



**November 2023**

# Good News

**Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran**

## **November 2023**

**11- 1 Quilters 10:00a.m.**

**11-05 Daylight Savings  
Time Ends!**

*All Saints Day*

SS 10:00 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.

*Online option*

**11- 8 Ladies’ Lunch @  
Old Mexico Restaurant  
@ NOON**

**11-9 Grace Circle  
11:00a.m.**

**11-12. SS 10:00 a.m.**

Worship 11:00 a.m.

*Online option*

**COUNCIL MEETING @  
12:15p.m.**

**CONFIRMATION  
CLASS**

**12:30p.m.-3:00p.m.**

**11-15 Singing @ The  
Oaks**

**10:30a.m.**

**11-19 SS 10:00 a.m.**

Worship 11:00 a.m.

*Online option*

*Family Day Meal*

*Newsletter Deadline*

**INVITATION SUNDAY**

**11-23 Happy**

***Thanksgiving!***

*Office Closed*

**11-26 SS 10:00 a.m.**

Worship 11:00 a.m.

*Online option*

**11-29 Advent 1**

**Evening Prayer**

**6:00p.m.**

Pastor’s Newsletter Article

November 2023

*Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.*

*Psalm 100 vv. 3-4*

Later this month many of us will gather around a table with family to celebrate a tradition that has stood for centuries. We will give thanks for being a new nation, a new people. (Of course, as Church, we will reach out to those who would otherwise be alone, ensuring that they have a meal and someone to eat with.) It truly is a day of celebration, of giving thanks.

Today, the Psalmist reminds us of an even greater thanks – the thanks we give to God as our Creator, as our Shepherd, as our King. The Psalmist says God made us. The Psalmist says we are God’s sheep. The Psalmist says we should enter God’s courts with praise. There is this wonderful “multiple quality” to God that we sometimes forget: God truly is ALL AND ALL to us. Creator, Shepherd, King. Maker, Caregiver, Leader.

We offer thanks to the One who has given us so much; for example: hope, love, joy, and peace. These all come to mind for soon we will enter the Advent Season. In addition to our physical lives, we all have been given the many gifts of the Holy Spirit along with our individual skills and talents by that same Spirit. Of course, we are most certainly thankful for the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Son of God whose purpose was, is, and always will be to save us.

This Thanksgiving there is so much for which to be thankful. Perhaps we could include the words of *Psalm 100* in our Thanksgiving meal prayer this year. What do you say?

To God be the Glory for all God has done,  
Pastor Steve

## **Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws**

During our annual congregational meeting on December 10, we will be voting on amendments to the MZSL constitution and bylaws. The constitution and bylaws are being distributed as inserts to this newsletter. In the ELCA churchwide meetings of 2019 and 2022 numerous changes were made to the ELCA model constitution. Most of the changes are to required sections of the constitution, so we don't have any say in them. These changes are highlighted in yellow on the copy being distributed. The only change the council is recommending is highlighted in green in section C12.05c—raising the amount the council can commit in a contract for items not included in the budget from \$15,000 to \$25,000, reflecting the rising costs of most work. The council is recommending some minor changes in the bylaws, which are highlighted in yellow. Please review these documents prior to our meeting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone (478-244-9727) or e-mail ([haiglerpecans@yahoo.com](mailto:haiglerpecans@yahoo.com)). Thank you.

David Haigler

## **Wednesday Night Advent Worship**

**6:00 – 6:30 PM**

Sermon Series: The Candles of Advent

November 29<sup>th</sup> – Hope

December 6<sup>th</sup> – Love

December 13<sup>th</sup> – Joy

December 20<sup>th</sup> – Peace



## The Little Closet

The Little Closet (TLC) is the newest project of our Mt. Zion & St. Luke Lutheran youth. The Little Closet provides the little things that children need to succeed. It is located at the Macon County Elementary School and will be filled with needed school supplies and other items for the students.

The funding for the Little Closet is collected through the Noisy Offering held every third Sunday. Donations can also be made directly to Mt. Zion & St. Luke with “The Little Closet” in the memo section.

If you would like more information about this great project, call Wendi Martin or Renee Collier, coordinators of the project.

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## Intentional Giving

October is the beginning of the holiday seasons – Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. It is also the beginning of the “begging” season. The requests for donations are already being delivered to our mailboxes and email addresses. Even our Southeastern Synod has more than 20 groups listed on their donor page.

There are thousands of great charities in need of our support, from “A” animal rights to “W” Wounded Warriors. You can eliminate the stress and guilt you feel from these constant requests that you receive. By deciding now on those charities that are close to your heart, you can become an Intentional Donor.

You may decide to keep your dollars at home. In addition to our church projects, like the Foster Children’s Christmas Program or The Little Closet (our newest) project, here are some other ideas for you to consider. All of these operate on a shoestring budget for the benefit of the citizens of Macon County; The Bread of Life Soup Kitchen, 4-H for summer camps, Oglethorpe Library, and Deep South Canine Rescue (Schley County). Other favorites charities from our church members include Lutheran World Relief, Inspiritus, Heifer Project International and the Salvation Army.

Whatever you decide, give from the heart and with the best of intentions. God has blessed us so that we can be a blessing to others.

*Julia Snipes*

**Mt. Zion – St. Luke Lutheran Church**

**P.O. Box 187**

**401 Randolph Street**

**Oglethorpe, Georgia 31068**

**Invitation Sunday** continues with our next opportunity to share our blessing the Lord has given us at Mt. Zion-St Luke. While any Sunday is a good Sunday to bring folks along, this is a built-in to break the ice and open the door. Please grab a blessing bag to share, not only with those in need, but someone who might need a boost. Having it readily available makes it so much easier.

If you know someone in need, please let Pastor Steve or Gail Coogle know.

The Bread of Life Soup Kitchen will be celebrating Thanksgiving Nov 15th. If you can help, please let Gail know.

*Karen Hatten*

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**Please help keep *this prayer list current. Contact the Church Office to update the list.***

***Pray for Members:*** Debra Coogle & Family, Rick Coogle, Grady English & Family, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr, Dale Godfrey, David Haigler, Emily Harvill, Don Joiner Family, Myrtle Joiner, Nancy & Mack McCarty & Family, Billy Martin, Bobby Martin, Sharon Martin, Tommy Martin, Zack Martin, George & Helen Smith, Angie and Heather Summer, Tony Webb, our college students, The Call Committee and for all the ministries of our church.

***For Friends and Family:*** Sylvia Bergstrom, Pam Cole, Marvin Duke, Carl Ethridge, Shelly Fields, Jorene Gordon, Dan Harvill, Jr., Adam Hobbs, Michael Hortman, Bob Melvin, Elaine Middlebrooks & Family, Patricia Morgan, Buddy Murph, Brenda Oglesby, Don Oliver, Helen Peaster Family, Leigh Powell, Jerry Riddle Family, Van Riddle Family, Vi Roach Family, Ann Roberts, Leyon Roberts, John Simmon, Lamar Yoder, our nation, Ukraine, and the world.

***Serving our Nation:*** John Edwards