

Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus.

THE ZUMBRO Current

December 2022

Zumbro Lutheran Church | A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Advent and Christmas Worship at Zumbro

We are expanding the opportunities to worship this Advent and Christmas season with 2 worship services on Wednesdays--12 Noon and 6:15pm, 2 services each Sunday--the 8:30 and the 10:30, 4 worship services on Christmas Eve, and a special Christmas Day worship service at 10am. Wednesdays in Advent will also feature 2 meals--lunch following 12 Noon worship, and evening meals beginning at 5pm before 6:15pm worship.

Wednesdays: Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21

- 12 Noon Worship (in-person only) with music from Holden Evening Prayer and meal after.
- 6:15pm Worship (in-person & livestreamed) with music from Behold Our Light with meal before.

Sundays: the 8:30 and the 10:30--in-person & livestreamed.

Assoc. Pastor Vote Dec. 4

The Zumbro Church Council has scheduled a special congregational meeting for Sunday, Dec. 4 at 9:35am in the sanctuary for the call committee to present its associate pastor candidate of choice, Pastor Tim Rotman. You can vote and participate by attending in-person, or by registering online to attend the meeting via Zoom. No registration is necessary to attend the meeting in-person. Visit the Zumbro website to register for the Zoom link. This is an exciting and important time in the life of our church. The council thanks the call committee for its diligent and thorough work.



"Flight to Egypt" by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Christmas Eve: Sat., Dec. 24

Holy Family, Communion, Family Blessing, and Candle Lighting at each service:

- **2pm** in-person only.
Music by Emily Schmidt, soloist.
- **3:30pm** in-person only. Zumbro Lutheran Choir & Bel Canto Handbell Choir.
- **5pm** in-person & livestreamed.
Zumbro Lutheran Choir & Bel Canto Handbell Choir.
- **9pm** in-person & livestreamed.
Meredith Pritchard & Janette Davis, vocalists; Michael Bostwick, clarinet

Christmas Day: Sun., Dec. 25

- **10am** in-person & livestreamed.
Kelsey O'Leary, soloist.

Looking Back: Seasons of Firsts!

1st Annual Trunk or Treat

Hundreds of people of all ages participated in the first annual Zumbro Lutheran Trunk or Treat event at the end of October. The creativity was flowing with elaborately decorated trunks and costumes, while people shared candy, ate hot dogs, drank root beer and cider, and celebrated the season. Thank you to everyone that participated, decorated, dressed up, and donated candy!



1st Senior Worship & Pie

In case you missed it, 90 people and over 50 of Zumbro's Seniors age 85 years+ gathered on a Thursday afternoon in October for a special worship service, pie from Otto's Bakery, and fellowship. The staff played bells. The youngsters (65-75 year-olds) served pie and coffee. Everyone had a great time connecting and sharing life and faith. Thank you to all that attended and helped with the event - drivers, greeters, ushers, musicians, communion helpers, and those serving pie and coffee. We also thank Thrivent for providing funds to help with the event.



3 Unique Worshipping Experiences

For the first time, Zumbro offers three distinctly unique worship experiences at two different days of the week. We have experimented with worship styles this year, offering options for music and liturgy each week. The modern, band-led style of Wednesday Worship moved to Sunday mornings at "the 10:30," while "the 8:30" holds traditional worship with piano, organ, bells, choir, and instruments. Wednesday evening worship has become a quieter, more contemplative experience, and is now referred to as "Wednesday Unplugged." Thank you for experimenting and expanding with us.



1st Zumbro Block Party

The fall season kicked off with a block party that was attended by hundreds of people enjoying outdoor worship led by a contemporary Christian rock band, eating lunch provided by food trucks, playing yard games, and building community on a beautiful fall day. Thank you for celebrating neighborhood and community.



Youth Serving Others

This isn't the first time our youth have served others for the sake of Jesus, but it was the first time they went to Honduras! In addition to all of the activities our youth participate in here in Rochester, this past summer they also traveled to the far off lands of Duluth, MN and Roatán, Honduras in service of the gospel. Thank you to the youth that have served, the families that support them, and to everyone that contributes to youth activities and fundraisers, including Youth Stock.



