

# Messenger



Zion Lutheran Church      Volume 73 Issue No 12      DECEMBER 2019  
*Sharing God's care that all may know Jesus as their Lord, Savior and Friend.*

## DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**SUNDAYS DECEMBER 1ST, 8TH, 15TH,  
22ND AND 29TH.**

9am Worship &  
Kidz crew  
10:15 Adult Ed  
11am Worship

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, CHRISTMAS**

**EVE SERVICES AT:**

**NOON WITH COMMUNION**

**5:00 PM**

**7:00 PM WITH COMMUNION**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH, CHRISTMAS**  
**DAY**

**SERVICE AT 10:00 AM**



## IN THIS ISSUE

<b>Staff</b>	
Pastor	Tom Inch
Youth & Family Ministry	Pam Clark
Office Manager	Terry Gross
Contemporary Worship	
Organist	Taylor Giese
Chancel Choir Director	Jennine Harris
Zoo Crew Director	Pam Clark
Zoo Crew Teacher	Sandi Moore
Lead Custodian	Ann Haseman
Custodian	Echo Davis
Sound Tech	Geoff Williams
<b>BOA</b>	
President	Vicki Lunneborg
Vice President	Ann Anderson
Secretary	Dana Penniman
Treasurer	Shawna Beese
Communicator#1	Larry Schroeder
Communicator#2	Robert Anderson
Communicator#3	David Moore
Communicator#4	Gary Burchill

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Bing croons softly on the stereo (remember those?). The gas fireplace hums quietly as the fan circulates the warmed air. The snow blows gently in a horizontal direction – roughly from Soap Lake to the Royal Slope (that would be north of here :)), closing again the just opened driveway. The children are all nestled in their beds, the soft glow of their iPods cast an eerie glow about their darkened rooms as they drift off to sleep. Even the dog and cats are curled up, together, as if to give a visual image to that oft heard saying, “Peace on Earth”. Such are the pictures of Currier and Ives that have and will continue to fill our vision of Christmas. Warm, soft, comfortable, not a threat in sight. Until . . .

“In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.”

One of the reasons that I so appreciate the birth story of Jesus, other than the fulfillment of promise, is the raw emotion that is often expressed by those who are encountered by God and God’s messengers. Terrified, that is how the shepherds are described. Mary is perplexed. Herod and the entire city with him were frightened. Zechariah was terrified. Why this reaction? Is God that scary? Do we have a built-in sense that if God comes to me God is coming to get me? And I don’t mean in a good way! Do we fear God, or do we fear what God is about?

I suspect that it is the later – what God is about! If one thing can be said about God and the running narrative of Scripture, God surely colors outside of the lines! Water comes from rocks; donkeys talk; virgins have babies; water becomes wine; dead men rise; blind see; lame walk; salvation comes! And yet our reaction is one of fear and trembling. But the word of God to us is “do not fear”.

Such a word of comfort is always needed, especially in a time like ours. We worry as the economy continues its adjustment around the world. We struggle with stories of greed that have rippling effects that remove hope and support from those who have little of each. Wars continue with untold cost in both human life and suffering. Closer to home, though it is beautiful outside we know that soon snow will come and if you can’t shovel the stuff, how do you get out?

How is “incarnation” a good thing in such overwhelming situations? Is this act the beginning of God’s assertion, “do not fear”? Is this word that God is present with us, even in or maybe especially in, our suffering, the beginning of our not fearing? Or is the word that as the called people of God we are called to walk with those who suffer? Are these the fulfillment of “God with us”? Is this the hope and picture of Christmas that is peace on earth – God is with us and that what God is about is the salvation, redemption of the whole creation?! And that God chooses to be present through you and I?

Such would indeed be good news for all the world.  
Merry Christmas

Pastor Tom



## Thoughts and Updates from Your BOA December 2019

*Thanksgiving has come and gone. Now we settle into the season of Advent. We remember Jesus as the perfect gift for us all.*

November Averages:

<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
2018 <u>106</u>	2018 <u>\$26,337.00</u>	2018 <u>\$29,318.64</u>
2019 <u>104</u>	2019 <u>\$18,847.08</u>	2019 <u>\$19,635.57</u>

The Fellowship Team served lunch to Veterans on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for all you do to honor our veterans at Zion and in our community.

