

Sunday worship - 10:30 am virtually; and in person with masks and socially distant seating, alternating locations between Zion/St. Mark; and 8:00 am rebroadcast on local ty channel

For online access information:

Zion: Beth Deskins

St. Mark: the LeRoy and Smith

families

<u>Prayer requests</u> – parish office <u>zionstmk@swva.net</u> or 745.2096

Please let us know if there is any way we may be of assistance to you

Pastor Wanda Childs – 304.920.5965

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights"

-James 1:17

To the People of St. Luke,

What is advent? The Celtic prayer paints it so beautifully:

In the mighty name of God,

In the saving name of Jesus,

In the strong name of the Spirit,

We come

We cry

We watch

We wait

We long

For you.

Advent is about hurrying up and waiting. Part of the sweetness of the season of Advent is its shortness. It is only 4 weeks long! There is a sacredness to the waiting and the preparation in this season. Preserve some time this Advent to simply sit and savor the anticipation. Allow times of quiet in your daily routine to pray and be still.

The anticipation can be just as wonderful and meaningful as the actual Christmas celebration. Instead of fear, boredom, restlessness and frenetic activity, this is a time to be filled with hope, eager anticipation and purposeful preparation so that instead of an anticlimactic letdown, our celebration can be meaningful and holy.

Advent, the season of waiting, watching, and wondering is out of step with the frantic, fast-paced culture in which we live. Yet, God continues to call us to step out of the madness that afflicts us for a season. God calls us to pause and reflect, to wonder and hope, and to wait and savor the holy mystery of birth and new life in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!
Pastor Wanda

Contact Us

FLOYD WILLIS LUTHERAN PARISH

PO Box 37, Floyd, VA 24091 Parish Office – 540.745.2096 or **zionstmk@swva.net**

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

5655 Floyd Hwy South, Willis, 24380

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

135 Needmore Lane, Floyd, VA 24091

PASTOR WANDA CHILDS

Pastor Wanda will be happy to meet with you by phone or in person. Please contact her to set up a time. She also has weekly office hours. 304.920.5965

wandalchilds@gmail.com

MUSIC/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Vickie Sowers vsowers@swva.net

Alive in Christ, Christ alive in us

St. Mark Council Members

Susan Paris, President Laura LeRoy Mike Smith Vickie Sowers

Zion Council Members

Marty Holliday, President BJ Bauermeister Michael Daiber Bill Gardner Linda Fox Jack Wall Marjorie Wells

Joint Council

Bill Gardner, President BJ Bauermeister, Treasurer Mike Smith, Secretary

Committees

Altar Guild St. Mark – Beth Smith Altar Guild Zion – Marty Holliday Cemetery/Columbarium-Bill Gardner

Community Cares – Kamala Bauers Prayer Shawls – Linda Fox RIC – Linda Fox Social Justice – Marty Holliday Zoom Services – Marty Holliday Webmaster – Tom Roemhildt

FLOYD WILLIS LUTHERAN PARISH

PO Box 37 Floyd, VA 24091

Thank you to the choir for sharing their gifts on Christmas Eve.

Prayers for the People

Wayne Pennell, husband of BJ Bauermeister Richard Angliere Ann Henley Paulson Jovce Whitaker Cheryl Nichols Pastor Wanda Family of Eddie Harris Paula Harris Family of Joanne Brusati, sister of David Harman Michael Daiber Jean Harman Mother of Julia Siler Meredith **Angie Chandler**, colleague of Marty Holliday

(prayer requests/deletions- parish office voice mail 745.2096 or email zionstmk@swva.net)

<u>Tithes and Offerings can be</u> <u>mailed to:</u>

Zion - Floyd Willis Lutheran Parish, PO Box 37, Floyd, VA 24091

St. Mark-Nadine Rutrough, 952 Christiansburg Pike, Floyd, VA 24091

"Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you."

