



*CROSSROADS  
EPIPHANY / LENT 2020*

*"I am bringing you good news of  
great joy for all people."*

- Luke 2:10

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We all want light in our lives, especially during these dark winter days – and especially now that the Christmas lights have been taken down. The day I wrote this, we had only 8 hours and 34 minutes of daylight. But the days are getting slightly longer, and by the end of February we'll have nearly 11 hours of light each day! But this is not the only light we need.

"I am the Light," Jesus said. How we need this light of Christ amidst all the darkness of the world. The darkness of grief and struggles, of brokenness and violence, of division and derision. It can be easy to let the problems of the world and those we face personally or in our community diminish our joy and send us into a gloomy funk. But like the light that led the Magi to Bethlehem, the "light" of hope, the light of God's love made manifest, cannot be easily squelched. "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." John 1:5.

Theologian Bill Wylie Kellermann wrote that Epiphany "begins and ends in light. From the heavenly star to the radiant robes of transfiguration, Epiphany is about revelation, the kind of sudden brightness that lights up the landscape of a mind or a community or a whole social order. The light reveals, but not passively; it summons and sends."

The season of Epiphany reminds us that we are called to let our light shine before others, so that they may see our good works and give glory to God. Zion is continuing to shine out that light from this place, in joyful worship, in our community dinners, and in all the ways that we bring that light out from Zion and into all the places where we are sent to live and to serve.

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead us and bless us on our way.

Yours in Christ,

Lucy+

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### ANNUAL MEETING SLATE

Our Annual Meeting scheduled for **February 23rd** after a single worship liturgy at 9:00 a.m. A Continental Breakfast will be served.

Slate for new vestry members:

**Jr. Warden:** Al Maiorino

**Class of 2023:** Rob Johnston, Mary Ann Hultgren

**Class of 2022:** Rita Smith- This fills a spot left by Mary Lou Clark. Rita was part of the class of 2020, but this was a partial term left by Lisa Latham becoming Senior Warden.

**Zion Representatives to Convention:** Diane Iglesias, Ann McGloin

**Alternate to Convention:** Jane Chick

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Ash Wednesday is February 26th. We will have two liturgies of Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes this year, 12 noon & 7 pm.

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*Come and listen to a great story!*

*Godly Play is getting ready for spring*

Please join us as we tell a different Bible story each month beginning in February. Come and hear the stories of the Ten Best Ways (the ten commandments), Jonah, the backward prophet, the parable of the Good Shepherd, and the Parable of the Sower, as told through the program called Godly Play. Godly Play is "an imaginative approach to working with children, an approach that supports, challenges, nourishes and guides their spiritual quest. Godly Play assumes that children have some experience of the mystery of the presence of God in their lives." \*

Storytelling will begin at 9:30 and take about 15 minutes, after which the children may continue to explore the story using the materials used in telling the story. All are welcome! Here is the schedule for Godly Play Stories this Spring:

February 16<sup>th</sup> - The Ten Best Ways (the 10 Commandments)

March 15<sup>th</sup> - Jonah, the Backward Prophet

April 19<sup>th</sup> - The Parable of the Good Shepherd

May 15<sup>th</sup> - The Parable of the Sower

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Jane Chick.

\*From the complete guide to Godly Play, by Jerome W. Berryman

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## MILESTONES

### Wedding

Brittany Hultgren & Daniel Borrelli  
December 27<sup>th</sup> 2019

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## MITTEN TREE THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Mitten and Sock Drive, it was a huge success!

Thank you, too, for all your donations of warm coats and other clothing. Jim Sochocki has made several trips with a full car to Loaves & Fishes.

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## FOOD PANTRY

Zion "Spotlights" an item each month that is of particular need for the Food Pantry February's request is Mac & cheese



In the parish hall there is a basket for these donations. All food donations can be placed in these baskets! The "Spotlight Item" enjoys company!!

## COMMUNITY DINNERS FEBRUARY/MARCH

We are planning ahead for no-cost community dinners at Zion for (mostly) the Second Sundays of the month in the coming year. Please let Rev. Lucy or Lisa Latham know if you would like to organize either the dinner or the activity or both for any of the Second Saturdays in 2020.

If you belong to a service organization (Rotary, Lions, Scouts?) we would love to partner with your group!

