvation and the story we so love to tell. Without these two services, Easter makes no sense. So come and learn why we gather on Easter.

**Give up a meal once a day and use the money for that meal to help the needy.** This has also been a tradition in the Roman Catholic Church for years. You simply skip a meal and place that money that you normally would have spent on that meal and give it to the poor. Put that money aside that you would have spent and donate it ELCA World Hunger or another cause close to your heart.

**Do not eat meat on Fridays or maybe Monday (meatless-Monday).** This has been a tradition in the Catholic Church for years, but it is another way you might find some spiritual growth. Sometimes, failing at this discipline teaches more than actually keeping the discipline. For in failing, you will see just how dependent we are on meat in our diet where many in the world are lucky to have meat once a month.

**Come on Wednesday for food and prayer.** This is not just self-promotion. Come and fellowship with other Christians and deepen your faith. Martin Luther once said, "Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?" So come find Christ and see Christ in the face of your brothers and sisters.

**Turn off all notifications on your cell phone.** Sounds simple right? These notifications help us stay connected but they can interrupt family time and sabbath time. Consider turning off your notifications this Lent and get to the emails and text messages later.

**Read the Entire New Testament.** Martin Luther used to read the whole Bible once a year. Not too many of us have ever done this so start small. You can read the whole Bible in 40 days but if that seems too large, try the New Testament. Remember that the Bible is not just available in print but there are audio copies of this book available. There are even free versions available as a podcast. Just be thoughtful with the translation. Instead of listening to the music or the news, use your commute time to read/listen the Bible.

**SPEND TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY.** I don't think I can stress this enough. Spending time with your family is so important these days. In the blink of an eye, tragedies can strike. Take as much time as you can to be the people you love and who love you the most.

*The most important thing to remember this Lent with whatever discipline you might pick, is to not be afraid to fail at it. Failure teaches us what we did wrong so that we can fix it for the future. Don't be afraid to fail, but come and bring your failures to worship where they can be forgiven. And do tell others about what you are doing this Lent! Don't hide what you are doing. Telling others will help hold you accountable and will help you succeed.*



The term "Lent" originally comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten" which means "spring." This is the time, in the Northern Hemisphere, when the days are lengthening. The season began as period of fasting leading up to the Vigil of Easter. Catechumens, those preparing for baptism at Easter, would fast and spend days in intense preparation. For those that were already baptized, Lent was a period to renew one's faith by studying the Bible, the Creed and the

**Definition:**

Lent is the forty-day season (excluding Sundays) of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter.

**A Few Notes on Current Practice**

The appointed liturgical color for Lent is purple because purple has long been associated with royalty. In this case, Christ reigns from a cross.

Currently, the ancient understanding of Lent as both a time for baptismal preparation and baptismal renewal is being rediscovered in Lutheran rites and practice. Many congregations hold mid-week services during Lent and a baptismal renewal theme is particularly appropriate for these.

Many congregations refrain from speaking or singing the word "alleluia" during Lent. "Burying" the alleluia occurs at the conclusion of worship on Transfiguration Sunday and it is restored at either the Vigil of Easter or Easter Sunday. A Lenten acclamation replaces the alleluia verse in preparation for hearing the Gospel (See ELW pg. 103 for one example).

## Lenten Worship At A Glance

Ash Wednesday - March 2 at 7 p.m.

Wednesdays in Lent - Gather Us In  
Dinner at 6 p.m. and Evening Prayer at 7 p.m.  
Children's Activity at 7pm

Every Wednesday in Lent starting March 9 - April 6

Palm Sunday with the reading of the Passion from Luke - April 10

### HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday - April 14 at 7 p.m.

Good Friday - April 15 at 7 p.m.

Easter Vigil - April 16 at 5 p.m.

Easter Sunday - Sunrise at 6:30 am, Contemporary at 9 a.m.,  
and Traditional at 11 a.m.

# Worship Opportunities



Remember that  
you are dust,  
and to dust  
you shall return.