There was a sizable turnout for our annual Zion meeting. Thank you to all who participated in the meeting. Reports are still available for you to pick up at the church, in case you missed the meeting. Team members have done an excellent job this year, and they have summarized their work in this report. Financial reports are also included. We hope you find it all informative. Please ask questions if something comes up as you read. Thank you to the BOA members for furnishing pastries and fruit for the coffee hour following the meeting.

More progress was made in the hiring of an accountant to keep our ledgers in order. The accounting change over is to happen the beginning of December. The accountant will meet with the BOA around the middle of December to review and explain expectations. We do desperately need someone to fill the treasurer's position on the 2020 Board. This person would be able to connect the Board and the accountant for accurate reporting. Please do consider filling this position.

Your 2019 officers continue to look at the budget to identify and bring the numbers much closer together. This includes offsetting the cost of the accountant. We ask the 2020

BOA to continue this task. At this writing, no approval is being given to spending from the general fund other than routine bill paying.

The November BOA meeting held discussion of forming an advisory board to continue with re-sizing Zion and planning for Zion's future.

Thank you board members, ministry team leaders, and all volunteers for serving in 2019. These are all volunteer positions. Your service and time are appreciated. Your dedication supports our Zion mission.

**We have worked to become transparent in sharing the news and happenings in our congregation this year. We have worked to respond to your concerns, and we appreciate your sharing with us. Please continue to talk and share with the 2020 Board. You have two Communicators, Gary Burchill and Robert Anderson available to you in 2020. Everyone on the BOA will listen and find answers whenever possible. That was done in 2019. You always have a standing invitation to attend any BOA meeting at Zion. It is your Board.**



*Wishing you peace, love, and joy this Christmas.  
God Bless You,  
Your BOA Team*



*Sounds  
of the  
Season*

**Sunday, December 22nd,  
will be our decorate/dinner/  
concert day!!**

**We begin with decorating the sanctuary  
at 2:30 pm.**

**Dinner will be served at 4pm.**

**The Christmas Concert will begin at 5pm.**

**This years concert will feature the Chancel  
choir performing "Candles and Carols".**

**Come join the festivities!**

***CHRISTMAS EVE AND DAY  
WORSHIP TIMES!!***

***CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24***

***NOON WITH COMMUNION***

***5PM FAMILY***

***7PM CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION***

***CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25***

***10 AM SERVICE WITH COMMUNION***



# ENDOWMENT FUND

As we approach the end of 2019 it's time for your Endowment Committee to gather grant requests for 2020. Grant request forms will be available no later than our annual congregation meeting in Nov. Your requests will be vented through this committee and forwarded to the BOA for approval during the Dec or Jan BOA meeting. If you have a worthy cause that supports our mission to "share God's care that all may know Jesus as their Lord, Savior and Friend" then please fill out a grant request. Please remember Endowment funds can't be used for our congregation annual operational budget items.

Your Endowment Committee

## GHAW— GOD'S HANDS AT WORK

In December all food will go to Newbyginings, an organization that helps veterans.

We will also have "The Giving Tree". Please bring hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for distribution to children at Orchard Center Elementary school. The tree is in the social hall. Please pin your gift to the tree!!

**ANNUAL MESSIAH SING-ALONG AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPOKANE  
318 SOUTH CEDAR ST, SPOKANE, WA.**

## 2019 Handel's Messiah

3:00 - 5:30, December 14

Derrick Parker, Conductor

Christie Jones, soprano; Jan Priddy, alto; Tom Williams, tenor; John Frankhauser, bass

First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir

Messiah Orchestra

The Sing-a-long Choir rehearsal is from 1:30-2:30 pm on Dec. 14th. We will have music available if you need it.







