

# WE ARE ZION

# NEWS



**Zion Lutheran Church  
2714 James Street  
Marinette, WI 54143  
715-735-7898**

**zion@newbc.rr.com**

**www.zionlutheran-marinette.org**

## March 2025



### **Zion's 2025 Congregation Council**

Laura Rowe — President	Dean Schoen — V.P.
Michelle Larson — Secretary	LeeAnn Limberg — Treasurer
Tatem Schroeder	Phil Strohl
Sarge Rudell	Mark Swenson
Kathy Heimbuch	
Adison Rosenfeldt, Youth Member	

### **Zion Staff**

Office Administrator and Financial Secretary — Marissa Tharp  
 Choir Director and Organist — Ann Buscher  
 Accompanist for Choir and Organist— Rachel Rosenfeldt

### **Zion Ministry Contacts**

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#### **Worship**

Worship Leadership Scheduling — Ann Buscher  
 Assistants — Ann Buscher (Ushers, readers, acolytes, communion assistants, set up/ clean-up communion)  
 AV Team — Troy Cording, coordinator  
 Banners — Karen Dill  
 Bulletin and Newsletter Assistance — Marissa Tharp  
 Candles (eternal and oil) — Michelle Larson  
 Contemporary Worship — Bill Tipple  
 Hymn Selection — Ann Buscher  
 Wine and apple or grape juice — Michelle Larson

#### **Building Maintenance – Interior/Exterior**

Supplies — Gary Grom  
 Handyman — Jack Heimbuch

#### **Committees/Groups**

150th Anniversary Committee — Ann Buscher

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## Zion Mi

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Caring Ministry Team — Karen Sylvester, Judy Stehle, Sarge Rudell

Equal Exchange Items — Heidi Beland

Confirmation Classes — Pastor

Funeral Luncheon Teams — Ann Buscher/Carol Johnson; Michelle Larson/Sue Baxter; and Karen Sylvester/ Cheryl Maxwell

Harvest of Hope Community Garden — John Radloff

Kitchen Supplies — Michelle Larson

Mission Endowment Comm. — Phil Strohl

Money Counters — Karen Dill, Bonnie Schoen and Pat Mittag

Nominating Comm — Sue Baxter

Personnel Comm. — Troy Cording

Property Comm. — Mark Swenson

Sanctuary Arts — Barb Grom, Karen Dill, Carol Johnson and Ann Buscher

Sew for Mission — Carol Magnuson

Social Ministry — Heidi Beland & Michelle Larson co-chairs

SPARK — Johanna Zuehls

Stewardship & Generosity — Karen Sylvester, Bonnie Schoen, John Radloff

Youth Ministry Treasurer — Karen Dill

Worship and Music — Ann Buscher

Ruth Women's Circle — Jane Landenberg



## Reflections



In May of 2017, I had traveled to San Antonio, TX for a conference. On the return flight I found myself sitting next to a man by the name of Jorge who initiated a conversation with me. During the course of our exchange, the typical questions came out: “What is your name? Where are you from? What do you do for a living?” etc. As it turns out, he was a professor at a university in Illinois on his way back from a work conference as well. When he learned of my occupation, he became intrigued and started inquiring how I happened to become a pastor, what do I think of the church today, etc. As happens at times when people find out you’re a member of the clergy, he shared a part of his faith journey.

Growing up in the Roman Catholic faith, he talked particularly about his grandfather who was a quiet, unassuming man and a very strong role model of a person of faith. He regaled me with memories of his grandfather reading the bible to him, his siblings and his cousins under a tree in the yard whenever they visited. I do wonder, would this have been possible if the work I do was in a different arena?

For me, it’s a little easier because the position I occupy more naturally lends itself to open up conversations about God and faith. If, of course, the person doesn’t have an aversion to Christianity, pastors or religion in general. But what about you? How do you create opportunities to talk about faith?