## Ash Wednesday

March 2 at 7 p.m.

Lent begins with a solemn service of reflection and prayer. We will ponder the meaning of life and death. We will be reminded of our fragility and mortality. We will also commit ourselves to time of intentional prayer of these next 6 weeks leading up to Easter.

Be a part of this journey this Lent and come on Ash Wednesday and make a commitment to engage your faith throughout these 40 days.

### Worship Services

**Saturday:**

**5 p.m. Casual Worship**

**Sunday Services:**

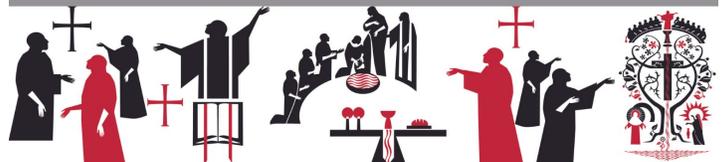
**9 a.m. Contemporary**

**Worship**

**11 a.m. Traditional Worship**

## Gather Us In

EVENING PRAYER DURING THE  
SEASON OF LENT



### Zion Worship Service

#### Viewing Options:

To view our weekly recorded worship service any time during the week, click on the webpage link at [www.zionmiddletown.org](http://www.zionmiddletown.org) and it will take you directly to the video. The link for the livestream of each service is on the website; click the link and it will take you directly to the video.

6 P.M. | Dinner

7 P.M. | Evening Prayer and  
Children's Program



Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry in Baltimore's

# TRIVIA NIGHT

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022**

**DOORS OPEN -5:30PM**

**TRIVIA BEGINS- 6PM**

**3 SITES CONNECTED IN ONE GREAT EVENT!**

Holy Apostles and St Stephen  
901 Courtney Rd.  
Arbutus, MD 21227

Trinity Episcopal  
120 Allegheny Ave.  
Towson, MD 21204

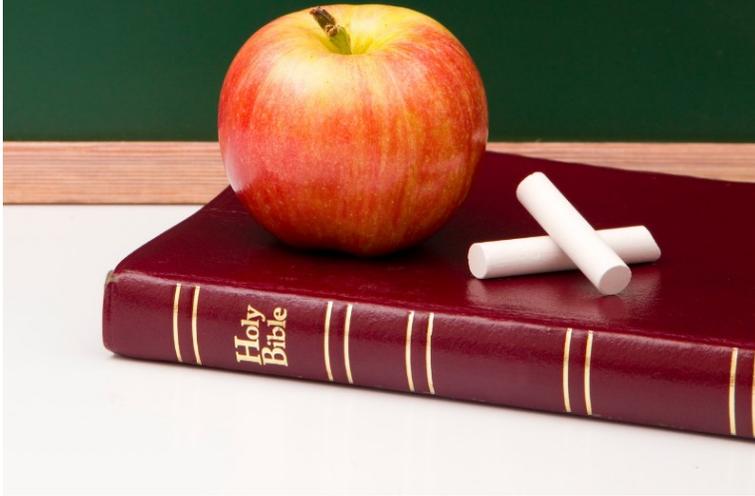
Good Shepherd Lutheran  
1415 W 7th St.  
Frederick, MD 21702

Teams of up to 8 people  
\$20/Person (includes substantial snack box)  
Masks required while indoors

Register at: [BaltimoreLutheranCampusMinistry.org/trivia-night](https://BaltimoreLutheranCampusMinistry.org/trivia-night)

We would like to make up at least one table from Zion. Talk to Pastor Matt if you are interested.

# ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



**Don't Forget**

**Adult Forum—Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

**Meets in the Chapel**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL EDUCATION

**SUNDAYS AT 10 A.M.**

**ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, &  
HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES**



Visit our Website:

[WWW.ZIONMIDDLETOWN.ORG](http://WWW.ZIONMIDDLETOWN.ORG)

Theology and Bible

## TABLE TALK

Food and Drink

FIRST THURSDAY  
OF THE MONTH

6pm at the Main Cup

Have you ever wanted to explore theology in a way that is not intimidating or hard to understand? Do you enjoy eating out with friends? Do you want to learn more about your faith? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you need to join us for Table Talk!



## Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 16th

Join us in the Social Room on Saturday, April 16th at 10:00 a.m. for Zion's Community Easter Egg Hunt!

We will have crafts, snacks, fun activities and of course, an egg hunt!

The fun begins at 10:00 a.m. and all are welcome! Invite your friends! Crafts and snacks will be indoors—the egg hunt will be held outdoors.



### 2022 Footprints Schedule

Sunday, March 13th

Sunday, April 10th

Sunday, May 8th

Sunday, June 12th

Sunday, July 10th

Join us on the second Sunday of each month at the 9:00 a.m. service for Footprints! Youth of all ages will gather together after the Prayer of the Day for a lesson, activity and craft. We will return to worship in time for communion. Questions? Contact Wendi: [wendik@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:wendik@zionmiddletown.org)



## **Photos Needed!**

I was looking around and realized, I need to update the Youth and Family bulletin board! Please send me photos of your family and some of the fun things you have been doing. Craft ideas are welcome too! Send photos/ideas to: [wendik@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:wendik@zionmiddletown.org)

### **Join us for Midweek Lenten Children's Program!**

On Wednesday in Lent, youth of all ages are invited to join Wendi at 7:00 p.m. in the Living Library for an interactive Lenten lesson and craft! Stay tuned to our Youth and Family Facebook page for daily Lenten journaling prompts.

Can't join us in person? Email Wendi and let her know you would like to participate and she will send you a weekly Lenten lesson and craft supplies!

[wendik@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:wendik@zionmiddletown.org)



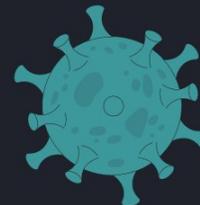
## **Confirmation**

### **Monthly Confirmation Gathering**

Confirmation youth are invited to the monthly gathering on the first Sunday of the month from 4-6 p.m. with dinner provided. Middle School and High School classes meet each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the lower level study lounge across from the preschool room.



# COVid-19 Update



## Zion's Safety Protocols

These protocols are designed to help keep everyone safe!

- CDC currently recommends use of facemasks indoors
- Unvaccinated individuals are required to wear facemasks
- Maintain physical distancing of 6 feet
- If you are unable to maintain physical distancing and are in close contact for more than 15 minutes, please wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status

The COVID taskforce continues to regularly meet to monitor the pandemic progression and make decisions about Zion's operations. It is a tedious balance in considering returning to normal and being mindful of the burden of disease to our members. The following questions have been asked:

- Why are all the windows open in the balcony during the services (despite the weather)? Multiple studies have shown that good ventilation is one of our best assets in promoting a healthy space and preventing the spread of COVID. This practice will continue so you may want to consider wearing an extra layer to church services.
- Should latex gloves be worn by those administering the communion elements? Research studies show that COVID is transmitted by air droplets and rarely by hand/fomite methods. Use of hand sanitizer before distribution is adequate.
- Why is there such variation in mask usage? Our governing agencies do not fully agree on this. CDC recommends mask usage in indoor settings. However, our local government has no mandates. Mask usage needs to be based on vaccination status, risk of severe disease to an individual and personal comfort level.

COVID-19

## Am I eligible for a booster shot?

### Who?

If you received a Pfizer or Moderna series:

- > 65 years and older
- > Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
- > Age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
- > Age 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings

If you received a J&J vaccine:

- > Age 18+

### When?

- > At least 6 months after Pfizer or Moderna
- > At least 2 months after J&J

### Which booster shot do I get?

- > You may have a preference, but you can get any booster shot.



