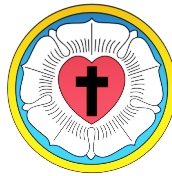


Old Zion/Alt Zion
Lutheran Church
Monthly Newsletter
January 2021

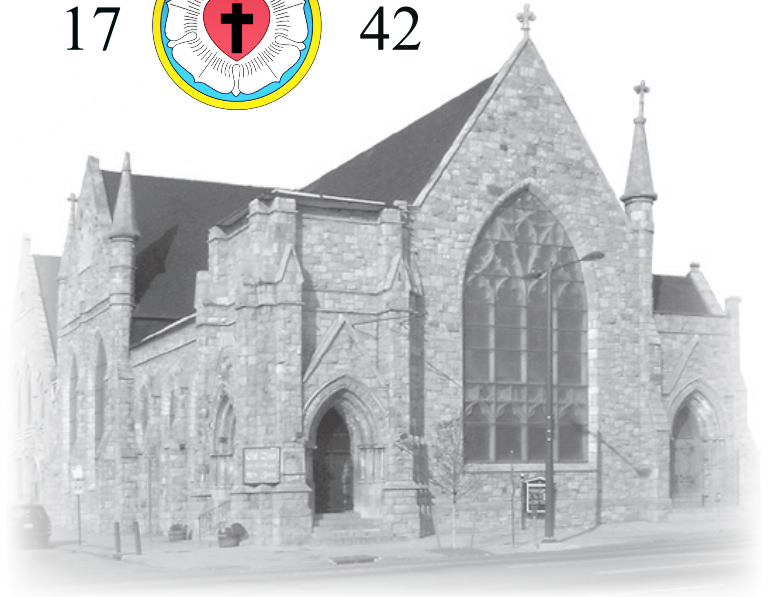
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628 N. Broad St, P.O. Box 24816
Philadelphia, PA 19130-phone # 215-765-5883
<http://oldzionlutheran.org>

Rev. Daniel P. Metzger, Pastor
Betty Meyer, Editor



*“Let your light so shine before men, that they
may see your good works and glorify your Fa-
ther in heaven.”*

*“Also laßt euer Licht leuchten vor den Leuten,
daß sie eure guten Werke sehen und euren Vater
im Himmel preisen.”*

Matthew 5:16

A Word from the Pastor

From the Large Catechism, the 3rd Article:

In his explanation of the third Article of the Creed, Luther makes the point that the Holy Spirit “sanctifies” us—makes us holy—by bringing us to faith in Christ. That is the importance of the means of grace—they are the Holy Spirit’s tools for bringing us to faith and giving us Christ’s holiness: “For neither you nor I could ever know anything of Christ, or believe on Him, and obtain Him for our Lord, unless it were offered to us and granted to our hearts by the Holy Ghost through the preaching of the Gospel. The work is done and accomplished; for Christ has acquired and gained the treasure for us by His suffering, death, resurrection, etc. But if the work remained concealed so that no one knew of it, then it would be in vain and lost. That this treasure, therefore, might not lie buried, but be appropriated and enjoyed, God has caused the Word to go forth and be proclaimed, in which He gives the Holy Spirit to bring this treasure home and appropriate it to us. Therefore sanctifying is nothing else than bringing us to Christ to receive this good, to which we could not attain of ourselves.”

Our Annual Meeting is just a few weeks away!

The Annual Meeting for Old Zion Lutheran Congregation will take place on the third Sunday of February—February 21st —after a combined service. We may have to do things a bit differently because of the Covid pandemic, but on the docket will be the usual business of the congregation: committee reports, the proposed budget for the year, elections, etc. Everyone’s attendance and participation are important, so watch for Council decisions on how we will proceed!



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Keep up with changes on our web site especially the new Old Zion History blog, and check out our posts on Facebook!

Word from Pastor (continued)

From Pastor and Nancy Metzger, “Thanks to all the folks of Old Zion!”

My wife Nancy and I extend to all of you our heartfelt thanks for the many cards, gifts, and Christmas blessings that we have received. We very much appreciate your generosity. We hope that all of you have had a most blessed Christmas season, and we wish you all
A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

And Thanks for your help!