Vocation. When most of us hear that term, we tend to think of what we do to financially support ourselves and our families. So, when we’re asked, what do we do, that is how we often answer. What if, though, we began instead with the reply of, “I’m a student and servant of Jesus”? Isn’t that our vocation?

As Luther reminds us, God calls us to various roles in our lives. Discipleship and apostleship is not just another voca- *...continued*

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tion among many, but one that is meant to be lived out in all of our roles: at work, at home, in the church, and in the wider community—local and global.

As we journey towards Good Friday and Easter morning with the Leader who calls us from death into life, may we let our call as disciples (students) and apostles (sent ones) seep into and out of every vein of our lives.

Your sister in Christ,  
*Pastor Amanda*

### **Mental Health Corner**

(originally shared on <https://www.nami.org/GetInvolved/NAMI-FaithNet/Inspirational-and-HealingPrayers/An-Advocate-s-Prayer>)

**An Advocate's Prayer:** O God of Light and Knowledge, -- we pray that darkness, fear and ignorance about serious mental illnesses might be dispelled by the light of knowledge. We pray for Peace and Wholeness – for those with troubled minds and hearts, that broken lives and relationships might be mended. We ask for Understanding -- that the walls of stigma, labels, exclusion and marginalization might be broken down through education and advocacy. We pray for Healing -- for [people of all ages] living with mental illness, for better treatment, for steadier recovery, for greater opportunity to work and serve. We ask for Faith and Hope – for those who feel no one cares. Dispel their despair through a cup of cold water, an outstretched arm, a listening ear, a committed advocate. We offer our Thanks - for new discoveries in medical research, for faithful caregivers, for dedicated mental health professionals and persistent researchers. Most of all, O God of Steadfast Love, we thank you for your Love -- that sustains the weary, that defends the weak, that sets the lonely in families, that brings beauty out of ashes, that brings a song in the night; that inspires courage to hope, to watch, to work for a new and brighter day. Amen.

## **What's Around the Corner?**

Zion is buzzing with worship, service, and fellowship opportunities coming up at Zion! Below is a brief outline of what is "around the corner".

- March 2:** Transfiguration, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Coffee hour to follow service.
- March 5:** Ash Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., worship with Holy Communion, the imposition of ashes, and via YouTube.
- March 9:** First Sunday in Lent, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Special music by Barb Akins on violin. Daylight Saving Time starts.
- March 11:** Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.; Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- March 12:** Lenten Service and Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m., Community Covenant Church, 1123 13th St., Menominee; Choir rehearsals, 7 p.m.
- March 16:** Second Sunday in Lent, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Contemporary service.
- March 19:** Lenten Service and Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 923 5th St., Menominee; Choir rehearsals, 7 p.m.
- March 20:** Ruth Circle, 3 p.m.
- March 23:** Third Sunday in Lent, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Coffee hour to follow worship.
- March 25:** Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.
- March 26:** Lenten Service and Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 601 10th Ave., Menominee; Choir rehearsals, 7 p.m.
- March 30:** Fourth Sunday in Lent, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Special music by Zion's choir. Coffee hour to follow worship.

## Congregation Council Highlights



### COUNCIL UPDATES

The Congregational Council met on February 13th, at 6:30 p.m.

A Motion was made to accept membership transfer of Amanda Kossow from Trinity LC, Cass Lake MN to Zion.

**Pastor's Report:** December average attendance was 74. Pastor is continuing to alternate with Pastor Ehle teaching confirmation classes; plans for Lent and Zion will host Soup Supper April 9, 2025, more details will come in March. Ash Wednesday Service will be at 5:30. Pastor met with Troy Cording to get YouTube set for live service which will start February 16. In the month of January, Pastor had 6 hospital visits and there were 3 deaths Debra Harding, Donald Limberg and Ernest Brooks.

