

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Melinda, 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:

Mon. Feb. 20 **OFFICE CLOSED FOR FAMILY DAY !**

Tues. Feb. 21 9:30 AM Chair Yoga
 6:30 PM Sparks

Wed. Feb. 22 9:00 AM Quilters
 1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group
 7:00 PM Tennis Club Meeting
 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship

Thurs. Feb. 23 12:00 Noon Bible Study
 4:15 PM Confirmation Class
 7:00 PM Choir Practice

Fri. Feb. 24 2:00 PM Quilters

Sun. Feb. 26 10:00 AM Worship
 10:00 AM Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26th AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Brad & Sherry Beatty **Reader:** Murray Scholl
Usher Captain: Jerry Terhaerd Team **Counter:** Audrey Miller



Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 19, 2023

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

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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

Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 19, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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Hymn 834: “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm: 2

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Children’s Message

Sermon:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/koiNj0iJOSg?feature=share>

Hymn 315: “How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”

Apostles’ Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

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Choir Anthem: “What Wondrous Love is This” Arr. Geoff Weaver

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 838: “Beautiful Saviour”

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 center 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.

**NOMINATIONS FOR
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL & ENDOWMENT FUND**

Nominations are now open for five (5) positions on Congregational Council and two (2) positions on the Endowment Fund. Your nominations can be submitted in advance of or in person at the **ANNUAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023**. Please send nominations to Marilyn Wells at bobmarwells@rogers.com or 519-273-0931 or to any other church council member.

A REMINDER: Jazz Vespers is happening at St. James Anglican Church in Stratford this evening Sunday, February 19 at 4:00 P.M. with the Michael Wood Trio (Michael Wood, vibraphone; Chris Notley, guitar; Duncan Hopkins, bass.) Come out and enjoy 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.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023: I am looking for a volunteer to Usher for our Ash Wednesday Worship on February 22nd at 7:00 P.M.. If you are able to help out, please give Jane a call at 519-271-8527. Thank you!

LENT 2023: As you know, Ash Wednesday on February 22nd is the beginning of Lent. If you have not decided yet what to do this year for Lent, we have attached an insert, “15 Ideas to Observe Lent (without giving up chocolate), which may help you with your decision.

SALT 3 is in need of a sturdy stroller for their Syrian family’s 19 month old child.

If you can help please email Robin Rutherford at robinrutherford2@icloud.com 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!

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.

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 hygiene items or cereal for the House of Blessing Food Bank and place it in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY & SYRIA APPEAL: An update received February 13th from Karin Achtelstetter, Executive Director, CLWR indicates that the death toll from this tragedy has risen to over 34,000 after a week and is expected to still climb significantly. Please keep the millions affected in your prayers.

If you would like to give to support the people affected by this earthquake, please visit clwr.org/earthquake or call 1-800-661-2597 (office hours are Mon.-Fri, 9 am to 4 pm). You may also put your donation in an envelope, mark on the outside “Earthquake Appeal” and place it in the offering plate at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you!

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 LUNCHESS 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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