

The Contact January

2023 IN REVIEW

WHAT'S INSIDE:

PG. 1 – Advent

PG. 2 MESSAGE FROM
PASTOR WILLIE

PG. 3 Upcoming Bible Study,
GIFT Retreat and Change in
Contact Mailing Date

PG. 4 Altar Guild, Lunch
Bunch, Birthdays

PG. 5 Birthdays continued,
Usher Schedule, Prayers and
Anniversaries

PG. 6 Giving Update

PG. 7 Upcoming Meetings

PG. 9 LSI, Truitt Graduation,
Mills Scholarship

PG. 9 Hy Vee coupon cards

PG. 10 Calendar



Message from Pastor Willie:

Happy New Year! Yes, it's cliché. However – I truly hope that as we move into 2024 that this new year brings new beginnings in our lives. I remember hearing a sermon during internship from my supervisor on New Year's Eve that reminded us that when we are driving forward in our car, we can always see the rearview mirror. But the view through the windshield is a much larger view. If we focus on the rearview mirror while driving forward, we can only see a small part of where we have been and may miss where we are going.

I have thought about that idea many times over the years because of the temptation to focus on what has happened in the year or years before. If I am completely honest, 2023 was a very long year in my personal life. A year filled with changes in our family as two of our five children went off to college and the necessary adjustment Jen and I had to make as we no longer had an older sister in the house or the pew to help take care of the younger kids. And we are so very grateful for all of you who have helped with caring for Abner, Ezra, and Lydia!

It has also been a year with grief at the death of my dad. Many of you know the painful grief of losing a parent or a spouse or a child. I have found myself overwhelmed with grief at what seem like the strangest of times – during a certain verse of a hymn that I could hear dad singing as he led worship, while preparing meals or baking bread – things I learned at his side, and driving in from a successful deer hunt, but unable to call him and share the details of the hunt that I know he loved to hear because we spent so many years doing those things together. Thank you for the time and space to grieve, as well as the many cards and gifts we have received in his memory. They are all cherished and appreciated.

While I know these things are in the rearview mirror and I can always see them, there is still a windshield and wide view ahead of us as well. Zion continues to serve in the ministry of God's church together. I love leading worship services with you, and I continue to marvel at the various gifts we have in the congregation – assisting ministers, musicians, and those willing to dig into various projects to improve the ways in which we worship, provide hospitality and accessibility, and reach out to the community around us.

What more does God have in store for us as a congregation and as individual members of the body of Christ in the coming year(s) ahead of us? God is always in the business of new creation through promises of love, mercy, and forgiveness. I look forward to the next year of serving with you in this congregation and I am thankful for the two years we have had together!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Willie Rosin

Upcoming Bible Studies, GIFT Retreat and Change in Contact Mailing Schedule

Adult Bible Study

We will begin our next adult Bible study series on Sunday, January 14th. We will begin Rev. Dr. David Lose's *Making Sense of the Cross*. This series will run until Sunday, February 25th. Please join us for this engaging study!

Date change for the Contact

Beginning in February of 2024, we will change the publication date of the Contact from the beginning of the month to approximately 10 days into the month. This will allow us to provide a more complete and up to date financial report rather than having the financial report essentially a month behind. This will require an adjustment in the Contact calendar as well, with an extended calendar in the first month to cover the transition to a different publication date. Thank you for your patience with this process so that we can provide the best information possible to all of you!

Annual Meeting - January 21, 2024

Consistent with the following provisions C10.03 of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Constitution, this is the announcement of the annual meeting of the congregation. The meeting will occur following the 9:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 21, 2024. There will be a voting roster for the meeting. Voting membership is determined by C8.02.c.:

C8.02.c. Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of this congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws. They shall not have voted as a seasonal member of another congregation of this church in the previous two calendar months

Constitutional provisions for notice of congregation meetings, quorum, and voting methods:

C10.03. Notice of all meetings of this congregation shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding two consecutive Sundays and by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law, to all voting members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the meeting.

C10.04. Five percent of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

C10.05. Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted.

FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Altar Guild:

Week 1: Richardsons
Week 2: Perishos
Week 3: Pusateris
Week 4: Starkweathers
Sub: Hansons

Lunch Bunch

11:30 @ Muscatine Family
Restaurant

Contact News

All newsletter information and
articles for the February Contact
are due by the end of day on
January 25.

Birthdays Over 80:

*John Robinson 01/20
*Nancy Tietge 01/24
* 80-89 Years Young
** 90-99 Years Young
***100 Years Young

Giving Statements

Thank you for your faithful
financial support of the
ministries of Zion Lutheran
Church! All annual contribution
statements for 2023 will be
provided this month.



FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Birthdays:

Mike Batenhorst 01/03
Clayton Smith 01/03
Charley McCleary 01/05
Matthew Richardson 01/14
Dyann Roby 01/15
Rachel Creamer 01/19
Jan Boche 01/21
Judith Vargus 01/21
Luke Kiddoo 01/23
Robert Vargus 01/24
Sarah Evans 01/27
Justin Dornbush 01/28
Christy Roby 01/29/
Tasha Cantrell 01/30

Usher Schedule

Riley Padgett
Mike Watson
Mark/Sarah Perisho
Bill Toyne

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please Pray for Kristy Keith, Riley Padgett, Bill Tiecke, Patty Lange, Butch Doyle, Evelyn Christophersen, Billy Rueckert, Roger Roskens, Ruth Starkweather, John Robinson, Leroy Spaulding, Linda Brady, Evie Marr, Sue Wilder, Beth Simpson and Pat Tiecke-Collins.

Anniversaries:

*Ron & Mary Knause 01/06
Greg & Tracy Bogart 01/24



FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Food For Thought

When you are at your LOWEST
Look to the HIGHEST

Did you know?

Total Offering Received For Week 12/17/23	\$11,853
YTD Offering Received	\$232,692
Remaining Weekly Offering Required to Meet Weekly Budget	\$13,515

2023	2023	2023
YTD Food Pantry	YTD Laundry Love	YTD Quarters for Hunger
\$1,555	\$350	\$383.75

Z book Club

Monday, January 8, 2024 at Diamond Daves.
Anyone is welcome.

**THE GIRLS OF ATOMIC CITY:
THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE
WOMEN WHO HELPED WIN
WORLD WAR II**

by Denise Kiernan (Author)

Free with Kindle unlimited!

Little sections between
personal stories garnered
from extensive interviews.



FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Upcoming Meetings:

Jan 16- 1:00 p.m. Group 5

Jan 25- 6:30 p.m. Joy Circle

Reminders:

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

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 currently meet weekly on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. at Geo Johnz for about an hour. This invitation is open to all three ELCA congregations in Muscatine.

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.

Trivia night and basket

auction will be January 20 doors open at 5:30 and Trivia night starts at 6:00! It will be \$8.00 a person, please feel free to bring snacks to share!



by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY



January 2024 LSI Article

Amplifying the Voices of Iowa Children and Families

Individuals struggle without access to critical healthcare and family support services. Human service providers are overworked and underpaid. Former refugees and immigrants strive to build lives in the U.S.

These are all issues faced by Iowans from all different walks of life. Join Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) to advocate for our community members at Lutheran Day on the Hill (LDH) on **Monday, February 19, 2024**.

In partnership with the three Iowa synods of the ELCA, LDH is LSI's biggest day of advocacy. Over 150 participants gather at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church in Des Moines to learn about critical issues Iowa children, adults, and families are facing. You'll learn more about the legislative process, the issues impacting your neighbors, and your role as a citizen in helping to amplify their voices.

After learning how to advocate for our neighbors, the group heads to the Iowa State Capitol to talk directly with legislators.

For more information and to register for this year's Lutheran Day on the Hill, visit LSIowa.org/LDH.

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 and Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa.

A huge thank you to all who purchased angels from the LSI Hopes and/or the Lutheran Senior Living tree.

