

Worship Services

Sundays

8:30am Traditional
9:40am Education hour
10:45am Contemporary

Office Hours

M T W F 9:00am–3:00pm
Thurs 9:00am–noon
or call for an appointment

Our Mission

With the assurance of God's faithfulness, we'll
† nurture disciples,
† extend healing and compassion, and
† work for justice in our communities and throughout the world.

Our Vision

Gathered by the grace and love of Jesus Christ, the people of Mt Zion commit to know God deeply and to serve God gladly through the many and diverse gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit.

Marks of Discipleship

† **PRAY** daily
† **WORSHIP** weekly
† **READ** the Bible
† **SERVE** at Mt Zion and beyond
† Be in **RELATIONSHIP** to encourage spiritual growth in others
† **GIVE** of my time, talents, and resources

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Last Notes From an Interim Pastor...

Dear Mount Zion,

I have been enriched by the 19 months I have spent with you as your interim pastor. After being a mission developer, working with multiple synods and congregations, I feel blessed by the opportunity to have been grounded in the community of Mount Zion as a parish pastor. It was a rewarding education into the many challenges and blessings of this role and an opportunity to experience abundant life with you.

When I was in Los Angeles exploring call opportunities and discerning my future in the ELCA, the Greater Milwaukee Synod's values of curiosity, courage, and compassion stood out to me and drew me into a conversation about serving in an interim role at Mount Zion. I have tried to approach my role as an interim pastor with curiosity, courage, and compassion and I feel the Mount Zion community responded to this time of transition in kind. A big part of interim ministry for me was asking questions, sometimes tough questions, to better understand the identity of this unique community and the mission God has for you. Through that process of mission exploration, Mount Zion has been blessed with a new pastor who will begin his call on January 8th. Pastor Tyler will play an important role in further discerning and planning what's next for Mount Zion, but I know each of you will also be invested in that process as disciples called and connected in this congregation. You are a strong, loving, and open-minded community and, as you become more organized and called into action, I believe you will be able to meet our 21st-century cultural context, with a loving invitation to a creative Christian community who cares about the world around you.

(Continued on page 10).

Mission of the Month for January



Our outreach mission this month is to assist those who are struggling to pay their utility bills. During the last year your contributions helped families within our own Mt. Zion community. The need is still there, so please use the blue Mission of the Month envelope to support this mission.

-Sue Jacobson

Through Pastor's Eyes

I spent my birthday with Mount Zion this year and it was also Commitment Sunday. I walked around with my camera between services and saw people using their gifts in so many different ways! The musicians preparing for the 10:45 service, children learning in the Fellowship Hall, Youth writing letters to those in prison, Tosa Cares Volunteers sorting donations, Pastor Riggle leading the Education Hour, and friends having fellowship and meeting by the hearth. I saw a church activated by the Holy Spirit. I saw something beautiful! I'll miss you all, but the Spirit still connects us. You will be in my prayers.

-Pastor Josh



Looking ahead at the Mt Zion calendar

Thursday, January 2

10:00am Reformation Community Bible Study [3806 W Lisbon Ave, Milwaukee, WI]

Friday, January 3

5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous [Rm 102]
7:00pm ACA 12 steps Group [Rm 212]
7:30pm Essay 12-steps [Rm 210]

Saturday, January 4

9:00am Music Lessons [Upper Room]
10:00am Chinese American Class [classrooms]

Sunday, January 5

8:30am Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]
9:40am Christian Education Hour
10:45am Contemporary Worship
11:30am Worship—Korean [Chapel]

Monday, January 6

Epiphany

7:00pm NA 12 steps group [Fellowship Hall]



Tuesday, January 7

10:00am Staff Meeting
12:00pm AA 12 steps group [Rm 211]
6:30pm Tosa Cares Board Meeting [Hearth Room]

Wednesday, January 8

Welcome, Pastor Tyler!

