



#### Worship Services

#### Sundays

9:00am Traditional 10:45am Rebroadcast of Contemporary

#### Wednesdays

6:30pm Contemporary

#### Office Hours

Office remains closed. Parish Administrator available Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday from

#### **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!

# **Our Fall Programming**

### Worship Times, Sunday School, etc.

Friends in Christ at Mt Zion:

Thank you so much for being so understanding these last few months as we, like everyone else, figure out how to do things safely during a pandemic. It has been like swimming upstream in a molasses landslide since March, and we're still

struggling to make good and caring choices because – that's just how it is during a pandemic, I guess. Thank you for swimming with us, and if you got stuck anywhere along the way, please give us a call (414.258.0456) and we'll come back for you.



Back in March and again June, we made impossible decisions regarding worship and other ministries at Mt Zion.

These decisions were made with both limited knowledge and the inability to know how people would willingly comply with any measures we took. We still do not have enough knowledge, but a few big things have changed in the past few months:

We know more than we did back then, especially about how aerosols work,

The public has been educated on mask wearing and social distancing,

Cases of covid-19 have significantly fallen, even while testing increased, and

The death rate has significantly fallen as hospitals learn how to treat the disease (but is still much higher than the flu).

Moreover, in the last few months we have purchased a lot of equipment to continue improving our capabilities to provide simultaneous in person and online programming, especially in scenarios where people need to be able to communicate.

1 (Continued on next page)

## **Fall Programming Continued**

#### (cont. from pg. 1)

Is everything perfectly safe now? No. But those changes have greatly improved our ability to provide safe space. With all that in mind, I would like to announce our...

#### Fall Programming Schedule starting October 4!!!



**Worship** is returning to 8:30a and 10:45a on Sundays in the sanctuary with a Wednesday 6:30p Evening Prayer service in the Upper Room (see more details about evening prayer on page 6).



**Sunday school** is return with two times, 9:40a for preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 10:10a for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, with at home activities to compliment most lessons. Sunday school will be online only, but we will provide the Hearth Room as space for those in person to join everyone else online.



**Youth group** (6<sup>th</sup> grade through high school) is returning and expanding, with conversations every Sunday morning at 9:40a and activities every other week on Sunday evenings at 5:30p, alternating with confirmation. All youth activities will take place in the nursery due to the need for larger space.



**Adult forum** is returning at 9:40a and brown bag Bible study on Wednesdays will have an in person option for those who want it, both in the Upper Room.

Everything excluding Sunday school will be dual in person and online (or over the phone!). See the new few pages for location and access information.

As always during this pandemic, masks and social distancing are expected. Moreover – if anyone in your household is sick (even if it's not you), please stay home that day and join us online. It's OK to participate from a distance.

-Pastor Tyler

## Midday Prayer Continues

Join Pastor Tyler at <a href="mailto:fb.com/mtzion.pastor.3">fb.com/mtzion.pastor.3</a> for midday prayer every Monday and Thursday at approximately 12:12pm!

# **Accessing Our Programming At Home**

# **New Zoom Numbers Starting October 4**

If you've been joining us on Zoom, we'll be using new meeting numbers and passwords starting October 4. With so many new things starting up, it was easier to reset everything and start with a clean slate.

| Sundays  | Zoom Meeting ID  | Password |
|--|--|----------|
| 8:30a Traditional Service  | 841 6597 2335  | 12012    |
| (video on youtube.com/<br>mtzionlutheran)  | (audio only)   |          |
| <b>9:40a</b> Adult Faith Formation Upper Room  | 868 1235 8587  | 12012    |
| 9:40a Youth Faith Formation  | For more information contact                                 |          |
| Nursery  | youth@mtzionlutheran.org                                     |          |
| <b>9:40a</b> Preschool to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Faith Formation                          | For more information contact sundayschool@mtzionlutheran.org |          |
| Hearth Room  | <u>oarraayoorrooraarroraarrora</u>                           | 1        |
| <b>10:10a</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade to 5 <sup>th</sup>                                   | For more information contact                                 |          |
| Grade Faith Formation Hearth Room  | sundayschool@mtzionlutheran.org                              |          |
| 10:45a Upbeat Service  | 875 7308 8960  | 12012    |
| (video on youtube.com/<br>mtzionlutheran)  | (audio only)   |          |
| 5:30p Confirmation   | For more information contact                                 |          |
| (alternating Sundays)<br>Nursery   | pastor@mtzionlutheran.org                                    |          |
| 5:30p Youth Group  | For more information contact                                 |          |
| (alternating Sundays)<br>Nursery   | youth@mtzionlutheran.org                                     |          |
| Tuesdays   |  |          |
| <b>6:00p</b> Writer's Circle (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays)              | 829 2787 8248  | 12012    |
| Wednesdays   |  |          |
| <b>12:00p</b> Brown Bag Bible<br>Study & Prayer Warriors<br>Upper Room                   | 849 2489 7122  | 12012    |
| 6:30p Prayer Service   | 861 3409 5569  | 12012    |
| Upper Room or youtube.com/mtzionlutheran   | (both audio and video)                                       |          |
| Thursdays  |  |          |
| <b>5:00p</b> Beer & Bible<br>(1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays)<br>Upper Room | 835 6456 0076  | 12012    |

For committees, teams, and special events, watch your Grace Notes or contact the office at 414.258.0456 or <a href="mailto:parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org">parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org</a>.

## **Accessing Program Without Internet**

## No Screen? No Problem!

If you are in a home that doesn't have internet, that doesn't mean you can't participate. We have worked hard to make sure everyone who wants to worship with us or participate in anything at Mt. Zion can, even when they're stuck at home.



