



Zion
LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWS

March 2024

From the Vicar's Desk...



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What is Repentance?

Lent is a time of preparation. It's a time when we refocus our lives on what's truly important—Christ and His Word. It's a time of discipleship, or in other words, it's a time of training in the Christian life. You can find lots of books out there that talk about what the Christian life is all about. Some of them teach from Scripture, but unfortunately most of them don't. But in spite of the hundreds of books about the Christian life you can buy nowadays, the Christian life can be summed up in only two words: "repent" and "believe." That's how the Bible summarizes the entirety of Jesus' message: **"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe the gospel."** (Mark 1:15)

We believe the Gospel when we believe in the Good News that Christ died to forgive our sins and rose from the dead to give us eternal life, which we celebrate each year during Good Friday and Easter. But repentance comes before believing, and Lent comes before Good Friday and Easter. So what is repentance, and how does it get us ready to believe in the Gospel?

A lot of people have a common misconception about repentance. They think that repentance first and foremost means "feeling bad." They think that being repentant means having guilty feelings and even trying to feel guilty about things. When they hear that Christians are supposed to lead repentant lives, they think that means they need to go around making themselves feel bad all the time.

But in the Bible, repentance isn't primarily a *feeling*. Yes, it's a good thing to feel bad for your sins, but that's not what repentance really *is*. Repentance means a change of heart from loving your sin to loving God. Repentance means looking at your life in the light of what God has said your life should look like, and acknowledging where it doesn't match up. Repentance means being honest with yourself about the fact that you are a dying sinner in need of a Savior from sin and death. Once you realize that, then you will see why it's so important that Jesus died to forgive our sins and rose to conquer death.

So during this Lenten season, take some time to repent of your sins. Don't do it by scolding yourself over things that God has neither commanded nor forbidden in the Bible. Instead, take a look at your life in the light of the Ten Commandments. Think about what each commandment tells you to do, and what it tells you not to do, and meditate on the ways you haven't lived up to what they say. If you need help getting started, the explanations of the commandments in the Small Catechism are very short and helpful.

Once you've taken the time to do that, don't just sit around feeling guilty. Bring your guilt to the cross. Come to church and hear the pastor proclaim the Good News that your sins are forgiven. Listen to the preaching about what Christ has done for you. Receive Christ's body and blood which were sacrificed for you for the forgiveness of your sins. Don't just stop at being repentant. Repent *and* believe the Gospel. Because that's what being a Christian is all about.

In Christ,

Vicar Wessel

Faith Foundations

Be kind and
compassionate
to one another
Ephesians 4:32

Faith Foundations made Valentine cards for residents at Edgewood Assisted Living and they also made 25 baskets full of goodies for our Zion shut-ins.



Congregation News

Lent Meals

We will have meals before our midweek Lent services. Serving will begin about 5:00 pm. Come, eat then join us for the service as we focus on God's Word to us.

February 14—The Board of Elders is serving Smoked Pork Loin as a donation to Pastor Andreason.

February 21— The Board of Elders is serving chicken tacos.

February 28—The Senior Youth are serving sloppy joes, chips and dessert. They are raising funds for the 2025 Youth Gathering.

March 6—The Kids for Christ group is serving pulled pork sandwiches.

March 13-The LWML is serving taverns, chips, pickles and bars.

March 20- The Church Council is serving the meal.

Join us for a meal prior to our midweek Lent services!

A free-will offering will be taken at each meal to help support our youth groups, missions and other charities.

We thank each of these groups for their hospitality and we thank you, in advance, for your generosity as we come together for fellowship and to care for each other!

Lent Midweek & Holy Week Services

Please join us as we come together to worship, grow in faith and experience God's love.