#### January Financial Reports

- General fund balance increase of \$4,853. Disbursement of \$6,045 for moving expenses for Pastor Amanda (from call fund). Balance of \$168,885
- Capital Improvement Fund balance of \$90,857
- Boiler Loan Balance \$21,281
- John Radloff has requested that memorial monies for Maryellen Radloff to be given to World Hunger

#### Committee Reports

- **Property and Safety Committee:** Mark Swenson is continuing to try and figure out the hot water issue in the kitchen.
- **Social Ministry:** World Hunger Campaign will start March 2, 2025, and go through May; money will be brought to Synod Assembly in May. A motion was made to approve a request from Social Ministry to buy a \$500 gift card to be given to Kathy DeWitt at Marinette High School for needs for the children with money from the Agnes Bennett Memorial.

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## Congregation Council Highlights ---

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### **New Business**

- Red Cross Blood Drives for 2025 April 4, and September 26
- Financial Health Reporting — For a clearer picture of Zion's Financial Health, a report on income along with expenses will be reported in the monthly newsletter and bulletin soon.

### **Tabled Business**

- Member Fortune Lake Scholarship Guidelines

The next council meeting will be March 11 at 6:30 p.m.

## **We're Are Streaming on YouTube!** ---

Check us out on our new [YouTube Channel, Zion Lutheran Marinette](#) (Our profile picture is our sign)! A link to the stream will be posted on our Facebook page! If you want, you can also subscribe to us to make sure you don't miss a stream!

## **Thank you!** ---

I am so grateful to all of you who joined me, in person and online, in celebrating the Spirit's call and blessing of our partnership in the gospel at my installation!

Pastor Amanda

### **Midweek Lenten Services & Soup Suppers**

**5:30 p.m. Soup Supper and 6:00 p.m. Worship Service.**

The worship services will be ½-hour in length.

- March 12: Community Covenant Church, 1123 13th St., Menominee .
- March 19: First Presbyterian Church, 923 5<sup>th</sup> St., Menominee.
- March 26: First United Methodist Church, 601 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., Menominee.
- April 2: Pioneer Presbyterian Church, 1947 Riverside Ave., Marinette.
- April 9: Zion Lutheran Church, 2714 James St., Marinette.



## World Hunger Drive

*Cast out your bread upon the waters,  
for after many days you will get it back.  
Divide your means seven ways, or even  
eight, for you do not know what disaster  
may happen on earth.  
-Ecclesiastes 11:1-2*



Far from exhorting us to soggy bread, the teacher encourages us in Ecclesiastes to be so generous with our food and resources that it multiplies beyond the bounds of sense. When we cast our bread upon the waters, we are sharing food with one another without count of cost, and with a mindset of boundless grace. The way the bread returns to us, is by the peace of God, and the mutual love, support and up-building of God's kingdom. Why are we called to share food this way? Because, the teacher says, it will fortify our communities and strengthen them to face whatever disasters may come on earth. Sharing food gives us strength and endurance!

Here at Zion we will be "casting our bread" during the season of Lent to raise money once again for ELCA World Hunger. The money we collect will be presented at the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly in May.

Here's all you need to do: Give what you can, as often as you'd like. Use any envelope. Be sure to include your name so we can record the gift on your statement. Drop it in the offering plate any Sunday between March 1st and May 4th.

You'll be able to watch how much we raise by the display in the back of the Sanctuary. Look for the "river" across the windows of the Cry Room. For every \$10 donated to ELCA World Hunger during this time, we'll "cast a loaf of bread" upon that river.

Thank you so much for Going Where Jesus Leads.

### **“Help for the Homeless” Hygiene Drive!** \_\_\_\_\_

Zion is participating in the Help For the Homeless Hygiene Drive again! The drive is in partnership with St. Vincent de Paul, Marinette. From February 23 to March 16, we will be collecting hygiene items for local Oconto and Marinette crisis programs through SVdP of Marinette. There is a box in the narthex where donations can be dropped off. Thank you for your generosity!

