**Ash Wednesday – Feb 10**

****Please plan to join us Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 for our Ash Wednesday Divine Service. Preceding the service, Mary Martha will serve a meal in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30-6:30. The menu is beef stew, salad and desserts. There will be a freewill offering with proceeds going to mission projects.

**Thank You**

Thank you to all who came to my 90th birthday open house, and helped to make it a very special day. Thank you also for all of the beautiful cards, phone greetings and your prayers.

God’s Blessings, Merna Oertwig

**Annual Report**

There are copies of the Zion Lutheran Church & School Annual Report for 2015 available in the office for those who were not able to attend the voters meeting last Sunday.

**Chili Cookoff**

Mark your calender for the February 21 Chili cook-off hosted by the Zion Youth Group. Indviduals as well as boards and organizations are invited to get out your best chili recipies to compete for first place. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

**Stewardship**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-5** “Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful.” Love is the greatest of the three “theological virtues” because God is Love. That is why love is the fulfillment of the Law, because the Law is the reflection of God's being and God is love. St. Paul urges the Corinthians to grow in love, to grow up into the image of Christ who demonstrates what love looks like with His sacrifice on the cross. For love always seeks the good of the other, always seeks to serve, to give, to bless.

**Announcements – January 31, 2016**

**Please remember...to silence your cell phone upon entering the sanctuary.**

**Zion’s sanctuary is equipped with a HEARING LOOP. Please switch hearing aids to T-coil mode. We have 2 headsets and receivers that persons without hearing aids can use. Ask an usher for assistance.**

**Our Weekly Memory Work**

**Holy Baptism 4: What does baptizing with water indicate? Where is this written?**

**ZYG Activity Today**

Our youth will get together this afternoon from 1:00-3:00 at Jill Bates Home for games and fellowship. Hot Chocolate bar will be provided, please bring a snack to share. Please call Kelly at 308-293-0032 or Jill at 234-4099 if you have any questions.

**VBS Leader**

We need a volunteer to organize Vacation Bible School this year. If you are willing or have questions about what is involved, please speak with Mr. Splittgerber or Pastor DeLoach.

**February Saturday Services**

Througout the month of February the Divine Service will not be offered on Saturdays.

**Choir, Handbells, Handchimes**

Reminder to members of these choirs, rehersals will begin again this Wednesday, February 3.

**Note from the Board of Stewardship**

If you do not want offering envelopes for the year 2017, please advise the church office. We will order 2017 envelopes in March. Thank You.

Dear Members of Zion Lutheran Church,

Grace, mercy, and peace be unto you from God the Father through Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord.

As we are about to enter another Lenten season where we ponder Christ's sacrifice for us, Zion is excited to introduce a new and easy way to give our first fruits from the bounty that God has given to us! You can now give simply and easily using *Pushpay* for your tithes, offerings, and special gifts!

To start, text "zionkearney" to 77977 and you will receive a link to our custom giving page. Or you can text "pushpay" to "77977" and you will receive a link to download the app. Then click on Zion Lutheran Church - Kearney, NE, as the church you want to support. Your gift is deposited into our *General Fund* to support all of the Lord’s work at Zion. Or, you may choose to fund a specific focus or program from the drop down menu.

You can also go to our church website ([www.zionkearney.com](http://www.zionkearney.com/)), choose the *Giving* tab and click on the *Pushpay* Icon in order to give a one-time gift or to set up a recurring gift to Zion.

*Pushpay* currently accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover, as well as ACH (bank account) gifts!  So you know, the processing company receives 2.5 to 3% to process a credit/debit card payment and only 1% to process an ACH payment.  In other words Zion receives 1.5 to 2% more of your donation if you take a moment to choose *ACH* payment and provide *Pushpay* your bank account information.

For more info, watch the short clip here: <https://vimeo.com/143216881>

If you prefer giving cash or a check for your donation, please continue to do so. This is simply another easy and secure way of giving.  Use *Pushpay* at any time (24/7) and anywhere to make an offering to Zion.  In the coming weeks we will launch a mobile church app, where you can find the latest announcements, prayer requests, sermon podcasts, and information on upcoming events.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Blattner or Shirley Oertwig at school@zionkearney.org or 308-234-3410. God’s blessings to you and yours.

Yours in Christ,

Pr. James DeLoach

**School News**

* Our teachers will attend an in-service in Hasting this Friday, Feb. 5, there will be no school.
* Enrolment for the 2016-2017 continues. There are openings in our early childhood classes.
* The boys basketball team will participate in a tournament in Grand Island Feb. 6
* Parent teacher conferences are scheduled for February 18. There will be no school February 18 or 19.
* We are now making preparations for Lutheran Schools Week which will be held February 29-March 5. Grandparent’s day is Friday, March 4.

**Family Arts Festival**

Check out the flyer on the bulletin board about the Family Arts Festival to be held Saturday, February 20. It will be an exciting day mixed with art, music, theater, dance and fun for all.