

*Join us to hear and see*  
**WHAT GOD IS DOING IN ESTONIA**



**Come and meet**  
**Pastor Siimon Haamer**  
**Friday, March 1st, 2024**  
**7:00-8:30 pm**  
Zion Lutheran Church  
25105 - 132nd Ave. SE  
Kent, WA

Learn more about the mission work of  
**Tartu Academy of Theology,**  
incredible development of  
Christian outreach center **Home of Hope**  
and the challenges they face due to war in  
**Ukraine.**

[tatest.org](https://tatest.org)

**Pastor Siimon Haamer** is the President of Tartu Academy of Theology and also a **third generation** lutheran pastor from Estonia.

Siimon is representing a family that has been sharing word of God for Estonian people already almost throughout a century. They have done so despite of persecution and hardships that they as Christians experienced under Soviet occupation during 50 years after WW 2. Because of the atheistic Soviet regime Christian continuity was cut in Estonia.

**THEIR MISSION IS** to tie these broken connections again and to proclaim word of God in Estonia, the country which is considered to be one of the most secular countries in the world.

Siimon's grandfather Pastor Harri Haamer was almost 8 years in a Soviet slave labor camp in Siberia after WWII. He was imprisoned because he was a pastor. Fortunately, he returned and wrote about his experiences a book «We Shall Live in Heaven».

This is not a dark book, on the contrary, it is even funny and very encouraging and uplifting for Christians today. Reading this book you are also learning about how Christians suffered under Soviet occupation and why mission work in Estonia is important and at the same time challenging.

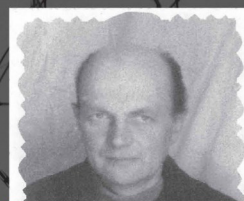
Now there is also a **Study Guide** made for this book and several churches in U.S. have arranged book study groups.

**Some info about this mission work in Estonia:**

- 250 Bible School students over four years
- 24/7 Pastoral Care Helpline throughout 2020-2022
- About 80 young people participate in various youth events
- 130 bachelor and master students currently learning at Tartu Academy and Lutheran Church Seminary
- 20 new bachelor and master students admitted last autumn
- 700 people have visited Home of Hope to attend various seminars and conferences
- Christian radio station, located at Home of Hope, broadcasts throughout a 1.5-2 million square mile area, including Russia
- Helping refugees from Ukraine
- Pastoral Care Center helps people on a daily basis

## We Shall Live in Heaven

A pastor's testimony of faith,  
recounting his experiences in a  
Soviet slave labor camp



Paperback \$9.90  
on Amazon



**FOR FREE**  
E-book &  
Book Study Guide:  
[tatest.org/haamer-family/book](https://tatest.org/haamer-family/book)

**Pastor Harri Haamer**



## HIGHLIGHTS

♣ **Sundays March**  
**3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

♣ **Friday March 1**

♣ **Wednesdays**  
**March 6, 13, 20**

♣ **Thursday March 21**

♣ **Sunday March 24**

♣ **Thursday March 28**

♣ **Friday March 29**

♣ **Sunday March 31**

**OFFICE CLOSED: Monday April 1 (Easter Break)**

Worship - In Person (Coffee Hour follows)  
and Live Streamed, 9:00am

Special Speaker-Pastor Haamer, 7pm

Lenten Soup Suppers, 6pm  
and Worship Service, 7pm

Zion Roots Youth Ministry, 5pm

Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza, 10:30am

Maundy Thursday Worship, 7pm

Good Friday Worship, 7pm

Easter Breakfast, 7:30am; Worship, 9 & 11am

### In this issue

- Staff Message
- Youth & Family Ministry
- Bible Studies
- Events & Happenings
- Thank Yous & Letters
- Council Meeting Minutes
- Birthdays

## YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

### Sunday School Education for All Ages



#### Adult Education - in Faith Cafe Sunday Mornings, 10:15am

For all adults of any age to gather, share, and grow our faith in God and in each other. Each Sunday we will be going over different looks into The Sermon on the Mount. We will watch videos, listen to a bit of a podcast and discuss what does Sermon on the Mount truly represent.

Next Classes: **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>**

#### Music with Margaret - in Choir Room Sunday Mornings, 10:15am

Elementary, Confirmation and High School students meet with Margaret before their Sunday School class until 10:30am. They will learn new songs that will be shared with the congregation, along with hand chimes and triangles.

Next Classes: **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>**



#### High School - in Faith Café Sunday Mornings, 10:30

We are taking registration forms for our High School Bible study on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. Once we are able to get a good number, we will be starting a series on the book "The Jesus I wish I knew in High School". Until then, High Schoolers are welcome to join Adult Education (see info above). Registration forms are on [zionkent.org](http://zionkent.org) under forms.

#### Middle School: Confirmation - in Holywood Sunday Mornings, 10:30am

After Music with Margaret, Middle School students will gather to follow the Confirmation Series. They will dive into Luther's catechism and learn what it means to be a Lutheran.