12:00pm Brown Bag Bible Study [Hearth Room]
1:00pm Prayer Group [War Room]
6:30pm Knightwind Ensemble Rehearsal [Fellowship Hall]

Thursday, January 9

8:00am Tosa Cares Set-Up [Hearth Room, Gathering Space]
10:00am Reformation Bible Study
6:00pm Hand bells rehearsal [Sanctuary]
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal [Upper Room]

Friday, January 10

5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous [Rm 102]
7:00pm ACA 12-steps group [Rm 212]
7:30pm Essay 12-steps group [Rm 210]

Saturday, January 11

7:00am Tosa Cares Distribution
9:00am Music Lessons [Upper Room]
10:00am Chinese American School

Upcoming Forum Events:

January 5: *Tentative topic, "Welcoming a new pastor"*

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Marjorie Tuveson

Richard and Norma Hollander

In Memory of Carol Libeck

Bob and Marleen Christiansen



Youth Update

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Mt Zion Youth,

We have an exciting January planned as we get ready for our February trip to the Youth Quake in the Wisconsin Dells!



We'll all get together for the first time this decade at 9:40am in the youth room on January 5th. We'll discuss the meaning of Christmas from the perspective of young adults as compared to younger children.



Please join us to support Tosa Cares on January 11th from 8:00-9:30am. We will pack and carry boxes of food for needy families!



Later this month, mark your calendars for a lunchtime trip to Dave and Busters on January 19th from noon to 2:00pm. We will carpool from church after the 2nd service ends. This event earned rave reviews in the spring of 2019 and I expect the youth will have fun again this winter! Please bring \$10-\$20 for games and \$10-\$20 for food and drink.

God Bless,
-Erik / Mr. E.

Weekly Words

Rotation Sunday School

All children are welcome

3yr. to 5th grade

9:30-10:40

Children will be dropped off and picked up at Holy Flicks Theater (2nd floor)

What's coming up next?

Joshua and the Wall of Jericho

Jan 5th- Jan. 19th, 2020

This story will cover how God is with us in every battle we face. God promised the Israelites the land of Canaan and that meant conquering fortified cities. It is the story of how God caused the fall of Jericho and how God asks us to be obedient servants and to do what is right, even when people may make fun of us.



Memory Verse: "Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power."

Ephesians 6:10

Offerings

We ask your children to bring an offering on Sunday.

Tosa Cares

Each week your child is given a sticker to remind them to bring that item for Tosa Cares and those less fortunate.

Remember to register your child/children for this Sunday school year.

The registration forms are outside the Theater on the 2nd floor on a table with the offering envelopes, (please take) The start of Sunday school will be immediately after the early church service ends at 9:30 AM and will end at 10:40 AM. Drop off and pickup for 5-5th grade will be at Holy Flicks Theatre. Younger children will join us for our opening time of singing in the theater, but will be released to their parents in the 3 yr old classroom (room 204-205) at the end of class.

-Sherry

Ministry Schedule

	Jan. 5 Sunday 8:30 am	Jan. 5 Sunday 10:45 am	Jan. 12 Sunday 8:30 am	Jan. 12 Sunday 10:45 am	Jan. 19 Sunday 8:30 am
ACOLYTES		Belinda Felber	Maya Smith		Leah Cervionke
ALTAR CARE	Ellyn Steinke		Edie DiGiacinto		Norma Hollander
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Linda Ertel	Erik Peterson	Andrea Cockerham	Janet McCarthy	Chris Kress
COMMUNION DEACONS	Douglas and Mary Johnson		Gail and Rich Robinson		Chris Kress and Wendi Hall
GREETERS	Kent and Margie Spicer	Sandra Echols	Vince & Barbara Pipia	Brenda Fogal	John and Lynn Yanny
LECTORS	Chris Kress	Sara Bailey	Gail Robinson	Lora Marheine	Rich Robinson
NURSERY	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available
USHERS	Jim & Donna Zarek, Suzy Morgan	Dorothy Snead & Jim Yee	Roy Durrenberg, Carl and Karen Engelhardt	Lauren and Jesse Campbell	Roy Durrenberg, Suzy Morgan
OFFERING STEWARDS <u>MONDAY</u>	1ST Week Tom Ertel/Jim Goetzinger/ Gary Goll		2ND WEEK: Tom & Pat Morgan / Brad & Pam Hext		3rd WEEK: Pat Peterson/John L Roy Durrenberg
AUDIO/VISUAL	The Johnson Family	Peterson Family	Ethan Cervionke	The Peterson Family	Abby Sumier

ur Church work! Thank you!