FIND OUT MORE AT [CDC.GOV](https://www.cdc.gov) & [VACCINES.GOV](https://www.vaccines.gov)



326630-01

# MINISTRY UPDATES



## CARENET BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

### Baby Bottle Campaign

We at Zion generously support the Frederick CareNet Pregnancy Center every year during Lent. Please take a Baby Bottle from the box in the entrance hallway during Lent and fill it with change.

Return it to the Purple Box located in the Church Office by Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022. Many thanks for your continued support. Any questions, please email me at [djb6025139@gmail.com](mailto:djb6025139@gmail.com) or call me at 301-371-5139 before 8 p.m. ~Thanks again Donna Jean Brandenburg.



### Lee Ropp is Crushing Cans for Our Youth!

**Lee Ropp has crushed and recycled 184,710 Aluminum cans for the benefit of Zion's Youth and Family Ministry! Cans can be dropped off on the deck of the Clothes Closet. Lee says "Keep em' Coming"**

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

**1 Corinthians 15:58**



GriefShare is a support group designed to help and provide encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

The program is nondenominational and features biblical concepts from healing your grief.

The group meets weekly for 13 sessions and there are three key parts to each session: **Video Seminar**, **Support Group** discussion and **Workbook** for personal study.

The next cycle of GriefShare will be held beginning **Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>** and ending on **Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Meetings will be held in the Living Library at Zion Lutheran Church and is offered from 6:00 PM until 8:00PM.

If you have questions about GriefShare and want to talk with one of the leaders, please call Zion Church at 301-371-6500.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

THE

# GREEN EXPO

APRIL 23, 2022 | 10-2 P.M. | MEMORIAL PARK

Zion will have a booth at the Expo this year and we need some volunteers.

It is going to be a great way to meet our neighbors and learn about some of the exciting new green initiatives happening in our community. Let us know in office if you can help!



Green Middletown





## Pie Sale!

Easter at grandma’s house for a great homemade dinner. Then, she brought out those wonderful smelling, great tasting pies that only she could make. Mmmm.. If only we could smell and taste those pies again! Well, now you can! The quilters are selling fresh baked pies from the Pie Shoppe, Laughlinton, PA on April 16, 2022, the Saturday before Easter. They are as good as pies Grandma made. We will be selling the following varieties:

chocolate meringue, coconut meringue, lemon meringue, apple, Dutch apple, blackberry, wild blueberry, razzleberry (blend of blackberries, red raspberries and blueberries), cherry, peach, raisin & pumpkin rolls. All pies are 9 inches. Cost is \$10.00 each. Also available are pecan pies and nut logs. Cost \$12.50. Proceeds will go to the Warrior Canine Connection. WCC is veterans interacting with dogs to train them from puppies to adult service dogs for disabled vets with disabilities. All pies, pumpkin rolls, and nut rolls MUST be preordered by 4/5/2022. Call 301-514-4479 or email: amasser202@comcast.net. The Quilters thank the church and community for their support.

## **Help Needed**

### **Community Day of Service**



### **Community Day of Service – May 14, 2022**

Are you in need of some assistance on small home projects? The Middletown

Ministerium would like to help. We are a group of volunteers from Middletown Valley area churches that are willing to lend a hand.

Examples of projects are indoor/outdoor painting, repairs, yard work, cleaning. Since our introduction, we have assisted over 40 families. If you are in need of assistance on a home project, please contact Deb Reichelt at 301-371-6500 or treasurer@zionmiddletown.org no later than April 4, 2022.



## **WEEKEND BACKPACKS**

**Hunger doesn't take the weekend off**

Our Backpack Ministry will be meeting the needs of students on the weekends when they do not receive food at school. The critical need item for February is juice boxes and for March it is individual cereal boxes including oatmeal. Please consider donating one of those or writing a check to Zion and put Weekend Backpack on the memo line to help children throughout the school year.

# OTHER WAYS TO GIVE



## House of Worship Program

The Aero Energy House of Worship program is a donation program established by Aero Energy to

Provide Aero Energy customers an opportunity to give to their churches. For every gallon of fuel used Aero will donate four cents to Zion. If 100 customers from our congregation sign up to participate, our church could receive an annual \$3,000 donation (based on 750 gal/year average used).