Next Classes: **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>**



Elementary  
SUNDAY  
SCHOOL

#### Elementary - in Creation Sunday Mornings, 10:30am

After Music with Margaret, elementary students will join with their teacher and shepherd to discuss the gospel of the day! The lessons follow the gospel readings each Sunday.

Next Classes: **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>**

(Sunday Education info continues in next column)→



### Adult Small Group Options

Small groups are a great way for people to connect with one another in Zion's church family. Call the church office if you would like to learn more about any of the following small groups.

#### Mission Quilting Mondays - 9:30am

Come quilt with us!

**Contact:** Sonya or Church office, 253-631-0100.

Next Mission Quilting: **March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am**



#### Ruth Rachel Circle 2nd Tuesdays (Sept - May) 12:30pm in the Fellowship Hall

Please plan to join us for an afternoon of women gathering for Christian fellowship, Bible Study and Service (LWR Health Kits, Holiday Cards to shut-ins).

**Contact:** Pat or Church office, 253-631-0100.

Next Ruth Rachel: **March 12<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm**



### Reminder

#### Reminders from Zion's Office

**Please contact the office if:**

- ♦ You would like a Bulletin, the Horizon Newsletter and/or the Announcements Emailed to you
- ♦ You have information to be added to the Church calendar about dates, times and method of meeting

**For up-to-date calendar information:** go to Zion's website, [www.zionkent.org](http://www.zionkent.org), then click on Calendar to see Church Events

**Office Manager's work hours are**  
**Monday - Thursday :: 8:30am to 3:30pm**  
Please continue to respect these office hours.

*Thank You!*

### MORE SUNDAY SCHOOL EDUCATION (CON'T)



#### Preschool - The Beginning Sunday Mornings, 10:15am

Preschoolers will meet in the nursery at 10:15am for playtime! After playtime, they will then follow "Hal and his Friends" on a fun adventure of what the Bible says and various age appropriate stories that they explore.

Next Classes: **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>**

## + RENEW THROUGH GOD'S WORD . . .

## EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS



Interested in helping start up or attending a **BIBLE STUDY**? Please contact the church office.

### 'The Chosen' Series Bible Study

We are looking forward to starting Season 4! Once we have a date of when it is available to stream, we will start our Bible Study back in the Fellowship Hall. Keep an eye out for our return!

**Contact:** Lisa Lord, llord@zionkent.org

Next Bible Study: **TBD - See you soon!!!!**

### Bible Study - Acts

**1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 9:30am - Library**

We continue with a study of the Book of Acts in the New Testament.

**Contact:** Mary or Church office, 253-631-0100.

Next Bible Study: **March 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am**

### Lifelight Bible Study

**1st and 3rd Thursdays, 9:30am - Sanctuary**

We continue our study of the book of Ephesians. We look forward to gathering as a group, making new friends, and returning to our study of the Bible. New to Zion or to Bible study? We would love to have you join us.

**Contacts:** Sonja, Karen or Church office, 253-631-0100.

Next Bible Study: **March 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 9:30am**

### Thirsty Theologians

**2nd Wednesday of month, 5:30pm**

**Location (in April):** Mark & Cheryl's house

We will take the month of **March off**. In April we continue with Lesson 10 of the Exodus Study Guide; Laws and Judgments (Exodus 20:22 - 23:33) We look forward to seeing you there!

Next Bible Study: **April 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm**



### Family Movie Night

**Friday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 6pm - Fellowship Hall**

Bring the whole family to our January FMN as we watch "Ratatouille" rated G. There will be popcorn, snacks and drinks! Bring kids for fellowship and fun, bring grandkids to give parents a night off, or bring friends to enjoy a fun movie about a rat who can cook!



### Lenten Wednesday Evening Soup Suppers, 6pm followed by Worship, 7pm

During Lent there will be a soup supper preceding each of the weekly Lenten services. Come and join us at 6 pm for a simple meal of bread and soup sponsored by Zion's committees, followed by a Worship service at 7pm. The dates of the **March** suppers and the **sponsoring committees** are listed below:



March 6	Choir
March 13	Council
March 20	Altar Care & Property

If you would like to help but are not on one of these committees, contact Pat or Church office, 253-631-0100.

### Daylight Saving Time - on Sat. night, March 9

don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour. Time changes tomorrow morning, March 10.



### HOLY WEEK, 2024

<b>Sunday March 24</b>	<b>+ Palm Sunday</b>
<b>Thursday March 28</b>	<b>+ Maundy Thursday</b>
<b>Friday March 29</b>	<b>+ Good Friday</b>
<b>Sunday March 31</b>	<b>+ Easter Sunday</b>

### Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza!

**Palm Sunday, March 24th**

**10:30am-11:30am**

Join us for our third annual Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday! There will be themed rooms for the kids to explore and eggs to find! There will be activities and games and lots of fun! We are looking for volunteers as well. Please email Lisa at llord@zionkent.org if you are able to help!



