

Traditional Christmas Eve Service - 3 p.m.
Traditional Christmas Day Service - 9:30 a.m.
David Paul Britton, Saturday, December 26 - 5 p.m.
Sunday, December 27- No Service
Traditional New Year's Eve Service - 4 p.m.



Christ's Center for Excellence In Discipleship and Outreach December 24-26, 2020

Zion Lutheran Church, 510 W. Ivy, Bay City, Michigan 48706; 989-894-2611 Worship: Saturday 5:00pm; Sunday 9:30am

Steve Schilke, Intentional Interim Pastor (pastorsteve@zionbaycity.org) 26
Bobbie Upton, Music Administrator (bupton@zionbaycity.org)

[ulie Glumm, Principal (principal@zionbaycity.org)]

Website: www.zionbaycity.org (Church and School)
Church Office: secretary@zionbaycity.org (Church)
School Office: schoolsecretary@zionbaycity.org (School)

This weekend's bulletin is sponsored by Bonnie Goetz in loving memory of James, David and Daniel Goetz.

This Saturday, we welcome David Paul Britton, as our guest worship leader.

ACCESSING FACEBOOK STREAMING SERVICES. You can access the streaming service site at https://www.facebook.com/zionbaycity.

ACCESSING YOUTUBE STREAMING SERVICES. To access the service from YouTube, go to https://bit.ly/38TVsXb, select the PLAYLISTS tab, select Church to find the Live-Stream and hit SUBSCRIBE to add this site.

CHURCH SERVICES: Zion is continuing to conduct services at church as well as providing you the option of viewing our services on Facebook and/or YouTube. Members that don't have internet access are welcome to attend at church. Masks are mandatory and social distancing guidelines are being followed. If you aren't comfortable coming to church and you don't have email but would like to receive the weekly bulletin, please contact the church office and you will be added to our mailing list.

UPCOMING CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, December 28 – no in office hours Tuesday, December 29 – 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 30 – 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Thursday, December 31 – 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Friday, January 1 – Closed

When planning to visit, please call ahead to verify someone is in the office.

SUNDAY COMMUNION: We offer drive-up communion immediately following Sunday's service until 11 a.m. This is offered every Sunday except for the 5th weekend. Communion will be offered weather permitting and Pastor will announce during the service if there will be no communion for that week.

CONTRIBUTIONS: To limit office traffic, donations and contributions can be put through the door slot in the church office at our east entrance or you may go to https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/Zion9999549 to give online.

CALL UPDATE:

As you probably know, we have extended a call to Pastor Drew Gruenhagen from Wayne, MI. Pastor Drew and his wife Heather came to Zion for a visit Monday, Dec. 21st. He met with the Board of Elders, CAB, the teachers, as well as Bobbie Jo and Julie. Please continue to keep Pastor Drew and his family, as well as St. Michael Lutheran in Wayne, MI in your prayers as he searches for the Holy Spirit's guidance during this call process.

DATES TO REMEMBER...

LWML QUILTING will meet Monday, January 11, from 2-4 p.m.

SCRIP NEWS...

The next Scrip order will be place on January 4th. Please have your orders in to the church office by 3 p.m. that day.

YEAR END THANKSGIVING: God has blessed us for another year. Those blessings come in many different forms. As the family of God in this place, we ask you to consider a God-directed "Thank Offering" as we close the year 2020. Giving comes in the form of Time, Talents and Treasures; make sure you are giving all three. Our offerings have not kept up with our expenses; however, together we can make a positive difference.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT...

Our Christian life is one of being a steward of all of God's gifts. "The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy." Psalm 111:7

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented by Marilyn Jacobson and Gabe VanOchten in memory of their parents.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, GIFTS, AND MEMORIALS...

In memory of Ellen Hardy, from Rodger & Pam Talaga...\$20 to the New Phone System.

In thanks to our Lord and Savior for our recovery of COVID 19, from Carl & Ruth Doege...\$200 to the New Phone System.

A SENSE OF "AAAAHHHH"

Getting ready for the holiday distributions for Zion's food pantry takes hours of planning and coordination. It is a sense of relief when it is all over. It is a chance to reflect on the generosity of our congregation and the hours of service that allowed over 150 baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas to be distributed to community members.

A special thanks to our 7th and 8th graders, the holiday helping hands group, the Tuesday confirmation class, staff and leaders and also our food pantry team and friends for their dedication and service. Thanks also to all those who contributed to the project, either financially or with items in our pantry. Working together, they were able to accomplish this ministry, each in their own way, building upon the service of one another.

That chance to relax is short lived. Hunger and food insecurity continue throughout the year, often without the hoopla of the holidays to draw attention to it. Please keep this ministry in your prayers and for the action that our Food Pantry Team continues throughout the year. Blessings on your commitment.

