

December 5, 2021



Grace Notes

IN THIS ISSUE...

Underwear Results

[Page 2](#)

Live Nativity Friday

[Page 4](#)

Science Tidbits

[Page 10](#)

Stewardship Updates

[Page 11](#)

Save Chaney Correctional

[Page 12](#)



Christmas Has a Heart

An Alternative Christmas Market

Do you want your Christmas celebration to include gifts that bring service, hope and love to our neighbors in the Milwaukee Metropolitan area? Consider participating in Christmas Has a Heart 2021.

Part of the excitement of Christmas Has a Heart is the opportunity to meet the people involved in the mission, and you'll be able to meet and hear directly from Kids Matter, Outreach for Hope, Project Return, and Reformation Lutheran Church between worship services on December 12.

Read more about CHAH on page 9



mtzionlutheran.org

(414) 258-0456

parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org

12012 W North Ave

Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Socks and Underwear Results



During November, Mt Zion collected:
25 packages of underwear and
141 pairs of socks for
a total of 166 items collected!

Great job, everyone!

These items will greatly help Afghan refugees.
Thank you!

Coats Still Needed

We have been collecting many donations for Afghan refugees located at Fort McCoy. The staff have noticed several coats to help keep our new neighbors warm. Thank you for your generosity!

Tosa Cares would like to remind the community that winter coats are still needed for men, women, and children in the immediate Wauwatosa area.



Food Pantry Donations

Looking to drop off items for the Tosa Cares Food Pantry?

Volunteers are available to receive items:

Wednesday 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Saturdays 10:00am to 12:00pm



December 5 to December 12

<p>Sun Dec 5</p>	<p>8:30a Traditional Worship Service 9:40a Faith Formation Hour (Youth, Sunday School, Adult Forum) Meeting ID: 841 6597 2335 Passcode: 12012 10:45a Praise & Worship Service 5:00pm MZY Journey</p>	
<p>Mon Dec 6</p>	<p>7:00p NA 12-steps group Mt Zion Fellowship Hall</p>	
<p>Tues Dec 7</p>	<p>12:00p AA 12 Steps Meeting 6:30p Hands of AA 12-Step Meeting 7:00p Pets Helping People Fellowship Hall</p>	
<p>Wed Dec 8</p>	<p>12:00p Brown Bag Bible Study Meeting ID: 849 2489 7122 Passcode 12012 1:00p Prayer Warriors same Zoom info as Brown Bag 4:30p Staff Meeting 7:00p Stewardship Meeting</p>	
<p>Thurs Dec 9</p>	<p>6:30p Voices of Zion Rehearsal 7:30p Festival Bells Handbells Rehearsal</p>	
<p>Fri Dec 10</p>	<p>5:00p Live Nativity Front Lawn 7:00p ACA 12-Step Group [Rm 101] 7:30p Essay 12-Step Group Meeting Virtually</p>	
<p>Sat Dec 11</p>	<p>8:30a Women of Heart Bible Study on Zoom Meeting ID: 849 6940 2756 Passcode: 12012</p>	
<p>Sun Dec 12</p>	<p>8:30a Traditional Worship Service 9:30a Christmas Has a Heart Gathering Space 9:40a Faith Formation Hour (Adult Forum, Youth, Sunday School) 10:45a Praise and Worship Service</p>	

Live Nativity

Are you more of a Mary
or are you Shepherd?



Be whoever you'd like to be at our
Live Nativity!
Any age and any gender
can play any role.

Our Live Nativity is
Friday December 10,
and there's still time to sign up for a part!
Take an hour shift from 5-6p or 6-7p
and show off **your** best Shepherd, Joseph,
Mary, Angel, or Wise Person!

Email Katie Frederick or Pastor Tyler immediately to play a part.
Help us make our Live Nativity GREAT!!

CHRISTMAS HAS
A HEART 2021

Alternative Christmas Market

Sunday, December 12

9:30

Mt Zion's Christmas Pageant



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

5:30 Family Worship Service

10:00pm Candlelight Service



Call in to Worship

Listen to Worship
(and other events)
through Zoom

No internet? Call in through Zoom instead!
Call **312.626.6799**. When Zoom picks up...