### Easter Breakfast + Sun, March 31, 7:30am - 8:30 Sponsored by Fellowship & Evangelism Cm



Also, Lutherhaven kids will be helping with Easter breakfast this year with a free will offering plate to support Lutherhaven.

**Choir Practice is happening on Wednesday afternoons, 4pm-5pm**  
Come join us in the choir room!



### **\*\*NEW** Zion Roots Youth Ministry **NEW\*\***

**3rd Thurs of month, 5pm-7 in Fellowship Hall**

Come join us for our **new** Youth Ministry! We will meet every third Thursday of the month from 5pm-7. We start off with a meal at 5pm, followed by Bible study, games, and learning a new skill! All second graders through 12th graders are welcome to join!

Next Zion Roots: **March 21<sup>st</sup>, 5pm - 7pm**



## EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS (CONTINUED)



### Join us for coffee after Sunday Worship

Evangelism & Fellowship Committee sponsors a coffee hour following Worship. All are welcome !!! If you would like to provide treats for a Sunday, contact Pat or Church office, 253-631-0100, and you will be put on the schedule.

### Puzzle & Book exchange!

Evangelism & Fellowship Committee is hosting a jigsaw puzzle and book exchange after worship. Bring a puzzle or book to drop off and leave with a new one! It's a great way to get puzzles and books into the hands of people who want them, and out of the homes of those who have already finished their own. Puzzles & books of all types are welcome.



**2024 Master Flower Chart** is up on the bulletin board & ready for sign-ups. Please remember to complete a card in the flower box located below the chart after you sign-up to provide flowers for the Altar.



### Mark your calendars:

**Pastor Kelly's installation** has now been rescheduled! It will be held on the 27th of April.

### Zion's Safety and Security items



#### Please remember to:

**Sign the Sign-In sheet**, if you enter the church building after normal office hours.

**Check, secure and set:** If you are the last one to leave the building, make sure all lights are off (**\*\*\*except Entry and Hallway lights**), all doors are secured, and the alarm is set. Also, always lock your car and be aware of the surroundings as you come and go. Walk to and from your car with a buddy after dusk. **\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** Entry and Hallway lights are to be left on at night from now on for security reasons.

**>Church building access:** You may have noticed that the door code pad on the hallway door into the main building is currently not working. If you need access to the main building for a meeting or activity outside of office hours, please contact the office ahead of time to make arrangements. Otherwise, please plan to come during office hours for any errands you may have here. We hope to have the door code pad fixed soon.

**>Zion has contracted with a local towing company** to help with towing vehicles that may be left or abandoned in our parking lot for extended periods of time. Towing will be at the owner's expense. If for any reason you need to leave your car here overnight or longer, please be sure to contact the church office so that it will not be towed.

**>If you have any questions**, please contact the office. *Ever in His grip, Pastor Kelly (past > items)*





**Thank you!**



### To best prepare yourself for worship:

**Before** the Service, talk to God;  
**during** the service let God talk to you;  
**after** the service talk to one another.

### Even YOU can help with communication at Zion !

-  Please submit items for the Bulletin, Announcements, Horizon and the master church calendar to **Lori, our Office Manager**, in a timely manner (on time or even early!). Include meeting or event names, dates, times, locations, contact person and any other important information.
-  **All** meetings and events (for and/or at Zion) should be on the master calendar. This allows the office to prevent double booking of rooms and other possible inconveniences.
-  Should there be any changes to previously submitted information, please get those changes to the office as soon as you can.
-  If someone else also needs this information, Lori will be sure to get it to them. (Example—Custodian, the Horizon, Pastor, Musicians, etc.)



Please go to [www.zionkent.org](http://www.zionkent.org) to see Zion's improved web site and up-to-date calendar of events!



## + REACH OUT TO SERVE OTHERS . . .



### Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Health Kits

are once again being assembled by Ruth Rachel Circle and you can help! We will be **collecting** these items **through the month of March**. **All items are due back to Zion by April 7th**. Greatest needs are towels, combs and \$\$\$\$.

#### Items needed are:

##### (Questions?)

Call Mary, Dianne,  
or  
Church office,  
253-631-0100)

- \* **Light weight** (they dry quicker than thick, plush ones) **bath-size towels** (maximum 52" x 27"), dark color recommended (No white, please)
- \* Large toothed **Combs** (they are good to use with any hair type)
- \* If you prefer, you can **donate money** - (please make checks out to **ZLCW**, put **'Health Kits'** on the memo line) and we will shop or use it to pay postage to ship the kits.

**The Care Closet at Vine Maple Place** carries all sorts of toiletries and disposable household goods that the single-parent families they serve can use to help stretch their monthly income. Right now, the Care Closet is very low on supplies, and they could really use our help. During Lent, please consider purchasing any of the items listed below while you are at the store and leave them in the designated basket in the Fellowship Hall. Donations will be delivered each week to our neighbors in need. Thank you!