Most needed items include:

- Soaps: laundry, dish, soft, shower gel, 2-in-1 shampoo
- Trash bags (shelters especially need these for bedrooms)
- Diapers (sizes 3-6 and Pull-Ups)
- Deodorant (unscented)
- Wet wipes
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Disposable razors
- Tampons and maxi pads

### **Choir Rehearsals to Start Back Up!** \_\_\_\_\_

Zion Senior Choir will begin rehearsing on Wednesday March 12th at 7 p.m. (note time change due to soup suppers). Our first performance will be Sunday March 30th . All are welcome to come and try the choir. Our rehearsals are an hour and include fellowship, prayer and song. For information please contact Ann Buscher at 715 735 3017 or abuscher@new.rr.com.

### **Upcoming Coffee Hour** \_\_\_\_\_



The social ministry committee is hosting a coffee hour on March 2, 23 and 30! Be sure to join us!

Coffee Hours are held directly after service but are only held if someone sponsors it. The Coffee Committee will make coffee and handle the cleanup when someone sponsors the treats. If you would like to sponsor or hold a coffee hour, call the office at 715-735-7898 to reserve a date!

## March Collection

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Zion is Called to Go Where Jesus Leads and our Social Ministry Committee is committed to showing our congregation ways to live out that calling in our community. During the month of March, we will be collecting items for Rainbow House.

### Always Welcome:

New Twin Size Sheet Sets; Gift Cards for Walmart, Amazon, Jack's, Aldi; Gas Cards; Postage Stamps; Envelopes; 1-ply Toilet Paper; Paper Towels; Tissue Paper; 13 & 30 Gallon Garbage Bags; Copy Paper; Post-It Note Pads.

### Immediate Needs:

- Laundry Soap / Pods
- Dryer Sheets
- All-purpose Cleaner/ Toilet Cleaner / Glass Cleaner
- Dish Soap / Dishwasher Tablets
- Mops / Pails / Buckets / Laundry Baskets / Garbage Cans
- Bath Towels / Hand Towels / Wash Cloths
- Shower Gel or Bar Soap / Deodorant / Razors / Shaving Cream
- Baby Wipes / Kids: Shampoo / Conditioner / Soaps
- Zip Top Bags, all sizes (regular & freezer)
- Kitchen Dishcloths
- Paper Bowls & Plates (NOT Styrofoam)
- Aluminum Foil / Plastic Cling Wrap

You are also invited to view their website which gives other needed items as well as a list of things that they are not currently able to accept. Go to [therainbowhouse.us](http://therainbowhouse.us), select Give Help, then select Current Wish List.



## The Stewardship and Generosity Corner

### The Seven Marks of Discipleship

#Pray

#Worship

#Study

#Invite

#Encourage

#Give

#Serve

*The goal of Zion's Stewardship and Generosity Committee is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to them.*

As I was walking one day among the beautiful falling snowflakes, I was thinking about this article on the Mark of Study, and I was transported back to a time in 2012 and 2013 when I attended two different sessions of Lay School for Mission, a ministry of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. A variety of pastors in the area participated in leading the sessions, which were excellent. To say these classes

were meaningful to me is an understatement. Initially, I thought I'd be like a fish out of water, probably because I was raised Roman Catholic; however, that wasn't the case at all.

The instructors were wonderful, and I learned so much. I felt fulfilled and closer to God, and because I took those classes, I grew as a person of faith, including my understanding of the Bible, and the Lutheran Church. Once again, the NGLS is offering the Faith Formation classes most via Zoom. Check out the website at <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/> for a listing of classes. You might find something that speaks to you.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th and the Stewardship and Generosity Committee encourages everyone to focus on the Mark of STUDY all year, but especially during Lent. There are many ways to study, but we want to introduce you to a new one from Luther Seminary. It's a Lenten devotion titled "There in God's Garden". The devotion references a Bible reading, short message, and concludes with prayer. This devotion will be sent to your inbox during the week of March 2nd and if you prefer a paper copy of the devotional, they will be available on Sunday, March 2nd.

