



# The PEAL of Zion

Newsletter of Zion UMC: Batavia  
March 2024

Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo  
262-225-2316

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I greet you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I am Pastor Tshishinen C. Mpoyo, a new pastor in this congregation, and my appointment at Zion UMC is starting on March first, 2024. I am looking forward to serving God in this community of faith, trusting that He will lead us through this new and unknown territory. We just need to trust our Lord Jesus and believe in His promises.

I want to thank the church leadership for the introductory meeting we had here that went well, and this is the time to get to know each other. I want to know you individually, pray with you, and hear from you about what you think about our church. I will always be available to you by phone at 262-225-2316, via email at [Chingejmpoyo@gmail.com](mailto:Chingejmpoyo@gmail.com), and in person during tentative office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9am to 2pm until we figure out what will work best for all of us here. I sincerely want to know of any pastoral needs you have in the congregation in order to serve God's people well.

At the time you receive this newsletter, the Lenten season is more than halfway through. We began the season with the forty-day journey of Jesus to the cross. Lent started on Ash Wednesday and ends on Good Friday, the day of Jesus' crucifixion. So Jesus became the Passover lamb and became our reminder of the goodness of God. Let us also remember that after Ash Wednesday, we have Palm Sunday / Passion of Christ that introduces the Holy Week.

During Holy Week, we will have a worship service on Maundy Thursday. We remember the day our Lord celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples and friends. Then following Good Friday, this is the day our Lord faced death. He was bruised, He bled, but He forgave, He loved his enemies, He came to heal the world, the prince of peace, He is our true God, but He was crucified, it was finished. Then came Holy Saturday; the world was dark, the tomb was sealed, the disciples were afraid, the Messiah was dead, the sign of defeat was everywhere, all was quiet, it was a day of sadness and sorrow, a day of mourning, despair was all over the disciples' faces.

Then comes Easter Sunday – Easter, He is alive! Easter is the fulfilled prophecy of the Messiah who was persecuted, died for our sins, and rose on the third day. According to the New Testament, Easter is three days after the death of Jesus on the cross. Brothers and sisters in Christ, Easter is a very significant time within Christianity and is the foundation of the Christian faith. Jesus, the Son of the living God, fulfilled prophecy and through his death, has given the gift of eternal life in heaven to those who believe in his death and resurrection. He is alive forever! Amen!

Read the entire Biblical account of Resurrection Day in Matthew 28, Mark 16, and Luke 24.

To God be the glory, Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo

## **Ecumenical Lenten Series all services at 6:30**

March 6th Nail @ New Horizon UCC Boltonville  
March 13th Spear @ St Paul's Ev Lutheran Random Lake  
March 20th Cross @ St John's UCC Random Lake



### **Zion UMC's Annual Fish Fry**



Zion UMC's Annual Fish Fry Friday, March 15th, 4:30 until 7 PM. Please come and join us with family and friends. This is a way Zion UMC can do community outreach. We are offering deep fried breaded shrimp this year. You can pick one of three meal selections on the ticket for \$16.00. Also, consider helping to work on that evening serving our community of faith. Any questions, please contact Larry Huiras 920-960-4006.

#### **Drive-thru carry outs or Dine In Zion United Methodist Church**

N1667 Hwy 28, Batavia

Friday, March 15, 2024 4:30 - 7:00 pm

**\$16.00**

3 piece Deep Fried Cod , 8 piece Shrimp

2 piece Deep Fried Cod with 4 piece Shrimp

### **CEMETERY NEWS**

With early spring-like weather and Easter just a few weeks away, holiday decorations are fading fast and not looking good. It is time to remove your wreaths and other holiday decorations from the cemetery.

### **SMILE! WE NEED YOUR PHOTO!**

As we welcome Pastor Tshishinen to Zion, we want to make it as easy as possible for her to get to know us. We will be posting our photos, with names, to help her learn who is who at Zion. This will help all of us to put names with faces! Please bring a family photo with your names noted, so we can add it to the kiosk. It needs to be 5" x 7" or smaller. Any photo will do. We just want to see who you are!