- ◇ Shampoo and conditioner (curly hair products from Cantu and Shea Moisture appreciated).
- ◇ soap (liquid or bar)
- ◇ body lotion
- ◇ deodorant
- ◇ shaving cream and razors
- ◇ feminine products
- ◇ toothpaste, toothbrushes, and floss

**Vine Maple Place 'Meals-in-a-bag'** supplies are very low. There is no need for you to cook! Vine Maple Place provides the instructions and recipes - you just need to provide the ingredients! (Instructions and recipes are available in Zion's office) **And** mom has what she needs to make a home cooked meal for her family! **Questions?** Contact Lisa O'Leary, [lisao@vinemapleplace.org](mailto:lisao@vinemapleplace.org) or 425-432-2119 x104



### **Awesome Readers at Park Orchard Elementary** Kent, Washington - by Marlene

The purpose of Awesome Readers is to encourage children to read outside of the school day, reinforcing the encouragement of teachers to read 20 minutes a day. Parents (or other adults) sign the tracking sheet (pink paper) indicating the child has read 5 – 20-minute blocks or has been read to by another person for a total of 100 minutes. Every completed pink paper is exchanged for a small prize. When a student turns in 5 pink papers (500 minutes of reading) they earn a book. Children may choose their book from a large selection of choices. Children choose 1, 2, or 3 pink papers to take home for the next week. A Special Prize is earned by completing 20 slips (equal to reading 2,000 minutes).

The children come to our location during their recess time to select prizes. They rush into the portable and wait patiently to explore the prize tables. Participation has increased from last year with an average of 100 children participating each week. For example during the week of Feb. 7th, 100 children came through the portable and 47 books were earned. Preschool classes get a special visit from the AR

volunteer in their classroom.

The staff has been very supportive of the program. We are greeted with "Thank you for being at our school." as we see staff in the hallways. They have even related that for some of the children, AR is the best part of the week.

AR is a program of the Park Orchard elementary school PTSA. While we have a budget from PTSA, this small organization lacks the funds to fully support the AR program. As such, many of the prizes are donated by our volunteers. Half of the current volunteers are from our church. (Shelley, Nancy, Richard and Linda, and Don and Marlene)

At this time we need people who can be substitutes when we are short of volunteers. The time is from 10:45 AM until 1:00 PM on Wednesdays when school is in session. Please let me know if you would like more information about substituting.

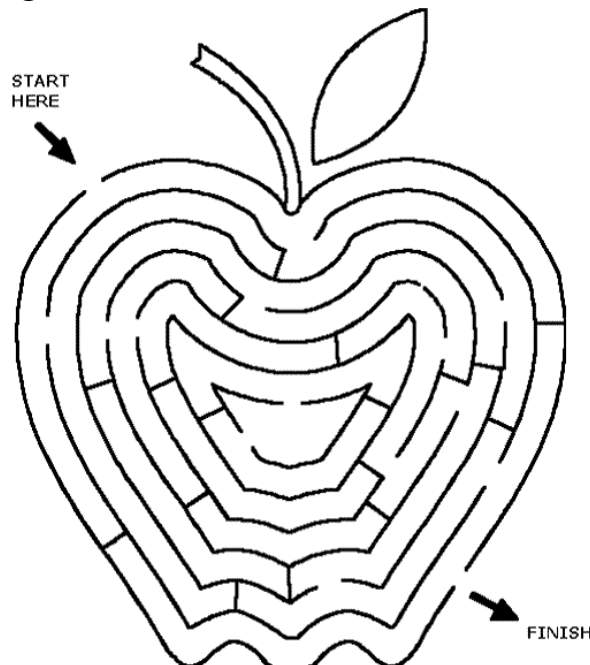
In addition, a basket is in the office to collect books. We have had several members donate books and prizes that encourage the children to keep reading!!!

**WITH JOY AND THANKSGIVING WE OFFER OUR TIME AND OUR TREASURES . . .**

Week Ending	2/4/2024	2/11/2024	2/18/2024	2/25/2024	Year to Date
General Fund	\$6,383.00	\$9,712.02	\$2,949.00	\$3,433.77	\$46,335.23
Required for Budget	\$8,329.88	\$8,329.88	\$8,329.88	\$8,329.88	\$66,639.08
Excess/(Shortfall)	(1946.88)	1382.14	(5380.88)	(4896.11)	(20303.85)
Designated Offerings:					
Building Fund	\$299.00	\$188.00	\$123.00	\$153.00	
Gifts	\$48.00	\$253.00	\$28.00	\$327.00	\$1,541.44
Rent				\$690.00	\$2,540.00
Facility Use, Utilities	\$500.00				\$1,500.00
Holiday, Special					\$0.00
Reimbursements	\$10.00	\$81.75			\$1,418.71
Total Designated	\$857.00	\$522.75	\$151.00	\$1,170.00	\$7,000.15
Total Deposits:	\$7,240.00	\$10,234.77	\$3,100.00	\$4,603.77	\$53,335.38
Trust Fund Income					
Memorials					\$0.00
Loan interest				\$408.56	\$828.36
Good Samaritan					\$0.00
Other Trust			\$501.44	\$764.76	\$104,637.72
Total Trust Income:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$501.44	\$1,173.32	\$105,466.08

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY:**
**Apple Maze**

You can't judge apples (or people) by outward appearance.



