

**Mt. Zion Ev. Lutheran Church**

**320 Mt. Zion Dr.**

**Ripon, WI 54971**

***The Sheppard’s Pen***

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 **March, 2022**

**What story does a name tell?**

Have you thought about your name? Do you know what your name means? Why did your parents choose to give you that particular name? Parents choose a specific first name for a child for many reasons. We might be named after grandma or grandpa, or another family member. It could be a first name that has been handed down through the generations. It might be a popular name at the time or one that sounds appealing to our parents. My name “Michael” means “who is like the Lord.” I’m rather certain my parents did not name me that because they thought I would be a perfect child. My mom told me that she always liked the name Michael because of the archangel who is mentioned by name in the Bible.

By contrast, if we don’t know the reason our parents picked a specific first name, we probably know how a nickname was chosen for us and why it stuck. When we were an infant, mom might have called us a name like “poo-pants”. We hope that we have outgrown such names. Sometimes the story is better left untold, but often the nickname is an endearing term used by our friends and family.

As I was sitting here, I am thinking about the name of our church. I wasn’t here when the name, Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, was chosen. Perhaps there is an interesting story there that can be shared. But I do know the significance behind the words which were chosen. The writer to the Hebrews says:

8You have not come to a mountain that can be touchedand to burning fire, to darkness, to gloom, to a raging storm, 19to the sound of a trumpet, and to a voice that spoke. Those who heard the voice asked that not one more word be added, 20because they could not endure what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned.” 21The sight was so terrifying that even Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”

22Instead, you have come to Mount Zion, the city of the living God; to the heavenly Jerusalem; to tens of thousands of angels in joyful assembly; 23to the church of the firstborn whose names are written in heaven; to God, who is the judge of all; to the spirits of righteous people who have been made perfect; 24to Jesus, the mediator of a new testament; and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better message than the blood of Abel.

Mt. Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem, is the place where God dwells. It is the holy city spoken of in Psalm 46. However, it is not a place of fear and trembling as was seen before Mt. Sinai. Standing there before Mt. Sinai the people were afraid. They saw burning fire and heard the voice of God speaking. They couldn’t endure it. They were sinners, God is holy. Even Moses said he was trembling with fear. Sinai was the place where the Lord God gave his people a covenant. In such a place, we sinners too should be afraid of the holy God.

Mt. Zion is a place of the joyful assembly of angels, the gathering of those whose names are written in heaven. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the mediator of a new covenant. The new covenant is one that only holds God’s promises for redemption. This new covenant was fulfilled through Jesus Christ’s suffering upon the cross. This Lenten season as we view his passion as he journeyed to the cross, we have the hope of eternal life through faith in our Lord Jesus.

We come to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, to a place where the good news of our Savior’s redeeming work is proclaimed. We come to Mt. Zion because in Christ Jesus our citizenship is in heaven.

**General Announcements**

**Bible Studies**

In the Sunday Bible study hour we are watching the second season of “The Chosen.” Monday’s Bible study continues to discuss the book “More Prepared to Answer.” Please join us!

**Private Communion**

Pastor Sheppard is happy to offer private communion to those who prefer it; simply email him (revmikesheppard@gmail.com) or call him (920-745-0883) to schedule a time.

**Online Streaming**

We are livestreaming on Facebook Live Sundays at 9:00am. Services will also be uploaded to Rumble (Mt. Zion’s channel is ***mtzionripon***) and the link will be posted on the church website in the VIDEOS subheading under the MEDIA tab. Services will still be available on DVD. Please feel free to contact Pastor Sheppard with questions.

**Lent Rotation and Supper Schedule**

**March 2 Pastor Sheppard**

*Kids Care: BBQ*

**March 9 Vicar Pappenfuss**

*Working Hands: Chili*

**March 16 Pastor Stelter**

*Council: Chicken Veggie Noodle*

**March 23 Pastor Haasch**

*LWMS:Baked Potatoes*

**March 30 Pastor Hanneman**

*Choir: Ham and Bean Soup*

**April 6 Pastor Zietlow**

*Ladies Aid:Cheesy Wild Rice and Bacon Soup*

**Clavinova**

 We have collected $9,755 of the $9,934 needed to purchase a new Clavinova piano for our sanctuary. Thank you to all who have contributed so far! The Clavinova has now been ordered- we should have it in about 5 months.

**Altar Flowers**

 If you wish to have flowers put on the altar in the future, **please contact Marilyn Ninneman at 748-6474 in addition to signing up on the flower chart.**

**Christian Family Solutions**

*Christian Family Solutions*is a WELS affiliated organization providing counselling services to the hurting. Both in person and video appointments are available for those in need by contacting CFS directly. Mt. Zion is a partner with them through the *Member Assistance Program (MAP).* Our church has a fund dedicated to assisting our members with the cost of these services. If financial assistance is needed, Pastor Sheppard notifies Christian Family Solutions and assistance will be given towards the cost of appointments. Video counseling by computer may be conducted at the church when necessary. For more information, visit [**https://christianfamilysolutions.org**](https://christianfamilysolutions.org)**.**

On Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, there will be a Lenten supper supporting the Kids C.A.R.E. project Outreach to Roma. Bar-B-Ques will be served from 4:30 to 6:00. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the office. Looking forward to seeing you there.

