



*For the Members and Friends of Zion Lutheran Church  
January 2021*

# *The* **Long Valley Lutheran**

## *Worship in January*

### **January 3, Second Sunday of Christmas**

Pre-recorded Service of Lessons and Carols  
No Sunday School or Adult Forum

### **January 10, Connect virtually with another congregation**

Trinity Lutheran Church, Dover-Worship 9.30AM

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmwbYuL5tCnSl8tZKoKCWXw>

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Succasunna—Worship 10AM

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzDtEppQbpKUwwVxTiR72lg>

Abiding Peace, Budd Lake—Worship at 10AM

<https://www.facebook.com/AbidingPeaceChurch/live/>

### **January 17, Second Sunday after Epiphany**

**9:00AM** Service of the Holy Communion

**10:00AM** Sunday School

**10:00AM** Adult Forum: “We are not alone! ELCA:  
The church in three expressions-congregation, synod,  
church wide.

### **January 24, Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**9.00AM** Service of the Word

**10.00AM** Sunday School

**10.00AM** Adult Forum: Council and Financial updates

### **January 31, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**9:00AM** Service of the Word

**10:00AM** Sunday School

**10:00AM** Adult Forum: Council and Financial updates.



**Zion Lutheran Church, 11 Schooley's Mountain Rd., Long Valley, NJ 07853**  
**phone:** (908) 876-3547; **e-mail:** zionlongvalley@gmail.com; **website:** zionlongvalley.org

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.  
Long Valley, NJ 07853  
Tel: (908) 876-3547  
Fax: (908) 876-3947

E-mail: [zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com)  
Website: [zionlongvalley.org](http://zionlongvalley.org)



Like us on Facebook at  
"Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley"

Pastor: Pastor Ingrid Wengert  
Cell: (215) 692-2091  
Email: [Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com](mailto:Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Sarah Scudese

Minister of Music: Marilyn Hibler

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

Indoor / Virtual : 9:00 AM  
Sunday School: 10:00 AM  
Adult Forum: 10:00 AM

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS/OFFICERS:**

President: Judy Bumpus  
Vice President: Martina Frommeyer  
Secretary: Cathleen Sullivan  
Finance: Larry Salvatore

**Members:**  
Harry Bullock  
Burt Horner  
Jim Rasmussen  
Becky Rasmussen  
Candice Snyder

**LONG VALLEY CHRISTIAN  
NURSERY SCHOOL**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.  
Long Valley, NJ 07853  
Tel: (908) 876-4115  
Fax: (908) 876-4959

E-Mail: [info@longvalleychristian.com](mailto:info@longvalleychristian.com)  
Website: [longvalleychristian.com](http://longvalleychristian.com)

LVCNS Director..... Meghan Bridge  
Bus. Administrator....JoAnn McElwaine

**Office Hours**

We have discontinued official office hours to observe current "social distancing" guidelines and yet continue to work out of the office as it makes sense. Please contact either of us if you wish to make an appointment to meet or talk:

**Parish Secretary Sarah**

available by phone or email during normal office hours  
**M-Fr from 9:00AM to 1PM.**

(908) 876-3547 or [zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com)

**Pastor Ingrid**

(215) 692-2091 or [ingridfathwengert@gmail.com](mailto:ingridfathwengert@gmail.com)

**In this issue:**

Worship.....pg. 1  
 Pastors Corner.....pg. 3  
**January Readings / Adult Forum.....pg. 4**  
 Finances/Stewardship.....pg. 5  
 Annual Meeting .....pg.6  
 Welcome New Members.....Pg.7  
 Social Ministry.....pgs. 8-10  
 Youth News.....pg. 11  
 Prayer Concerns.....Pg.12  
**January Birthdays.....pg. 12**

The deadline for the  
**February Newsletter is  
Friday February 19th**  
Articles may be sent to the church  
office via email at



[zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com), or left in Sarah  
Scudese's mail box in the Parish Center.  
**Your prompt attention to the deadline is  
greatly appreciated!**

# Pastor Ingrid's Corner

We are not alone: The ELCA ...by the numbers

Zion is part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), which is the seventh largest Christian church in the U.S. and the largest Lutheran church.

I plan to write regularly about the ELCA throughout the year as many parishioners are not overly familiar with it, which is true in many congregations. It's natural that we know much more about our congregation and the people with whom we interact, and less about the wider church of which we are a part, and without which we would not exist as a congregation. Indeed, the father of the Lutheran movement in America – The Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg - worked hard in the colonies to create a regional network for the sake of congregations, and for the training and oversight of pastors.