"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

Mark 7:6b (NIV)

## + REJOICE IN GOD'S GRACE . . .



Thank you **Zion Lutheran Church** for your donations & gifts:

From: Corner of Love.....\$ 1486.73

Dear Reverend Kelly and friends,

You changed lives in 2023. Thank you for your congregation's generous support in 2023. We are so grateful for your collective commitment to service.

Many thanks, Kelly McDonald  
Regional Advancement Manager  
Lutheran Community Services NW

Thank you to everyone who made my birthday surprise so wonderful. Words cannot fully express how grateful I am for each and every one of you!

Thanks again, Linda



**Thanks, to ALL the Horizon Helpers** over the years! Also to Karen for organizing the crew to assemble and mail the newsletter each month.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR . . .

### Easter Joy

As we begin the month of March, we are well into the Lenten season in the journey toward Holy Week. As I think of the approach of Easter, the one word in my mind is joy. Joy in creation itself, as trees have started to bud and leaf out, as bulbs have begun to bloom, and flowers show their gorgeous colors. Joy in my attitude as the winter grays have started to fade away and days are a bit brighter. Joy in knowing that we will soon celebrate the empty tomb on Easter Sunday, and the resurrection of our beloved Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We still have a lot to get through before that Sunday morning, though, don't we? Holy Week is a mixture of sorrow and joy throughout the week. On Palm Sunday Jesus rides into Jerusalem to the joyful shouts of "Hosanna," and people cheering as he enters the great city. And yet, Jesus himself has just been shedding tears for the lost who don't and won't recognize him for who he is; for the pain and suffering that is to come, not just for himself, but for his disciples and those who love and follow him. On Maundy Thursday, he will celebrate Passover with his friends, a joyous time of remembering how God saved the people of Israel. Joy, followed by a time of lament and surrender as Jesus prays in the garden that evening before he is arrested. On Good Friday, there seems so little joy as the same people who cheered

Jesus on now call for his crucifixion and watch as he is nailed to a cross to die. The silence of Holy Saturday seems to pull at our hope as we wait and pray and mourn.

But then, we hear the running feet of the women who had visited the tomb on Sunday morning, who had heard those most joyous words from the angels. We hear Mary Magdalene's breathless voice as she declares to the apostles that she has seen Jesus, that he is not dead, but very much alive. Joy! Joy! Joy!

The writer of Hebrews tells us to *"run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."* (Hebrews 12:1b-2)



We might ask how Jesus could possibly face the cross with joy – yet, he did, for he knew the result of it meant our salvation. This is the key to all the difficult times we also face. The joy of our salvation can give us hope and the presence of the Lord will give us strength to persevere. No matter what is thrown at us in this world, the ultimate victory is ours in Christ Jesus, so let us rejoice and be glad in our salvation! May you approach Easter with both hope and joy!

Ever in His grip, Pastor Kelly

## OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP AND SERVE



### Shopping Cart Sunday is every Sunday!

Your donation of non-perishable food items for the Kent Food Bank, placed in the shopping cart in the narthex, helps during these times of great need.

**Help us keep our Free Pantry** (next to Education building) filled by bringing in quick shelf stable items (boxed dinners, snacks items, rice, pasta, boxed juices, etc.) for people to take as they need. (no canned items at this time)

**Volunteers** are needed on Sunday mornings. If you think you would like to help usher, greet people, provide goodies for coffee hour, be a Scripture reader or part of the choir, just ask someone who you see doing that job to learn more!



**Volunteers needed for upcoming Youth and Family activities:** Contact - llord@zionkent.org

† **Sunday School Preschool Shepherd (assistant)**

† **Zion Roots Youth Ministry (helpers)**

**YOU Can Help!**



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - FEBRUARY 13, 2024

## Council Members for 2024

Mark	President	Linda	VP/Personnel
Sally	Treasurer; Flsp/Evan	Steve	Secretary
	* * * * *		
Melanie	Worship & Music	Richard	TBD
Karen	Stewardship	Brian	Youth & Family
Joan	Fellowship & Evangelism	Nancy	TBD
Jill	Worship & Music	George	TBD
	~ ~ ~ ~ ~		

**Meeting** called to order at 6:34 pm by President Mark.

**Present:** Melanie, Jill, Mark, Linda, Joan, Sally, Nancy, George, Steven, Pastor Kelly Westlund **Excused Absences:** Karen, Richard, Brian **Guests:** None

**Devotions** provided by Joan. Opening prayer provided by Mark. Nancy will provide devotions in March.

**M/S/P** to accept January 2024 minutes as written.

### Treasurer's report for January 2024:

	month of Jan	Year-to-date
Operating Income	\$ 25, 730.42	\$ 25, 730.42
Operating Expenses	\$ 30,959.07	\$ 30,959.07
Excess (shortfall)	(\$ 5,228.65)	(\$ 5,228.65)

### Old Business

- M/S/P** to accept the slate of members for the Personnel Committee as represented below. (This is a 2-year term with a maximum of 2 terms allowed.)