- 1) Dial the **Meeting ID 841 6597 2335** and press #
- 2) 2) Press # again
- 3) Dial the **Passcode 12012** and press #

Adult Forum Schedule

12/5: Dialogues on Race

12/12: Christmas Has a Heart

12/19: Nativity Play (Sunday School)

Scripture Readings for December 5

Malachi 3:1-4 Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

Scripture Readings for December 12

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18



*The Power of
Prayer*

Prayer Warriors
Wednesdays
1:00pm

Weekly Prayers
<https://bit.ly/32G3wtk>

Sunday School Corner

I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving with friends and family alike. The next three weeks we will be studying **Isaiah 35, Advent** as we prepare for the coming of Christ! We will take these next few weeks to practice our "**Super Christmas**" pageant.

Please come to Faith Formation as usual from 9:40-10:40 a.m. this week (12/5/2021) and next week (12/12/2021). We also have a practice on Friday 12/10/2021 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. If your child does not yet have an assigned role, please let me know ASAP so I can get them a role.

See you all on Sunday!

Brenda Marciniak

Sunday School Superintendent



Christmas Books

Christmas books are now available in our library!

We have dozens of books for children ready to be checked out and read on a snowy winter night. Cozy up with a book which teaches the real meaning of Christmas. Find a new story about love and hope that will warm your heart on a cold December day.

Check out books by filling out the form on the clipboard.



Operation Christmas 2021

“Operation Christmas” provides Christmas gifts to children of Incarnation Lutheran Church’s children as well as other neighborhood children attending Incarnation’s “God Bless the Kids” weekly after school program that welcomes ALL children.

This year Incarnation is celebrating 104 years of service to Milwaukee families at the same corner of 15th & Keefe, concentrating on reaching out to its neighborhood by working for justice and making “faith” a verb. Although zip code 53206 is one of the poorest neighborhoods in the entire country, the people at Incarnation with God’s guidance have chosen to remain in this location and address the challenges of economic deprivation, job scarcity, violence and loss of hope. Their outreach has been successful in attracting neighborhood children to worship, and their afterschool tutoring program. One way that Incarnation Church witnesses to the hope that Jesus embodies is to provide a Christmas gift for each participating child through the “Operation Christmas” effort in cooperation with Mt. Zion.

There are fewer ornaments on the tree than normal this year. Just as Covid has restricted attendance at Mt. Zion and its programs, the Incarnation programs have also been restricted. Despite that, Incarnation continues to reach out in rebuilding the “God Bless the Kids” program and these students are taught that they are a valued part of God’s Kingdom.

A number of the children on the ornaments are in the 13 and up age group this year. We realize that this is a hard age to shop for, so if you have trouble selecting an item, keep in mind that gift cards are certainly acceptable.

The process is simple:

- Take an ornament from the tree in the narthex
- Purchase a gift for the age of the child you selected
- Wrap the gift and tape the identifying ornament to the gift
- Bring the gift to church and place it under the tree by **Sunday, Dec. 12.**



Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

- The Mt. Zion Outreach Team

Christmas Has a Heart

**Christmas Has a Heart
An Alternative Christmas Market
December 12, 2021 9:30 - 10:45 am**

"The point is not to stop giving, the point is to give to things that matter."

Please consider a gift to one or more of the following missions who bring service, hope and love to our neighbors in the Milwaukee Metropolitan area as an alternative gift from you and your family this Christmas season.

On Sunday, December 12, at the 8:30 worship service, hear a brief message from our guests as they are introduced and receive a blessing for the work they do in our community. Visit and offer encouragement to our guests during the Education Hour between services on December 12.

Read the mission statements and the needs of these organizations. Then donate a gift of hope and encouragement to one or more of the following:

**Kids Matter
Outreach for Hope
Project Return
Reformation Lutheran Church**



HOW TO DONATE

1. Please bring your completed shopping list to the Payment Center to make your contributions to these organization on the day of the market during the education hour on December 12.
2. Drop your completed shopping list and donation in the offering plate by December 26.
3. Mail your donation and shopping list to Mt. Zion.
4. Pay by credit card through our website mtzionlutheran.org. Please note in the memo box how you want to designate your donations. .

If you are writing a check, write one check made payable to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church - Christmas Has a Heart. Your shopping list will identify the designated donations and also note on the check memo line.

Sponsored by the Outreach Ministry Team of Mt Zion Lutheran Church

Science Tidbits

Seeing Red on Christmas Island

There are televisions at the Y where I work out, but I don't tune in to them. However, today a message flashed across one of the screens that piqued my interest. It concerned Christmas Island, an Australian territory in the Indian Ocean, and the strange behavior of its resident crustaceans.

