

February 15 2026



Grace Notes

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Easter Vigil

We are still in need of volunteers if we're going to put on an Easter Vigil this year.

Pastor is looking for people - groups or individuals—who would be willing to volunteer to do a dramatic telling of one of the Old Testament stories. This could be in the form of a poem, skit, song, or even pre-recorded video presentation.

Please contact Pastor Tyler.

414-258-0456

If you're interested, but need resources, also contact Pastor Tyler.

Please do so by February 16.

***Easter Vigil will be on April 4th
from 7:00 to 8:30pm***

***Assuming we have enough
volunteers
to help with the vigil...***



mtzionlutheran.org

(414) 258-0456

parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org

12012 W North Ave

Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Lutherans Restoring Creation

Check out Lutherans Restoring Creation:

<https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/ways-to-integrate-creation-care-to-your-lenten-practices/>

Among other things, they have a Lenten "Fast for Earth" Calendar.

<https://resources.elca.org/racial-justice/dismantle-an-anti-white-supremacy-lenten-devotional/>

With Sympathy

We are sad to announce the passing of Michael Ausloos, who died last week.

Visitation
Saturday, March 7, 2026
9:30am - 11:30am
at Mt Zion

Memorial Service
Saturday, March 7, 2026
11:30am
at Mt Zion

Read his obituary here:

<https://www.beckerritter.com/obituaries/Michael-Thomas-Ausloos?obId=47185074>



March 2, 1990 to
February 1, 2026

February 15 to February 22

Sun Feb 15	9:30am Worship Service <u>Zoom ID:</u> 841 6597 2335 <u>Passcode:</u> 12012 10:40am Faith Formation Hour 5:00pm MZY Night
Mon Feb 16	6:00pm Leadership Board Meeting 7:00pm NA 12 Step Group Fellowship Hall
Tues Feb 17	Noon AA 12 Steps Meeting Room 211 6:30pm Troop 27 meeting Room 100 6:30pm Hands of AA 12-Step Meeting Upper Room
Wed Feb 18	12:00pm Ash Wednesday Service 4:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service
Thurs Feb 19	5:30pm Public Theology <i>Ferch's Craft House</i>
Friday Feb 20	12:00pm Mayfair AA Group 6:00pm ACA 12 Step Group Room 100
Sat Feb 21	
Sun Feb 22	9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Formation 5:00pm Confirmation
Next Week	Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers Begin Movie Marathon

Elevation Worship Concert

Do you like the band "Elevation Worship"? Some favorite hits of theirs include "Trust in God", "Praise", and "Come to the Altar".

They will be at Fiserv Forum on Saturday, February 28. Seats range in price from \$40 and up (before service fees and taxes).

When in the seating area on Ticketmaster, click the "unlock" button and enter the code "church" for a 25% discount on some seats (sadly, no discount on the cheapest seats).

Today's Volunteers

Altar Care: Liv and Dom Juel

Assisting Minister: Jenny Hawes

Lector: Erik Peterson

Communion, bread: Erik P.

Communion, wine: Lora Marheine, Mavis Roesch, Jenny H.

Ushers: Angela and James Riccaboni

Audio/Visual: Janet McCarthy and Gabby Riccaboni

Greeters: Bob and Nancy Schrap

Tellers: Roy Durrenberg and John Link

Access the Worship Volunteer Schedule at: bit.ly/4jEMCPf


PLEASE PRAY FOR...

*Those concerns and praises
in this week's prayer list*

<https://bit.ly/44C1w2B>

**Need Prayer?
Submit prayer requests:**

 pastor@mtzionlutheran.org  414-258-0456

 Fill out a prayer card at the Prayer Wall



Thursdays During Lent

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS



THURSDAYS

Feb 26,
March 5, 19, 36

No midweek service on
March 12

5:30 Dinner

**VOLUNTEER TO
COOK AND BRING
FOOD**

mtzionlutheran.org/sign-up

6:15 Worship

Holden Evening Prayer is a beloved service of song and prayer that has touched and moved many hearts around the world. Open your hearts as we gather together and lift our prayers up to God.

