

The Contact

February  
2023



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**ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>**

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Its official name is "Day of Ashes," so called because of the practice of receiving a cross of ashes on our foreheads as a reminder of our mortality. It is exactly 40 days (excluding Sundays) before Easter Sunday.



**On February 5<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Holy  
Communion and Josephine Gillespie's  
First Communion.**

**Congrats Josephine**

## Message from Pastor Willie:

Siblings in Christ, greetings in the name of Jesus; who was, who is, and who is to come!

February often brings about what my dad would call “the winter doldrums”. We start getting anxious for winter to end, but know that it is not over just yet, even if we don’t have much snow on the ground. It is too cold to do some of the more popular outdoor activities, and to my chagrin, it has not been cold enough for me to safely walk on [frozen] water and huddle over a few holes, waiting for fish to bite.

This year, February brings with it some anticipation, both on the congregational front and with the change of liturgical seasons. First, I have been in daily communication with Rev. Elisa Mrutu of the Kihurio Parish in Tanzania, our companion congregation. As I write this article, he plans on being in Muscatine for most of the month of February, visiting the community and surrounding area and experiencing the ministry that God is up to with Zion Lutheran Church! This is an exciting opportunity to connect with global ministry partners and renew the relationship between Zion and the Kihurio Parish. I am not absolutely certain that his desired travel itinerary will work out because he does not yet have his travel visa and will visit the United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam on Friday, January 26, to apply for the visa, which he hopes to receive quickly. If you are interested in meeting with Pastor Mrutu when he is here, please do not hesitate to contact the church office. I am sure that he would enjoy spending time with Zion members while he is here. Mark and Sarah Perisho have graciously offered to provide a place for him to call “home base” while he is here. I have scheduled a visit for him with Bishop Current and the director of EWALU has invited us up to see the camp as well. I know there are other opportunities to experience ministry in the area and if you would like to be a part of hosting such experiences, please contact the church office so we can coordinate schedules and make plans.

Second, near the end of February we enter into the season of Lent, beginning with a worship service on Wednesday, February 22 at 5:30 p.m. This service will include imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. We will start our regular midweek Lent services on Wednesday, March 1 with a meal to follow the worship service. The first midweek meal will be served by the Youth and Parish Education Committee and participants. We will include a serving schedule for midweek services in the bulletin when we get closer to the end of February.

As we prepare for the season of Lent, I invite you into a time of contemplation, prayer, self-reflection, and repentance in preparation for the celebration and season of Easter.

Pastor Willie Rosin

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**Ushers:**

Riley Padgett, Mike Watson,  
Mark Perisho, Bill Toyne

**Altar Guild:**

Week 1: Richardsons  
Week 2: Sheryl & Sarah  
Week 3: Pusateris  
Week 4: Starkweathers  
Sub: Hansons

**Acolytes:**

Feb. 5 Dalton Bozarth  
Feb. 12 Preston Schroeder  
Feb. 19 Mason Smith  
Feb. 22 Preston Schroeder  
Feb. 26 Jackson Evans

**Lunch Bunch**

**Feb. 9** 11:30 am @ Happy Joes

**Pray for** the family and friends of Patricia McLeary, Rachel Creamer's aunt, and for the family and friends of Elaine Petersen.

**Prayers for healing:**

Kristy Keith, Bill Tieceke, Patty Lange, Butch Doyle, Mary Butcher, Gary Sebbert, Evelyn Christopherson, Rose Marie Paul, and Billy Rueckert



**Z-book Club**

Meets Monday March 13<sup>th</sup> @5:30 pm at Diamond Dave's. Join them for dinner and conversation! Reading: "The Keeper of Happy Endings" by Barbara Davis.

An enchanting novel about fate, second chances, and hope, lost and found, by the Amazon Charts bestselling author of *The Last of the Moon Girls*.



**FFN: Family Faith Night**

Meets at Grace Lutheran Church every Wednesday beginning with a meal at 6 pm. Groups begin at 6:20 pm with the night concluding at 7:30 pm. You and your family are invited to join as you are able. Talk with Pastor Willie or Tyler Baars to learn more.