I'll begin with the big picture and look at the ELCA through facts and figures. As of December 2018, there were almost 3.4 million baptized members in 65 synods and in 9091 congregations across the nation. There were 17,214 leaders on the ELCA roster including 1,213 Ministers of Word and Service (e.g., deacons, chaplains, and deaconesses) and 16,001 Ministers of Word and Sacrament. In 2018, nearly 32 percent of clergy on the ELCA roster were women. In the ELCA's seven seminaries, the numbers of women and men preparing for ministry are about equal.

The ELCA offers opportunities for Lutheran education at every level and considers education as an important part of our calling. We offer quality education at every level through our institutions. In addition to the seven ELCA seminaries and two seminary extension centers, there are 26 colleges and universities, 50 or more lifelong learning programs, 14 high schools, 296 elementary schools, 1,573 early childhood programs, 145 camp and retreat centers serving 450,000 annually.

One of the ways we talk about church in the ELCA is that we are “a church in three expressions;” that is, congregation, synod, and church wide. Each expression is dependent on the others and each has a unique role. Together, our purpose, to put it very simply, is to share the gospel with our world or in the words of the ELCA's constitution “*The church is a people created by God in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world.*”

When it comes to being the church, we are not alone as individuals, or as a congregation.



**TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY**

We will meet for an online Bible study. Each Monday Pastor Ingrid will send out an email with the Readings and Zoom link (the link will remain the same). The readings will continue to be the appointed readings for Sunday, which is based on a 3-year cycle that spans the Old and New Testaments:

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/> .

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP**

Our community bereavement group, “Comfort my People” will meet again on **Thursday, January 28 at 2:00pm** The group meets for mutual support and insight on the fourth Thursday of each month. We welcome any and all from the church and surrounding community who have suffered loss of any kind to join us.

We will be using the book “*Grief One Day at A Time*” 365 Meditations to Help You Heal after Loss”

**JANUARY ADULT FORUM**

**Adult forums** will be prerecorded or live-streamed by Pastor Ingrid in December and will be 15–20 minute classes. Please check the “Adult Forum” playlist on Zion’s YouTube channel for prerecorded videos. If live stream, Adult Forum will air at **10:00AM**

**January 3: No Adult Forum**

**January 10: No Adult Forum**

**January 17** “*We are not alone! ELCA: The church in three expressions—congregation, Synod, Churchwide*” Led by Pastor Ingrid. Learn how Zion helps with Disasters, educating pastors, and creating hymnals-all without even knowing it.

**January 24 & 31:** “*Council & Financial Update*” Led by Council Leaders. Learn what happened at Zion when the pandemic happened last year, and how we are planning the 2021 budget.

**January 3** Genesis 1:1-5, Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:26-38, Mathew 1:18-23, Luke 2:8-20, Mathew 2:1-11, John:1-14

Appointed Worship Readings for January

<u>Worship Date</u>	<u>Old and New Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
January 3	see above		
January 10	Genesis 1:1-5, Acts 19:1-7	Psalm 29	Mark 1:4-11
January 17	1 Samuel 3:1-10	Psalm 139:1-6	John 1:43-51
January 24	Jonah 3:1-5,10	Psalm 62:5-12	Mark 1:14-20
January 31	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Psalm 111	Mark 1:21-28

# CHURCH COUNCIL

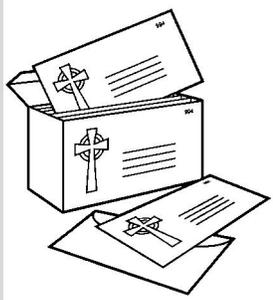


Thanks  
for Your  
Support!

We thank God, for your support through a difficult year!!

**Financial updates will be provided in the next edition of the Long Valley Lutheran.**

As always, if you have questions about Zion's financial matters, please contact **Larry Salvatore** at **[larrysal@embarqmail.com](mailto:larrysal@embarqmail.com)**



## *Offering Envelopes*

The **2021** offering envelopes are available for pick up at the office, during Sarah's regular hours. Please call ahead to make sure some one is there. If you would like a box and one has not been provided for you, please contact: **Barb Schulz** at **[barbaralschulz@gmail.com](mailto:barbaralschulz@gmail.com)** or **(201)787-7460** and she will get a box to you.

