

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **PITTSFIELD: Rededication of Zion Lutheran Church: Saturday October 28, 1pm.**

The Rev. James Hazelwood, Bishop of the New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will preside over a festive rededication of Zion Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 28 at 1:00pm.

The church recently reopened following a seven-month, \$1.2 million renovation to the sanctuary and surrounding areas. The renovations were designed by EDM Architects & Engineers, Pittsfield, and the general contractor was David J. Tierney, Jr. Inc., of Pittsfield. The scope of work included new accessibility features, new heating and air-conditioning systems, two new restrooms, and refurbishment of plaster, paint, and other finishes.

This late October event coincides with the celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation: on October 31, 1517, Martin Luther famously nailed his 95 Theses to the doors of the Castle Church of Wittenburg, Germany. "The Reformation is no longer celebrated as a church-dividing event," said The Rev. Timothy Weisman, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church of Pittsfield, "but rather as a reminder that Christ's church is always reforming. Through the planning and fruition of this renovation, we continue our own reformation into the next generation."

Additional participants will include area community leaders, clergy, music director Amy Renak, and the Jazz Vespers ensemble from Zion Lutheran Church: Marisa Massery, vocals; Dan Broad, bass; Katharine Wiencke, flute; Sturgis Cunningham, drums; and Ben Kohn, piano. This event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.

### **ABOUT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

Organized in 1859, Zion Lutheran Church of Pittsfield is the first Lutheran church to be founded in the six-state New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, one of the largest progressive Christian denominations in the United States. The Rev. Timothy Weisman serves as the fourteenth pastor of Zion Lutheran Church.

### **IN BRIEF:**

Rededication of Zion Lutheran Church  
Free Event; reception to follow  
Saturday, October 28, 1:00pm  
74 First Street, Pittsfield MA 01201  
<http://www.zionlutheranpittsfield.org/>