## Birthdays

### Greeters

- Mar 3 Paul & Angie Hartmann  
Mar 10 Laryry Kumrow & Marcy Sheets  
Mar 17 Jay Lenderts & Bob Hartmann  
Mar 24 Troy, Lottie, & Lincoln Schill  
Mar 31 Neal & Barb LaFleur

### Liturgists

- Mar 3 Terri Yoho  
Mar 10 Candy McChain  
Mar 17 Norb Kraemer  
Mar 24 Larry Huiras  
Mar 31 Val Kilburn  
April 7 Joanie Helmer  
April 14 Wendy Bemis

### Greeters & Liturgists

If you are unable to greet or read on your Sunday please try to switch with others or contact the office as early as possible.

- March 1 ~ Manny McChain  
2 ~ JoAnne Arndt  
3 ~ Kaye Heup  
Jill Mueller  
5 ~ Sharon Krahn  
6 ~ Keith Chipman  
Patti Degnitz  
Monroe Edwards  
8 ~ Barb La Fleur  
11 ~ Margaret Bemis  
Betty Hilbelink  
12 ~ Ernie Hilbelink  
15 ~ Muriel Degnitz  
17 ~ Tom Dekker  
19 ~ Joanie Hellmer  
21 ~ Samantha Dahm  
22 ~ Nicholas Leisring  
23 ~ Gwen Heimerman  
Nadine Huiras  
25 ~ Harleigh Arndt  
26 ~ Laila DeRuyter  
28 ~ Savanna Elsbury  
Lottie Schill  
30 ~ Curtis Arndt  
31 ~ Dana Dahm  
David Eisentraut

## Anniversaries

March 23 ~ Matt & Traci Neuenfeld



Please let the office know if we missed your anniversary or birthday? Month, day, and year (which we never publish) helps when putting into our system.

# GOT MILK?

Zion is still supplying all of the funds for the purchase of milk through the Food Pantry. The demand is UP! Thank you to all who help fill this need. Please mail milk fund donations to Zion.

The Interfaith Food Pantry is located at 310 Center St, Adell, WI  
Call the Food Pantry at 920-447-2293 for appointment.



## TELLING THE STORIES

On a recent Saturday, I spent an entire day at Concordia University judging National History Day. Judges were charged with determining which entries would make it to the state competition and on to nationals. There were over 200 students in this regional competition, and they had worked very, very hard to get there.

It was heart-warming to see their enthusiasm and excitement. While some were nervous, it was impressive to see how strongly they felt about the worthiness of their topic and how important they felt it was for the story to be told. Their topics focused on events that changed the course of history—some big, some in small ways, but all important.

Without storytelling, we would have no historical records. Without sharing those stories, the history loses meaning. If no one tells the stories, the memory dies! This is why it is so critically important to teach our kids about the Bible, to share the stories, and help them to know the stories.

With the Easter season upon us, we are telling the story of Jesus and his resurrection. Because we know the Easter story, we are familiar with John 3:16, *For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.* Only by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, can we keep the memory alive. The story needs to be told. To know it is to live it, so share the story! Spread the Good News!

Terri Yoho, Lay Leader

**Secretary's Report**  
**Zion UMC Trustees**  
**February 15, 2024**

Present: Pastor Gail, Teri Treichel, Dick Bemis Jr, Jessie Pomeroy, Ray Hartmann, Barb LaFleur, Stacy Edwards, Dion Degnitz  
Opening prayer: Lead by Pastor Gail  
Secretary's Report: Approved  
Treasurer's Report: Approved

We elected new officers because of lack of attendance in January.