LSI sent us the following message: "Our team was overwhelmed by the support of the Lutheran Churches and wouldn't be able to provide our children with gifts this season without you!"

Lutheran Living staff were very thankful to all who helped make Christmas a little more special for their Residents, who without your thoughtfulness, would not have received a gift at Christmas.

From the members of Social Ministry, thank you so much for showing our sponsored children and elderly that they are cared about.

College Graduation

Nicolas J. Truitt, grandson of J. Riley and the late Karen Padgett, and the son of Kristi (Padgett) Truitt, graduated from Iowa State University on December 16, 2023 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Agronomy. Nicolas is a 2019 recipient of the Zion Lutheran Church Trust Fund Scholarship.

2023 Zion Scholarship Award

Congratulations to Elizabeth Mills, daughter of Nathaniel and Heather Mills for being awarded the 2023 Zion Trust Scholarship. Lizzy currently studies at Muscatine Community College with an anticipated graduation date of May 2024.

SUPPORT THE
YOUTH AND THEIR
ELCA TRIP TO NEW
ORLEANS 2024



Hy-Vee gift cards are \$20
but worth *over \$50!!*



For every card sold
the youth retain 75%!!

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - Unified Fund
Month Ended December 31, 2023

	Unified Fund Dec 31, 2023 Actual	Unified Fund Dec 31, 2023 Budget	% of Budget	Unified Fund 12 months ended Dec 31, 2023 Actual	Unified Fund 12 months ended Dec 31, 2023 Budget	% of Annual Budget
Revenue						
Offering	\$ 33,932	\$ 21,175	160%	\$ 245,271	\$ 260,071	94%
Other Budgeted Income	2,446	100	2446%	5,440	1,775	306%
Parsonage Fund Income	15,000	6,250	240%	25,000	25,000	100%
Total Revenue	51,378	27,525	187%	275,711	286,846	96%
Operating Expenses						
Staffing Expenses	17,874	15,572	115%	198,137	187,863	105%
Property & Office Expenses	4,424	5,100	87%	58,968	61,200	96%
Program Expenses	1,863	850	219%	7,845	11,250	70%
Benevolences	3,308	2,111	157%	24,905	26,533	94%
Total Operating Expenses	27,469	23,633	116%	289,854	286,846	101%
Operating Income (Loss)	23,909	3,892	614%	(14,143)	-	
Other Income						
Unbudgeted Income	200	-		4,829	-	
Total Other Income	200	-		4,829	-	
Other Expenses						
Unbudgeted Expenses	-	-		1,724	-	
Total Other Expenses	-	-		1,724	-	
Net Income (Loss)	24,109	\$ 3,892	619%	(11,038)	\$ -	

2024 . JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	2 7:00 PM SCOUTS	3 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	4 6:30 PM ALL COMMITTEE	5 6:30 PM AA	6 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
7 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD/ LAUNDRY LOVE 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL/STORY 5:00 PM AA	8 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	9 1:00 PM MEMORIAL COMMITTEE 7:00 PM SCOUTS	10 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@GRACE LUTHERAN 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	11 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M 11:30 AM LUNCH BUNCH@ MUSCATINE FAMILY RESTAURANT 6:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING	12 6:30 PM AA	13
14 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA 6:00 PM WORSHIP	15 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	16 1:00 PM GR 5 MFR 7:00 PM SCOUTS CONTACT INFO DUE	17 6:30 A.M. MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@GRACE LUTHERAN 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 AA	18 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M	19 6:30 PM AA	20 TRIVIA NIGHT DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM STARTS AT 6:00 PM! \$8.00 A PERSON
21 Q FOR HUNGER 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP 5:00 PM AA	22 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 AA	23 7:00 PM SCOUTS	24 6:30 A.M. MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@GRACE LUTHERAN 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 AA	25 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M 6:30 PM JOY CIRCLE	26	27
28 FOOD PANTRY 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA 6:00 PM WORSHIP	29 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 AA	30 7:00 PM SCOUTS	31 6:30 A.M. MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@GRACE LUTHERAN 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 AA			