

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Hollice, Marlene, Joyce, Audrey, Susan, Bernice, Maria, Miles, Tom, Marian, Anne, Leanne, Hans, Margaret, Isabelle, Ingrid, Al, Melinda, John, Dan, Brian, Paul, Glenn, Jim, Nya, Lynnette, Cathy, Brock, Katana and Kolby;
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

Mon. February 12

2:00 PM Prayer Shawl in Parlour
6:00 PM Pathfinders in Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Youth Symphony in Parlour &
Shuffleboard Room

Tues. February 13

7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall
2:00 PM Worship at Greenwood
6:30 PM Sparks in Fellowship Hall

Wed. February 14

“Ash Wednesday”

9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour
1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group in their office
2:00 PM Worship at McCarthy Place
4:30-7:30 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room
5:00 PM Bethel Community Meal in FH
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship

Thurs. February 15

12:00 NOON Bible Study in Parlour
2:30 PM Worship at Knollcrest
4:15 PM Confirmation in Parlour
7:00 PM Choir Practice in Fellowship Hall

Sun. February 18

“Lent 1”

10:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Wilker Baptism

SERVING ASH WEDNESDY, FEBRUARY 14TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Wayne & Linda Faulhafer

Reader: Aline Kouhi-Klemencic

Usher Captain: Brian Coe

Counting Captain: N/A

Altar: Shirley Whittaker

House of Blessing: N/A

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Paul & Janet Jeffery

Reader: Murray Scholl

Usher Captain: Jerry Terhaerd

Counting Captain: Janet Chandler

Altar: Carmen Beck

House of Blessing: Irvin Riehl



February 11, 2024

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

email: zionlc@golden.net

Cell: 519-274-1300

website: www.zionstratford.com

People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 11, 2024

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 838: "Beautiful Saviour"

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm: 50:1-6

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Children's Message

Sermon:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/qsVRt0Nf4kI?si=3vUGm8F2unAyAw2i>

Hymn 315: "How Good, Lord, to Be Here"

Apostles' Creed	Page 127
Prayers of Intercession	
Sharing the Peace	Page 128

Choir Anthem: "With Grateful Heart" arr. Mark Schweizer

MEAL

Offering Hymn 182: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Blessing of Quilts

Offertory Prayer	Page 129
The Great Thanksgiving	Page 129
Communion Prayer	Page 130
The Lord's Prayer	Page 134
Distribution of Holy Communion	

Distribution Hymns: 510, 314

Post-Communion Blessing	
Post-Communion Prayer	Page 136

SENDING

Blessing	Page 136
Hymn 318: "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"	
Dismissal	Page 137
Postlude	

Zion Lutheran Church welcomes our **visitors and guests**. We are pleased that you have come to join us in the worship of our God of grace and love. May you be strengthened and uplifted in our time together. *Please sign our guest register and make yourself known to Pastor Jeff.* We hope that you will plan to be with us, again, at your earliest opportunity.

All people of faith and those who seek faith are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This morning, we will be distributing the Lord's Supper in a continuous fashion. Trays holding individual cups of wine are on stands at either side of Pastor Jeff for those wishing to receive wine. The ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the center aisle.

Please note that masks are now "optional or personal preference". Disposable masks remain at all entrances for those wishing to continue to wear one.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME BACK: We are pleased to welcome back Franklin Famme who will delight us with his musical talents. Thank you Franklin for being here with us this morning.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDER: A reminder that Sunday School will end at 11:15 A.M. We ask that parents/guardians wait until that time before coming for your children.

A reminder to all that we are a **nut-free** Sunday School. We have a student in our Sunday School who is allergic to nuts.

THERE IS NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18th.

2023 OFFICIAL RECEIPTS FROM WOMEN OF FAITH: For those of you attending worship this morning; if you gave donations to the Women of Faith, your 2023 Official Receipts for Income Tax are available for pickup on the table at the back of the Sanctuary; all others will be mailed out.



QUILTS FOR SALE: As you can see, the beautiful quilts made by our talented quilting ladies are on display on the front pews in the Sanctuary this morning. Please feel free to have a look at them. The sizes and costs are on each quilt. Keep in mind they make lovely accents to any couch or chair in your home. Don't forget "Mother's Day" is May 12th and will be here before we know it. If you would like to purchase one of these beautiful quilts, please see Irene Ehgoetz or give her a call at 519-271-8878.

The **Women of Faith** would like to thank everyone for the donations to **Stratford Connections** during the holiday season. We had a wonderful response to this important need in our Community. As the winter weather continues we ask that the contributions of outdoor clothing keep coming in. In the near future Spring coats will also be welcome.

Individual, wrapped snack items and gift coupons for food to local food stores are particularly needed. All items are collected weekly and delivered to the centre. **THANK YOU!**

STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING: We have received an updated list of much-needed items from the House of Blessing. To help them with their significant increase in the number of people using their services since this time last year, as you are able, if you could bring **carrots or peanut butter** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING FUND RAISER: We have been made aware by Shane Thurman of Live Well Fundraisers that he is working with Eva at the House of Blessing in a community collaboration to raise funds and support two (2) new local businesses. With the blessing of Patrick, owner of the two (2) Domino's Pizza locations in Stratford, they are able to make this happen. He has asked that we share the enclosed flyer with our members here at Zion. Chances are you are aware of the unfortunate growing need for food banks in Canada. You may be aware of how most small businesses fail within the first five (5) years and are struggling to pay back Covid loans. This fundraiser helps address both by providing value on things families will purchase anyway.