Jan. 5- Feb. 2, 2020

	Jan. 19 Sunday 10:45 am	Jan. 26 Sunday 8:30 am	Jan. 26 Sunday 10:45 am	Feb. 2 Sunday 8:30 am	Feb. 2 Sunday 10:45 am	
ke	Maya Smith	Gabby Riccaboni	Belinda Felber	Leah Cervionke	Maya Smith	
der		Wendi Hall		Nancy DiGiacinto		
	Erik Peterson	Cynthia Rigsby	Jim McTaggart	Linda Ertel	Erik Peterson	
nd		Jim and Donna Zarek		Gail and Rich Robinson		
da	Pat Campbel & Jack McDougal	Marika Moore and Matt Czervionke	Jim and Lisa McTaggart	Kent and Margie Spicer		
n	Janet McCarthy	Pete Peterson	Erik Peterson	Sherry Downs	Sara Bailey	
ery	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available	unstaffed nursery available	
g & n	Dorothy Snead and Tony Frederick	Roy Durrenberg and Suzy Morgan	Dave and Vicki Nelson	Jim & Donna Zarek, Suzy Morgan	Dorothy Snead & Jim Yee	
ete link/ TG		4TH WEEK: Nancy Schumacher / Carl & Karen Engelhardt		1ST Week Tom Ertel/Jim Goetzinger/ Gary Goll		
c	The Marciniak Family	Lynda Yanny	Janet McCarthy	The Johnson Family	Peterson Family	

Tosa Cares Distribution

Saturday, January 11 will be the first Tosa Cares distribution for 2020! As usual, we are looking for Hospitality volunteers for either the 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. shift, 10 a.m. to noon shift or both. If you are unable to volunteer, but would still like to participate, providing snacks/juice is an option. Another group is serving egg casseroles, so any complimentary food would be great, such as fresh fruit or veggies, cheese and crackers, homemade treats, or granola bars. Please prayerfully consider meeting God's people where they are and join us on Saturday, January 11th. The pink sign-up sheets are on the clipboard in the Gathering Space.

God's peace,
Andrea Cockerham

Scripture Readings for this Week

Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:10-18

Grace Notes Gallery



The staff treated Pastor Josh to a goodbye lunch at Maggiano's.

Science Tidbits



Those of us with grown children quickly learn to appreciate the precious gift of grandchildren. And once in retirement, we are additionally blessed with the gift of time, enabling us to help in their nurturing by providing valuable love and support. For some of us, such help is essential, due to unfortunate family circumstances. Indeed, a significant percentage of grandparents in the U.S. provide regular care and up to two-thirds contribute financially. But regardless of circumstances, this auxiliary parental function of grandparents is unique to humans in the animal kingdom.

This is because other animals' lives are primarily devoted to maximizing their reproductive function as a means for survival of their species. And there are two basic strategies they adopt to ensure such survival: r-selection and K-selection. With r-selection, massive numbers of offspring are produced, but with a paucity of parental care. Although most of the offspring will die, so many are produced that a limited number are bound to survive to adulthood to reproduce. With this strategy, the offspring are "cheap" and are usually produced in a risky environment (think sea urchins, mice, rabbits). With K-selection, a small number of "expensive" offspring are produced in a less risky environment that are given intensive parental care (think elephants, tortoises, people). As a result, there is a high rate of offspring survival, albeit in limited number. Thus, there is a trade-off: spend limited resources in either offspring production or offspring nurturing, but not both.