Common Question:

- Will I pay more for Fuel? : No, you pay the same price per gallon. This is a donation from Aero Energy to the church.

Sign up for the Aero Energy House of Worship program online at [AeroEnergy.com/how](http://AeroEnergy.com/how) or call 888-827-1713



**AmazonSmile** is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). The donation will be made at no extra cost to you, and the donated proceeds will directly go to Zion. You shop as you normally would on the site, at no extra cost to you, and you don't need to make a separate account. Here's how to shop AmazonSmile:

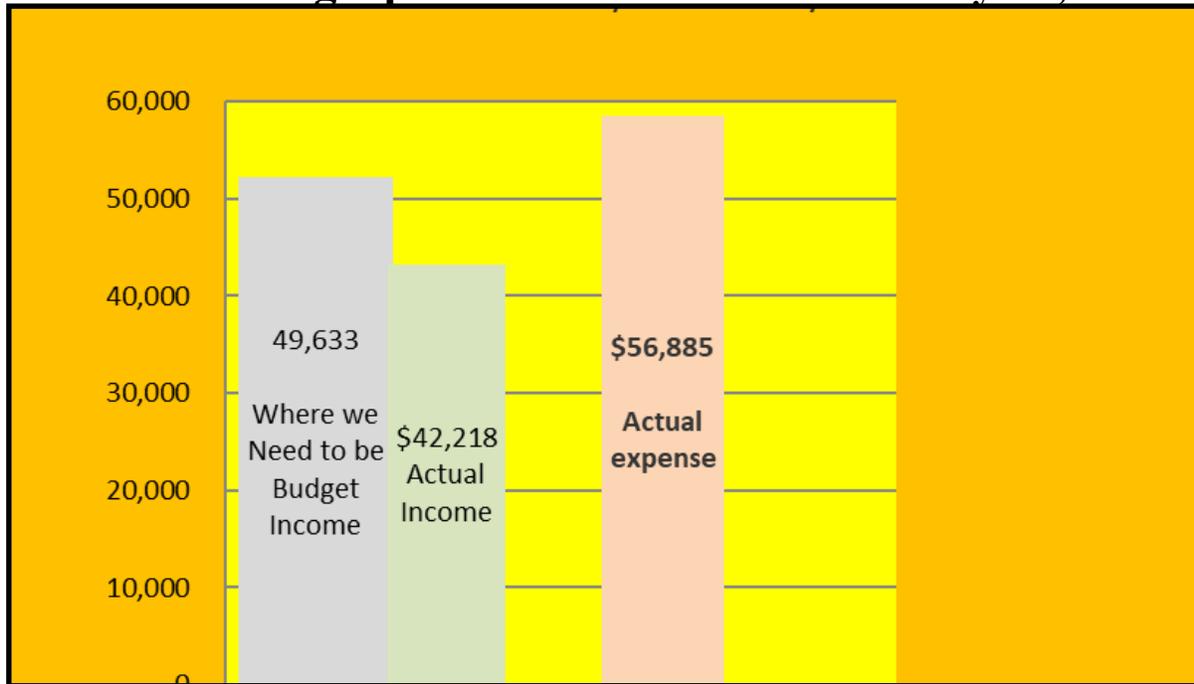
1. Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
3. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice
4. Select "Zion Lutheran Church, Middletown MD"
5. Start shopping!
5. Add a bookmark for [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

How to turn on AmazonSmile in the mobile app:

- Join AmazonSmile (If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, sign up on your web browser. Simply select your favorite charity to start generating donations, at no cost to you.)
- Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android.
- Turn on AmazonSmile. Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☐). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

