



*For the Members and Friends of Zion Lutheran Church  
February 2024*

# ***The Long Valley Lutheran***

## **Sundays in February**

### **February 4, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

**8:30 AM** Sunday School

**9:30 AM** Traditional Service of Holy Communion / Baptisms

**10:45 AM** Annual Congregation Meeting

### **February 11, Transfiguration Sunday**

**8:30AM** Sunday School

**9:30 AM** Contemporary Service of Holy Communion

**10:45 AM** Adult Forum: led by Fred Humcke

### **February 18, First Sunday in Lent**

**8:30AM** Sunday School

**9:30 AM** Traditional Service of Holy Communion

**10:45 AM** Adult Forum : God Commands Us to Pray, led by Timothy Wengert

### **February 25, Second Sunday in Lent**

**8:30AM** Sunday School

**9:30 AM** Contemporary Service of Holy Communion

**10:45 AM** Adult Forum: God Promises to Hear Us, led by Timothy Wengert

**Zion Lutheran Church, 11 Schooley's Mountain Rd., Long Valley, NJ 07853**  
**phone:** (908) 876-3547; **e-mail:** zionlongvalley@gmail.com; **website:** zionlongvalley.org

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.

Long Valley, NJ 07853

Tel: (908) 876-3547

E-mail: [zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com)

Website: [zionlongvalley.org](http://zionlongvalley.org)



Like us on Facebook  
"Zion Lutheran

at  
Church, Long Valley"

Pastor: Pastor Ingrid Wengert  
Cell: (215) 692-2091  
Email: [Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com](mailto:Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Sarah Scudese

Minister of Music: Marilyn Hibler

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

9:30AM Worship with live-stream.

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL  
MEMBERS/OFFICERS:**

President: Tom Scudese  
Vice President: Eric Snyder  
Secretary: Jeanne Howell  
Finance: Ron Schulz

**Members:**

Burt Horner  
Marcia Horner  
Ben Johnston  
Elaine Kesler  
Becky Rasmussen  
Christine Stabile

**LONG VALLEY CHRISTIAN  
NURSERY SCHOOL**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.

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Tel: (908) 876-4115

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E-Mail: [longvalleychristian@gmail.com](mailto:longvalleychristian@gmail.com)

Website: [longvalleychristian.com](http://longvalleychristian.com)

LVCNS Director..... Meghan Bridge  
Bus. Administrator....Cyndy Thompson

**Office Hours**

**Parish Secretary Sarah**

**M-Fr from 9:00AM to 1PM.**

If you wish to stop by, please call ahead just to make  
sure someone is here.

(908) 876-3547 or [zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com)

**Pastor Ingrid**

M-Th mornings

Pastor Ingrid's day off each week is Friday.

(215) 692-2091 or [ingridfathwengert@gmail.com](mailto:ingridfathwengert@gmail.com)

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The deadline for the  
**March Newsletter is  
February 24th**



Articles may be sent to the church  
office via email at

[zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com), or left in Sarah  
Scudese's mail box in the Parish Center.

**Your prompt attention to the deadline is  
greatly appreciated!**



Please remember in your prayers all of our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally, and are battling life altering conditions. Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless our friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. Let them recover their health, so that restored, they may joyfully praise your name, for you and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

*We pray for:*

Family of James and Lori Andershonis: *Beverly Vecchione*

Friends and family of Jeanette Baker: *Frank Baker, Alex Cunningham, Deborah Gruber*

Friend of Ellen Blaine: *Keith Correll*

Family of Sheila Blaine: *Logan Rodriguez*

Friends and family of Charlie & Marcia Davidson: *Gail Boyle*

Family & friends of Corey & Courtney Derr: *Gennaro Bryant, Lisa Moss Filson, Ralph Derr, Bessie Grant, Don Gunter*

Family of Cathy DiLello: *Russell Dilello*

Family of Craig & Marianne Dise: *Richard Barthelmeh*

Family of Burt & Marcia Horner: *Bruce Adams, Rae Hoffman, David Swan, Joanne Yancheck*