Seven Messages of Repentance/Seven Churches of Revelation

Ash Wednesday	February 14	6:30 pm	Ephesus
Lent Midweek Service	February 21	6:30 pm	Smyrna
Lent Midweek Service	February 28	6:30 pm	Pergamum
Lent Midweek Service	March 6	6:30 pm	Thyatira
Lent Midweek Service	March 13	6:30 pm	Sardis
Lent Midweek Service	March 20	6:30 pm	Philadelphia

Holy Week

Palm Sunday	March 24	8:00 am & 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday	March 28	6:30 pm
Good Friday	March 29	6:30 pm
Easter Vigil	March 30	6:30 pm
Easter	March 31	7:00 am & 9:30 am



Upcoming Events for KFC

March 10	2:00-3:30 pm	Bowling (please bring \$5)
April 14	2:00-4:00 pm	Swimming at Rec Center
May		End of Year Party in Church Basement



Lydia Circle

March 5 1:30 pm
Topic Leader & Hostess Marian Letcher

Dorcas Circle

March 7 7:00 pm
Topic Leader Kathy Schuldt
Hostess Janet Driggs

Zion Lutheran Regular Voters Meeting Minutes

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - REGULAR VOTERS MEETING

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Voting Membership - "Voting members shall attend the meetings of the Voters' Assembly, regularly, participating in the work of the congregation, and willingly accept responsibility according to ability. No voting member may vote by proxy or by absentee ballot."

(Article VI, C., "Voting Membership")

- I. Call to Order & Opening Prayer/Devotion -Vicar Wessel read and gave devotion on 2nd Peter, Chapter 1, verse 19 and led us in prayer.
- II. Voter List Maintenance
 - Resolution to remove absentee voters - none
 - Requests to become voting members - Beth and Loren Wegehaupt - motion made to accept as voting member, 2nd made, motion carried.
 - Determination of Quorum - For meetings that involve the calling or removal of pastors or purchase of property it needs to be determined and announced whether a quorum is reached, if not, these items may not be acted upon.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda - A motion made to accept the agenda, 2nd made, motion carried.
- IV. Reports
 - A. Secretary's Report - A motion made to accept secretary's report, 2nd made, motion carried.
 - B. Treasurer's Report - Year-end report given by Larry Schnabel. \$792,000 in income, of that, \$250,000 is in building fund and \$620,000 in expenses. Larry reported on the rest of the spreadsheet. Motion made to accept treasurer's report, 2nd made, motion carried.
 - C. Financial Secretary's Report - Eric Schramm reported \$250,000 has been donated. There is just under \$800,00 for the building project as of now.
 - D. Pastor Grimmer's Report - Pastor gave stats from 2023. There are 283 households with 583 members. He continued with more stats which includes 279 average weekly attendance for 2023. There have been 198 new members since Pastor Grimmer came in 2015. He encourages us to greet the new members.
- E. Board Reports
 1. Board of Elders - Adam Schulz reported:
 - a. Resolution to Remove Inactive Members - none to report
 - b. Elections held for Board of Elders: Adam Schulz as chairman, Travis Schnabel as vice chairman, and Chris Foster as secretary.
 - c. Pass It On Conference was attended as well as men's ministry conference - both were very good. A marriage retreat will be held Feb 9th and 10th at Highland Conference Center. In May of 2025, Pastor Brian Wolfmueller from Texas will be coming to Mitchell to conduct a conference. The Ash Wednesday meal will be served by the Elders.
 - d. Proposal to add an assisting pastor will be discussed under new business.
 2. Board of Trustees - Larry Weigandt reported:


Voters Meeting - Tuesday, January 23, 2024

- a. Transfer of all belongs from the storage garage to the 4th street house is complete.
 - b. Church Mutual will be dropping our insurance. A company in Sioux Falls will submit a bid to us this spring as well as will First National Bank Insurance.
 - c. Lighting is in the process of being converted to LED's.
 - d. Doors have had weather stripping replaced.
 - e. Larry thanked all that have helped with projects.
3. Board of Youth and Parish Education - Julie Harnisch reported: Wednesday nights Faith Foundation has brought families together in the education of our youth and has been very successful. PreK – 1st graders still have Sunday school. Reasons for not having classes for all grades on Sunday mornings are the lack of volunteers and inconsistent attendance.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Stewardship Committee - no report
 - b. Building/Building Finance Committees - Adam Schulz reported that the match challenge was met and exceeded by \$44,000. Contracts signed, setting up contracts, loan with LCF are being worked through. Adam asked for ongoing prayers for the building project and thanked the congregation for their continued/ongoing support.
 - c. Endowment Committee - no report
 - d. Thrivent Choice Dollars Annual Report (January only) - handout was given at this meeting
- V. Business
 - A. Unfinished Business - none
 - B. New Business
 1. Proposal to add an Assisting Pastor - A handout with explanation of the proposal was given at this meeting. A 75%/25% split with Plankinton/White Lake is what is being proposed. Zion's share would be 25% - Plankinton/White Lake's share would be 75% of the assisting pastor's salary. Pastor Mischnick spoke on his experiences with dual parishes/shared pastor/pastoral care. There was much discussion and questions raised on the proposal. Motion was made to table until voter's meeting in April. 2nd motion was made, motion carried.
 2. Motion was made to apply for 2024-2025 vicarage program, 2nd was made, motion carried.
- VI. Adjournment & Prayer - a motion was made to adjourn the meeting, 2nd was made, motion carried. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Sullivan, Council Secretary

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Zion Lutheran Church · www.ZionMitchell.org · 620 E 3 rd Ave · Mitchell, SD 57301 605-996-7530 · office@zionmitchell.org						
<div></div> <div>3 8am Divine Service 9:15am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School for K-1 10:30am Divine Service 1pm Financial Peace University</div>	<div>4 9:30am Staff Mtg 1pm Quilting 5:30pm LifeLight Bible Study</div>	<div>5 7:30am Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Lydia Circle</div>	<div>6 1pm COFFEE Bible Study 5pm Lent Meal (KFC) 5:15pm Faith Foundations 6:30pm Lent Service 7:30pm Board of Education</div>	<div>7 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Dorcas Circle</div>	<div>8 Office Closed Pastor/Vicar's Day Off</div>	<div>9 9:00am CPR Class</div>
<div>10 8am Divine Service 9:15am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School for K-1 10:30am Divine Service 1pm Financial Peace University 2pm KFC Bowling</div>	<div>11 9:30am Staff Mtg</div>	<div>12 7:30am Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>13 1pm COFFEE Bible Study 5pm Lent Meal (LWML) 5:15pm Faith Foundations 6:30pm Lent Service 7:30pm Elder Meeting</div>	<div>14 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm Building Committee</div>	<div>15 Office Closed Pastor/Vicar's Day Off</div>	<div>16</div>
<div>17 8am Divine Service 9:15am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School for K-1 10:30am Divine Service 1pm Financial Peace University 6:30pm Music/Movie Night</div>	<div>18 9:30am Staff Mtg 1pm Quilting</div>	<div>19 7:30am Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>20 1pm COFFEE Bible Study 5pm Lent Meal (Council) 5:15pm Faith Foundations 6:30pm Lent Service 7:30pm Council Mtg</div>	<div>21 Newsletter Articles Due 7am Men's Bible Study</div>	<div>22 Office Closed Pastor/Vicar's Day Off</div>	<div>23</div>
<div>24 8am Divine Service 9:15am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School for K-1 10:30am Divine Service 1pm Financial Peace University</div>	<div>25 9:30am Staff Mtg 2pm Service @ Coun- tryside 4pm Service @ Wesley Acres</div>	<div>26 7:30am Women's Bible Study 8:45am Newsletter As- sembly</div>	<div>27 1pm COFFEE Bible Study</div>	<div>28 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm Building Committee 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Service</div>	<div>29 Office Closed Pastor/Vicar's Day Off 6:30pm Good Friday Service</div>	<div>30 6:30pm Easter Vigil</div>
<div>31 7am Easter Service 9:30am Easter Service</div>						