This last year has been so different because of the pandemic and the resultant restrictions on both our worship and our congregational activities. Usually this January newsletter would include “Thank You’s” to all those who had helped with the Christmas dinner, the sing-along, etc. This year we could not do those things. But we still want to thank those many people who decorated the fellowship hall, supplied the tree and set up the manger-scene in the sanctuary, changed the paraments, cleaned, etc. Thank you all!

No Bible Study for January

Bible Study is cancelled for this month. We will pick up our study of the prophet Jeremiah again in February.

Altar Flowers

For each Sunday Service Old Zion provides the opportunity to place Altar flowers in memory or honor of Loved Ones, or to the Glory of God. If interested, please talk to Betty Meyer, she is happy to take your order. Please see the bulletins for openings.

Altar Flowers needed for January:

1/10 - (1); 1/24- (2); 1/3 - (2)

Happy Birthday to:

- 1/3 - Alena Reiser
- 1/14 - Joan Wachlin
- 1/20 - Pastor Metzger
- 1/28 - Josh Kurtz



Food and clothing collection

Consider some special donations to our collections of food and clothing!

This is a good time for us to consider making some extra donations to our ongoing collections here at Old Zion. The food-stuffs and the articles of clothing, especially warm things like scarfs, hats gloves etc. that you give will be put to good use.



The Frauenverein Thanks

its members, friends and the congregation for help with the “Red Sock” collection which made a monetary Christmas gift to the Lutheran Settlement House possible.

Please remember our sick and shut-ins in your prayers!

And please consider sending a greeting card, making a phone call or a visit and make someone happy with a wish for a happy New Year!

And again, a special thanks to Jaye Green and J.P. Meyer

We have been able to do something that many larger congregations have not been able to do—live-stream our worship services each Sunday and on Christmas Eve. That is because of the special technological leadership and expertise contributed by our organist, J.P. Meyer. And Jaye Green, our soloist, has faithfully showed up to sing the liturgy and the hymns so that those at home could join in the worship. On Christmas Eve, Sharon Derstine contributed her beautiful voice also. For all that you guys have done and for all that you continue to do, Old Zion congregation thanks you!

Frauenverein Advent Meeting



On November 10, 2020, our Frauenverein/Women's Auxiliary, came together for a very nice Advent's Lunch in our beautifully decorated Fellowship Hall.

It was because of Covid -19 that we were unable to celebrate our usual Christmas Hymn Singing and yearly Christmas Dinner and Raffle.

As unhappy as we were about this situation, we had to celebrate Advent and Christmas in even the smallest way. So, our small group enjoyed Sandwiches, coffee, cake and cookies, did our usual raffle for a donated gift and had a great time talking and reminiscing. We did not forget the reason for Christmas and thanked God for the gift of his son, Jesus Christ.

Thank you to our hostess for the day, Jaye W. Green, who did a wonderful job.

A Christmas message from Martin Luther:

“Through the Gospel this light is brought to us, not from a distance, nor do we need to go far to obtain it; it is very near us and shines in our hearts”

Let's carry this thought into the new Year!



Old Zion Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall Rental Opportunities

Now that we have incorporated climate control elements into our lovely Fellowship Hall, the council of **Old Zion Lutheran Church** has made the Fellowship Hall available to members, friends, and those in the greater community on a rental basis for various functions, meetings, and events.

The Fellowship Hall is ideal for meetings and classes, small cabaret performances or recitals, and personal celebrations (anniversaries, birthdays, etc). The hall can be rented on an hourly basis at \$150 per hour, or for a larger block of time at a discounted rate (4 hours for \$500). Ongoing rentals can also be considered.

Aside from both heating and cooling to meet your needs, the Fellowship Hall has space for approximately 70-90 people. We can provide tables and chairs to accommodate your guests, easy access to bathrooms, and space to put out any refreshments you may wish to serve. Basic wifi is provided, as is a large projector screen that can be pulled down for your convenience. We ask that any decorations be approved prior to use.

For more information, please see our new "Space Rental" page on the website by visiting www.oldzionlutheran.org/rental, or by searching for **Old Zion Lutheran Church** on the Philadelphia Space Finder (philly.spacefinder.org). For more direct information, please feel free to communicate with **Pastor Metzger** or **Jaye Green**, the head of our leasing committee.