Family of Jeanne Howell: *Jack Steffen*

Friend of Beth Johnson: *Tammy Jackman*

Family of Barbara Rennie: *Krista Gundersen*

Friends and family of Betty Rush: *Charlie Burd, Amy Burd, Kirk Klein, Ed Mancuso, Emily Mancuso, Pastor Martin Travis, Betty Wojciki*

Family of Ron & Barb Schulz: *Richard Schulz*

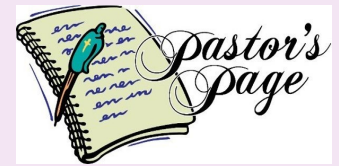
Friend of Dottie Weis: *Rich Bosley, Bruce Engelbrecht, Kathy Hepner,*

Friends of Zion: *Linda Daly*

**Members of Zion:**

*Ellen Blaine, Cathy DiLello, Donna East, Rob Johnson, Jay Kay  
Sue Koeppen, Paul Litwiller, Jane Moore, John Resotka, Hannelore Seitz*

*Prayer requests will also appear in the announcements each week.  
Please contact the church office for  
additions, to make updates, or with questions.*



Assisting Ministers wanted at Zion Lutheran Church!  
Nope, we're not looking for pastors... we're looking for lay people to assist with worship.

The title "assisting minister" dates back to the 1978 green hymnal, the Lutheran Book of Worship, which reclaimed some ancient Christian worship practices. The 2006 red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, continued the practice of using lay people to assist with Communion, and also lead some of the prayers, including the intercessory prayers.

Lay people have assisted in Christian worship from its very beginnings. Justin, who wrote the earliest known record of Christian liturgy in the year 155 AD, notes that a presiding minister preaches, gives thanks at the table and enables the distribution of the collection for the poor, amid a liturgy that "we all" do. That same report tells us about several "deacons" (diakonoi – the Greek word for table-server). We can assume that these assistants helped the active assembly and its presiding minister with praying, taking a collection, and distributing the collection to those in need.

On a side note, somebody asked me why we don't pause and wait for the lectors or singers, or even pastor to sit down before we continue with the next thing in worship as it seems slightly rude. For example – shouldn't the lector wait until I sit down before they begin reading? Indeed, we are used to that custom for a performance. However, worship is different than almost any other public gathering. The word "liturgy" means "work of the people." We're all doing this together. The pastors and lectors and singers have their roles in this "work of the people" and when one's role is ended – the work is still going on – it doesn't depend on one of the people who merely have a more public role. For lack of a better image, it's like keeping a ball in the air: Our eyes are on the ball, not the people batting the ball, and everyone has a role to keep the ball in the air – whether in the pews by actively worshipping or in front of the pews by actively leading.

Back to assisting ministers! I will hold an adult forum on Sunday March 3 to share a little bit of history of Christian worship, lay people assisting with worship, and also the particular logistics of what assisting ministers would do in worship at Zion.

After the adult forum, I'll reach out to people I think might be interested and have some gifts for it, hold a training session after worship one Sunday, and then sometime later spring will begin scheduling assisting ministers; that is, if we have enough people who are interested in helping in this way. I think the main gifts are: An ability to speak in front of people and a desire to do it. At any point, please let me know if you're interested in serving in this way.

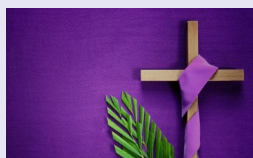
If this sounds familiar to you - I was planning to begin training assisting ministers in the winter of 2020, and then the pandemic happened! So we'll give it another try for 2024!



## Worship in February

We will have one service alternating between contemporary and traditional services. Sunday School will be at 8:30AM until 9:15AM

**Virtual:** We will live-stream the service to [Zion's YouTube channel](#), and it's automatically recorded so that you can worship when you are able. The worship bulletin, readings and music are [located on our website](#) Please see, [February Worship Assistant Schedule](#).



## Lent is God's Gift to Us

### What is Lent?

Lent is mostly known in our culture as a time to give up something good; however, it's really far more meaningful and life-giving than that! At heart, Lent is about seeing that we need forgiveness, and about experiencing God's forgiveness. For Lutherans in particular, Lent isn't a season of sacrifice, but rather, a *gift of time* by which God re-orient us: from insecure, self-centered people into forgiven, other-centered people.

**Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Dinner 2/13 6PM** - for adults & children (see page 7 for details)

No matter what it's called – Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras, Fastnacht – this night is a celebration before the somber season of Lent begins the next day. On Tuesday night we eat pancakes for dinner and conclude the evening by burning last year's palms from Palm Sunday to make ashes for the next day's worship service.

**Ash Wednesday, 2/14 7:30PM**

We begin Lent being mindful of our mortality “You are dust, and to dust you shall return,” and returning to God's mercy and grace. Ashes are optional.

### Appointed Worship Readings for February

<u>Worship Date</u>	<u>Old or New Testament Readings</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
February 4,	Isaiah 40:21-31 / 1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c	Mark 1:29-39
February 11,	2 Kings 2:1-12 / 2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Psalm 50:1-6	Mark 9:2-9
February 18,	Genesis 9:8-17 / 1 Peter 3:18-22	Psalm 25:1-10	Mark 1:9-15
February 25,	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16 / Romans 4:13-25	Psalm 22:23-31	Mark 8:31-38

## Wednesday Evenings in Lent: Soup & Vespers



### 6PM Soup Supper

Join together with a small group of Christian friends in Lent, for a simple dinner and fellowship.

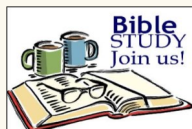
### 7PM Lenten Vespers

We'll gather in the sanctuary for a 30-minute evening worship service - an ancient liturgy that begins in the dark with candles and proclaims Jesus to be the light of the world.

Theme: The faith practice of prayer. We have an existential need to pray to our Creator. Come and reflect upon the basics: Why, what, when, where and how to pray. And when it comes to the Christian faith, do we ever leave the basics?!

Offerings will be donated to Faith Kitchen, a soup kitchen housed in Trinity Lutheran Church in Dover.

Come to one or both.



## TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

We will meet for an in person Bible study In Faith Hall at 1:30pm. The readings will continue to be the appointed readings for Sunday, which is based on a 3-year cycle that spans the Old and New Testaments: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu//>

## Adult Forum

God Teaching Us to Pray

Despite all of the abuse of prayer by Christians and others (Martin Luther called the Lord's Prayer the greatest martyr in the world), prayer is one of God's greatest gifts to humankind. In 1529, Martin Luther wrote an introduction to prayer that contains some remarkable insights into what prayer is (and isn't). Join us for three sessions bound to enrich your prayers:

February 18: God Commands Us to Pray

February 25: God Promises to Hear Us

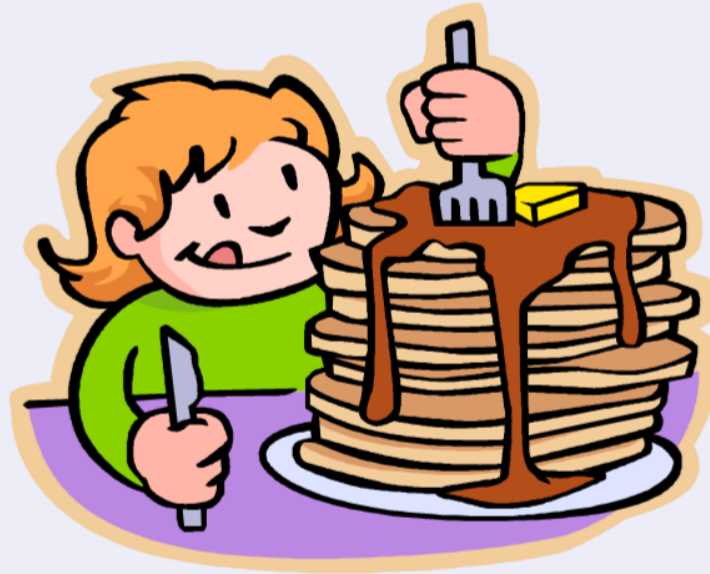
March 10: God Puts the Words (of Prayer) into Our Mouths



Adult Forum  
*Learning, Living, Loving*



# Parish Life



Shrove Tuesday / Fat Tuesday  
Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 13th  
Faith Hall  
Serving begins at 6pm

Free will donation requested, proceeds go  
towards the 2024 Youth Gathering Fund!