# DECEMBER 2019 - MINISTRY SCHEDULE

DATE/TIME	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS	COFFEE HOSTS	READER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	COMMUNION SET UP
1 9AM	ELIZABETH ANDERSON	Don McCammond Bernie Fichtenberg	KARYN & LARRY MONROE	ZION MEMBERS	SAM RIDDLESBERGER	DEBBIE REPP	GAIL TEETER
1 11AM	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	LARRY SCHROEDER	LARRY SCHROEDER	SALLY PIERSON
8 9AM	COLT WHITE	SUE MEAGLEY BEV & RICK KRUSE	RENEE & HARVEY BURGHARD	ZION MEMBERS	JIM REPP	TERRY GROSS	MARY GROSS
8 11 AM	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	LINDA MCCORKLE	ZION MEMBERS	BARB SCHROEDER
15 9AM	DANIKA MACISAAC	DEBBIE, JIM & PAM REPP	DIANA DOTSON DONNA GILBERT	ZION MEMBERS	MATT MACISAAC	ZION MEMBERS	GERRI MOORE
15 11 AM	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	MIKE MOORE	ZION MEMBERS	BARB SCHROEDER
22 9 AM	ALEX BUCK	ANN & TOD ANDERSON	LOIS & STEVE FRY	ZION MEMBERS	TERRY GROSS	ZION MEMBERS	TRISH BAUCH
22 11 AM	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	SALLY PIERSON
24 NOON	ZION MEMBERS	BEV & RICK KRUSE	ZION MEMBERS		JOYE GILL	LIZ LAW	GERRI ALLEN
24 5PM	CHELSEA ANDERSON	ZION MEMBERS	MARY & TERRY GROSS		TERRY GROSS	NA	NA
24 7PM	ZION MEMBERS	SHERI & JEFF LOPEZ ANN & TOD ANDERSON	ZION MEMBERS		DAVE MOORE	KARL BOLD	GERRI MOORE
25 10 AM	ZION MEMBERS	BRUCE LANGRIDGE	ZION MEMBERS		AARON LAW	ANDY LAW	GERRI ALLEN
29 9 AM	VIOLET ANDERSON	HARVEY BURGHARD DIANA DOTSON	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	BRUCE LANGRIDGE	TOD ANDERSON	MARY GROSS
29 11 AM	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	ZION MEMBERS	BARB S CHROEDER	LARRY SCHROEDER	BARB SCHROEDER

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

# DECEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 9am Worship & Kidz crew 10:15 Adult Ed 11am Worship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10 am Bible Study 7pm contemporary practice	<b>5</b> 7pm Choir 7pm Men's AA	<b>6</b> 7pm Couples AA	<b>7</b>
<b>ZOO CREW 9:00 TO 11:30 AM</b>						
<b>8</b> 9am Worship & Kidz crew 10:15 Adult Ed 11am Worship	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10am-Prayer Shawl 4:30 pm Confirmation	<b>11</b> 10 am Bible Study 7pm contemporary practice	<b>12</b> 7pm Choir 7pm Men's AA	<b>13</b> 7pm Couples AA	<b>14</b> 8 AM MEN'S BREAKFAST
<b>ZOO CREW 9:00 TO 11:30 AM</b>						
<b>15</b> 9am Worship & Kidz crew 10:15 Adult Ed 11am Worship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6PM BOA	<b>18</b> 10 am Bible Study 7pm contemporary practice	<b>19</b> 7pm Choir 7pm Men's AA	<b>20</b> 7pm Couples AA	<b>21</b>
<b>ZOO CREW 9:00 TO 11:30 AM</b>						
<b>22</b> 9am Worship & Kidz crew 10:15 Adult Ed 11am Worship 4 pm-Dinner 5 pm -Concert 	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> NOON -WORSHIP 5 PM—WORSHIP 7 PM- WORSHIP 	<b>25</b> 10 AM—WORSHIP 	<b>26</b> 7pm Choir 7pm Men's AA	<b>27</b> 7pm Couples AA	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9am Worship & Kidz crew 10:15 Adult Ed 11am Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>JAN 1, 2020</b> 			
<b>ZOO CREW 9:00 TO 11:30 AM</b>						



*Prayer Shawl Ministry*

*A Quiet Witness*

The Prayer Shawl group meets the **second Tuesday** of each month at 10:00 am. Come join them in this loving ministry.

## **BUSY BEE QUILTERS**

There will be no quilting meeting in December. See you in January!

**WHERE IS IT? WHAT IS IT? WHEN IS IT?  
STAY TUNED! MORE INFO COMING SOON!**



# FAITH LOVE

The days are darker and the lights feel brighter, as we enter the Advent season with contemplation and hope. Women of Zion, we would like to invite you to our special Advent Faith/Love Circle gathering on Thursday, December 12 at 12 noon in the fellowship hall. We are planning to have another "Julebord" or Christmas buffet, with members bringing various Christmassy foods. Our hostesses are Helen Skindlov and Betty Quinn. Singing and praying, sharing conversation and lunch, we will bring a special quiet-filled time to our busy Advent season.