#### Current members and current status for 2024:

- Susan** – 2nd year of 1st term, First Member-at-Large (required by Bylaws)
- Paul** – 1st year of 1st term, Second Member-at-Large (required by Bylaws)
- Sonja** – 1st year of 1st term, Worship & Music Cmte Representative
- Mrs. Marion** – 2nd year of 1st term, Youth & Family Cmte Representative
- Linda** – Vice President, as required by Bylaws
- Beth** – 1st year of 1st term, Third Member-at-Large (not required but allowed by Bylaws)

### New Business & Action Items:

- Council needs to appoint an **Audit Committee** (Bylaws Part VII.A) for a one-year term. (Steven and Cheryl are confirmed as the 2 congregational members, we need one member from Council.)
  - A document prepared by Charlene outlines the expectations and responsibilities for the position - Mark or Jill will check if they have it.
  - No volunteers have stepped forward; tabled until next month.
- Council Committee Assignments**
  - Worship and Music – Melanie and Jill
  - Evangelism and Fellowship – Joan
  - Property – TBD
  - Youth and Family - Brian
  - Stewardship – Karen
- Pastor Kelly's Installation Date** – Pastor Kelly has emailed Pastor Steve to determine a suitable day. Possibly 4/20 or 4/27.
- Johanna has agreed to serve for another year as **Financial Secretary** for congregation (Bylaws Part V.C.1). Would there be any backup, particularly with experience with Excel. (Mark will talk with Johanna and Tim about the specifics involved with the position.)
- Status of **updated salaries and contracts** for Lori, Debora, Andrew, and Pat.
  - Mr. Marion will be reviewing Pat's contract for updates
  - Paul has committed to finishing updating salaries and contracts – no additional information as of Feb 13. Will be revisited next month.
- M/S/P** that **Zion apply for membership of the LCMC NW District**. Pastor Kelly will complete the 1-page application. (This

will entail splitting the benevolence currently being given to the national LCMC organization between the national and the NW District.)

- M/S/P** to approve the following individuals as the official signees for Zion Lutheran Church at Home Street Bank and WAFD Bank--- Mark, Council President, Linda, Vice-President, Steven, Secretary and Richard, Account Manager
- A community business member has asked **to rent the Fellowship Hall** for occasional Wednesday mornings meetings from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. The meetings would consist of 50-60 people who need a place to meet while construction has displaced them from their usual meeting place in the Kent Commons. We will request a free-will donation for the use of the room. Mark has agreed to follow up with the interested person to find out more information.
- Thirty **I Am a Church Member** books are being delivered this week; perhaps passing them out to committee members first and later organizing an Adult Ed class around the book. More to come.
- Council hosting Soup Supper will be March 13**. Steve will send out an email asking for people from Council to make soups for that evening.

**Security Incident Reports** - None.

### Staff Reports

**Pastor** - Report for Tuesday, February 13, 2024

#### Items of interest – January 2024 Activities

- I received a list from Pastor Barden regarding visitation – this was helpful to round out the list I have already started. In January, I made visits to Nancy, Gail, Betty, Blanche and Otto, and Betty.
- We have begun preparations for the Lenten Season, which starts with Ash Wednesday on February 14. I'm planning a sermon series for the Wednesday evening services on the topic of Lament, and we will look at several Psalms of lament leading up to Easter.
- We had a great Council and staff retreat on January 27 – having both groups attend was wonderful for building community within the leadership of Zion. We discussed a book titled, "I Am a Church Member," by Thom Rainer and it was really encouraging to hear everyone's thoughts on what it is to be a functioning member of a church, and specifically Zion. There are plans to share the book with the wider congregation, as well as with new members.
- The staff has been meeting weekly on Thursday mornings, and it has been very helpful for us to have that time together to coordinate various activities and plan for weekly worship.
- The Prayer Course has been great with 20-24 people in attendance each week. What fun to hear about how people's prayer lives are changing as we learn different ways to practice the discipline of prayer.

#### Action items for Council

- In speaking with Lisa Lord about the backpack lunches at Jenkins Creek, she mentioned that they need more help with food for the backpacks. They currently pack 20+ bags each week for distribution on Fridays. Lisa also checked with another school that is in need of more donations in the area. Is there a way we can partner with these schools to help the children who experience weekend food insecurity. Options might be: benevolence \$ to purchase food, posting the Amazon shopping link for members to shop from (orders would be sent directly to schools), collecting food here at Zion and taking to the schools. Other thoughts and ideas welcome!  
(Pastor Kelly will follow up with Stewardship Committee to determine if donations can be organized for Jenkins Creek for this purpose.)