~ Jeanne Schultz, Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network

Christmas Eve-3 p.m.

Readings: Luke 1:5-13, 16, 59-79; Luke 1: 26-38; Luke 2:1-7;

Luke 2:8-12; Luke 2:13-14, Matthew 2:1-11

Christmas Day-9:30 a.m.

Readings: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Galatians 4:4-7; John 1:1-14

This Saturday - December 26

Readings: Isaiah 61; 1 John 1; Galatians 4:1-7; Luke 2

Guest Worship Leader: David Paul Britton

New Year's Eve-4 p.m.

Readings: Romans 8:31b-39; Luke 12:35-40

Guest Pastor: Robert Roberts

Next Weekend - January 2-3

Readings: 1 Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52

AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER:

2019-2020 Boards, Committees & Voters' Minutes and Treasurer Reports

"Our Daily Bread" devotionals for December-February

NEW Portals of Prayer devotionals for January-March

NEW January 2021 Calendar of Events

NEW Valley Vision

Zion Lutheran Church Bay City Michigan Saturday, December 26, 2020 5 PM

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Gifts Are Meant To Be Opened!

The Message of Christ in Word and Song

Scripture of the Week: *Galatians 4: 6*

And because we are his sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, so now we can rightly speak of God as our dear Father.

(Congregation will join in reading the <u>bold-faced underlined portions</u>)
Isaiah 61 (selected verses) Let me tell you how happy God has made me! For he <u>has clothed me with garments of salvation and draped about me the robe of righteousness.</u> I am like a bridegroom in his wedding suit or a bride with her jewels. The Lord will show the nations of the world his justice; all will praise him.

I John 1 (selected verses) This is the message God has given us to pass on to you: that God is Light and in him is no darkness at all. So if we say we are his friends but go on living in spiritual darkness and sin, we are lying. But if we are living in the light of God's presence, just as Christ does, then we have wonderful fellowship and joy with each other, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from every sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he can be depended on to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong. And it is perfectly proper for God to do this for us because Christ died to wash away our sins.

Galatians 4: 1 – 7 But remember this, that if a father dies and leaves great wealth for his little son, that child is not much better off than a slave until he grows up, even though he actually owns everything his father had. He has to do what his guardians and managers tell him to until he reaches whatever age his father set. And that is the way it was with us before Christ came. We were slaves to Jewish laws and rituals, for we thought they could save us. But when the right time came, the time God decided on, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born as a Jew, to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law so that he could adopt us as his very own sons. And because we are his sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, so now we can rightly speak of God as our dear Father. Now we are no longer slaves but God's own sons. And since we are his sons, everything he has belongs to us, for that is the way God planned.

Luke 2 (selected verses) At that time Jesus' parents also offered their sacrifice for purification ... That day a man named Simeon, a Jerusalem resident, was in the Temple. He was a good man, very devout, filled with the Holy Spirit and constantly expecting the Messiah to come soon. For the Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen him-God's anointed King. The Holy Spirit had impelled him to go to the Temple that day; and so, when Mary and Joseph arrived to present the baby Jesus to the Lord in obedience to the law, Simeon was there and took the child in his arms, praising God. "Lord," he said, "now I can die content! For I have seen him as you promised me I would. I have seen the Savior you have given to the world. He is the Light that will shine upon the nations, and he will be the glory of your people Israel!" Joseph and Mary just stood there, marveling at what was being said about Jesus. Anna, a prophetess, was also there in the Temple that day. She was the daughter of Phanuel, of the Jewish tribe of Asher, and was very old, for she had been a widow for eighty-four years following seven years of marriage. She never left the Temple but stayed there night and day, worshiping God by praying and often fasting. She came along just as Simeon was talking with Mary and Joseph, and she also began thanking God and telling everyone in Jerusalem who had been awaiting the coming of the Savior that the Messiah had finally arrived.