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## Trust Fund Grants and Scholarships Presentations

### Birthdays:

Karson Cantrell 2/01  
Jennifer Taylor 2/01  
Shannon Steele 2/02  
Joseph Hoiberg 2/03  
Sue Robinson 2/06  
Karolyn Subbert 2/06  
Nicole Steele 2/08  
Mary Martz 2/09  
Hayden Saunders 2/12  
Sabrina Toyne 2/12  
Hayden Saunders 2/12  
Deb Weiss 2/13  
Carol Timm 02/17  
Kim Sears 2/20  
Carson Borde 02/21  
Tracy Bogart 2/23  
Faith McCleary 2/24  
Brenda Roskens 2/25  
Roger Roskens 2/25  
Mary Knause 2/28  
Jaxson Phillips 2/28

### Birthdays Over 80:

Judy Carlson 2/04  
Lois Greenwald 2/9  
Clarence Hammann 2/24

\* 80 Years Young  
\*\* 90 Years Young  
\*\*\* 100 Years Young

### Anniversaries:

Tasha and Casey Cantrell 2/11



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### Special Anniversaries

Ria and Charles Meyer 2/18

### Altar Flowers

Feb 5 Sara & David Reusswig

Feb 12 Casey & Tasha Cantrell

23<sup>rd</sup> Wedding Anniversary

### February AMs and Readers

Feb 5 Bob Nicolai AM

Feb 12 Jan Pohl AM

Feb 19 Rev Bill Dyar AM

Feb 26 Marilyn Briscoe

Reader

### Communion Assistants

Feb 5 Shawn Baars

Feb 12 Julie Haage

Feb 19 Peggy Starkweather

Feb 26 Jan Pohl

### Living Lutheran

Website:

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/16931/Living-Lutheran>

Individual Price \$19.95 total for 12 issues through the year.

Audio available in CD format

Website link to subscribe to e-digest:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/subscribe/>

## Candid



### Thank You

*Thank you for your generous donation of \$678.00 made on 12/31/22.*

*Sincerely,  
Beth Homey  
Beth Gomez  
Treasurer*

*It Takes A Village*



*Animal Rescue & Resources*

*It Takes A Village Animal Rescue & Resources*

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### Upcoming Meetings:

**Feb. 2** 6:30 pm All Comm.  
Night

**Feb. 9** 11:30 am Lunch Bunch  
@ Happy Joes

6:30 pm Council Mtg

**Feb. 21** 1 pm Group 5 MFR

6:30 Trust Fund

**Feb. 23:** 6:30 pm Joy Circle  
MFR Hostess Sue Wilder

### Reminders:

**Fellowship of Christian Athletes** meets at Louisa-Muscatine High School on Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. in Room 109. Casey Cantrell is the local Huddle leader.

**Men's Bible Study** meets every Wednesday morning at 6:30 a.m. at the All American Diner.

**Adult Bible Study** begins at 10:15 a.m. in the chapel area. We are using *The Greatest Story* and participant books are available. You are welcome to join us!

## Newly Painted Room Thanks Jim Haage



### Thank You

*We want to thank you for your love and support of 1,500.00 for the following programs: L & M Locker, Blessings Box, and Laundry Love. We appreciate you greatly and love the fact that through faith and love we can accomplish so much when we work together. We greatly look forward to working with you, our neighbors, in the future.*

Malinda Burns  
Parish Administrator  
Muscatine Trinity Episcopal Church

### Thank You

*To all that donated to the "Hat, Mitten and More Tree" over the holidays. Many children benefitted from your contribution of 20 hats, 22 pairs of gloves or mittens, 46 pairs of underwear, and 46 pairs of socks. These items will be used by students in need of clothing assistance. The items were donated to three elementary schools in the Muscatine Community School District.*

This was a project organized by the Parish Education Committee.

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### Christians Underground -

We have an additional Bible study/discussion group opportunity in Muscatine called Christians Underground. Pastor Aleese Kenitzer from Shepherd of the Cross leads this group in discussion about the Revised Common Lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday. They meet weekly on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. at Geo Johnz Pizza (203 E 2nd St.) for about an hour. This invitation is open to all three ELCA congregations in Muscatine.

### Contact News

All newsletter information and articles for the March Contact are due by the end of day on **February 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

### Prayers Around Zion

Don't sin by letting anger gain control over you. Think about it overnight and remain silent.

### In Memory Elaine Petersen 1/18



## New Council & Committees for 2023

### Council

President - Tyler Baars  
Vice president - Jim Haage  
Secretary - Kim Sears  
Treasurer - Wendy Brendel  
At-Large - Terri Hanson

### Committees

Worship - Kathleen Schippers  
Evangelism - Vacant  
Finance & Stewardship/Treasurer -  
Wendy Brendel  
Financial Secretary - Dave Hanson  
Parish Education & Youth - Stacey Ramos  
Social - Denise Baird  
Property - Vacant  
Memorial - Dave Starkweather

### Thank You

*Thank you all for the prayers, cards and thoughts that were offered during my sister, Elaine Van Grevenhof's illness and now ultimate peace in the arms of Jesus. Elaine knew you were praying for her, and she appreciated each and every one. I add my deep gratitude for all of you. God's peace and blessings to you all.*

Cheryl & Richard Jacobsen

## February 2023 LSI Article and Story

### **Happy Valentine's Day from LSI**

At LSI, loving our neighbor is an essential value that we continuously work and grow towards. This Valentine's Day, take time to share with your friends, family and neighbors how important they are to you. February is a time of giving, a time of love and a time of gratitude. Share with those around you how much they mean to you and the impact they have had on you.