In most other animal species, individuals reproduce until they can't anymore and then die shortly thereafter. Not so with humans. After concluding our reproductive lifespan, we just keep on living, in many cases for an extensive period of time. But why don't people, like typical mammals, keep reproducing until they die? Put another way, why does our reproductive ability begin wearing out so early compared to our potential lifespan? Anthropological insight concludes that it keeps us biologically relevant.

This ability to live well past our reproductive years appears to be an evolutionary adaptation to benefit us. As a demonstration, take Jane Goodall's famous chimpanzees. Mother Flo, in her old age, produced a youngster, Flint. Flint wasn't quite yet weaned when Flo gave birth again, to Flame. Flo in her advanced years was unable to adequately take care of her newborn and so Flame died, with Flo following shortly thereafter. Flint, now orphaned, eventually died from neglect. Though Flo had successfully raised three previous healthy offspring, the last two offspring suffered from her inability to adequately nurture them.

This leads to the Prudent Mother Hypothesis: menopause and the termination of further reproduction is nature's way of ensuring that human beings don't make the same mistake; that the last human baby produced will yet enjoy the attention, love and nurturing of its natural mother. And an additional benefit is that, even as grandparents, we can also join in the fun. **-Steve Downs**

(“Notes” continued from Page 1).

During my time at Mount Zion, we added the values of curiosity, courage, and compassion to our staff agendas and Mount Zion’s vision and mission to the leadership board agenda as reminders of what we are called into together and how we connect. And, this past year, the GMS added a fourth value of collaboration at that same time Mount Zion was living out that value through renewed relationships with the synod through Stewardship for All Seasons, MI-CAH, and RIC and new experiments in collaboration, like our shared confirmation and youth program with Mount Carmel, healing service with Redemption and Martin Luther, showing of “Milwaukee 53206” and conversation about racism and the prison system during Black History Month, and hosting the “One People of God” event last September. Just as Mount Zion in Jerusalem was described as a gathering place for all nations by the prophets of the Old Testament, we were inspired to welcome all people into serious conversation, shared worship, and to joyful celebrations like our Kick Off-Fest and Live Nativity.

As an interim pastor, I was privileged to remember and remind us of what this church is all about, and I got to receive the same message from you. The message of the gospel of Jesus Christ in scripture and in our lives together, that calls each of us to remember a God who reaches out to us in love, teaching us to trust... and reminding us we can share that love and invitation with others. Keep remembering, keep reminding, and keep inviting, Mount Zion. I know God will continue to bless you and bless others through your presence in the world.

Pastor Josh

Sweater in the Newsletter

Nice work, Tom Morgan and Sara Bailey! They found the dog wearing an ugly Christmas sweater in the December 29 newsletter. The doggy was hidden on page 4 among the MZY logo!

Thanks for playing!



January Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Susan Yee	1/3
Aaron Prusko	1/4
John Pukansky	1/5
Valerie Koenig	1/5
Mason Sneller	1/8
Roy Durrenberg	1/9
Nancy Schumacher	1/9
Bryce Rohde-Kirchenwitz	1/13
Isaac Rohde-Kirchenwitz	1/13
Brittany Hall	1/13
Madeline Eve	1/14
Lynden DeFouw-Indra	1/17
Curt Prusko	1/17
Jim Goetzinger	1/18
Abbey Hulen	1/19

Benjamin Stuczynski	1/21
Emma Westrick	1/21
John Morack	1/22
James Goodwin	1/22
Lauryl Pukansky	1/24
Keith Pignolet	1/27
Becky Hall	1/27
Derrick Grosenick	1/29
Tom Morgan	1/31

Anniversaries

Douglas and Mary Johnson	1/8
Ian and Lynn Koenig	1/10
James and Aharon Goodwin	1/23

Book Club

Monday, January 27

7:00pm Hearth Room

Becoming by Michelle Obama

In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As first lady of the United States of America—the first African American to serve in that role—she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the United States and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. Along the way, she shooed us a few dance moves, crushed Carpool Karaoke, and raised two down-to-earth daughters under an unforgiving media glare.

Host: Mary and Douglas Johnson



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