Those Serving in March

	Mar 3 - 8am	Mar 3- 10:30am
Head Usher	Marvin Strand	Travis Schnabel
Ushers	Alan Rickel Chris Wehrmann Josh Schultz	Rob Mayer Riley Mayer Chris Mayer
Acolytes	Haylen Buchholtz	Malachi Hagemann
	Mar 10 - 8am	Mar 10 - 10:30am
Head Usher	Chris Wehrmann	Loren Brech
Ushers	Frank Luczak Frank Luczak Jr. Larry Titze	Mark Nagel Luke Nagel Shawn Nagel
Acolytes	Levi Hinker	Charlie Patzer
	Mar 17 - 8am	Mar 17 - 10:30am
Head Usher	Bryan Flanagan	Chad Popp
Ushers	Zach Flanagan Nathan Flanagan Chris Wehrmann	Adam Popp Carter Popp Carl Bode
Acolytes	Jonah Iburg	Sydney Keenan John Keenan

Midweek Services

Lent Service	Mar 6 - 6:30pm
Head Usher	Russ Whaley
Ushers	Bryan Flanagan Dave Buchmann Larry Weigandt
Acolyte	Taryn Nurnberg
Lent Service	Mar 13 - 6:30pm
Head Usher	Chris Wehrmann
Ushers	John Fink Carl Bode Rob Ewing
Acolyte	Lucy Thompson
Lent Service	Mar 20 - 6:30pm
Head Usher	Travis Schnabel
Ushers	Larry Schnabel Loren Brech Larry Titze
Acolyte	Noah Schnabel

Holy Week

Palm Sunday	Mar 24 - 8am	Mar 24 - 10:30am
Head Usher	Russ Whaley	Travis Schnabel
Ushers	Alan Rickel Chris Wehrmann Chris Fischer	Rod Neugebauer Dave Buchmann Rob Ewing
Crucifers	<i>*Need Volunteer*</i>	Alex Foster
Acolytes	Emma Fischer Isaac Fischer	Eli Konrad
Maundy Thursday	Mar 28 - 6:30pm	
Head Usher	Marvin Strand	
Ushers	Chris Foster Doug Driggs Tyson Driggs	
Acolyte	Christian Foster	
Good Friday	Mar 29 - 6:30pm	
Head Usher	Russ Whaley	
Ushers	Marvin Strand Carl Bode John Fink	
Acolyte	Carla Keiper	
Easter Vigil	Mar 30 - 6:30pm	
Acolyte	Maci Wudel	
Easter	Mar 31 - 7am	Mar 31 - 9:30am
Head Usher	Chris Wehrmann	Travis Schnabel
Ushers	Marvin Strand Russ Whaley Bryan Flanagan	Loren Brech Carl Bode Dave Buchmann
Crucifers	<i>*Need Volunteer*</i>	Alex Foster
Acolytes	Grayson Van Oort	Lydia Smith



If you are not
able to serve
when scheduled,
please find a
replacement.
Thank you!

Congregation News



Marriage Retreat Mission Festival

Zion Lutheran Church was honored to have Pastor Andreason at our Marriage Retreat on February 9th & 10th. Pastor Andreason formerly preached at Aberdeen and Columbia, SD. He is now a missionary in Romania. The retreat was held at the Highland Convention Center. The retreat focused on how the Bible correlates with marriage. Pastor Andreason also preached during our services on Sunday and spoke about his mission work in Romania between services at the Mission Festival. The Elders provided a breakfast of donuts and fruit.

Thank you Pastor Andreason!



Faith Foundations Families---Wednesday evenings during class, preschool to 5th grade children will be practicing a piece to sing for the Palm Sunday's 10:30 service on March 24th. Please plan now to attend this service so your child can contribute their voice in singing praise to the Lord. If you have questions, please talk to Edie Goldhammer or Christine Grimmer. Thank you!



Wessel Baby Shower



Baby Shower for Wessels

On Saturday, February 17, Zion hosted a baby shower for Vicar Wessel and Jenny. The morning started off with a delicious breakfast buffet. We played fun games and then the Wessels opened gifts. We concluded with cake and cupcakes. We were so happy both grandmas were able to attend the shower. Thank you to the hostesses and everyone who participated in making the shower a success!

A special thank you for everyone who came together to put on the baby shower for us! We are overwhelmed and extremely grateful for the generosity and help everyone has shown in getting ready for baby Christopher! We are so blessed to have such a supporting congregation!

Vicar and Jenny