Bring a Friend



## *Giving Envelopes & Tax Receipts*

Can be picked up in the Narthex.  
If you would like to pick up during office hours, please call  
Sarah and she will have them ready.  
Any question please contact [Barb Schulz](#).



# Parish Life



## The Annual Congregation Meeting

Will be held on *February 4th* after the 9:30AM service in Faith Hall, Refreshments will be served.

Please bring your reports if you picked one up at church.



A big thank you to Caryl Breckenridge who donated this wonderful picture of Zion's Bell, painted by a local Landscape artist [Betty Stoppel.](#)



## Save the Date - Vacation Bible School

Will be held on June 24th - 28th,  
9AM - 12PM

For children age 3- going into 5th grade.  
Please consider volunteering for this amazing week! A Great fun way to earn service hours!

Registration information to follow.







# Parish Life



**Zion is thrilled** to celebrate spring and Christ's resurrection by hosting our third family-friendly Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23rd at 11AM. This event is rain or shine. Children will have the opportunity to help with a service project after the egg hunt.

We will be collecting items for our Goody bags, please leave items in the Narthex, we will also have a wish list on Amazon.

### Items Needed for our Goody Bags,

Candy & Snacks (no nuts)

Small Easter toys

On 3/17 Sunday school children will be organizing goody bags during Sunday School. Please have all donations delivered or dropped off by 3/16.

Watch out for our Sign-up coming out at the beginning of March. Opening first to our Zion families and then LVCNS.

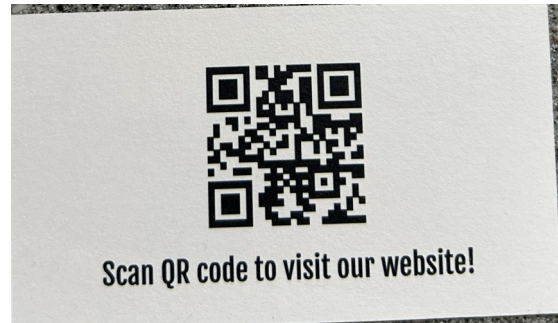




## Social Ministry Update



LVCAP now has a QR code, scan to go to their website to see the list of needed items.



## Quilting Day

Saturday February 3rd  
9AM - 4PM in Faith Hall



No experience necessary!  
We need people who cannot sew but want to help (pin, tie knots, cut, iron)  
We are also in need of people who can sew and their sewing machines.  
all hands are needed and welcome!  
Food and fellowship provided  
For more information please see Judy Bumpus.

## Souper Bowl of Caring

The Souper Bowl of Caring challenge will end on February 11th. Donations of soup or other canned goods will benefit Trinity Methodist Church in Hackettstown this year - as they are participating in the challenge.

Bring in cans to vote for your favorite teams. Two bins are in the narthex: one for San Francisco 49ers and one for Kansas City Chiefs. Which will tackle more hunger? It's up to you!





# February Birthdays

Here's to a February filled with blossoms of love, laughter, and unforgettable moments!

## Happy Birthday

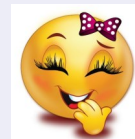
- 4 Rebecca Rasmussen
- Olivia Johnston
- Marlena Schilke
- 5 Kara Olsen
- Brooklyn Zeier
- 7 Isabella Brobst
- 9 Thomas Ito
- 11 Dean Forlenza

- 12 Jenny Boeckel
- 13 Michael Jardim
- Megan Weth
- 20 Sheila Blaine
- 21 Natalie Staada
- 22 Tripp Wehrenberg
- 24 Michael Ficacci
- Sienna Ficacci
- 26 Leah Bataille

## Church Bloopers

The Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.



"A cookbook is being compiled by the ladies of the church. Please submit your favorite recipe, also a short antidote for it."

The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

The missionary from Africa speaking at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine: Name: Bertha Belch. Announcement: "Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the Way from Africa."

Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the carpet should come forward and do so.



Zion Lutheran Church  
11 Schooleys Mountain Road  
Long Valley, New Jersey 07853



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
The Rev. Ingrid Wengert, Pastor  
Church Office: 908-876-3547  
Worship Service Sunday 9:30am  
Sunday School: 8:30am