Children's Message: A Garden of Treasure

Message: The Sermon That We Live

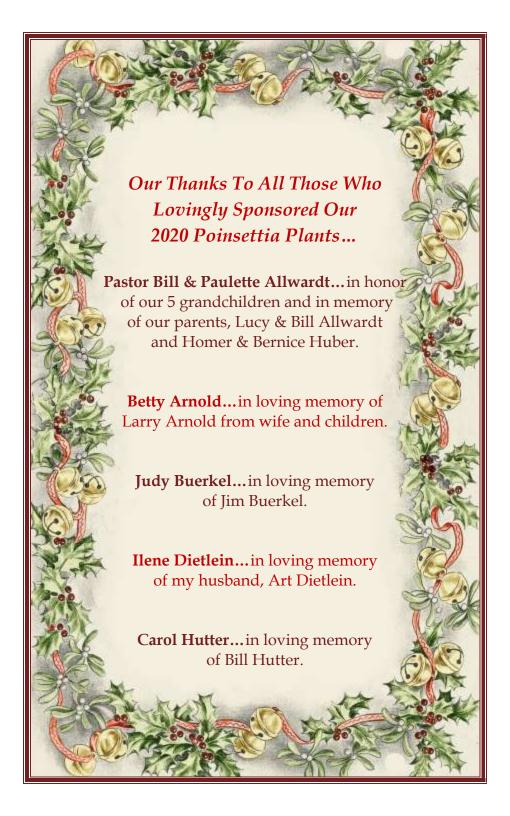
We Worship With Our Offerings

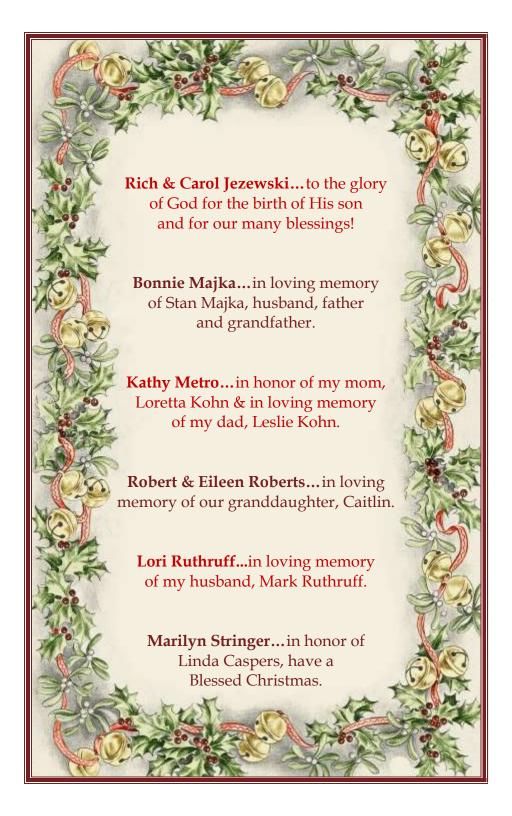
This weekend, in addition to our regular offerings received during worship, we are gathering a love offering to support David Paul Britton's ministry. Baskets for your donation will be at the exit following the service. Give cheerfully, as the Holy Spirit guides you. Mr. Britton's support comes from God's people as he serves our Lord and His Church. If you prefer a tax-deductible donation, make your check payable to: Peace Lutheran Church - MMME. Or, donate online through his website at www.davidpaulbritton.com

Guest Worship Leader

David Paul Britton

Music, Ministry & Mission Education (MMME)







Zion's Weekly Prayer Concerns

December 26-January 1, 2020

Those ill, hospitalized (or recently hospitalized), seeking medical treatment or with long term needs...

Bonnie Gwizdala Jonathan Lebsack Mike Lincoln Those with struggles who suffer silently

For those celebrating Anniversaries...

Scott & Melissa Srebinski celebrating 13 yrs. on December 29

For those celebrating Birthdays...

April Birch 12/26

Mary Riedy-12/26

Jamie Robishaw Sr.-12/26

Christine Weber-12/26

Terri Bailey-12/27

Susan Priem-12/27

Marion DeCatur-12/27

Rebecca Fournier-12/27

Sarah Lawrence-12/27

Gregg Glasser-12/28

Jeremy Haggitt-12/28

Brooke Lang-12/28

Brandon Stanley-12/28

Sophia Warren-12/28

Emily Wood-12/28

Norman Pfund-12/29

Jason Ricklefs-12/29

Cassie Cameron-12/30

Lucille Crook-12/30

Jim Schumann-12/30

Birthdays continued...

Scott Bitzer-12/31 Brenda Goodman-12/31 Sandy Griffith-12/31 Lowell Horneber-12/31 Sean Lambert-12/31 Wendy Chapman-1/1 Kaylee Knoll-1/1

Homebound/Nursing Home Patients (published once a month)...

Tilly Arnold Frank Batschke Ruth Batschke **Juanita Bauer** Richard Bauer Ardythe Biskupski **Judy Buerkel** Lucille Crook **Marion DeCatur** Sue Freudenburg Leonard Kaczorowski Patricia Keene **Betty Keith** Loretta Kohn Bruce Lockwood Lillian Lockwood **Dorothy Loessel** Della Marotzke Barbara Metz Richard Nagel Verna Rahn Mary Riedy Mary Ann Reinhardt Jane Royer **Nancy Tenny**

Nancy Trueblood