Officers are as follows:

Chairperson: Ray Hartmann

Vice President: Barb LaFleur

Secretary: Dion Degnitz

Treasurer: We will review Mark's report, when provided, as a team

Old Business:

Classroom outlets – Ray will call Relative Electric, it also has been brought to our attention that there are a couple bad kitchen outlets.

Fire Extinguisher Inspection is done.

The Fire Department ladder did not work for the light topper. Still needs to be done when weather warms.

The winter temperature alarm has been updated.

Snow shoveling, Bill Yoho, Dick Bemis Jr.-looking for assistance via Peal

New Business

The Pastor has gotten a new computer. There will be some updating on other computers. This is being done by Random Lake PC.

The Pastor will be getting a new office chair. Waiting until she gets here for fitting and approval. Pastor starts March 1<sup>st</sup> – first pulpit March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Dick Bemis Jr. will call for an estimate on exterior door weather seal.

Light bulb by front door is burned out.

Rain gutter loose by the bell tower. We will check this at March meeting.

Next meeting March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dion Degnitz

## February 20, 2024 Council Meeting

Present: Linda Gerlach, Larry Huiras, Valarie Kilburn, Barb LaFleur, Gwen Heimerman, Bill Yoho, Stacy Hron, Terri Yoho, Wendy Bemis

Present via ZOOM: Mark Leibham, Rev. Gail Mitchell

Opened meeting with prayer.

Mark -Finance: Income for January was \$10,157.47. Expenses were \$8,931.91. Net income of \$1,225.57. This net would not occur if Zion had full time Pastor expenses of housing, etc. Foundation balances are up. Parsonage account is not high enough yet to pull from for housing expenses. If any member uses Thrivent, Zion UMC is now set up as a designee for Thrivent Dollars. Contact Mark or Linda for more information. Fund Balance report is done. Auditing committee can audit Zion's financials when they are ready.

Larry- Circuit 12- Attended a Laity meeting recently that discussed accountable leadership board. Zion UMC is now the largest Methodist Congregation in Sheboygan County. Larry will be serving meals at the Food Bank February 27<sup>th</sup> with Circuit 12. Interest was raised for having a team from Zion serve at the Food Bank.

DOC- Fish Fry planning is going well. This year's menu will include an option for shrimp. Tickets are \$16. Contact Larry for tickets or purchase before and after church. Fish Fry will be March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Barb- Trustees- Neal Yoho checked and replaced several outlets. Also checked light pole covers. Winter alarm is set up in kitchen. Fire extinguisher inspection is complete. Are looking into weather stripping the front door. Gutters will be fixed when weather improves.

Wendy- Worship- Will meet with Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo to discuss Easter services and plans. Looking for a music group for April. Communion will be March 10 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday) as that will be Rev. Mpoyo's first Sunday at Zion.

Stacy- SPRC- There will be a welcome celebration after church on March 10<sup>th</sup> with cake and treats. Will send out an email invite to the congregation week before. Request was made to communicate with SPRC if a guest speaker will be at Zion so they can ensure payment and pulpit supply. Special Thanks to Rev. Gail for leading Zion through March 3<sup>rd</sup>. New computers for Jay and Rev. Mpoyo will be at Zion Friday.

Terri- Lay Leader- Meets with Rev. Gail regularly. Decorated the altar for Lent.

Rev. Gail- 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical service of Lent is at Zion on the 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm

Linda- Chair- Working on an updated addresses and phone directory for the congregation. Not doing the pictorial directory at this time but will revisit it in the near future.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie Kilburn

## March 2024 Upcoming Events at Zion

- March 10 First Sunday with Rev Mpoyo – communion
- March 15 Fish Fry 4:30 – 7:00
- March 19 Ad Council meeting 6:30
- March 21 Trustee meeting 6:30
- March 24 Palm Sunday - Noisy Can
- March 26 DOC meeting 6:30
- March 28 Maundy Thursday service 6:30
- March 29 Good Friday service 6:30
- March 31 Easter Sunday services
  - sunrise service
  - breakfast
  - 10:15 service