Another option for STUDY is "The Word in Season," a daily devotional always available in the lobby at Zion. You

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## The Stewardship and Generosity Corner\_\_\_\_\_

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could also choose to read several verses or an entire chapter in the Bible and think about what you've just read and how it affects your life. All of these can be done in the comfort of your home as a solo act of study and worship, but what God encourages us to do is gather and share with one another.

That brought me to think about the "Lutheran Hour" which is held most weeks of the year directly after our Sunday Worship service. This hour-long gathering is all about sharing, listening, and growing! Our discussions center around the Sunday sermon and the readings that week. You can bring your favorite Bible, but it certainly isn't necessary. Coffee is usually available. This session is only an hour long and we cover a multitude of topics, all stimulating and informative. The session allows us to make connections with one another and perhaps broaden each other's perspective. Come and join us for interesting conversation, and a chuckle or two.

In God's love, joy, and peace,  
Karen Sylvester

## March Eternal Light\_\_\_\_\_

The Eternal Light for the month March is sponsored by Pat Mittag and is in memory of Robert J. Mittag



## Altar Flower Sponsorships\_\_\_\_\_

Zion has altar flower sponsorships available. The cost of sponsoring the flowers for one week is \$15.00. Dates are reserved on a first come first serve basis. You can take the flowers home after service! To reserve a date, please call or email Zion's office at 715-735-7898 or [Zion@newbc.rr.com](mailto:Zion@newbc.rr.com). **Flower dates that need sponsoring are March 2nd, 16th, 23rd, and 30th!**



## Save the Date for 150th Anniversary of Zion

The service is set for Sunday, August 24th and will feature Bishop Finegan as our speaker. We will also have a historical presentation and display and a dinner. The committee is currently working on choosing a themes, planning the service, things pertaining to the dinner (menu, decorations, etc.), a display in the narthex of historical photos, and a booklet of the history of Zion. We will need volunteers to help with the dinner! If anyone has any items from Sweden, booklets, or other pieces of history we could use for our presentation, that would be helpful! We also humbly ask for donations to help with the cost of the booklet, dinner, mailing, advertising, decorations, etc.

## Ruth Circle Group



The Ruth Group will meet Thursday, March 20th, at Zion at 3 p.m. All are welcome!

## FLLC Summer Camp Registration is Open!

It's time to start planning for Summer 2025, and Fortune Lake has a program for you and your family! Register early for the best prices and best selection. Visit [Fortunelake.org](http://Fortunelake.org) for more information or registration!

WEEK	DATES	CAMP PROGRAM & AGE/GRADE COMPLETED	COST
Week 1	June 8-13	Victory Camp (Adult 18+ with disabilities)	\$645
Week 2	June 15-20	Intergenerational Week (all ages) Treehouse Adventures (Grades 7-12)	See website \$490
Week 3	June 22-27	High School Week (Grades 9-12)   LIT Training Week (Grades 10-12)	\$490
Week 4	June 29-July 2	All Staff Reunion 3-night Event (with Special 1-day Event June 29!)	See website
Week 5	July 6-11	Villager (Grades 3-4)   Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   Venturer (Grades 7-8) LIT #1 Option (*No charge)	\$460
	July 13-15	Mighty Ones (Grades 1-2)	\$230
Week 6	July 13-16	Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)   MashUp (Grades 4-8)	\$320
	July 13-18	Villager (Grades 3-4)   Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   LIT #2 Option (*No charge)	\$460
Week 7	July 20-25	LEGO® Camp (Grades 3-9)   Jr High Night Owl (Grades 6-8) Art Camp (Grades 3-9)   Dungeons & Dragons Camp (Grades 6-9) New! > LIT #3 Option (*No charge)	\$460 \$490
	July 21-24	Onsite Day Camp (Grades K-5)	\$135
Week 8	July 27-Aug 1	Intergenerational Week (all ages) Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   LIT #4 Option (*No charge)	See website \$460
	July 28-31	Onsite Day Camp (Grades K-5)	\$135
	July 29-Aug 1	Intergenerational Half Week (all ages)	See website
Week 9	August 4-7	Evergreen Camp (ages 55+)	See website

2025 SCHEDULE

More info at [Fortunelake.org](http://Fortunelake.org)

*Scholarships Available*  
*Everybody is welcome at camp regardless of ability to pay!*

\*LIT program requires an application process. Week #1 has a fee; subsequent weeks do not.

