

Zion Lutheran Church



*4th Sunday after
Epiphany
January 29th 2017*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Janet Oelschlager and family in Honor of Molly's Birthday and Jim & Mary Lou Neill in Honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary!
- **ETERNAL LIGHT** is given to the Glory of God .
- **THIS WEEK'S FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE**....is from Calgary-bound Kim Anderson who leaves us with wonderful memories and this memorable verse. John 3:16 NIV *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*
- **SPOTLIGHT MINISTRY... BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!** Start 2017 getting closer to God, the great I AM. Check the display in the back corner of the sanctuary. Contact person: Vicar Joshua.
- **ALL THINGS NEW** ...Women's Bible Study by Kelly Minter begins this week on TUESDAY, JANUARY 31st, 7:15 – 8:45PM. Study books are in the narthex or see Linda Kroeger. Vicar Joshua reviewed the study and gave it a 2 thumbs up!
- **STROLL BY THE SPOTLIGHT MINISTRY** ... last week for Bible Study display...there WILL be *photos and chocolates!*
- **VICAR'S BOOK OF THE MONTH** for January is Robert Kolb's "The Christian Faith". You can check it out of the Zion library!
- **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** for our upcoming Women's retreat! We are heading to Camp Pioneer March 10th-12th. This weekend is full of fellowship, Bible Study, Games & Fun. Contact Megan Pasquini with any questions – secretary@zlc.org. More detailed information coming soon. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex!
- **CHEERFUL, SKY BLUE** church t-shirts with Ephesians 2:8 on the back...limited quantities in most sizes, youth and adult...check out the table in the rear of the Sanctuary...freewill offering.
- **EXTREME MAKEOVER NURSERY EDITION**...the church received a makeover and good cleaning to both update and improve function. Several items are still needed. Please contact tesskcarter@gmail.com if you are able to donate the following: DVD Player...Children's DVDs...train table...Play Kitchen. Thank you!
- **WELCOME CENTER!** Are you a guest or visitor looking for information about Zion? Hello and welcome to Zion! Stop by the table in the foyer after the service and we'll try to help.
- **CHURCH NURSERY:** Is available for kids age 0-2 during the 10:30 Service! The Nursery ("Little Lions") is open during the late service in the lower level of the building. (If you need help locating the nursery, please ask an Usher or Greeter for assistance.)
- **NEED PRAYER?** Stephen Ministers and Elders will be available to pray with or for you following the Service in the Chancel area.
- **TODAY'S GOSPEL READING AND SERMON** will be posted to the ZLCB.org website later today. For an archive of older sermons, visit www.zlc.org/sermons

Welcome to worship!

This morning we are going to be exploring a familiar text from First Corinthians. As we look at the passage we will see again that in Christ, God is turning things upside down. God works through foolishness, through weakness, to accomplish His plan of salvation and to send that message forth into the world.

As we enter into this discussion, it is important that we understand what Paul is speaking about. This passage can (and has been) be misused to distance the Christian faith from science and human discovery. This can only be done by ignoring Paul's words and the context of his statement. Paul admits that in human terms, the crucifixion of Jesus Christ is weak. Jesus is vulnerable. He is mortal. He dies. Paul also admits that the preaching of this message is silly! Paul refuses to water this message down with the wisdom of the world or the eloquence of the preacher. He will not rob the Gospel of its weakness because the weak Word of the Gospel is the power and wisdom of God.

This passage challenges any attempt to diminish the death of Christ on the cross. It challenges any attempt to overtake the Gospel with lofty words. It challenges us to ignore the foolish world's attempts at mocking the Gospel. But it does not create a dichotomy between faith and science.

As we explore this text I pray that God would challenge you with the message of the cross- folly to those who are perishing but strangely also God's power for your salvation.

-Vicar Joshua

Rev. Eric Carlson, Vacancy Pastor
Office Phone: 412-221-4776

Vicar Joshua Ulm
Website: www.zlcb.org



ZION EQUIPS, EDUCATES, AND ENCOURAGES BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, SENDING THEM INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

Zion Lutheran Church 3197 Washington Pike Bridgeville, PA 15017

The Service of the Word

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books, located at either end of the pew. If you are visiting us this morning and would like to be contacted by the church, please indicate so in the Attendance Book. We are glad you chose to worship at Zion this morning!)

Prelude

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright 395

The Invocation

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

Vicar: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vicar: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of Grace by the Vicar

Kyrie-LSB 152

V In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

V For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

V For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

V For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

V Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

V The Lord be with you

C **And also with you**

V Let us pray. .. through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

The Sharing of the Peace

V The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Old Testament Reading:

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses,

O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord.” What Does the Lord Require? “With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Hymn: Jesus Loves Me

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Epistle Reading: **1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who

believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Alleluia and Verse (please stand)

**C Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life
Alleluia!**

Vicar: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th Chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons^[a] of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn: I Want to Walk as Child of the Light

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Sermon

(Please stand)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Collection of the Offering

If you are visiting with us this morning, know that your presence here means far more to us than any gift of money you could make; please do not hesitate to let the plate pass you by. Please stop by the welcome desk on your way out of church this morning.

Offertory - Men's Choir - All People That on Earth Do Dwell (10:30am)

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

V Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven,**

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against

us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

Benedicamus

V: Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Benediction

V The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with us all.