Worship Recap

Last Sunday in Pastor Tyler's sermon, he mentioned the 1963 Nonviolence Pledge from Birmingham during the Civil Rights Movement. Here's the original pledge card for you to read:

The 1963

Birmingham Civil Rights Movement

Ten Commandments

"I hereby pledge myself—my person and body—to the nonviolent movement, therefore I will keep the following ten commandments!"

1. MEDITATE daily on the teachings and life of Jesus.
2. 2. REMEMBER always that the nonviolent movement in Birmingham seeks justice and reconciliation—not victory.
3. 3. WALK and TALK in the manner of love, for God is love.
4. 4. PRAY daily to be used by God in order that all men might be free.
5. 5. SACRIFICE personal wishes in order that all men might be free.
6. 6. OBSERVE with both friend and foe the ordinary rules of courtesy.
7. 7. SEEK to perform regular service for others and for the world.
8. 8. REFRAIN from the violence of fist, tongue, or heart.
9. 9. STRIVE to be in good spiritual and bodily health.
10. 10. FOLLOW the directions of the movement and of the captain on a demonstration.

This pledge was taken by all demonstrators during the Birmingham civil rights movement of 1963.

Source: "The Foot Soldier Informer, February 2007-May 2007," p. 5

Who Walked So Others Could Run?

Last Sunday, Steve Downs spoke about the amazing rocks of Utah and the incredible National Parks which protect these awe-inspiring formations. Sometimes it's easy to see why we preserve such majestic landscapes from human impacts and "progress". Other places might take a little longer to understand why they're included in the National Park Service's care. Cultural and historical places sometimes seem trivial or controversial to keep in tact, but we preserve them so we can learn from them, be inspired by them, and safeguard stories for this and future generations. To phrase it a different way, we can go to National Parks to answer the question, "Who walked so others could run?"

One such story began along the picturesque confluence of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers in West Virginia. At Harpers Ferry National Historical Site, you can enter the very building where John Brown's Raid occurred. A devout Christian and staunch abolitionist, John Brown led a raid against the US armory in Harpers Ferry in a move aimed to abolish slavery. And his message was clear, he, a white man, would not tolerate the inhumane enslavement of Black friends and neighbors. While his violent attack would be quickly quelled and he would be put to death for treason, his abolitionist statement reverberated across the nation and some say sparked the Civil War.

John Brown walked so WEB Du Bois could run.

It was in Harpers Ferry, where the famous writer, W.E.B Du Bois chose to hold the first US meeting in 1906 of the Niagara Movement. The Niagara movement was aimed at obtaining equal civil rights for the African-American population and ending segregation. Du Bois chose to have the meeting in Harpers Ferry because of the legacy of John Brown and its significance to African-American history. The men and women who attended that meeting, "laid the cornerstone of the modern civil rights era." The Niagara Movement would give way to a new organization called The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or NAACP.

Du Bois ran so MLK could fly.

The NAACP, joined together with The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King throughout the 1960s to non-violently continue DuBois' work of securing the Civil rights of men and women through the nation. King helped cause that "good trouble" hoping society would change for the benefit of all, not unlike the trouble stirred up by John Brown one hundred years earlier.

Harpers Ferry preserves John Brown's story because it is part of our collective past. While his actions impacted several generations, it is just one story we can learn from, be inspired by, and safeguard for future generations. What other stories are out there? Who in our nation's history walked so you could run? What are you doing so that the next generation can fly? A visit to our national parks and historical sites just might provide some incredible insight and profound answers.

Jessica Monahan

MICAH Chapter 2

Mission of the Month – February 2026 – MICAH (Chapter 2)

As promised, here is more information about MICAH, Mt. Zion's Mission of the Month for February.