## EcoFaith Summit 2025 of the Upper Midwest \_\_\_\_\_



The EcoFaith Summit is presented by the Northeastern Minnesota Synod EcoFaith Network, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, and Saint Paul Area Synod along with partner organizations, synods, camps, colleges, and seminaries. It is a day of “becoming midwives of hope and healing.”

The event will be April 5 starting at 9:30 a.m.

**If you would like to attend via livestream with Pastor Amanda, please contact her no later than Sunday, March 25th.**

**The ever-increasing cries of creation in crisis could easily overwhelm us.**

Instead let them serve as a clarion call to help bring life out of potential death, to help give renewed birth to all creation, to all creatures including ourselves.

**Join in becoming midwives of hope and healing.** Like [Shiphrah and Puah in the Exodus story](#), who defied Pharaoh and brought forth life in the midst of slavery and death, we know that every child, all life, all of creation is worthy of saving through defiance and courage. Their story births something in us. These midwives become our models. **They call and sing to us from the pages of Scripture – ‘Do likewise, O people, help bring forth life that staves off death.’**

Speakers include [Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda](#), author, organizer, and theological ethicist and Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy, member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, dynamic storyteller, poet, scholar, and the first Native woman to earn a PhD in theology within the ELCA.

For More Information and to Register for the EcoFaith Summit of the Upper Midwest 2025 see the website [ecofaithnetwork.org/](http://ecofaithnetwork.org/)

***Join us in lifting up our brothers and sisters in Christ, in prayer as we remember their Baptism***

March 1: Barbara Clarke and Kenny Sallee

March 2: Lawrence Melgary

March 3: James Martin

March 5: Rachel Kuhn

March 7: Heidi Beland, LeeAnn Limberg and Gage Schutt

March 8: Scott Gressel

March 9: Dawn Vincent

March 10: Marilyn Gould

March 12: Melanie Bennett and Rachel Rosenfeldt

March 13: Jo Ann McGee and Jon Strutz

March 17: Randall Schroeder III and Tatem Schroeder

March 22: Emily Limberg

March 29: Adison Rosenfeldt



**April Zion News Deadline**



Please note, the deadline for submitting articles, information and all tidbits to be published in the April issue of the Zion News(letter) is Friday, March 21st. Thank you for your assistance!

**Communion**

*"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people." (Acts 2:46-47a)* Starting Mar 9, the First Sun in Lent, we will be using gluten free bread for communion. This is one loving way to extend care and hospitality to our neighbors with dietary needs. Some for whom cross-contamination could be lethal. It eliminates the need for assistants to take extra steps when setting up the Lord's Supper. Lastly, using bread is a meaningful way that one or more siblings in Christ can share their God-given gifts and serve the church.



### March Conference-Wide Youth Event



Menominee Valley Conference youth between 6th-12th grades will be meeting at 163 S. Stephenson Ave. in Peshtigo (the small building next to Hunter's Choice) on Saturday, March 15 from 1-4 p.m. The group is meeting to put glaze on the dried clay from their February gathering.

### March Birthdays

March 2: Gerald Sylvester

March 3: Rhoslyn Schoen

March 4: George Ihler

March 6: Michael Bretl, Diane Race & Troy Schutt

March 8: Julie Williams

March 9: Susan Goldsmith

March 11: Cassandra Bauer

March 15: Steve Hoheneder

March 17: Patricia Peterson

March 22: Elsa Elmer

March 26: Kurt Oleson

March 29: Craig Bates

March 30: Alexis Rosenfeldt, Everett Schoen, & Winnie Wortner



### STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION SUPPORT MEMOS

#### Creating Belonging

*A story about our ELCA Lutheran Campus Ministry Network,  
adapted from the LuMin Impact Report*