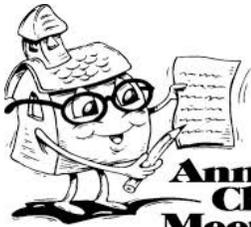
## *Simply Giving.....help keep our budget on track!*

If you cannot be at church then please consider using the **Simply Giving** service to keep your donations coming in on a periodic basis. You can set up a **Simply Giving** account by visiting **[www.zionlongvalley.org](http://www.zionlongvalley.org)** and following the link to the **Simply Giving** site. Check the Narthex this Sunday for the "**Simply Giving Markers**" that users can place in the collection plate on Sundays.

For help, please contact **Barb Schulz** at **[BarbaraLSchulz@gmail.com](mailto:BarbaraLSchulz@gmail.com)**.



## Congregational Annual Meeting Sunday February 7, 2021



**Annual  
Church  
Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Zion Lutheran congregation will convene on Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 10am in the sanctuary. At this point, we are planning a hybrid model for the meeting. That is, one may attend in person OR via a remote platform. We are still working out the details of remote participation. As soon as the council approves the guidelines and procedures, more information will be sent to you. As amended in April, New Jersey state law does allow nonprofit corporations to hold member meetings by means of remote communication, entirely, or in part.

Three new members will be elected to the Congregation council at the annual meeting. We thank Burt Horner and Candice Snyder for their service on the congregation council for the past two years, and Jance Denzler for stepping in for the past months to replace Cathleen Sullivan. Six additional members are in the middle of their two year terms and will continue on the council. We will also vote on the 2021 budget at the annual meeting. The congregation is the ultimate authority for the business decisions of the congregation. We hope you will note the annual meeting on your calendar and plan to attend either remotely or in person.

Financial information sessions will be held on the preceding two Sundays, January 24 and 31 at 10am- also with a hybrid model. We hope you will be able to join us either remotely or in person for one of these important sessions.

The annual report with the proposed 2021 budget and the reviews of committee work of 2020 will be available to members later in January. Thank you for looking it over and adding your voice to our congregation decision making.



## *Welcome our new members*

*We look forward to getting to know you better in the coming months and years.*

### **Sheila B.**

I am originally from Rhode Island, though my family lived in a few states because my Dad worked for IBM. I relocated to New Jersey after graduating from college in Philadelphia, and eventually moved to Long Valley in 2002. After the passing of my younger brother a few years ago, I attended Grief Share at a local church. Through Grief Share I reconnected with my faith and started looking for a church to join. While raised Catholic, I have always found the Lutheran church to be a warm friendly church, and Zion epitomizes this! I knew from the first time I attended worship at Zion that I had found a very special, loving, welcoming and giving church that would be my "new home" in God. I am so pleased to become part of this wonderful congregation.

### **Vanessa & Gerry, Ellie, Brayden Calleigh & Luca P.**

We moved to Califon in 2018 from Rockaway. We both were raised Catholic. Two of our kids attend Long Valley Christian Nursery School and love chapel so much we wanted to join too!

### **Barbara R**

I live in Hunterdon. While looking for an ELCA church, I attended other Lutheran churches in the area and have been attending Zion on and off for 6 years. I have met many wonderful members at services and by being active with Zion's quilting group and making Covid masks. When Pastor Ingrid Wengert came to Zion, I knew I found the correct church. Personally, I'm married, belong to a quilting guild, paint Norwegian Rosemaling, enjoy baking, and birding.



*Many thanks to  
Marilyn Hibler  
&  
Malainie Stoma  
who coordinated the decorating  
of our beautiful Narthex  
and Sanctuary for the  
Christmas season.*





## Social Ministry Update

*Lutherans engaging in advocacy ministry: Live your faith out loud!*

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully.



The *Super Bowl* will take place this year on **February 7, 2021**, and Zion will once again participate in the "**Souper Bowl of Caring**" that weekend. Donations of canned and other food items will benefit our local food pantry operated by the **Long Valley Community Assistance Program (LVCAP)**.

Collection bins for food items will be located in the narthex.

### Items needed for the LVCAP "Souper Bowl" collection in February

<u>Non perishable items</u>		<u>Toiletries &amp; Household items</u>
Coffee Tea Hot Chocolate Shelf Stable Milk Juice Oil Vinegar Mayo Flour/Sugar Bisquick Canned Chicken Canned Tuna Spam Canned Chili Canned Pastas Hearty Soups Maple Syrup	Pancake Syrup Grape & Strawberry Jelly Peanut Butter Cold Cereals Hot Cereals (Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, etc.) Canned Fruit Canned Vegetables Spaghetti Rice Stuffing Mix Instant Potatoes Beans (Canned & Dried)	Soap Toothbrushes / Toothpaste Shampoo / Conditioner Feminine Hygiene Products Paper Towels Napkins  <u>Baby Items</u> Infant Formula Baby Diapers Baby Food Baby Wipes



## Social Ministry Update

*Lutherans engaging in advocacy ministry: Live your faith out loud!*

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully.