# Zion Stewardship

## Zion's Giving Update: Year to Date ~ January 31, 2022



### Budget/Income Information– YTD as of January 31, 2022

YTD Proposed Budget income \$49,633.12.. vs YTD Actual Income \$42,218.49.  
 YTD Proposed Budget Expense \$53,111.23. vs YTD Actual Expenses \$56,345.91  
**\*\*Actual Income is less expenses by \$14,127.42\*\***



**Pledges?**

### Zion Stewardship 2022 Pledge Report as of January 31, 2022

<u>Total # Received</u>	<u>\$ Pledged</u>	<u>Goal of \$ Pledged</u>
122	\$351,334.19	\$442,567.00

It's not too late to turn in your cards! Send them to the Financial Secretary or place them in the offering plate in the Sanctuary.

**Easter Flower Orders and Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Gifts**

The Altar Guild will be selling lilies and tulips and collecting for LWR Monetary Gifts through March 20, 2022. All Easter flower orders and LWR gifts must be in by that date. Order forms for Easter Flowers and LWR gifts are below. Order forms will also be on the table in the ramp area. Please complete the appropriate form and mail it with your check to Zion Lutheran Church, 107 W. Main Street, Middletown, MD, or drop it off at the church office during office hours or after any service.



**Monetary Gift in Memory or Honor of  
Loved One  
(Alternative to Lily or Tulip)**

Zion is providing an opportunity to remember or honor a loved one with a monetary gift to Lutheran World Relief (LWR)—an alternative to purchasing a lily or tulip. All gifts will be combined to make a purchase from the LWR gift catalog to help a family and/or a community in need.

Monetary gifts will be accepted through March 20, 2022, by mailing the completed form below with a check to Zion Lutheran Church, 107 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769. You may also drop off the form and check at the Church office during office hours or after any service. Please mark your envelope “LWR”.

**2022 Monetary Gift for LWR**

**Each gift is \$11.00**

**Total Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**In Memory of:**

**Given by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor of:**

**Given by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Time to Order Easter Flowers**

Easter Flower orders will be accepted through March 20, 2022. The cost for lilies and tulips is \$11 each. It is important that you pick up flowers that you order, as the Altar Guild probably will not be able to deliver any flowers to nursing homes or homebound members. Information regarding a time to pick up your Easter flowers will be included in a future newsletter.

**All orders must be received by Sunday, March 20.** No orders after that date, please! Our supplier needs to know our total number early in order to meet our request.

Orders will be accepted by completing the form below and mailing it with a check to Zion Lutheran Church, 107 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769. You may also drop the form and check off at the Church Office during office hours or after any church service. Please mark your envelope “Easter Flowers”.

**2022 Order Form for Easter Flowers**

**Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_ Lily (\$11.00)

\_\_\_\_ Tulips (\$11.00)

**In Memory of:**

**Given by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor Of:**

**Given by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I will pick up \_\_\_\_tulip \_\_\_\_ lily (Put in number you are picking up)





# From the Archrives

## 50 YEARS AGO...



### An Abiding Gift

Dedicated to the Glory of God

GIVEN BY

*The Family of a Mother*  
*of Zion Church*

PERPETUATED IN

*The Descending Dove*  
Chancel Holy Spirit Symbol

DATE *MARCH 5, 1972*

A custom made brass Descending Dove that adorns the chancel of our church was “An Abiding Gift” given to Zion on March 5<sup>th</sup> and dedicated on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1972. The sermon that Sunday was “The Role of the Holy Spirit” and was delivered by our Pastor, Rev. Dr. Emmanuel J. Hoover.

Council records of November 1971 read: “Pastor Hoover stated that the symbol of the descending dove of the Holy Spirit would be of value if purchased. Mr. Guy Alexander has stated that his family would be interested in purchasing this item.” The following month, Council records continue stating that the ‘Descending Dove of Peace’ has been ordered and will be installed by Mr. Appleby.

The referenced “Mother” is unknown. If the Alexanders did give this to the church, it could be Guy’s wife, Peggy; it could be Peggy’s mother Mrs. Mary House, or could be Guy’s mother, Orpha Alexander. And maybe some things are left to be unknown!

