

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Melinda, Remy, Mike, 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. 27</u>	2:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	6:00 PM	Pathfinders
<u>Tues. Feb. 28</u>	9:30 AM	Chair Yoga
	6:30 PM	Sparks
<u>Wed. March 1</u>	9:00 AM	Quilters
	1:00 PM	Avon Menn. Prayer Group
	2:00 PM	McCarthy Place Worship
<u>Thurs. March 2</u>	11:00 AM	Spruce Lodge Worship
	12:00 Noon	Bible Study
	4:15 PM	Confirmation Class
	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
<u>Fri. March 3</u>	1:00 PM	Quilters
<u>Sun. March 5</u>	10:00 AM	Worship
	10:00 AM	Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 5TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Wayne & Linda Faulhafer **Reader:** Aline Kouhi-Klemencic
Usher Captain: Tom Cosstick Team **Counter:** Audrey Miller



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February 26, 2023

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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

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 504: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm: 32

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Children’s Message

Sermon:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/niezMwyu4wU?feature=share>

Hymn 325: “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

Apostles’ Creed

Page 127

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

Page 128

MEAL

Offertory Prayer

Page 129

The Great Thanksgiving

Page 129

Communion Prayer

Page 133

The Lord’s Prayer

Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Page 136

SENDING

Blessing

Page 136

Hymn 785: “When Peace Like a River”

Dismissal

Page 137

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.

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!

STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENT: a blood donor clinic is being held **Tuesday, March 7th from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Stratford Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Road by appointment. Call 1-888-236-6283 to book your appointment.**

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 meals in a can for the

homeless (ie: chilli or stew, etc.) 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: Please continue to pray for the millions affected by this earthquake. CLWR report that their partners say the immediate focus right now has to be survival - providing blankets for the cold nights, shelter, medical care, food and water..

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!

ANNUAL MEETING

Our 2023 Annual Meeting is scheduled for **SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH**.

The annual congregation meeting of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church will meet on **Sunday, March 12 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary at the conclusion of the 10:00 a.m. service.** There will be several ways to participate in this year's meeting which resemble those of last year:

- ▶ The meeting will be available on Zoom for those who do not wish to attend in person. Voting on motions will be available via Zoom. The link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out a few days before the meeting.
- ▶ For members receiving their Newsletters via email - the Annual Reports, which include the Committee Reports, Financial Statements, etc., will be sent to you via email. For those members who do not receive their Newsletters via email - copies of the reports can be picked up at the church office weekday mornings.
- ▶ **For anyone attending Sunday Worship, copies of the annual and financial reports will be available next Sunday, March 5th on the table at the back of the church. If you are attending the Annual Meeting, please bring your copy with you for reference. Thank you!**
- ▶ Absentee ballots will be available for those members who do not

attend either in-person or via Zoom. To receive absentee ballots, please contact Jane at the church office to request a ballot(s). The ballots can be picked up at the church office during office hours Tuesday to Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The absentee ballots will list the motions that will be made at the meeting. If anyone has any questions regarding a motion, please do not hesitate to contact one of your council members. Once the ballot is completed, place the ballot in the envelope provided and seal the envelope.

The envelope can be dropped off either (a) at the church office weekday mornings; (b) dropped off in the locked mailbox; or (c) mailed to the church. It is recommended that members choose either (a) or (b). The ballots must be received in the church office **no later than 12 noon on Friday, March 10.**

If anyone has any questions in regard to these procedures, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Jeff or a Council member.

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 kinds(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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