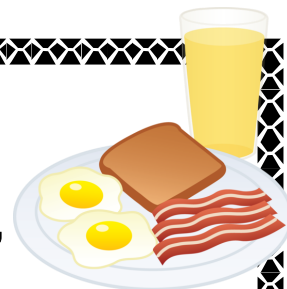
Our study in the December Gather magazine will center on the theme, "Watch, wait, create," which was written by artist, Vonda Drees, As we dabble in art as meditation, art as intercession, art as devotion, and art as inspiration, we hope you will find deeper meaning in the Isaiah texts. With this study, you may discover a new spiritual practice you can use in your own life.

Author Vonda Drees writes in reference to Isaiah 11:1-10, "Why is this passage among our appointed readings during Advent? One of the many reasons it's included might be to assure us that, although life will have its hard times, growth can come from unlikely places. Rebirth and renewal sprout from decaying stumps. Even in the hardest moments, God is with us. And just as God is with us, we are called to be with one another."

Come, share in Advent study and prayer, "as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ."

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

**Come join the men for a great  
breakfast and fellowship at 8:00 am,  
Saturday, December 14.**





## Advent Meditation

Advent is here! What do you plan to focus on to make this season of waiting, hopeful and expectant? The four Sundays in Advent give us some foretelling thoughts about Jesus' first coming...and His coming again. Lighting the candles, we see the glow in the darkness of the sanctuary. We feel the meditative expression of hymn and prayer. How can we keep the contemplation in Advent, not overtaken by the exhaustive rush of Christmas preparations?

Over the years I have turned to several Advent devotional books. One of my favorites is called "In the Bleak Midwinter" by Herbert Brokering. In his 40 meditations and prayers, he uses the Christina Rossetti poem, line-by-line, along with his own poetry and descriptions. This poem was also set to music and first appeared as the Advent hymn, "In the Bleak Midwinter," in the English Hymnal in 1906. This song is also included in our ELW (hymnal) on page 294.

Herb Brokering had a small country church background, when later, he became a pastor, teacher, confirmation leader, and songwriter and author. His daily devotions in this book include texts from Luke and Isaiah, sharing insights into Jesus birth, life, death and resurrection. He wrote, "The words of God never quit. Listen and hear the words of long ago. 'Be not afraid; only believe.'" And from his poetry, "When you first made eternity, You said my name, you knew of me." And from the song...What can I give him, give him my heart."

Will you find some way this Advent season to enrich your spiritual life by having a daily quiet time, reading the Bible (rereading the Sunday texts,) praying intently, listening to special music, or writing in a journal? Maybe you can find an Advent devotion book that will give your heart peace. Whatever you do, make this Advent a hopeful one.

By Helen Skindlov

# Civic Theater Benefit Performance



Wednesday, December 11, 2019

6:00-7:15 pm - Social Hour - 7:30 pm – Curtain

Tickets \$35 each @ [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)  
or call/email Christie McKee  
509-343-5020 – [cmckee@lcsnw.org](mailto:cmckee@lcsnw.org)

Proceeds benefit Lutheran Community Services  
& Lutheran Campus Ministry at EWU



Let's have dinner at Luigi's before the show. We have reservations for 20 people at 5pm for dinner prior to the Civic Theater benefit performance of *It's a Wonderful Life!* Dinners run from \$12 to \$20. We have done this in the past and it's been a lot of fun. Contact the church office (926-5407) or Gary Burchill ( [gburchill46@msn.com](mailto:gburchill46@msn.com)) if you would like to join the dinner party!

## PLEASE USE A LID!

LITTLE SPLASHES AND SPILLS ARE SHOWING UP AROUND OUR CHURCH HOME. OUR CUSTODIANS WORK HARD TO KEEP ZION CLEAN, BUT EVERYONE'S HELP TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS WILL BE APPRECIATED.

THERE ARE LIDS FOR BEVERAGE CUPS AVAILABLE, PLEASE ASSIST US IN TAKING CARE OF OUR CHURCH AND THE ENVIRONMENT.





### Deck the Halls :: December 6-8

- Deck the Halls is our Family & Friends Christmas Retreat. Come and experience the wonder and joy of the holidays!
- Come with your household or bring another family along to spend a beautiful winter weekend sharing memories, laughter, joy & creativity. Make new traditions and strengthen your faith as a family!