**Kitchen & Church Cleaning**

2 winter cleaning lists have been created. One is on the bulletin board upstairs and includes everything except kitchen tasks. Another list is in the kitchen for tasks to complete there. This is open to anyone in the congregation who is willing to help. When you complete a task, please write your name and date completed by that task. Thank you for your help!

**Helping Hands**

If you are interested in helping someone with technology, helping give rides to appointments in Ripon, Berlin, Oshkosh, or Fond du Lac, please let Joanne Gregor know. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please contact Lisa Tremore at 920-229-1297, Tammy Niemuth at 920-299-0240 or Joanne Gregor at 920-896-1518. **If you need assistance of any kind, please do not feel like you are imposing; this is why Helping Hands exists!**

**WLA Capital Campaign**

Winnebago Lutheran Academy is planning to build a new campus within the next 7-10 years. A new campus will provide a new and updated school facility that will benefit all the curricular and co-curricular activities at WLA. In September, 2020, land was purchased on the north side of Hwy 23 one mile west of I-41. The property extends from Hwy 23 to Hwy OOO, nearest to Streblow Dr. and the Community Church. Recently, Tom Schermerhorn came to Mt. Zion on two Sundays to give updates on the land purchase, and to introduce our members to the capital campaign. This capital campaign will look to raise funds to eliminate WLA’s current capital debt, provide funds for the purchase of the new land, and to create a fund for minor improvements that need to occur to provide a safe learning environment on the current campus.

Please contact Kevin Ehlke with any questions you may have at 920-539-4041 or kehlke@wlavikings.org. If you would like to give in support of WLA’s current capital campaign*,* you can obtain a brochure from Mt. Zion, or go to [forward.wlavikings.org/donate](http://forward.wlavikings.org/donate).  Gifts can be mailed to WLA or given online at our website.  Thank you for your continued support of WLA!

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 **New Member**

The newest member of our Mt Zion family is also a newlywed.  Tammy was very recently married to Randy Weckwerth, whose family are also members of our church family. Tammy and Randy live in Waupun where Randy works at Federal Mobil. Tammy works in Fond du Lac at Mid States Aluminum and is a tech in the fabrication department.  She has worked there since 2016.  They have two daughters, a son-in-law and two grandchildren, ages 6 and 12.

    Tammy and Randy both love the outdoors and nature.  She has recently taken up golf and they enjoy riding on their motorcycle.  We are very happy to welcome them into the Mt Zion family.  Please take the time to get to know them.

**Pioneers Beginning at St. John’s, Princeton**

Attention Youth: St. John’s in Princeton is starting up a Pioneers group.

If anyone is interested in joining either let Jo Meeker know or call Adam Burk at 920-229-2459 for more information.

**17th Annual Women's Retreat**

The 17th annual Women’s Retreat will be held at St. Lucas Lutheran School in Kewaskum on Saturday March 12, 2022 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Registration forms are available from church; you may also register on your own at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com). The cost is $25. If you register by mail, please send the registration form and a check for $25 made payable to St. Lucas Women's Ministry by March 4 to: Lynn Garvey, 809 Pleasant Dr., Kewaskum, WI 53040.

On the Lighter Side!



Steve and Jan Ohlrich 3/6/1987

Robert and Shirley Erdmann-Schroeder 3/30/2019

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Laurene Henning 3/1/1930

Connie Klettke 3/2/1970

Jean Lynch 3/2/1962

Randy Weckwerth 3/2/1970

Corvin Chappa 3/5/2008

Timothy Kranz 3/5/1978

Richard Kutz 3/5/1936

Matthew Hartman 3/6/1975

Harley Dorsey Jr. 3/7/1939

Robert Hartman 3/7/1972

Deanna Krahn 3/9/2003

Hunter Schneider 3/10/2001

Ted Machmueller 3/11/1931

Lisa Tremore 3/12

Alexee Nitzke 3/12/1999

Spencer Nitzke 3/12/2007

Terry Dolderer 3/13/1968

Ellie Ewald 3/13/2002

Jenna Klettke 3/15/2001

Jade Walker 3/16/1996

Amber Taylor 3/17/1998

Kelly Frank 3/18/1967

Melvin Schultz 3/22/1936

Benjamin Weiske 3/24/2011

Gino Schliepp 3/25/1959

Schawn Schliepp 3/26/1978

Karl Goeldi 3/27/2018

Donald Hollander 3/27/1924

Marilyn Ninneman 3/28/1925

Mt. Zion Messenger

March, 2022

Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

320 Mt. Zion Dr. Ripon, WI 54971

Pastor Michael Sheppard

**Church Email: mountzionripon@gmail.com**

Church Website: www.mtzionripon.org

Pastor’s Office: 920-748-9734

Pastor’s Email: revmikesheppard@gmail.com

**Newsletter Articles**

**Since there will be more than one person assembling the newsletter, please email the church office with news/articles.** Deadline for articles for the April edition is March 18th, 2022. Please either give news/articles to Jo Meeker or email them to the church office at **mountzionripon@gmail.com****.**

***We are always looking for human interest news from our members! If there is any incorrect information, please let us know that as well.***