It's also a time when we want to thank you, the congregations that so generously support the work of LSI throughout the year. We are blessed by your love and support. Your generosity has continued to offer hope and healing to Iowans of all ages.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [facebook.com/LSIiowa](https://facebook.com/LSIiowa).*

### **Love Your Neighbor**

At LSI, loving our neighbor is an integral value. Our staff continuously work towards loving their neighbors and investing their time, energy and resources into helping their neighbors.

"I love getting to know my LSI colleagues and teammates, and I feel fortunate to be surrounded by such talented, passionate and inspiring individuals," said Nick Wuertz, Director of Immigrant and Refugee Community Services (IRCS). "The team around me makes me better, and by getting to know my team and understanding their unique skills and perspectives, I feel I can love and support them in sharing those gifts with others on our team, our clients and the broader community."

Barbra Jotzke-Torrier, Director of Philanthropy, shared that loving her neighbor means treating others with respect. "It means remembering my way is not always the best way, and certainly not the only way to live, love, make a home or be a part of a family." Barbra shared that her job at LSI has given her the opportunity to share people's stories and to connect people with programs they are passionate about.

"Loving my neighbor means caring for them and being there for them in good times and hard times," shared Patrick Karemera, a Resettlement Caseworker. "Loving my neighbor through my job is about welcoming our new neighbors from all over the world who flee their homes in hopes of a better life."

As Nick shared, loving your neighbors is complex and requires you to take the time to get to know them on a personal level. This Valentine's Day, we invite you to take that step and get to know your neighbors.



## Ash Wednesday

C W K N F N N V L I X C I U F H R P O K  
A R E N J H F P B U C I K L V Y E H A V  
I J C D R E Y A R P T J T C F A L F Z Q  
F I Q D N Q L Z Y H I H H Z S I L N B S  
P N L M I E P M F I J F E T I A I A T L  
V U A O X C S F N P L B E R D S W T H B  
V C Z M A S H D F S E R C J A U O A X V  
T D P G N Z A P A V N N A B F N T G I C  
C H G K B T B T S Y T E C M L M U B Y P  
N J A L O P X T K L G T V Q Y I M M B L  
X M O H E E J O L N T M B S Q T H O L Y  
X R C N W Z P O E P V G O G H W R D V L  
D B N H X N I I V A E J M Q A E N O R A  
L P P G A G K I Y D O B L C C M G I F C  
K J R C D W I M P R Y S D B L Y A A N J  
J V J I G K A R F E X D X O G A M M M R  
H E T T Q G X G Z N I S V K E Q L D V M  
S H S W H U A V C O S G O N R I A R X M  
F A O Q K H W M L V Q T M P A P C V A C  
F A T O U U H C E Y Z A R F M J D Z A E

**Ash**

**Wednesday**

**Lent**

**Easter**

**Prayer**

**Forty-Six**

**Fast**

**Holy**

**Lutheran**

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 8:15 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 5:00 pm AA	<b>30</b> <b>Pastors Sabbath</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>31</b> 7:00 pm Scouts	<b>1</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible 6:00 pm FFN 6:15 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm All Comm. Night	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>Bag of Blessings</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm AA	<b>6</b> <b>Pastors Sabbath</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>7</b> 7:00 pm Scouts	<b>8</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible 6:00 pm FFN 6:15 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir	<b>9</b> 11:30 am Lunch Bunch@ Happy Joes 6:30pm Council Mtg.	<b>10</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm AA	<b>13</b> <b>Pastors Sabbath</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>14</b> 1:30 Memorial Committee 7:00 pm Scouts 	<b>15</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible 6:00 pm FFN 6:15 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>Quarters for Hunger</b> 8:15 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm AA	<b>20</b> <b>Pastors Sabbath</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>21</b> 1:00 pm Group 5 6:30 pm Trust Fund Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Scouts	<b>22</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible <b>5:30 pm ASH WED</b> 6:00 pm FFN 6:15 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm Joy Circle	<b>24</b> 6:30 pm AA <b>4 pm</b> Contact Info Due	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>Food Pantry Sunday</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm AA	<b>27</b> <b>Pastors Sabbath</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>28</b> 7:00 pm Scouts	<b>1</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible 6:00 pm FFN 6:15 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm All Comm. Night	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm AA	<b>4</b>