**February 8th-6-8 pm CABIN FEVER:** Chili Dinner and Puzzles of all kinds-6-8 pm Dinner's at 6, (but you may come at 5 if you want to get an early start on a puzzle!)

**March 14th-6-8 pm BINGO'S BACK!** - Chicken Dinner and Bingo with Tom George. Bring an inexpensive prize to share-(Dollar store or re-gifted item.)

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## COME AND RENEW YOUR SPIRIT WITH A SPRING IN THE DESERT

When: Tuesday evenings from March 3rd - 31st

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. (soup) 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. (discussion)

Where: Zion Episcopal Church

Please join us for a five- week Lenten program using the book A Spring in the Desert, by Frank & Victoria Logue. Here is a description from Forward Movement:

Jesus stepped out of the water of baptism into uninhabitable wilderness, emerging forty days later to offer the water of life for those thirsting for God's presence. A little more than two centuries later, a group of Christians withdrew from a spiritually barren Roman Empire to find their faith blossom in the stony soil of the Egyptian desert.

Frank and Victoria Logue offer a Lenten journey inspired by of scripture that use images of water in the desert as a sign of the healing and wholeness that come through God alone. To this they add the distilled wisdom of the Desert Mothers and Fathers and the surprisingly rich inspiration of the plants and animals that thrive in an arid land. Along the way, they will share the ways our faith speaks to the barren places in our lives and how those times of drought can be a source of strength.

You are not committed to all five weeks - come to one, two or all five, depending on your schedule. If you cannot make it for supper, you are very welcome to join us at 7:00 for discussion.

Please contact Jane Chick, if you are planning to join us. If you **need** assistance with obtaining a copy of the text, please let Jane know by March 1st.

## We're "In Stitches!"

Calling all knitters, crochet-ers and wannabees! Come to Zion's parish hall on Monday mornings in February to work on a prayer shawl, hat, or that project that has been neglected for far too long. We'll have a cup of tea or coffee and work together and chat. 10 am- noon, February 3, 10, 17, and 24.



## Days for Girls Sew-a-thon, Kit Assembly, Soup Lunch & Presentation



This February 15th, Zion is partnering with the Rotary Club of North Branford to put on this SEW-A-THON event in our parish hall. Zion donated \$500 from our 2019 outreach funds to this important organization.

Ralph Stroup MD & Mary Ann Stroup, members of Trinity Episcopal Church on the Green in New Haven, and members of the North Branford Rotary, have been working in Kenya to build health care infrastructure, clean water, empower women, and help educate children.

Every girl in the world deserves education, safety, and dignity. Help girls gain access to quality reusable feminine hygiene products so they can remain in school.

When: Saturday, February 15, 2020  
Snow date: Saturday February 29, 2020  
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Where: Zion Episcopal Church

Come sew, serge, help sewers, iron, prepare supplies headed to Kenya. There is something for everyone! School age children invited with parent supervision. Bring sewing machines, sergers, sewing tools, and scissors.

### Supplies needed:

- Girls brief and bikini panties sizes 8- 16, not white.
- Prewashed Fabric: brightly colored patterns to hide stains No animal, camouflage, or eyes.
- Flannel -Minimum 2 1/2yds (Prints to hide stains) 100% Quilter's Cotton
- Pre-School, Grammar and High School books and novels
- Teaching supplies, Puzzles and Math Manipulatives, flash cards, Memory cards, Legos, Mega Legos.
- NEW Infant clothes.
- Donate funds to purchase supplies, cover shipping expenses, and support the DFG Enterprises across Kenya

Kenyan Health Care Initiatives & Days for Girls, Orange, CT. Sponsored By: North Branford Rotary & Zion

Mark your calendars, because this April Spring Training is back! Meet with other Episcopalians from across the diocese in an extensive category of workshops including Parish Operations, Social Justice and Advocacy, Worship, and more, there's something for everyone. Zion vestry attends this event every year as part of our vestry retreat, but you do not have to be on the vestry to attend. Registration opens January 2020, so be on the look out!



## MUSIC NEWS

The music ministry had a full and exciting Advent and Christmas season. The choir prepared several beautiful anthems for worship over the four weeks of Advent. The fourth Sunday of Advent, the choir presented the musical "Beneath a Shining Star"



The pageant cast included several guest performers. It was a wonderful morning full of costumes and beautiful music while we heard the Christmas story told in a creative and fun play.