MICAH has a 38 year history of working for justice. MICAH was formed in the 1980's by people working with the Hunger Task Force who wanted to make sure that community food banks were well stocked and students got a breakfast at school. Seven congregations, including Incarnation and Cross Lutheran Churches, two Catholic churches and three Baptist churches, determined that this caring service needed to expand its view to raise people out of poverty. The congregations decided to work together and in 1987, were trained by Gamaliel's network in Chicago to focus on the underlying community issues of mass incarceration and low academic achievement in schools. The first task forces to be created to face these challenges were, the Jobs and Economics Task Force, the Education Task Force and the Transformational Justice Task Force.

Within a short time, the number of involved congregations had increased to include others, including Reformation Lutheran Church, whose pastor at the time was Mick Roschke, a close friend of Mt. Zion. The Banking Campaign was MICAH's first venture. It stood up to 17 banking institutions and had them agree to actively address discriminatory lending practices, which over the years had become the norm in the industry. As a result, over \$700Million in loans were given to thousands of inner city home buyers, who had previously been denied.

In 2005, MICAH worked to get Treatment Alternative and Diversionary programs passed in the legislature so that non-violent offenders could be sent to drug and mental health treatment, rather than jail or prison. In 2024, MICAH worked to get \$200,000 funding for Milwaukee County to add a full time mental health treatment court coordinator, so that the county would have a full scale court.

In 2014, MICAH had success in creating transit lines to business parks in New Berlin, Menomonee Falls and Germantown, so that it was possible for persons without cars to obtain transportation to jobs which made their families and the whole community more stable.

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MICAH Chapter 2

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In 2019, MICAH was instrumental in forming COLE (Coalition on Lead Emergency) which addressed the massive health crisis of lead-poisoned children. COLE secured budget increases for educating birthing mothers about the dangers of lead, as well as equipping those birthing mothers with water pitchers which filtered out lead in their water. On an on-going project, in 2022, MICAH obtained \$26million from the American Rescue Plan to start to replace the lead laterals in older homes.

In 2021, as the pandemic arose, MICAH reached out to work for health equity. MICAH worked with partners so that St. Joseph's Hospital on Burleigh remained open despite Ascension's wish to close it due to limited profit. In 2023, MICAH also worked with partners to stop the complete closing of Ascension's St. Francis facility.

In 2022, MICAH was able to find an alternate site for the juvenile correctional facility, so that the Felmers Chaney Correctional Center could continue being successful as a site for those who are being readied for release into society. The ELCA's Breaking the Chains Congregation is currently flourishing at Felmers Chaney. You will often see men from Breaking the Chains at Mt. Zion during the week as they volunteer to do many jobs around our facilities. (You can join the BTC congregation on Saturday nights at 6:30PM for their worship service on Zoom. The zoom code is 867-1472-5304, with a 258003 entry code.

These are just the highlights of MICAH's work over the years as we work for justice and mercy.

Again, your support is appreciated!

Jerry Roesch

Steve's Science Tidbits

Notes On Southern Utah

This week I'm presenting a forum on southern Utah, so I thought it appropriate to present several facts, suggestions and bits of information for those of you contemplating a visit to this stunning area of the U.S. It's an area south of Hwy 70, bounded by Hwy 15 on the west, the Colorado border on the east and the Arizona border on the south.

My talk focuses on God's creative beauty—a stunning tapestry of jaw-dropping scenery, present around every bend, seemingly in every nook and cranny. It's a serious photographer's paradise, yet even this amateur's iphone camera captures amazing, unforgettable shots. Sherry and I have visited the area 10 times or so. Each experience is uplifting and unforgettable; a boon to the soul, providing both physical and mental enrichment.

Visiting takes some planning. Most tourists arrive in summer, when the heat may be challenging. Ample water and sunscreen are a must, but one of the most impactful considerations is footwear. Much of the terrain is rocky and/or uneven, so unless you are sticking to paved walkways in the national parks, good hiking shoes/boots with substantial traction are a must. This allows you to reach areas you otherwise wouldn't be able to reach due to steep inclines, loose gravel, rocks or wet, slippery areas. Quite a few years ago, Sherry and I swallowed our pride and morphed from bipeds into quadrupeds (translation: we bought hiking poles). It greatly increases one's hiking confidence. There are countless times where the extra support has prevented nasty falls.