Looking forward to the opportunities for youth in 2023--registration is now open online for the **Middle School Mission Trip to Milwaukee, WI, July 30-Aug. 4, 2023**, and for the **High School Mission Trip to Washington, D.C. in June 2023**.

Ruth Monson's Retirement Celebration Dec. 4

Ruth Monson is retiring as Zumbro's Congregational Life Minister. Her last day at Zumbro will be Sunday, Dec. 4. Help us celebrate Ruth and her 7 years of service to Zumbro on Dec. 4 following the Congregational Meeting. There will be a short presentation by the Personnel Team in the sanctuary between services (while votes are being counted). Everyone is invited to wish Ruth well! Rosettes made by Otto's Bakery and coffee by Cafe Steam will be shared in the Gathering Place. Ruth has played a vital role in care ministry, senior worship ministry, and volunteer coordination here at Zumbro. She will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best in her retirement. Best wishes, Ruth!



Thank you, Zumbo

By Ruth Monson, Congregational Life Minister

As I wind up my final days as Congregational Life Minister at Zumbro, I must say how grateful I am to have served here for 7 years! Thanks to you all for your friendship and for the many well-wishes I have received. I will miss you! You all have taught me much during my time here, including:

- The importance of listening to stories. Everyone, young and old, has a unique life story/faith journey. Together, all these stories give the church life and vibrancy. Your stories give me hope.
- Our huge cadre of volunteers could singlehandedly run the church! Zumbro has amazing people who, despite their busy lives, still take time to give of their time and talent. You inspire me!
- Our Care Ministers are the "heart" of the church, visiting and connecting so well with our homebound members. Thank you, Care Ministers, for your dedication!
- Worship is central in our lives of faith, and Zumbro knows how to provide excellent worship. Thank you to all my friends and musicians who plan and execute worship so well. I will miss worshipping with you.

Our ZLC staff are wonderfully caring, dedicated, and talented people! Zumbro is in good hands, and I predict many exciting days ahead. Paul writes: "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." *Philippians 1:6* Like Paul, I am confident that God is active here at Zumbro, and I pray for an abundance of blessings both in the church and flowing out into the world. Peace to you all.

Our Advent theme this year, "**From Generation to Generation**" focuses on the stories, scriptures, and traditions of the Christmas season that have been passed down to us throughout the generations. Many of us enter this season with a swell of memories and emotions as vast as the cultural and religious rituals this holiday holds. Like a tapestry woven throughout time, the Christmas story weaves us in--to remember how God has shown up in the past, to continue the work of collective liberation, to behold the presence of God in flesh and bone.



Branding & Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman |
Photography by Lisle Gwynn Garrity
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



"How God Shows Up" by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



"Genealogy of Christ" by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



"Mary's Golden Annunciation" by Carmelle Beaugelin
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Christmas Mission Projects: LSS Youth & Luther

Zumbro Cookie Brigade

Please sign up to bring 2 dozen (or more) cookies for holiday care packages for both our LSS Youth Resource Center youth/young adults and Luther College students in our community. Sign up on the Zumbro website homepage--(scroll down to find the link). This year we do have a severe nut allergy in the LSS Youth Resource Center. Please sign up to make cookies with nuts or without nuts, and label them as such. Cookies can be dropped off (in freezable containers/zip lock bags) to Zumbro Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm, Sunday mornings before/after worship, or Wednesday evenings before/after worship. All cookies need to be delivered by 9:30am on Sunday, Dec. 11. To help pack cookies on Dec. 11 at 12:30pm, email sarahlichty@zumbrolutheran.org.



