

entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Remy, Wendy, Robert, Paul, Tom, Jack, Alan, Phyllis, Brian, Sharon, Bruce, Susan, Nya, Linda, Donna, Brian, Jim, Lynnette, Al, Glenn, Brock, Cathy, Katana, Brian, David and Kolby;

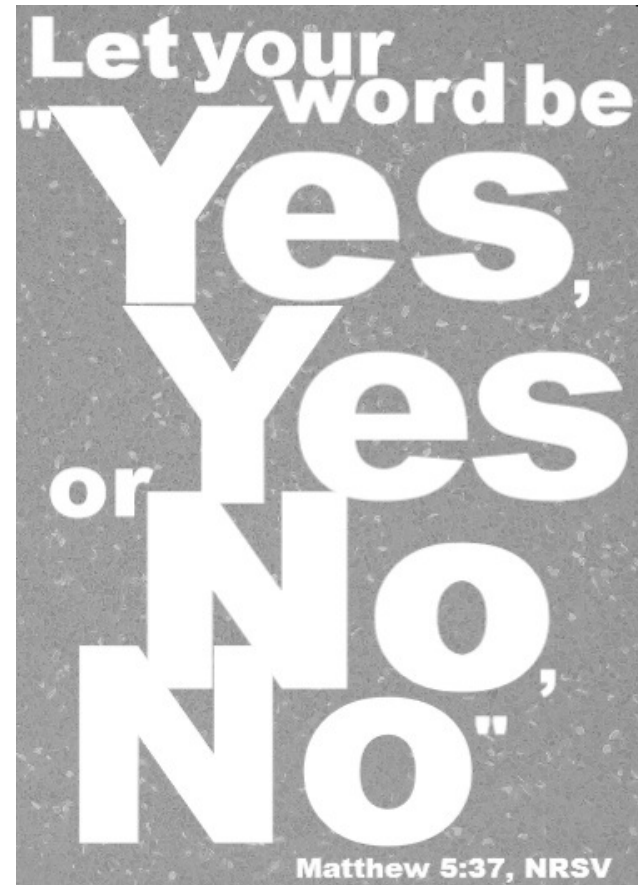
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. Feb. 13</u>	2:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	6:00 PM	Pathfinders
<u>Tues. Feb. 14</u>	ZIONEWS INFO DUE	
	7:00 AM	Rotary
	9:30 AM	Chair Yoga
	6:30 PM	Sparks
<u>Wed. Feb. 15</u>	9:00 AM	Quilters
	1:00 PM	Avon Menn. Prayer Group
	7:00 PM	Congregational Council Mtg
<u>Thurs. Feb. 16</u>	12:00 Noon	Bible Study
	2:00 PM	Worship at Knollcrest
	4:15 PM	Confirmation Class
	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
<u>Fri. Feb. 17</u>	1:00 PM	Avon Menn. Men's Group
<u>Sun. Feb. 12</u>	10:00 AM	Worship
	10:00 AM	Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Tom & Joanne Cosstick **Reader:** Stephen Fischer
Usher Captain: Steve Lamont Team **Counter:** Tom Cosstick



Sixth Sunday After Epiphany
February 12, 2023

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

Cell: 519-274-1300

email: zionlc@golden.net

website: www.zionstratford.com

People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Sandra Mogensen

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Epiphany 6

February 12, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 806: “O God, My Faithful God”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms: 119:1-8

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

Children’s Message

Sermon:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/YWRLOhkS3Ak?feature=share>

Hymn 603: “God, When Human Bonds Are Broken”

Apostles’ Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

Page 128

MEAL

Offertory Prayer

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The Great Thanksgiving

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Communion Prayer

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The Lord’s Prayer

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Distribution of Holy Communion

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

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SENDING

Blessing

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Hymn 818: “O Master, Let Me Walk with You”

Dismissal

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Postlude

Zion Lutheran Church welcomes our visitors and guests. We are pleased that you have come to join us in the worship of our God of grace and love. May you be strengthened and uplifted in our time together. Plan to be with us, again, at your earliest opportunity.

All people of faith and those who seek faith are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This morning, we will be distributing the Lord’s Supper in a continuous fashion. Trays holding individual cups of wine are on stands at either side of Pastor Jeff for those wishing to receive wine. The ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the centre aisle.

Please note that masks are “no longer mandatory”; but, continuing to wear a mask is strongly recommended. Our ropes for “limited” capacity have come down; but, we do encourage “social distancing” wherever possible. “Pre-registration” for worship is no longer required.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: A reminder that Sunday School will end at 11:15 A.M. We ask that parents/guardians wait until that time before coming for your children.

EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY & SYRIA APPEAL: On February 6th, during the early hours of the morning, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit the border region, with a second major earthquake hitting Turkey again just hours later. Aftershocks have been felt across the region since.

CLWR and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada are calling on Canadians to pray for those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and to give generously to support their urgent humanitarian needs.

Key infrastructure, including residential buildings, roads and power grids, have been destroyed. Historical landmarks - some that have stood for more than 2,300 years - have also been heavily damaged.

Among those affected are millions of refugees and displaced people living near the border of Syria and Turkey. The situation for these already vulnerable and displaced populations has been made almost inconceivable worse, as their makeshift camps are not equipped to withstand an earthquake of this magnitude, and many have lost their homes during a cold snap with overnight temperatures below freezing.

- Early reports indicate over 5,000 deaths and thousands more injuries with these numbers expected to rise significantly. An update received February 9 states that the death toll has risen dramatically to over 20,000 and is climbing by thousands daily.
- Thousands of civilians in both countries may remain trapped under the rubble.
- More than 4.1 million people in northwest Syria already faced a humanitarian crisis, due to conflict. The majority are women and children.