-2 Corinthians 13:11



Birthdays

4-Mike Smith 14-Curtis Pleasant 16-Joe Sowers 18-Luke LeRoy 21-Phyllis Poff 24-Noelle Kocol

Anniversaries

14-Kamala Bauers and Jack Wall 28-Paula and Eddie Harris 31-Marjory and Randall Wells

<u>Funny Bone –</u>

- "The only time of the year in which one can sit in front of a dead tree and eat candy out of socks."
- "It's not what's under the Christmas tree that matters, it's who's around it."
- "I wish we could put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month."
- "I planned out our whole day. First, we'll make snow angels for two hours, then we'll go ice skating, then we'll eat a whole roll of Toll House cookie dough as fast as we can, and then we'll snuggle. – ELF
- "I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way they handle three things: a rainy day, lost luggage and tangled Christmas tree lights." – Maya Angelou

Parish Lunch at St. Mark Friday, December 8th and 22nd, Noon. Bring your lunch and a friend!

December Worship Services

Sunday Worship In-Person and Virtual Re-broadcast of services on local television, Sundays, 8 am

3 – St. Mark, 10:30 Sunday Worship

10 – Zion, 10:30 Sunday Worship Noisy Offering for Plenty Farm/Food Bank Fund

17 – St. Mark, 10:30 Sunday Worship

24–Zion, 7:00 Christmas Eve Service Food/Fellowship following the service

31 – St. Mark, 10:30 Sunday Worship

"And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth".....Luke 1:14

Enrich your Advent experience by gathering for suppers (provided) at 5:30 and Holden Evening Prayer services at 6:15, on Wednesday evenings, Dec. 6, 13, and 20, at Floyd Methodist Church. Jointly sponsored with the Floyd Presbyterian Church and Floyd Willis Lutheran Parish.

Here's your New Year Resolution! It's time to get involved! Opportunities to serve:

<u>Altar Guild</u> – Contact Beth Smith at St. Mark <u>diamondva@yahoo.com</u>, Contact Marty Holliday at Zion <u>marty.holliday@gmail.com</u>. The altar guild is a ministry of service to all those that attend a service at Zion and at St. Mark. They care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens. Members prepare the sanctuary for all services and clean up afterwards. They order necessary supplies for all services, including altar flowers.

<u>Cemetery/Columbarium</u> – Contact Bill Gardner <u>gardnerb@swva.net</u>. The committee maintains records for our historic cemetery and provides information to those seeking genealogy information. It receives/processes applications for the Columbarium.

Community Care Fund — Contact Kamala Bauers kbauers@wallresidences.com. The Fund is overseen by the Social Justice Committee of Zion. It has been used to assist with basic/unusual needs of Floyd County residents after other resources have been exhausted. Each confidential request is voted on by committee members and often funds are matched by another church or local agency. Help is provided without prejudice to anyone who is a resident of Floyd County, without prejudice to religious beliefs or any other identifier. The Community Care Fund is collected on the last Sunday of the month services are held at Zion.

<u>Prayer Shawls</u> – Contact Linda Fox <u>linda.fox222@gmail.com</u>. <u>Rainbow Shawls</u> – Contact Beth Smith <u>diamondva@yahoo.com</u>. Prayer and Rainbow shawls are created to show an expression of God's love by knitting or crocheting for people who are in need of comfort and prayer.

Reconciling In Christ – Contact Linda Fox linda.fox222@gmail.com. The RIC group was established to create our "Welcoming Statement", to specifically welcome people to our parish who often feel unwelcome in churches including people of all sexual orientations, gender expression and color. The Committee is working on meeting requirements to be listed on a national public register as a "Welcoming Church".

Social Justice – Contact Marty Holliday marty.holliday@gmail.com. The Committee serves as a primary resource and catalyst for the work of social justice in our community. We base our activities on the biblical and theological foundations of Lutheran social teaching; focus on issues which address dignity and rights of people who are socially, politically or economically disadvantaged; maximize opportunities to work with other organizations/groups; and promote both private and public commitments to social justice.

Zoom Services – Contact Marty Holliday marty.holliday@gmail.com. If you are computer savvy, we would love to have you join us to provide zoom services for the parish. We need a few more folks to help our small group.



knitting rainbow shawls for the new

Nineveh ministry......Please join Beth Smith in this wonderful project. You can knit or crochet the rainbow shawls, or you can donate yarns needed. Contact Beth for more information diamondva@yahoo.com

Zion needs volunteers to sign up to serve as Usher/Greeters, Readers and Fellowship Hosts. There are sign up sheets on the kitchen counter. Please consider making this valuable contribution of time to your church.