LSS Youth Resource Center Advent Giving Tree

Support LSS Youth Services Rochester this Advent season. Sign up to adopt a youth--fulfill a youth's wish list for themselves and/or any children they may be parenting. You can also sign up to purchase general gifts for LSS Youth or for the LSS Youth Resource Center here at Zumbro. Sign up on the Zumbro website homepage--(scroll down to find the link), or take an ornament from one of the Giving Trees in the Gathering Place to choose a gift you would like to give. Please drop off gifts directly to the LSS Youth Resource Center at Zumbro on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 10am-3pm and Sunday, Dec. 4 from 9am-2pm. Gifts can also be left near the the Giving Trees in the Gathering Place. All gifts must be received by Sunday, Dec. 4. Contact sarahlichty@zumbrolutheran.org with any questions.



LUTHER COLLEGE

Luther College Outreach

Sign up online to help provide and/or serve brunch or lunch to support Luther students during their finals week--Mon., Dec. 12 and Tues., Dec. 13. For more information, email jennifergruendler@zumbrolutheran.org.



Advent Activities for Youth

Confirmation Advent Mentoring

Confirmation youth and a mentor (a caring adult who doesn't live with them) commit to meeting on Wednesday evenings 7:15-8pm each week during Advent (Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21) to share in faith conversations, prayers, and a few special advent surprises. Mentors and mentees are also asked to worship each week on either Sunday or Wednesday.



High School Youth Advent Nights

Youth in grades 10-12 will meet Sunday evenings in December (Dec. 4, 11 & 18) for special Advent activities. Bring your friends. All are welcome! Register online.

Order Christmas Poinsettias--Dec. 12

Help decorate the Zumbro sanctuary by purchasing a Christmas poinsettia in memory, or in honor of a loved one. Plants are \$15 each and can be ordered on the Zumbro website homepage under Featured Events, or on the Planning Center/Church Center App under signups. There are also order forms available on the table outside the sanctuary, or in the church office. Order before Dec. 12. Poinsettias can be taken home after worship Christmas Day, or picked up Dec. 27-28.

Advent and Christmas for Children & Adults

Advent Devotionals and Advent-in-a-Bag Available Beginning Sunday, Nov. 27

Prepare for Jesus' birth at home, creating Advent memories together with our annual Advent-in-a-Bag. This year's bag will include an Advent countdown calendar, a special ornament to create, a nativity scene, devotions, and more! Both the Advent-in-a-Bag and printed Advent Devotionals featuring the Advent theme for this year, "From Generation to Generation," will be available for everyone throughout the Advent season, beginning the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27.



Advent Decorating Extravaganza Sunday, Nov. 27, 9:35am

Enjoy star cookies as we create beautiful star ornaments to help decorate our amazing church for Advent and Christmas. You don't have to be "crafty" to participate. ALL AGES ARE WELCOME to join in the fun from 9:35-10:25am on the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27.

Story Time is going LIVE for Advent!

Sunday at both services and Wednesday worship at 6:15pm: Story Time will be live during Advent! Lighting the Advent wreath candles will be part of the experience. We are looking for families and individuals that would love to help with the candle lighting. To volunteer email janettereeves@zumbrolutheran.org.

Story Time
Going LIVE for Advent!
Both services Sundays (starting Nov. 27)
AND
Wednesdays (starting Nov. 30)

Ring Bells for the Salvation Army with Janette

We had so much fun ringing bells for the Salvation Army last year, let's do it again! Sign up on the Zumbro website for these dates: Monday, Nov. 28, 4-6pm; Friday, Dec. 16, 6-8pm; and Saturday, Dec. 17, 12-2pm. Sign up for one hour shifts. Find your Santa hat and warm mittens and join Janette for a great cause!



Hear the Advent Story in a Whole New Way Through "Godly Play"

Join Children & Family Minister Janette Davis and Dr. David Wakeley for a beautiful telling of the Advent story during a special Club Z on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 7:15pm and during a special Faith Formation on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 9:35am. Parents are welcome to stay. Preschool children who would like to attend need a parent to accompany them. Watch for more details coming soon.

Children's Christmas Program Sunday, Dec. 18 at 10:30am

This year's program will be a hybrid mix of video, as well as live speakers and music by pre-K through 6th grade kids! Save the date for this very special and always entertaining telling of the Christmas story. Individuals and families--sign up on the website to participate--live and/or via prerecorded videos.