#### Church Musicians (Debora Mackey)

- Holden Lenten services musicians and cantors are scheduled.
- Lent liturgy is all set. Bulletin and Ppt. changes have been made.
- Hymns are chosen up to Holy Week, which should be finalized soon.
- I'm scheduling special music for one Sunday in Lent and also for Holy Week services.



- Sundays and Seasons license will automatically renew beginning of Mar.
- I'm out of town 2/15-21. Ppt for Lent 1 on 2/18 and 1st Holden service on 21st, will be checked before I leave.
- Carl will play organ for Sunday 2/18 and also 3/10. Margaret will play piano for 1st Holden Evening Prayer service on 21st.
- Choir will be singing on Ash Wed. and also March 10.
- Holy Week services will be planned soon with Pastor Kelly.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Fellowship/Evangelism Committee (Pat)**

Fellowship/Evangelism Cm did not meet, no report or action items.

##### **Property Management and Technology Cms: (Marion)**

##### **Report for Thursday, February 1, 2024**

**Cm Members Present:** Brian, Dave, Mike, Marion

##### **Items of interest**

- Discussed replacing or repairing office door lock (Mike will check on this).
- Will replace electric door lock (Don).
- Check with sewer district in Kent about pumping out septic tank on the little house (Mike).
- Paint the "kills it" mold paint in the narthex (Dave).
- Will look into draining the hot water tank for the office area since it sits over the top of the computer system for the church.
- Need to replace fan in the sacristy bathroom and check the toilet (Marion).
- Need to find an electrician to check out the dimmer and sanctuary lighting.
- Discussing whether the narthex lights can be placed on timers.
- Batteries replaced for education building entrance door.

##### **Action items for Council -None**

##### **Stewardship Committee: (Karen)**

Stewardship Committee did not meet, no report or action items.

##### **Worship and Music Committee: (Melanie)**

##### **Report for Tuesday, February 6, 2024**

**Committee Members:** Melanie, Evelyn, Margaret, Carl, Pat, Debora, Sonya, Joanne, Pastor Kelly Westlund

**Members Present:** All the above except Joanne

##### **Items of interest**

- We continued discussing Pastor Kelly's Installation. April 13th has been suggested but nothing is for sure at this point.
- Easter comes early this year 3/31/24 and Ash Wednesday is then on 2/14/24. The choir will present the anthem, "Savior When In Dust To Thee" for the Ash Wednesday service.
- Because of the Sunshine Mountain activities, we will have flowers on the altar for the Sunday service BEFORE Palm Sunday.
- It was decided to have a 9am and 11am Easter Service with a breakfast from 7:30am – 8:30am.
- The new projector/screen is HERE! We have had positive feedback about its clarity. The sound system is still in the process of being reviewed.
- Readers and ushers are assigned through March 31st. Hymn selection is in place through Ash Wednesday. Holy Week services will be planned soon with Pastor Kelly.

##### **Action items for Council -None**

##### **Youth and Family Ministries Committee: (Steve)**

##### **Report for Thursday, February 1, 2024**

**Committee Members Present:** Mrs. Marion, Jenise, Lisa, Brian, Steven.

##### **Items of interest**

- Kudos to the staff in the church office, for their energy & enthusiasm and positive spirit, with special appreciation to Lori Zafft.
- Many thanks to the nursery staff for all the work they do with our young children.

- Education Hour Stats: Confirmation 1/21 (3 students); Adult Education 1/14 and 1/21 (10-12 adults); Sunday School 1/14 and 1/21 (4-6 students); Preschool 1/14 and 1/21 (1 student)
  - Lisa Lord working with Confirmands for upcoming service opportunities (reading, acolyting, etc.)
  - Zion Roots Youth Ministry (2nd-12th grade) - starts February 15, 5pm-7pm. Activity in Feb: Lisa teaches how to make and decorate sugar cookies
  - The Chosen movie event: Feb 10 and 24
  - YFM will host Soup Supper on 2/28. Soup provided by Steve, Brian/Lisa (Gluten free), Beth, and Jenise
  - Indoor egg hunt on Palm Sunday; Easter Day activities being planned for children on Easter Day
  - Confirmands possibly helping with EF on Easter Sun. Brunch (TBD)
  - All committee members encouraged to read I Am a Church Member.
  - Lisa and Brian checking to see about service opportunities for confirmands in the community (i.e. working at The Storehouse, a Covington area foodbank)
  - Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom meeting)
- Action items for Council -None**



#### **Trust Committee (report submitted by Charlene)**

Council Report from Trust Cm as of: **January 2024 - CASH ON HAND**

	Non-Spendable	Available	Fund
<u>Endowment Funds- Cash</u>	Principal	Interest	Total
Zion Endowment	179,987.86	52,094.56	232,082.42
N. Matson Endowment	42,699.82	26,532.49	69,232.31
Schack Endowment	100,000.00	119.45	100,119.45
Wivag Endowment	1,864.82	1,286.67	3,151.49
Zgolinski Endowment	17,593.66	442.45	18,036.11
Subtotal	342,146.16	80,475.62	422,621.78
<b>Other Individual Trust Funds</b>			
General Fund Holding Account			2.08
Pastor Housing Equity Account			-
Memorial Fund			34,980.37
Good Samaritan Fund			6,093.89
Organ/Piano Fund			2,422.34
Subtotal			43,498.68
<b>Trust Funds Total Cash and Certificates of Deposit</b>			<b>466,120.46</b>
<b>Note: Receivable (loaned to General Fund )</b>			
Zion Endowment			85,734.98
N. Matson Endowment			25,218.16
Wivag Endowment			1,142.40
Zgolinski Endowment			10,472.24
Subtotal			122,567.78
<b>Total Trust Fund Assets</b>			<b>588,688.24</b>
All P & I payments are current.			