All you need to do is <u>call 312.626.6799</u>, enter the Zoom meeting number followed by the # sign, and then enter the password followed by the # sign. It's that simple! All the Zoom meeting numbers and passwords can be found on page 2.

When you're on the phone, you can mute and unmute yourself by pressing 6.

### **Grace Notes by Mail**

If you are in a home that doesn't have internet, and are unable or uncomfortable coming into church, we will be happy to mail the Grace Notes to you each week. Contact the office at 414.258.0456 to get on the list to receive Grace Notes at home if you aren't already.

#### **At Home Communion**

This pandemic has made everything difficult, not the least of which is communion. For all of you who may not have had communion in months, the first thing we want to say is this: Remember your baptism. Historically, communion was considered the one repeatable part of baptism, and your baptism is



an eternal promise. Cross your forehead and remind yourself that nothing, not even a pandemic, can get in the way of God's love for and God's promise to you.

If you have been unable, for one reason or another, to participate in communion during worship and would like to start receiving communion at home, please contact Pastor Tyler at 414.258.0456 or <a href="mailto:pastor@mtzionlutheran.org">pastor@mtzionlutheran.org</a>. We hope to be distributing home communion again soon. Please remember: anyone receiving home communion will be expected to maintain distancing and wear a mask as much as possible while communion ministers are visiting.

If you are in a facility that does not allow communion visitors and are not receiving regular calls of support and prayer from Mt Zion, please call Janet McCarthy at 414.339.7770 to get setup with a friend and prayer partner from church.

#### **Hints of Things to Come**

## **Get Ready for our Fall Stewardship Program**

Our stewardship appeal will be in October this year. We have a huge vision for Mt Zion in 2021, and we're hoping you'll continue being a part of that vision. Watch your mail, Grace Notes, and worship announcements for more details in the forthcoming weeks.

## We Have a Library!

We've always had a library, but for the past few years it's been hidden on the second floor. The library (temporarily or permanently – it hasn't been decided) has been moved to the Gathering Space to make it accessible to everyone. We have books and movies for all ages.



We hope this library will be particularly helpful for everyone who will be doubly stuck at home soon, as the pandemic continues and winter approaches. We hope to fill those days with words of faith and stories of hope from Scripture. All you have to do is borrow some of our resources.

If you're not coming to worship, please call 414.258.0456 on a weekday to make sure someone is in the building to let you in. We especially encourage families to visit between the end of the school day and 5:00p. Again, just call in advance to make sure someone is here to let you in.

# **New Online Giving and App Giving!**

In October, we'll be launching a new online giving platform. This platform is easier to use and has lower fees than our current provider, plus will be saving us a ton of money in other ways because the new service is an all-in-one solution for many church needs.

Plus – bonus! When we launch the new giving platform, there's also an app you can install on your phone so that you can give straight from any mobile device.

If you are setup with recurring giving on the current platform, we encourage you to switch your recurring payments to the new platform by the end of the year.

Watch the Grace Notes for more details to come.

### **Even More Things to Come**

# New Member Database and Volunteer Management

In late October, we'll be launching a new membership database. Our worship volunteers are already getting a taste of our new solution as we're beginning to test out its robust features. This new database will allow you to control your own information, see your giving, and manage when you're available to volunteer. On the backend, it'll allow us to track information more easily, make it so people can register for church events online, and even text you when worship is cancelled!

Watch the Grace Notes for more details to come.

## **Wednesday Evening Prayer**

Some people really love the Wednesday service. It's a good time to worship together. But it has felt like a disservice to our Sunday worshippers to not have live worship at 10:45a, even if it was necessary for a time to keep us safe. Even as the contemporary service returns to Sundays, we will continue to have a light service on Sundays.

This service may change in vision over time as it is slowly resurrected after being gone for a couple years, but for now this service will include:

Opportunities for reflection and contemplation

Limited music and singing

Conversational messages

Occasional creative opportunities

Communion

This service will feel different from Sunday morning worship. Which is perfectly good. If a service centered on singing and with limited opportunity for interaction or input isn't your taste, then give Wednesday evenings a try. This service will take place in the Upper Room and may have limited seating.

All that is subject to change as the service evolves.

#### **Got Masks?**

#### We Have Masks for You

Don't have a mask? That's OK. When you come to Mt Zion, we have free masks for you.

Need more masks? We have hundreds of masks to give away.

Need a mask that actually forms a near-complete seal around your face? We acquired our masks from the government and know that, on the scale of mask quality, they are better than most.

Have a neighbor that needs a mask? We got these masks to share.

Find your free masks at the Welcome Space right as you enter the building. For the health and safety of all, please take the entire packet of masks.

## Wearing a Mask



Your mask needs to come up snuggly over the tip of your nose and stretch down over your chin and stay put.

If your mask is too loose, come get new, snug fitting ones at church

OR...

#### Life Hack!

Reuse those old (but clean) nylon stockings! Cut a length of the leg to create a sleeve that slides over your mask.

This will help provide a snugger fit against the face!

#### Mt Zion Staff

**Pastor** 

The Reverend Tyler D. Rasmussen

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Office Volunteers

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Organist Cynthia Johnson

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Director of Choirs Patricia Eby

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Contemporary Worship Leader Kristin Sponcia

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Website Pat Campbell

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#### **Leadership Board**

Matt Czervionke, President

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Lynda Yanny, Vice President VP@mtzionlutheran.org **David Fohr, Treasurer** Treasurer@mtzionlutheran.org

Sara Bailey, Secretary secretary@mtzionlutheran.org

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