Mark Your Calendar!

November

Wed., Nov. 23

6:15pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship
7:15pm Pie Gathering
No Children/Youth/Adult Programs

Thurs., Nov. 24

Thanksgiving--Office Closed

Fri., Nov. 25

Office Closed

Sun., Nov. 27 Advent 1

8:30am Worship
9:35am Advent Decorating Extravaganza
for ALL--No Faith Formation
*Get your Advent Devotional and
Advent-in-a-bag*
10:30am Worship

Wed., Nov. 30

12 Noon Advent Worship
12:30pm Soup Lunch (Chicken Wild Rice)
5pm Meatloaf Meal
6:15pm Worship
7:15pm-8:15pm FORUM, Club Z, Choir,
Confirmation Advent Mentoring

December

Sat., Dec. 3

10am-3pm LSS Giving Tree Gift Drop-off

Sun., Dec. 4 Advent 2

8:30am Worship
9am-2pm LSS Giving Tree Gift Drop-off
9:35am Congregational Meeting to Vote
on Associate Pastor Tim Rotman
10am Ruth Monson's Retirement
Celebration
9:35am Faith Formation
10:30am Worship
Evening: High School Youth Advent Night

Wed., Dec. 7

12 Noon Advent Worship
12:30pm Soup Lunch (Corn Chowder)
5pm Pizza Meal
6:15pm Worship
7:15pm-8:15pm FORUM, Club Z: Godly
Play Advent Story for kids and adults,
Choir, Confirmation Advent Mentoring

Sun., Dec. 11 Advent 3

8:30am Worship
9:30am Cookie Brigade Deadline
9:35am Zed Talk: Zumbro 20/20
Downtown Church, Pastor Rob
9:35am Faith Formation: Godly Play
Advent Story for kids and adults
10:30am Worship
12 Noon Service of Remembrance
Evening: High School Youth Advent Night
Christmas Poinsettia Ordering Deadline

Wed., Dec. 14

12 Noon Advent Worship
12:30pm Soup Lunch
(Baked Potato Soup)
5pm Baked Potato Bar Meal
6:15pm Worship
7:15pm-8:15pm FORUM, Club Z, Choir,
Confirmation Advent Mentoring

Sun., Dec. 18 Advent 4

8:30am Worship
9:35am ZED Talk: LSS Youth Resource
Center at Zumbro, Tammy Moses
9:35am Faith Formation
10:30am Worship--Christmas Program
3:30pm (Prelude) 41st Annual Festival of
Lessons and Carols (service 4pm)

Wed., Dec. 21

12 Noon Advent Worship
12:30 Soup Lunch (Lentil Soup)
5pm Pasta Meal
6:15pm Longest Night Worship
7:15pm-8:15pm Club Z, Confirmation
Advent Mentoring, Choir (NO FORUM)

Sat., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Worship

2pm--in-person
3:30pm--in-person
5pm--in-person & livestreamed
9pm--in-person & livestreamed

Sun., Dec. 25 Christmas Day Worship

10am

Mon., Dec. 26

Office Closed

Wed., Dec. 28

No Worship
No Children/Youth/Adult Programs

January

Sun., Jan. 1 New Year's Day

10am Worship

Mon., Jan. 2

Office Closed

Wed., Jan. 4

6:15pm Worship
7:15pm-8:15pm FORUM, Club Z, Choir,
Confirmation

For the complete church calendar, visit planning center (Church Center App) or zumbrolutheran.org



Special Worship Services at Zumbro

4 Christmas Eve Services: 2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 9pm

1 Christmas Day Service at 10am

1 New Year's Day Service at 10am

Service of Remembrance Dec. 11

The holiday season can be the most wonderful time of the year, but if you've lost a loved one, it can also be the most difficult time of the year. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one (regardless of how many months or years it has been), you are invited to come to this Service of Remembrance on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 12 Noon. This is a time to gather, remember, hear God's promises, light a candle, and let your tears become a prayer to God. All are welcome.