Our congregation has been blessed with many members that have cared to enhance the beauty of our church over the years. Let us remember them with thanksgiving and preserve the cherished gifts for future generations.



## Thank You Zion!



Zion Quilters would like to thank the congregation for the support of our “famous” veggie soup sale. We realized a profit of \$459 that will go to Zion’s 2022 Vacation Bible School program.



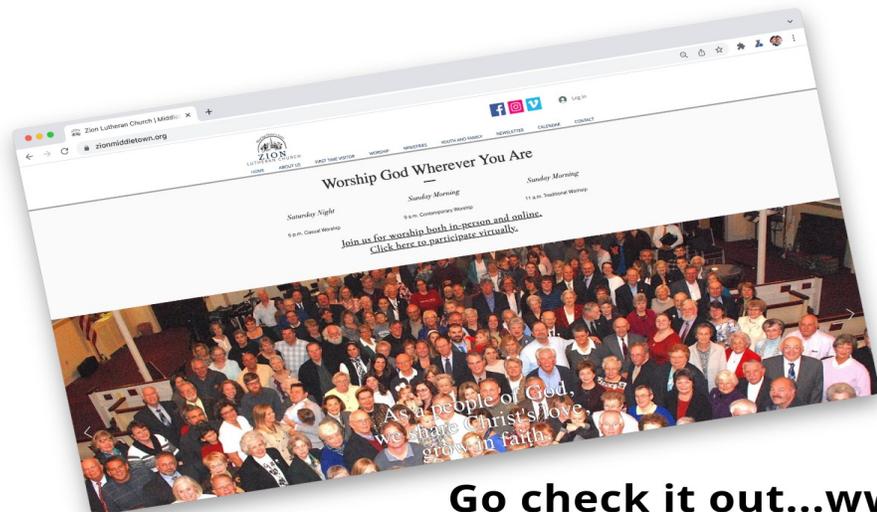
### A Thank You From Jim Hoover

I must say I am a bit overwhelmed by the outpouring of appreciation for our accomplishments during my time as Church Administrator and Facilities Administrator at Zion. It was a wonderful time filled with reacquainting old friends and meeting new ones. It was my wish to give back to Zion in some way to reflect my parent’s fondness of Zion and I hope in some way I succeeded in that. Once again, I thank everyone for their thoughtfulness

and expressions of gratitude during my time at Zion and as my time on Zion’s staff came to an end.

Feeling Blessed,

Jim Hoover



# We got a new website!

Go check it out...[www.ZionMiddletown.org](http://www.ZionMiddletown.org)

## Congregational Meeting

### **\*\*Official Notice\*\***

Special Congregational Meeting, Sunday,  
March 6th at 10:00 a.m.

We will be meeting for the sole purpose of discussing the proposal on moving forward with phase 2 for the HVAC system: replacing the remaining HVAC systems at Zion.



### **Have you signed up for Constant Contact?**

Zion has a Constant Contact weekly email that comes out on Fridays. If you aren't getting it and want to sign up call or email the Church Office: 301-371-6500 or [office@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:office@zionmiddletown.org)



### Hope to Faith

**If you have experienced a loss recently or at any time in your life, please know that you are welcome to attend for a time of fellowship and food! Contact Dixie Eichelberger at 301-667-7586 for more information. We meet on the last Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the parking lot.**

### Beacon Mailing Update

This is the last Beacon that will be mailed via USPS to all members. If you would like to continue to receive the Beacon via mail, please contact, Melissa at [melissac@zionmiddletow.org](mailto:melissac@zionmiddletow.org). Otherwise, all future Beacon Newsletters will be emailed to all members. A limited number of paper copies will also be available at Zion.



### Upcoming Noisy Offerings

**February 19th & 20th**  
Alan P. Linton Emergency Shelter

—————  
**March 19th & 20th**  
Heartly House

—————  
**April 9th & 10th**  
Lantern Hill



Hello! My name is Melissa Cregger and I'm the new, excited face behind a mask in your Church Office!