C **Amen.**

Postlude

† Service Participants †

Vicar:	Joshua Ulm
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	John Gielarowski & Mike Sterba
The Acolyte:	Joey Ackerman (8:00) Lara Luedeman (10:30)
The Greeters:	George, Jane & Mike Kozak (8:00) Norm & Brittney Dill & Family (10:30)
The Ushers:	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag (8:00) Janet & Larry Zreliak Sam Dragan, Loren Luedeman (10:30) Kari & John Gresh
Altar Guild:	Mary Hutula & Elsie DallaPiazza
Nursery:	Brittney Dill, Sydney Januesy & Leah Luedeman

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (1/22) – 205

Sunday Offering (1/22) - \$44,100.00

Online Offering (1/16-1/20) - \$ 650.00

~Online giving is now available by going to the Zion web site: www.zlcb.org~

Week of Jan. 29th - Feb. 5th


SUNDAY 1/29	8:00 AM – Worship 9:15 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship 11:45 AM – Teen Girls Bible Study - Seamless 11:45 AM – Children’s Choir
MONDAY 1/30	7:00 PM – Confirmation
TUESDAY 1/31	6:30 PM – Sunday School Meeting
WEDNESDAY 2/1	7:00 PM – Bible Study & Prayer
THURSDAY 2/2	10:00 AM – Bible Study 7:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice
FRIDAY 2/3	
SATURDAY 2/4	8:00 AM – Men’s Bible Breakfast
SUNDAY 2/5	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion 11:45 AM – Teen Girls Bible Study - Seamless 11:45 AM – Children’s Choir Practice 11:45 AM – Stephen Ministry Meeting

Special VOTERS' MEETING

Special Voters Meeting – Sunday, February 12

There will be a Special Voters meeting on Sunday, February 12, at 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM. The purpose of this Voters meeting is to present a number of candidates to be considered by the congregation for a call to Zion. The Voters meeting will be between services *in the church sanctuary* to ensure that we have a quorum of qualified voting members who are part of this important selection process of calling our next Pastor.

Please pray that God will guide us in selecting the next Shepard to lead Zion ministry.



**Operation:
Bags of Love**

♥♥♥
Help support our
troops!

Last year, we sent **264** bags of love to American troops in Afghanistan, Korea and Greenland.

Help make our 5th year the BEST EVER.

Your mission? Bring the following items and place in one of the Operation Stars and Stripes collection boxes:

Ramen Noodles
Drink Mix Singles (Propel, Coffee, etc.)
Snack sized packages of **Granola Bars**
Snack sized packages of **Jerky** or **Slim Jims**
Chewing **Gum**
Gallon-sized **ZipLok** Bags

Other ways you can help:

Monetary donations to help with shipping costs (*make checks payable to Zion Lutheran church and label "OSS"*)

Write a **Letter of Encouragement** to a soldier. Must be written on provided letterhead.

Draw a **Picture** on our Operation: Bags of Love drawing page.

Pray for our troops.

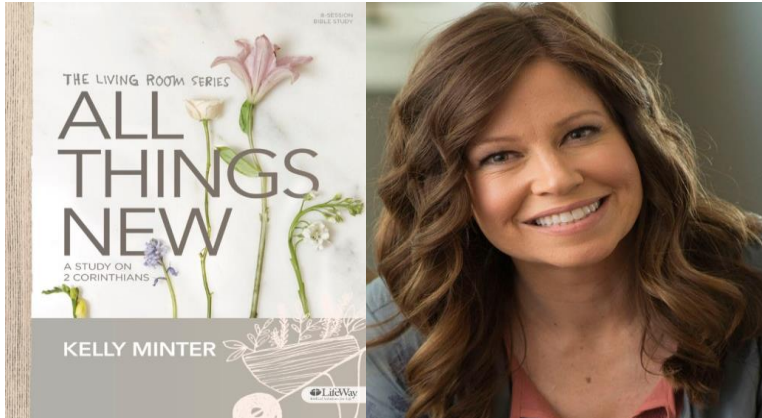
Help Sunday school kids assemble items on February 19th at 9:15am.

(*Letterhead and drawing pages are available in the Narthex, school lobby and on the Sunday school tab at www.zlcb.org.)*)

Collections begin Sunday, December 11th

Thank you for your donations!
~Zion Lutheran Sunday school

For more information about Operation: Stars and Stripes, Inc., please visit their website at www.operationstarsandstripes.com.



(Jesus said), “**Behold, I am making ALL THINGS NEW.**” Rev. 21:5 (ESV)

Brand New Year...Brand New Bible Study!
Kelly Minter’s ALL THINGS NEW,
an 8-session **Women’s Bible Study of 2**
Corinthians

The city of ancient Corinth was much like our own modern-day cities: a melting pot of electrifying cultural experiences with all the pitfalls of spiritual depravity. Still, Paul wrote to the Church of God in Corinth - meaning **God’s Church is meant to thrive in any city and every circumstance.** *Paul’s letter is as timely as ever!*

Explore the anchoring truths of: 1. Bearing **treasures in jars of clay** 2. Meeting Christ through a **pressing thorn** 3. Opening wide your heart in the midst of **hurtful relationships** 4. What it means to embrace **the lost and lonely** as ministers of the new covenant.

Each of us has a message to proclaim and live by:

Because of Jesus the old has gone, the new has come.

WHEN: Tuesday, January 31, 7:15-8:45 PM

HOW: Please sign up in the narthex or email

linda.w.kroeger@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE!

Zion Women's Retreat
MARCH 10TH - 12TH AT CAMP PIONEER

Join us for a weekend of Bible Study,
Fellowship, Games, Food, and Wine!
Friends welcome!



More information to come!
Interested? Sign up in the Narthex
or contact Megan Pasquini!

Upcoming Middle School Youth Group Event



Duck Tape

A Mix between Hockey and LAX



Paddle Ball

When? Feb. 17
Where? Basement of Zion Lutheran Church
Who? Anyone in Middle Sch.
Address? 3197 Washington Pike
-Bridgeville
Time? 8-10pm
Food? Pizza!
Cost? \$0