41st Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols Dec. 18

Zumbro members and friends are welcome to experience the 41st Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols--both in-person from the sanctuary, as well as livestreamed on Sunday, Dec. 18. This year's theme is "From Generation to Generation." The prelude will begin at 3:30pm with the service at 4pm. Please join us in the long-time Zumbro tradition of music and scripture for this Advent and Christmas season. A newly commissioned composition written for the Zumbro Woodwind Quintet and piano will be premiered as part of the Festival of Lessons and Carols. Duane Funderburk has written a second John Jacob Niles arrangement entitled, "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head." A few years ago, he wrote a beautiful arrangement of "I Wonder as I Wander" also commissioned by our woodwind quintet. Both carols will be a part of this year's service. Come early to ensure seating.



Honoring Zumbro's History: The Abner Haugen Library

By Emily Schmidt, Volunteer Librarian

The Abner Haugen Library here at Zumbro has a history that actually predates the congregation's move to this location at 624 Third Avenue SW over 53 years ago. According to Pastor Lester Horntvedt, there may have been a rudimentary space allocated as a library in the basement of the education building across the street from the former church site on Fourth Street and Third Avenue SW. At the time, this building housed the church's combined fellowship hall and Sunday school rooms. When the Zumbro congregation moved just a few blocks south in 1969, there was a very intentional decision to create an identifiable space on the main level for a library. Pastor Abner Haugen served as Zumbro's lead pastor beginning in 1950, and it was under his direction that the church was relocated to its present site. Whether or not there was any kind of official library in the former buildings, Pastor Horntvedt recalled that "the best library we had was in Abner Haugen's office. If we needed something, we asked him."

In 1972, shortly after Pastor Haugen's retirement, the Zumbro Lutheran Church Council chose to honor his years of service by naming the new library the Abner Haugen Library. Pastor Horntvedt added that the council had to be firm and decisive about this as Haugen would have "dismissed such a decision, as he was a person who never saw the need to be exalted." Naming the library in honor of Pastor Haugen was the council's way of providing a unique tie to our history at the former church location, while honoring Haugen's 22 years of ministry at Zumbro.

For the full article written by Emily Schmidt about the history of the library, visit the blog post at zumbrolutheran.blog



624 Third Ave. SW
Rochester, MN 55902

www.zumbrolutheran.org
(507) 288-2649

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Zumbro Staff

- Rob Zahn**
Directing Pastor
pastorrob@zumbrolutheran.org
- Shelley Cunningham**
Pastor
pastorshelley@zumbrolutheran.org
- Tim Rotman**
Interim Associate Pastor
pastortim@zumbrolutheran.org
- William Deng**
Dinka Lay Evangelist
kristygier@zumbrolutheran.org
- Kristy Giere**
Music Minister
kristygier@zumbrolutheran.org
- Janette Davis**
Children and Family Minister
janettereeves@zumbrolutheran.org
- Bob Giere**
Director of Zumbro Lutheran Choir
Director of Sunday and Wednesday
Worship Band
bobgiere@gmail.com
- Jen Gruendler**
Youth and Young Adult Minister
jennifergruendler@zumbrolutheran.org
- Ruth Monson**
Congregational Life Minister
ruthmonson@zumbrolutheran.org
- Tracy Schar**
Director of Operations
tracyschar@zumbrolutheran.org
- Sarah Lichty**
Director of Mission
sarahlichty@zumbrolutheran.org
- Kari MacIver**
Office Manager
kariaciver@zumbrolutheran.org
- Julie Knowlton**
Communications Director
julieknowlton@zumbrolutheran.org
- Amanda Bottoms**
Digital Communications Consultant
amandabottoms@zumbrolutheran.org
- Glenna Kalahar**
Receptionist
receptionist@zumbrolutheran.org
- Jeremy Stortz**
Director of Worship Technology
Evenign Facilities Manager
jeremystortz@zumbrolutheran.org
- Ralph Schornack**
Music Assistant
- Jesse Grant**
Maintenance Lead
- Karla Dexter**
Office Assistant