I'm originally from Frederick and was a graduate of Thomas Johnson High School. I went to college at Rutgers University and graduated with a Bachelors in Music Education. I also attended The Catholic University of America studying Vocal Pedagogy for my Masters Degree. Fun fact: I briefly filled in for a maternity leave at Middletown Middle School in 2005 teaching chorus and drama, so if some of your children came home complaining about Shakespeare, that might have been my fault. Sorry!

I've been singing professionally since 2007 all over the US and abroad. I made my Carnegie Hall debut in 2015 before Covid! I'm also a 200-hour Registered Yoga

Teacher with Yoga Alliance specializing in Senior Chair Yoga. If anyone would be interested in a class, I'd be more than happy to set one up maybe once a month. Contact the office if you'd be interested!

Thank you so much for having me as your new Administrative Assistant!



**Church**  
*Council*

**Welcome to our 2022 Church Council**

**5 p.m. Service**

Donna Huffer

**9 a.m. Service**

Alexa Masser (Vice President)

Carolyn Toldeo (Secretary)

Ike Ahalt

Shelly Gladhill

Meghan Gunsallus

Bob Hetrick

Jennifer Pralgo

**11 a.m. Service**

Bob Rockwell (President)

Doug Davis

Linda Kinna-Engel

Leslie Santora



This past year we learned more about stewardship. We learned that stewardship is not only donating to the church but also time and talent. When you submitted your pledge card, there was a section that asked about what talents you would be willing to share with the church. We heard you!

We would like to remind you to think about what you shared, and if you have been thinking about how you can serve in a new way, remember you can always do a little at a time. There are ways to serve during the service, you can serve as a committee chair, or on a committee. You can start with one thing and when you are ready to do more, add another thing. You can do it in little snippets. There are many opportunities to serve at Zion. When you feel ready, please ask one of the Pastors and they will direct you in the right direction as to who to talk to about how you want to share your time and talent.

Respectfully,  
Carolyn Toledo  
Stewardship Chair



We celebrate the baptism of:  
**Arlo Franklin Bybel on January 15th**  
**Son of Matthew and Branam Bybel**

*With Sympathy*



*With our deepest sympathy we keep  
in our thoughts and prayers the  
families of:*

**David Haines**  
**Gene Ifert**  
**Tom Routzahn**  
**Bert Thornton**  
**Doug Trusty**

**News to share?**

**Please let us know of important events  
that have happened over the past few  
months? Email or call Wendi:  
wendik@zionmiddletown.org  
301-371-6500, ext. 203**



**Olivia Mae Gibson**  
October 19, 2021  
Daughter of Hugh and Katie Gibson  
of Groton, CT  
Granddaughter of John and Kathy Stasiewicz

**Willow Grace and Marlowe Mae Holter**  
February 1, 2022  
Daughters of Jacob and Meghan Holter  
Great-Granddaughters of Sarah Holter

**Titan Vincent Tabler**  
December 27, 2021  
Son of James and Melody Tabler  
Grandson of Coleen and Ed Tabler

**Harrison Craig Canna**  
February 14, 2022  
Son of Jennifer and Brian Canna  
Grandson of Coleen and Ed Tabler

You are a child of  
God, you are  
wonderfully made,  
dearly loved and  
precious in his  
sight. -Psalm 139



**Evangelical Lutheran Church Zion**  
**107 W Main Street**  
**Middletown MD 21769**

**Non-Profit Org.**  
**U.S. Postage PAID**  
**Frederick, MD**  
**Permit No. 2205**

**[www.zionmiddletown.org](http://www.zionmiddletown.org)**



The work and mission at Zion can only happen through your gifts of time, talent and treasure. We cannot do our work without your support. To give financially, please give either online or drop your Offering in the white box next to the bulletins. You can also scan the QR code to be taken to our online giving portal.

**AND THANK YOU!**