## Long Valley Christmas Tree Lighting



For the 34th year we gathered to light the Community Tree. It was a cold night, but we still had a short but beautiful service for our tree lighting. Our wonderful *Zion Bell Choir* came and played Christmas carols accompanied by Marilyn on the organ. Pastor Ingrid and Mayor Matt Murello both said a few words.

## Zion's Giving Tree - Thank you Candice!

Thank you to all who donated gifts for the Giving Tree! We collected a total of 52 gifts for those in need! 22 for the Pajama Program and 30 for LVCAP. Thank you all for your generosity. A thank-you also to Thrivent Financial, and Judy Bumpus for applying for our Action Grant, for providing funding for 6 gifts! We know each gift will bring a smile to the recipient's face.





# Social Ministry Update

*Lutherans engaging in advocacy ministry: Live your faith out loud!*  
Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully.



## Our Shoeboxes were blessed on Sunday 15th December



After blessing our shoeboxes in church, they were delivered to the collection point by Zion coordinator Laura Hamilton ( Thank you Laura!!!). In these trying times we sent off 68 shoeboxes!!



Thanks also go to Aimee Pethacs & Kids4kindness Club for all the bags of art supplies they packed for the Shoeboxes!



© Can Stock Photo

To everyone who packed a shoebox! Your generosity is as always much appreciated!! There will be many happy faces.





## Attention Young Adults 18 to 30ish

Are you looking to meet new people and explore your faith in the new year? In place of a one weekend retreat, this year Cross Roads is offering a weekly small group devotional experience for the month of January. All young adults, ages 18-30ish, are invited to participate. We will meet via Zoom on Thursdays from 7 - 8 pm (Eastern time), beginning on Thursday, January 7. We hope these gatherings will be a time for reflection, conversation, and laughter at the beginning of 2021. [Sign up here](#)



## Wednesdays Away, (virtual) Coming Up at Cross Roads

A time of spiritual renewal one Wednesday a month, Wednesdays Away gathers virtually from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Zoom. Our time together includes prayer and conversation, led by a spiritual director and focusing on a different spiritual practice or theme each month. The cost is \$10 per gathering. These monthly retreats are open to all people interested in exploring new faith practices. Attend one or attend all—and be sure to invite friends to join you and register at [Cross Roads Retreat](#)

### Star Gifts: Words to Ponder All Year Long Dale Selover

**January 6, 2021**

On this day of Epiphany, we celebrate God's presence breaking through to shine as a light in the darkness. We will reflect upon the ways in which God's light shines in the darkness of our lives. Remembering the wise men who followed the star that led them to the Christ Child, we will each receive the gift of a star word, a word that will guide us and direct us throughout the year.



## On- going prayer concerns

*Andrea Aron  
 Will Beaumont  
 Zach Bumpus  
 Charlie Burd  
 Bob Clay  
 Courtney Derr  
 Donna East  
 Justin Fogerty  
 Carl Gerhard  
 Henry Hamill*

*Kirk Klein  
 David Kruetzer  
 Emily Mancuso  
 Cathy Mindel  
 Marilyn Nelson  
 Jim Newquist  
 Glenn Staada Jr.  
 June Sweeney  
 Bob Weis*



*Happy Birthday to all the  
 Special January Birthdays*

**3 Jenna Humcke  
 Elizabeth McCartney  
 Jaxen Trembly  
 Peter Trethaway**

**5 Jonathan Jan  
 Patrick Kaltenhauser  
 Blanca Naglestad**

**6 Stephen Davis**

**7 Wendy Crayon  
 Rick Johnston**

**8 Brett Prussack  
 Autumn McLaughlin**

**9 Juliette Muttart**

**13 Emmett Callow**

**14 Marianne Dise**

**16 Beth Johnson  
 Ryan Harris**

**18 Matthew Huber**

**19 James Carkuff Jr.  
 William Howell**

**20 Christiaan Bullock**

**21 Rob Johnson  
 Julia Bender**

**31 Logan Deitlein**