By purchasing the fundraiser at one of the local businesses listed, families save money on pizza they will buy anyway during the year while helping the food bank. Two new local businesses get more awareness because you shared. As an incentive to come in, coffee lovers receive a free coffee for purchasing at *Bake My Day* and *The Bean* or \$5.00 off a haircut at *Fitzzy's Fades*. Both businesses receive a portion of the funds from the \$25.00 purchase as well to help them with needed cash flow in their early days.

For more information please see the enclosed flyer.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY'S "EDUCATION HOUR". You are invited to join their Public Education Coordinators for a one-hour virtual presentation on **brain health, cognitive changes and dementia**. The next presentation is on **Thursday, February 15th at 1:30 P.M. and again at 7:00 P.M.** The topic is **"Types of Dementia"**. To self-register, visit www.alzheimer.ca/huronperth. If you have any questions please call 519-271-1910 or 519-482-1482.

BETHEL COMMUNITY MEAL: The next Bethel Community Meal will take place in the Fellowship Hall here at Zion on Wednesday, February 14th at 5:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome!

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP – While it may seem strange that the first day of Lent falls on Valentine's Day this year, St. Paul reminds us that *"God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us."* (Romans 5:8). On **Wednesday, February 14**, we will begin the holy season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service at

7:00 pm. The service will include the confession of sins for Ash Wednesday, the imposition of ashes which calls us to “*remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return,*” and the celebration of Holy Communion which reminds us that it was “*in the night in which he was betrayed [that] the Lord Jesus took [bread and wine] and said ... ‘Do this in remembrance of me.’*” Lent calls us to return to the Lord in worship and service as we prepare ourselves for our observance of Christ’s death on the Cross on Good Friday, March 29, and our celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday, March 31.

LENTEN LUNCHESES – Once again this year, the Stratford and District Council of Churches and the Kiwanis Club of Stratford are sponsoring a series of six **Lenten Lunches** that will be held at Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church beginning on **Ash Wednesday, February 14**, at 12:00 noon. The theme of this year’s Lenten Lunches is ***Easter Opposites***. Each lunch will begin promptly at noon and includes soups, sandwiches, veggies, dessert, coffee, tea, and water. The weekly presentation will begin at 12:35 pm; speakers this year include David Butler, Allie McDougall, Sandy Bender, David Thompson, Troy Watson, and Martin Dam. The cost of each lunch is \$11.00. Reservations are not required, but it is recommended that you arrive early as these lunches are very popular, and space is limited.

STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENT: The next blood donor clinic (by appointment) is taking place on **Tuesday, February 20th from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Stratford Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Road. Book now by calling 1-888-236-6283.**

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR – Pastor Jeff will once again be walking in this fundraiser for the United Way of Perth Huron and Shelterlink Youth Services on **Saturday, February 24**. While Pastor Jeff has participated in the walk for many years, this will be his first year walking as a member of the team from Shelterlink, of which he is a member of the Board of Directors. The walk takes place in the cold of winter to raise awareness of those who are unhoused or underhoused during these harsh winter months and to raise funds for community organizations that work to address these issues in our community. There will be opportunities to support Pastor Jeff through a sign-up sheet that will be available in the narthex at Sunday worship; you can

also contact Pastor Jeff directly to sponsor his walk (laustsen311@gmail.com) or contribute through the Coldest Night of the Year website (www.cnoy.org); his name is listed under the Shelterlink team.

TOWN HALL GATHERING – The Future Directions Task Force invites all members of the congregation to a day of discussion and discernment on **Saturday, March 2 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. This gathering will include conversations on the aspects of our life as a congregation that have been a blessing to us, the challenges and obstacles we are facing in our ministry, and where we see God leading us into God's future. The results of this gathering will become a part of the Task Force's recommendation to the Congregational Council as we discern our future direction as God's people in this place. Please contact the church office or Pastor Jeff at laustsen311@gmail.com if you would like to participate in this event.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUPPORT. STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING AND SAVE MONEY ON DOMINO'S PIZZA?



Domino's Pizza in partnership with LiveWell Promotions, is excited to present an extraordinary fundraising opportunity. By participating, you not only save money but get to support Stratford House of Blessing.

WE OFFER A PREPAID CERTIFICATE FOR \$25.

**IT IS VALID
AT BOTH
STRATFORD
DOMINO'S
LOCATIONS**

CERTIFICATE INCLUDES:

- 2 FREE MEDIUM 3 TOPPING PIZZAS**
- 5 40% OFF PIZZA COUPONS**
- 5 BOGO PIZZA COUPONS**
- 5 BOGO STUFFED CHEESY BREAD COUPONS**

EXPIRES
DECEMBER
31 2024!



\$7

**FROM EACH SALE WILL BE DONATED TO
SUPPORT THE HOUSE OF STRATFORD BLESSING.**

If you think your family will eat 2 or more pizzas between now and Dec 31, 2024, please consider purchasing our fundraising certificate to save money and help Stratford House of Blessing.

These fundraising certificates are available to purchase at the following retail locations.

- **Bake My Day & The Bean**
Receive a free small coffee with purchase of this fundraiser
107 Downie St
548-585-0008
- **Fitzys Fades Barbershop**
Receive \$5 off a haircut with purchase of this fundraiser
182 Ontario Street
226-317-5132