Despite careful planning, there can be unfortunate, unexpected weather snafus. A sudden rainstorm can ruin carefully planned excursions. There are many attractions that are off the beaten (paved) path; a quick, violent storm can wash out roads and make these routes impassable (see pic). Moreover, they can turn slot canyons into death traps.

Even with good weather, some off roads can be challenging to drive on, requiring high clearance vehicles. If you're driving to one of these areas with your own vehicle, you can decide whether it is appropriate for local off roads; you may get good info at national park visitor centers or, better yet, local BLM (Bureau of Land Management) offices that are sprinkled throughout the area. The drive to Moab, UT (in the closest northeast part of this area) is 1400 mi or about 20 hrs by car. If you prefer to fly (the best area major airports are Phoenix and Las Vegas), you'll be renting a car. If you plan on visiting some of these off-road attractions, the rental companies often have strict restrictions to consider.

There are plenty of areas in southern Utah that are user friendly, easily visited with few physical restrictions (ie, the five great national parks). But there are also many areas that aren't for everyone, requiring hiking beyond your comfort zone. I will highlight one—click on the picture or the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VokCwo8kQQw>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Mickie R. 2/1	Dean S. 2/9	Harper P. 2/20
Dave F. 2/1	Kate W. 2/9	Michael F. 2/20
Robert J. 2/1	Erica M. 2/11	Margie S. 2/21
Debbie F. 2/2	Gwen A. 2/12	Yvonne K. 2/21
RJ J. 2/2	Dick H. 2/13	Logan W. 2/22
Mara M. 2/2	James H. 2/15	Brian W. 2/24
Loretta B. 2/2	Lynn K. 2/16	Alex H. 2/24
Nancy K. 2/2	Frank B. 2/17	Garret J. 2/25
Natasha P. 2/3	Vince C. 2/17	Joe D. 2/25
Sherry D. 2/6	Jim S. 2/19	Vince C. 2/26
Eliza F. 2/6		Pat G. 2/28

Wedding Anniversaries

Tina and Jim K. 2/17
Andrew and Kelsey F. 2/23

Sunset in Maui



Here's a picture of Suzy Morgan, Tom Morgan and Mary and Douglas Johnson taken at sunset on Maui.

Where are you connecting with other Mt Zion members? Send pictures or fun stories from your workouts, game nights, or lunch meets ups with us!

Parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org

socialmedia@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

Mt Zion Staff

Pastor
The Reverend Tyler D. Rasmussen
pastor@mtzionlutheran.org

Parish Administrator
Jess Monahan
parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org

**Director of Choirs
and Contemporary Music**
Danielle Lawson
choirs@mtzionlutheran.org

Director of Traditional Music
Mark Schroeter
music@mtzionlutheran.org

Office Volunteers
reception@mtzionlutheran.org

Worship Volunteer Coordinator
Nancy Di Giacinto (volunteer)
Janet McCarthy (volunteer)
worshipvol@mtzionlutheran.org

Maintenance
Jasmine Pruitt
maintenance@mtzionlutheran.org

Sunday School Superintendent
Brenda Marciniak (volunteer)
sundayschool@mtzionlutheran.org

Social Media
Douglas Johnson (volunteer)
socialmedia@mtzionlutheran.org

Website
website@mtzionlutheran.org

Leadership Board

Anna Kissel, President
president@mtzionlutheran.org

Kevin Burke, Vice President
vp@mtzionlutheran.org

Joe Di Giacinto, Treasurer
treasurer@mtzionlutheran.org

Mike Marciniak, Secretary
boardsecretary@mtzionlutheran.org

Chasity Brimeyer
Andy Johnston

Dave Nelson

Linda Havlicek
Bob Young



**Church Office
Hours**

Monday — Friday 10:00am — 3:00pm

Stop by in-person, call 414-258-0456,
or email parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org

12012 West North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
(414) 258-0456
parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org



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