Most of the 135-sq-km island is taken up by a national park that is home to a massive red crab population. These are terrestrial crustaceans that live on the forest floor, but every year they all participate in a spectacular migration to the sea for the purpose of procreation. Millions emerge in unison to join in the march, stopping road traffic and covering the ground in a thick carpet of red. As crabs go, these are large, with the carapace (body) measuring 5 inches wide.

The red crabs use gills to breathe and, to conserve body moisture, dig burrows and live underground by themselves for most of the year. However, at the beginning of the wet season in late fall, they abandon their burrows and journey en masse to the coast where they mate and the females spawn. This lasts about a week. What ensues on the shoreline is a battle royale, where the males stake out their territory, dig burrows and try to attract a female while fending off countless competitors.

The females release their eggs directly into the sea, where they immediately hatch upon contact with the water. This results in red swarms of larvae near the shoreline that are soon swept out to sea where they develop for 3-4 weeks. They then return to the shore to finish their development into young crabs, then make a 9-day trek to the center of the island, where they pretty much remain hidden for 4-5 years until they reach sexual maturity, whereupon they join the rest of the adults in the annual migration.

Roads are closed on the island to help the crabs in their quest to reach the sea. To drive amidst them is risky, since their shells are so tough they can puncture car tires. The migration is really something. I've included a link to a YouTube video that you can see if you read the online Grace Notes. Enjoy!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pq98xZuRjV0>

Steve Downs



Updates to 2022 Appeal

Updated Results from Annual Stewardship Appeal as of November 30

A whole-hearted thank you to all households who have submitted Statements of Intent (pledges) for 2022. We have continued to receive more pledges in the past two weeks, and we are grateful to all those who have pledged for 2022. Below are updated results as of November 30.

\$565

Our goal for 2022 is to increase giving by \$565 weekly or \$29,400 annually

74

2

Total of Statements of Intent (pledges) received as of Nov. 15.

6

Number of new pledgers included in the total above

\$416

\$32

Increase in weekly giving achieved so far.

74 %

.59%

The percentage of our goal that we have achieved so far.



There is still time to submit your Statement of Intent! Statement of Intent cards are available in each pew and are also on the Mt Zion website.

Save the Felmers Chaney Correctional Facility

Last Tuesday, November 30, I participated in one of the weekly prayer vigils held by MICAHA at the Felmers Chaney Correctional Facility, located at the apex of Locust and Fond du lac Avenue. The purpose of the Chaney pre-release facility is to prepare incarcerated men to have a successful re-entry into society upon their release from prison. The state of Wisconsin is thinking of closing this facility and building a facility in its place to house youthful offenders. MICAHA has no problem with a facility for youthful offenders in this area, but it questions if closing the Felmers Chaney facility is the best idea for all involved. MICAHA believes that there are many other locations in the Milwaukee County area where facilities could be built that could house youthful offenders where visits from relatives would still not be burdensome, and yet, the positive work that the Felmers Chaney is doing would continue. Tom Ertel has graciously agreed to pass around a MICAHA petition at Mt. Zion for members to sign. The petition states that we believe that the Felmers Chaney Correctional Facility should continue doing the work that it is successfully doing.



Felmers Chaney allows male prisoners to get connected to jobs, community services and housing resources while residing there. Felmers Chaney helps these men to make independent decisions about their future within a supportive environment. These men are allowed to participate in work, substance abuse education, mental health treatment, community service and other responsibilities. Felmers Chaney addresses these situations and in the process, substantially reduces recidivism. Without pre-release centers like Felmers Chaney, these men would be released, going from having every minute of the day dictated by someone else to being totally on their own and making every decision on their own without easing into that new life situation. This restorative justice of the pre-release centers does make a difference in making this transition less dramatic and troublesome. Our member, Jean Morack, has mentioned the work of Felmers Chaney in past Grace Notes and Pastor Rebey, pastor of Breaking the Chains Congregation, has informed us several weeks ago in Faith Formation Hour. Pastor Rebey leads Bible study and services within this facility. It should also be mentioned that several persons from this Felmers Chaney have become members of area Lutheran churches after being released.

Mt. Zion is a MICAHA member and Tom Ertel will be circulating a petition among our members to inform the State of Wisconsin that we want to keep Felmers Chaney, a facility with a proven record and a positive force in the lives of men getting ready to re-enter society. When you see Tom in church, please sign the petition he is carrying so that the voice of the people can be heard.