**Camp Lutherhaven**  
(208) 667-3459

Have some time to share?  
Here's a great opportunity for YOU!  
The Lutherhaven Scholarship  
Committee  
needs your help planning the annual  
fundraising event to

### **send kids to camp!**

The next planning meeting is  
here at Zion.

December 9th - 6:30pm  
All hands are welcome and  
no experience is necessary.  
Come check it out!



### *Coming up:*

*Zoo Crew Christmas Program*

*Wednesday evening*

*December 18 at 6:30pm*

*It's short, always unpredictable*

*and a true sharing of Christmas JOY!*

*Everyone is invited to attend.*



# Youth and Family



COUGAR FEVER!!!





**SAVE THE DATE - JANUARY 14, 2020**

# 2020 Human Trafficking Awareness Month Reception

4:00-5:30PM  
DOWNTOWN SPOKANE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
906 W. MAIN AVE.

**CELEBRATION  
STORYTELLING  
SOLIDARITY**



JOIN US FOR A CANDLELIGHT VIGIL, CELEBRATION OF SUCCESSES IN ADDRESSING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE INLAND NORTHWEST, AND VISUAL STORYTELLING WITH OUR SILHOUETTE PROJECT AND SURVIVOR ART. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS FREE EVENT, VISIT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/2NYXRZB](https://bit.ly/2nyxrzb)

## All Are Welcome

Join Lutheran Community Services Northwest for light refreshments in the third floor stage space at the Downtown Public Library overlooking the beautiful Spokane River falls.

Visual Storytelling with our Silhouette Project, and art created by foster children who have experienced human trafficking in the US and in other nations.

Candle lit moment of silence for people who have been and currently are victims of human trafficking.





2	MATTHEW SLAWTER	14	ANDY LAW
2	ELAINE ISHERWOOD	16	LUKE BRIEN
4	DIANE KAUFMAN	18	TOM GANO
6	DEL MARSH	20	MICHAEL CLARK
6	TERRY GROSS	21	JAN MOOREFIELD
8	ANN MELAAS	25	DEBBIE JOHNSON
8	MATT ROTH	28	KELLY ROTHWEILER
9	HEATHER PENNIMAN	30	ANNIE HIGGINSON
11	MARY ALICE ROTHWEILER		

# Christmas Child

by Mary E. Carpio

Turn your eyes this Christmas  
To the Child who was born  
He came into the world  
Only to find sorrow and scorn

He knew we needed a Savior  
To set us free from sin  
No other way to redemption  
But to open your heart to Him

Remember this Christmas season,  
Material things cannot satisfy  
They are but temporary  
They disappear and die

But the love of our Savior  
A gift that lives eternally  
He is that brightest Star  
Which shines upon the tree!

*The Joy of Giving*  
**Somehow, not only for Christmas,  
 But all the long year through,  
 The joy that you give to others  
 Is the joy that comes back to you;  
 And the more you spend in blessing  
 The poor and lonely and sad,  
 The more of your heart's  
 possessing  
 Returns to make you glad.**

John Greenleaf Whittier



12	SUSAN & NICK MIRABELL
22	BECKY SWAN & GREG SCHUERMAN
31	CINDY AND TOM INCH

Zion Lutheran Church  
8304 E Buckeye  
Spokane, WA 99212

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Dated Material      DECEMBER 2019 Newsletter**

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Sharing God's care that all may know Jesus as their Lord, Savior and Friend

## **Newsletter Deadline**

**Deadline for January newsletter is December 20.**

### **Contact Us**

**Zion Lutheran Church  
8304 E Buckeye  
Spokane, WA 99212  
509-926-5407**

**For Directions right click and open link below**

**[https://www.bing.com/maps?  
q=zion+lutheran+millwood&FORM=HDRSC4](https://www.bing.com/maps?q=zion+lutheran+millwood&FORM=HDRSC4)**

**Email: [office@zionlutheranspokane.org](mailto:office@zionlutheranspokane.org)**

**Pastor Tom Inch  
Cell#: 509-398-0258  
Email: [pastor@zionlutheranspokane.org](mailto:pastor@zionlutheranspokane.org)  
Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. ,noon to 12:30 lunch,  
Close 4:00 p.m.**