On Christmas Eve, the choir sang anthems and led the congregation in carols. Once again, the choir was blessed to have several family members and friends join in singing with us. Our music was rich with the sound of 20 voices, flutes, guitar, viola, piano, and mandolin. Jeremiah Mead was our guest organist. It was a wonderful celebration all around.

Going forward into 2020 we will begin by practicing Lent and Easter music. As always, the choir welcomes new musicians to be part of this wonderful ministry!

Happy New Year!  
Ralene K. Goff





Open registration has started for the 2020-2021 school year! Thank you to all our families who have already handed in their registration forms. I am happy to announce that Ms. Donna's class is full for September! We thank you for choosing Notch Hill to be a part of your child's early education experience.

Ms. Betsy's class still has space available in our three-year-old class. If you know any families who are looking for a quality preschool please tell them about our school and encourage them to contact us for a tour. Word of mouth has always been our biggest form of advertising. We appreciate your kind words and support of our school.

This month, Ms. Donna, from the Atwater Memorial Library will be visiting each class with her fun filled music and story time. The children enjoy her visit and she knows many of them by name from your family visits to the library. I encourage you all to continue to support our local library and the programs they provide to our community. This month our artwork is on display in the children's department. Go for a visit and check it out!

Our classes will be busy this month celebrating Valentine's Day. We will be talking about love for our families, friends and self. We also will continue our unit on winter. Each class will be celebrating Valentine's Day and exchanging Valentines with their class. More information regarding Valentine's Day will follow from your teacher.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please contact us.



### Reminders

Also, if your child has had a temperature or stomach bug please keep them home. They may return twenty-four hours after their temperature ends.

We follow the North Branford school district for closings and delayed openings. Delays start at 8:00am. We close at 1:00pm for an early dismissal.

### Dates to Remember

- Ms. Donna's Valentine's Day Party Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>
- Ms. Betsy's Valentine's Day Party Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>
- No School -Winter Break Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>
- Ms. Donna's class field trip to Big- Y in North Branford TBA



### Snack Helpers for February

Please bring a snack and juice for two school days

- Week 1 (2/3) Hubbard/ Amodio**
- Week 2 (2/10) Joyce/ Gionfriddo**
- Week 3 (2/17) Camejo (Thursday)**
- Week 4 (2/24) Martin/ P. DiLungo**



### Food for Thought

Among the things you can give and still keep are...your word, your smile and a grateful heart.

February/March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
					AA	Birthday party rental
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
The Presentation of Our Lord HE 8& 10 a.m. AA	10 a.m.- Noon "In Stitches" at Zion Yoga			Yoga AA	AA	6-8 pm CABIN FEVER: Chili Dinner and Puzzles
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany HE 8& 10 a.m. AA	10 a.m.- Noon "In Stitches" group at Zion Yoga	7 p.m. Vestry meeting		Yoga AA	AA Days for Girls set up	10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Days for Girls Sew a Thon
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany HE 8& 10 a.m. AA	10 a.m.- Noon "In Stitches" group at Zion Yoga			Yoga AA	AA	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Last Sunday after the Epiphany Annual Meeting HE 9 a.m. AA	10 a.m.- Noon "In Stitches" group at Zion Yoga		ASH WEDNESDAY Noon & 7 p.m.	Yoga AA	AA	
MARCH 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
First Sunday in Lent HE 8& 10 a.m. AA	Yoga	A Spring in the Desert Lenten discussion: 6:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. (soup) 7 p.m. -8 p.m. (discussion)		Yoga AA	AA	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Second Sunday in Lent HE 8& 10 a.m. AA	Yoga	6:30 - 9 p.m. SAFE CHURCH TRAINING AT ZION A Spring in the Desert		Yoga AA	AA	6-8 pm BINGO Chicken Dinner
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Third Sunday in Lent HE 8& 10 a.m. AA	Yoga	A Spring in the Desert				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Fourth Sunday in Lent HE 8& 10 a.m. AA		A Spring in the Desert				
29	30	31				
Fifth Sunday in Lent HE 8& 10 a.m. AA		A Spring in the Desert				