**Sincerely,
Jerry Roesch**

Dec. Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Isaiah B. 12/01	Troy M. 12/17	Eliot E. 12/20
Kevin B. 12/01	Maverick S. 12/18	Khloe L. 12/30
Lynn P. 12/01	Merry C. 12/18	DeAnn B. 12/30
Kenneth S. 12/01	Natalie B. 12/19	Susan M. 12/31
Kim M. 12/01	Lucy F. 12/20	Linda R. 12/31
Carolyn B. 12/05	Mark S. 12/21	Stella S. 12/31
Brad S. 12/06	Mick C. 12/21	Nancy D. 12/31
Lorre G. 12/08	Dudley R. 12/21	Angelina G. 12/31
Molly S. 12/08	Caroline W. 12/21	
Kelly R. 12/09	Forrest D. 12/21	
Kay C. 12/12	Tom C. 12/23	
Perrie D. 12/13	Liz C. 12/23	
Milt D. 12/13	Mark J. 12/24	
Ellie Y. 12/14	Jennifer J. 12/24	
Jeff D. 12/15	Carolyn B. 12/27	
Angella G. 12/16	Jean M. 12/28	
Emma B. 12/16	Heather T. 12/28	

Wedding Anniversaries

Jean and John M. 12/19
Michelle and Derrick G. 12/29

Prison Ministry Mailings

**Effective Dec 6, 2021,
all personal mail to WI inmates needs to be sent to:**









First and last name & DOC #
Correctional Facility (no abbreviations)
PO Box 189
Phoenix, MD 21131



Note legal/legible names and valid return address must be included.

Jean

Volunteer Schedule

	Dec. 5 Sunday 8:30 am	Dec. 5 Sunday 10:45am	Dec. 12 Sunday 8:30 am	Dec. 12 Sunday 10:45am	Dec. 19 Sunday 8:30 am	Dec. 19 Sunday 10:45am	Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 5:30 pm	Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 10:00 pm
AUDIO/ VISUAL	Erik Peterson and Abby Sumiec	Erik Peterson and Abby Sumiec	Dawn and Joe Driscoll	Dawn and Joe Driscoll	Katie & Tony Frederick/Janet McCarthy	Katie and Tony Frederick		
ACOLYTES							Isabella and Gabriella Riccaboni	
ALTAR CARE	Nancy DiGiacinto		Edie DiGiacinto		Elyn Steinke			
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Rich Robinson	Mavis Roesch	Lynda Yanny	Janet McCarthy	Donna Zarek	Lora Marheine		
COMMUNION DEACONS								
GREETERS	Margie and Kent Spicer	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Angela and James Riccaboni	
LECTORS	Gail Robinson	Janet McCarthy	Chris Kress		Joe Di Giacinto	Jeremy Goss		
USHERS	Debbie and Kurt Kleppek	Janet McCarthy	Rick Pearson	Dorothy Snead	Jim and Donna Zarek	Janet McCarthy		
OFFERING STEWARDS MONDAY	1st Week Tom Ertel, Jim Goetzinger, and Gary Goll		2ND WEEK: Tom & Pat Morgan / Brad & Pam Hext		3rd WEEK: Pete Peterson/ John Link/Roy Durrenberg			

Mt Zion Staff**Pastor**

The Reverend Tyler D. Rasmussen
pastor@mtzionlutheran.org

Maintenance

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Sunday School Superintendent

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Director of Music

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Leadership Board**Jeremy Goss, President**

president@mtzionlutheran.org

David Fohr, Treasurer

Treasurer@mtzionlutheran.org

Lynda Yanny, Vice President

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Janet McCarthy, Secretary

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Jean Morack

Katie Frederick

Wendi Hall

Mavis Roesch

Erik Peterson


Sherry Downs

Mike Marciniak

Joe Driscoll

**Church Office
Hours**

Monday — Friday 10:00am — 3:00pm
 Stop by in-person, call 414-258-0456,
 or email parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org




At Mt Zion we are

Joyfully growing
disciples in Christ


So that

Everyone we meet comes to
know themselves as a
reflection of God's image,
worthy of life and love



By prioritizing

Faith	Community
Hospitality	Justice



Joyfully Growing Disciples in Christ

12012 West North Avenue
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