Please give what you can by donating at clwr.org/earthquake or by calling 1-800-661-2597 (office hours Mon-Fri, 9am-4 pm).

You can also put your donation in an envelope marked "CLWR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL" and place it in the offering plate at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you!

Please pray for those affected.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023: I am looking for volunteers to Greet, Usher and Read for our Ash Wednesday Worship on February 22nd. If you are able to help out, please give Jane a call at 519-271-8527. Thank you!

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES: If you have not yet picked up your 2023 Offering Envelopes, you may do so by coming to the office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Tuesday to Friday. Any one wishing to start using Offering Envelopes or wanting to switch to "PAR", the pre-authorized offering program, please drop into the office or call Jane at 519-271-8527 during the times mentioned above. Thank you!

ANNUAL REPORT REMINDER: There are still a few Committees that have not submitted their report for the Annual Report. Could you please do so at your earliest opportunity as they were due on **January 31, 2023**. Thank you!

ZION QUILTERS: *Our quilting ladies would like to invite anyone interested in quilting to come and join them on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. For more information please contact Irene Ehgoetz at 519-271-8878.*

BIBLE STUDY: If any one is wanting to explore God's Word and what it means for us in our daily lives as Christians, bring your lunch and come out and join us on Thursdays at noon in the Parlour. For further information, please speak with Pastor Jeff.

BLOOD DONATION EVENTS IN STRATFORD FOR FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 18th 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Stratford Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Road

JAZZ VESPERS is returning to St. James Anglican Church in Stratford on **Sunday, February 19 at 4:00 P.M.** with the Michael Wood Trio (Michael Wood, vibraphone; Chris Notley, guitar; Duncan Hopkins, bass.) Please mark your calendars and tell your friends about this informal reflective evening worship service featuring top-flight musicians.

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR: Pastor Jeff will, once again, be walking with the "Holy Walkers" from the Stratford and District Council of Churches in the Coldest Night of the Year Walk on **Saturday, February 25**. This year's walk benefits the Stratford Connection Centre and ShelterLink. If you would like to sponsor Pastor Jeff, please speak with him or visit the website at www.cnoy.ca.

HOUSE OF BLESSING: To help the House of Blessing with their significant increase in the number of people using their services since this time last year, as you are able, if you could bring popcorn or snack items for the House of Blessing Food Bank and place it in the basket at the

DRIVERS NEEDED FOR SALT REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP:

SALT 3 will need more volunteer drivers during the next several months. Drivers are scheduled or called as needed when members of the sponsored family need rides. As Volunteer Coordinator, I am compiling a list of people who can help with that. Stephanie Donaldson (Driver Coordinator) and someone from the SALT Health Team will be putting together a roster. Some of the needs involve more than just giving a ride. Some offer opportunities to get to know the family and enjoy outings with them. Here are typical kinds of activities:

- Doctor, dentist, optometrist, etc. appointments: These drivers assist the SALT Health Team.
- Shopping: Until the family becomes familiar with stores here, it's important for someone to go in with them and help them navigate.
- Recreation: When the family is settled, the children will likely get involved with sports and recreational activities. If it involves children without one of the parents, there should be at least two volunteers present.
- Just rides: Sometimes it's just giving them a ride.

Some things you need to know:

- Volunteer drivers must get a Vulnerable Sector Screening check. This can be done online through your local police service. (A VSS done within the past year is acceptable.) You must provide SALT with proof of auto insurance with liability coverage.
- When transporting children, you must use the booster or car seat provided by the family with the seat and the child correctly secured. (Instruction will be provided.)
- You don't need to speak Arabic! When needed, arrangements will be made for that. Otherwise, it usually goes fine with a few basic words and gestures. Google Translate on your phone sometimes helps!

If you would like to do this (or know someone who would):

Send an email to salt3sponsors@gmail.com with the following information:

- What kind(s) of driving needs you would like to help with?
- Best phone number to reach you.
- Phone number for text if applicable.

We will send you more detailed information about what is required. Myself or another team leader also may be in touch to talk with you.

Thank you for considering this!

Signed, Tom Patterson

LENTEN LUNCHESES 2023 – Pastor Charles Swartwood and John Patterson, Coordinators

Stratford and District Council of Churches

- Theme:** **Voices of Easter**
- Location:** **Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic
Church, 50 Well St., Stratford**
- Time:** **12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m. Lunch begins promptly
at Noon**
- Speaker Slot:** **12:35 – 12:55 p.m.**
- Introduction:** **Speakers are welcome to bring their own introducer.
If this does not happen, John or Charlie will introduce.**
- Dates:** **Six Wednesdays in Lent beginning Ash Wed.
(excluding Wed. in Holy Week)**

Schedule of Speakers:

- Feb. 22nd** **Don Pumputis, St. Joseph, Immaculate
Conception, & Holy Name RC Churches**
- March 01st** **Mark Wolfe, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**
- March 08th** **Lily Kampfenseck, Spruce Lodge**
- March 15th** **Lloyd Oakey, Elgin Missionary Church**
- March 22nd** **Gavin Williams, Parkview United Church**
- March 29th** **Rob Lemon, St. James and St. Paul's Anglican
Churches**

Lunch Arrangements: **Sharon Twamley 519-273-1995**

Menu: **Soups, Sandwiches, Veggies, Dessert,
Coffee, Tea, Water**

**Admission Charge: \$10.00 (Guest speaker's meal is
complementary.)**

**Note: Council of Churches will meet following Feb. 22 and
March 15 lunches at I.C.R.C.C.**

**Sponsors: Stratford and District Council of Churches &
Kiwanis Club of Stratford.**

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