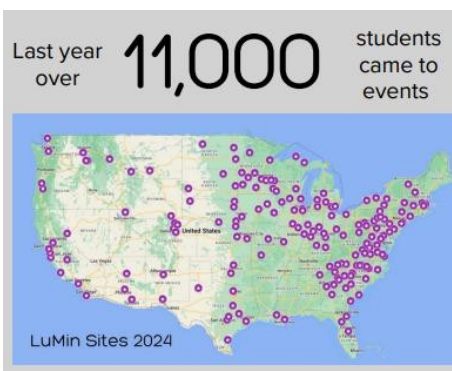
Imagine a place in the ELCA where you can build community, deepen faith, expand minds, and inspire service with over 11,000 young adults. Where does this happen? In our 176 local campus ministry agencies and cooperating congregations, where we transform the lives of college students and campus communities through God's abundant grace. ELCA Campus Ministry is carried out through the collaborative efforts of

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## STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION SUPPORT MEMOS \_\_\_\_\_

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many organizations and individuals: local campus ministry agencies, led by over 200 staff people, synod staff members and campus ministry committees, the Program Director for Campus Ministry and the Young Adult Communities team in the churchwide organization, and the [Lutheran campus ministry \(LuMin\) Network](#), the association of campus ministry practitioners.



Across our nation, each week during the academic year, over 3,300 students participate in some way in our ELCA campus ministry locations. Over 30% of campus ministries are ecumenical partnerships, while 28% are programs within congregations bringing intergenerational

ministry to life. It's interesting that only 35% of the students grew up in the ELCA. Almost 50% come from another Christian or faith background. In fact, 17% of participants come from a non-religious background, which might account for why 25% of the campus ministries reported at least one student baptism last year!

ELCA Campus Ministries gather students around the core practices of:

- **Building Community:** Offering places where students experience belonging and safety. Communal meals, fellowship events, and open study space invite students to connect and be nourished.
- **Deepening Faith:** Worship and prayer are at the heart of ELCA Campus Ministry. From weekly worship to contemplative prayer that foster spiritual resilience and ease anxiety and stress.

## STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION SUPPORT MEMOS \_\_\_\_\_

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- **Expanding Minds:** These include faith formation activities, small group conversations, Bible study, as well as studies on theological and social justice issues. Some activities are even offered to the greater university faculty and staff.
- **Inspiring Service:** Campus ministry raises up leaders for the church and for the world. As young adults take on leadership in the day-to-day life of their campus ministry, they are also inspired to become leaders wherever life takes them: congregations, volunteer service programs, ELCA Seminaries, and their local communities. This peer ministry is powerful for all.

The work of ELCA Campus Ministry and LuMin is driven to inspire, connect, and equip campus ministry organizations to better serve students. This ministry clearly addresses a priority of our church to share the love of Jesus with more people who are new to church, young, and from diverse backgrounds. It is challenging work, with potentially 25% of the members leaving each year as they graduate as well as rebuilding community after COVID, staff transitions especially over the last five years, plus financial constraints and operational challenges.

Campus ministry is vital to our work of church together. Many Campus Ministries receive over 35% of their funding from Mission Support and more than 40% from congregational and individual donations. This support is more and more important to continuing this vital ministry. Pastor Mariah Mills, pastor in Boise, ID, says this about her campus ministry experience, “Because of my own personal experience [in campus ministry], I am deeply passionate about every college campus having a faith community that is a place of safety, welcome, and affirmation for all students.” Connect more deeply by reading the [Campus Ministry Impact](#) Report and engaging with the [LuMin blog](#).

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Going Where Jesus Leads**



**Northern Great Lakes Synod  
Bishop Katherine Finegan  
1029 N. 3rd St. A  
Marquette, Michigan 49855  
[www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org)  
Equipping the Saints for Ministry**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton  
8765 W Higgins Road  
Chicago, Illinois 60631  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
God's work. Our hands.**