**Interest due for February is \$408.56 and Principal of \$762.76. Total \$1,171.32**

**PLEASE NOTE: Bulk mailing of the Horizon monthly newsletter was discontinued as of February 1, 2024.**

**So, how does one view the Horizon monthly newsletter:**

The Horizon is available to be received by Email or can be viewed on Zion's Website. Should these options not work for you, there will be some printed copies available in the church narthex for you to pick up. Please contact the church office for more help.

Worship Service Notes for March 2024					
Service of the Word	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday - (Sunshine Mountain Spring Concert)	Palm Sunday	Easter Sunday
<i>Lent / Easter</i>	March 3, 9am	March 10, 9am	March 17, 9am	March 24, 9am	March 31, 9am
Confession of Sins					
Absolution					
Opening Hymn	LBW 104 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"	"Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"	LBW 474 "Children of the Heavenly Father"	LBW 108 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"	TBD
Kyrie / Hymn of Praise					
Salutation; Prayer of Day	Lord Have Mercy	Lord Have Mercy	Lord Have Mercy	Lord Have Mercy	
First Lesson	Exodus 20:1-17	Numbers 21:4-9	Deuteronomy 6:4-9	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Acts 10:34-43
Psalms	Psalms 19	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	Psalms 136:1-9	Psalms 31:9-16	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24
Second Lesson	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Ephesians 2:1-10	Colossians 3:12-17	Philippians 2:5-11	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Gospel Acclamation	LBW pg. 63 - Return to the Lord	LBW pg. 63 - Return to the Lord	LBW pg. 63 - Return to the Lord	LBW pg. 63 - Return to the Lord	
Gospel	John 2:13-22	John 3:14-21	Mark 10:13-16	Mark 14:1-15:47	Mark 16:1-8
Sermon					
Sermon Hymn	LBW 365 "Built on a Rock"	LBW 385 "What Wonderous Love Is This"		"Old Rugged Cross"	TBD
Prayers of the Church					
Apostles' Creed					
Offering / Response					
Service of the Sacrament					
Communion Hymn	LBW 532 "How Great Thou Art"	LBW 212 "Let Us Break Bread Together"	LBW 439 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"	LBW 98 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"	TBD
Thanksgiving / Benediction					
Closing Hymn	"When I Survey the Wonderous Cross"	WOV 699 "Blessed Assurance"	WOV 721 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"	LBW 107 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"	TBD
Dismissal					
Church Services at Zion: <i>In Person</i> , Live Streamed and Recordings on YouTube					
Sunday Worship Services at 9am are live streamed on YouTube and held in-person. Please check our web page <a href="http://www.zionkent.org">www.zionkent.org</a> for any updates and links. You may Subscribe to our Youtube channel and/or join our Facebook group "Zion Lutheran Church Kent".					

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**www.zionkent.org**  
**25105—132nd Ave SE**  
**Kent, WA 98042**

**Sunday Morning Schedule**

All Church Worship - 9:00 am  
*(also continues to be Live Streamed)*

**Holy Week Worship Schedule**

**Palm Sunday** + March 24, 9am  
**Maundy Thursday** + March 28, 7pm  
**Good Friday** + March 29, 7pm  
**Easter Sunday** + March 31, 9am & 11am

Pastor: Kelly Westlund pastor@zionkent.org

Youth and Family Ministry Coordinators:

Adult: TBD  
Youth: Lisa Lord LLord@zionkent.org (ext **115**)

Office Manager: Lori Zafft office@zionkent.org (ext **110**)

Office phone: 253-631-0100 Web site: www.zionkent.org *(Check out our updates !)*  
Office fax: 253-630-8006

Office hours: **Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm**

**April Horizon Deadline:  
Friday, March 15th**

To submit articles for the Horizon:  
office@zionkent.org or drop off at the church office

**In Jesus Christ we ...  
REJOICE in God's Grace,  
RENEW through God's Word and  
REACH OUT to serve others,  
... all to the Glory of God!**

**MEDIA USE NOTICE** Occasionally pictures or movies are taken of different activities that take place at Zion Lutheran Church. If you do not want pictures/movies that you may be in published in Zion Lutheran Church publications or social media, you need to notify the church office and/or submit a request form to: office@zionkent.org.  
(The request form is under "forms" on our web site)