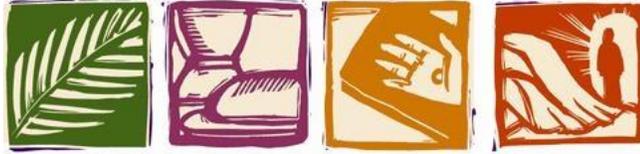


# Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life through Christ!  
April 2026

## HOLY WEEK



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 29

Palm Sunday Worship @ 9 a.m.

April 2

Maundy Thursday Worship @ 7 p.m.  
(with Holy Communion)

April 3

Good Friday Tenebrae @ 7 p.m.

April 5

Easter Sunrise Service @ 6:30 a.m.  
Easter Continental Breakfast: 7 to 8:45 a.m.  
Easter Festival Service @ 9 a.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt @ 10:30 a.m.





On the first day of the week, very early in the morning,  
the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.  
They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered,  
they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.  
While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men  
in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.  
In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground,  
but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?  
He is not here; he has risen! ~Luke 24: 1-6a



**Read the Bible in 2 years**

## **Today's Light**

Lani Sanders

Week 13 begins April 6 with Deuteronomy 1  
Week 14 begins April 13 with Deuteronomy 7  
Week 15 begins April 20 with Deuteronomy 16  
Week 16 begins April 27 with Deuteronomy 27  
(For more information contact Lani Sanders.)



## **Community Sharing**

The Community Service Board will be collecting food and hygiene items for the FAM Spot. They are in need of **canned or boxed food that is easy for the kids to prepare, such as: Spaghetti O's, Ravioli, Mac n' Cheese, Ramen etc.** Please place your donations in one of the collection baskets in the narthex.

Thank you!



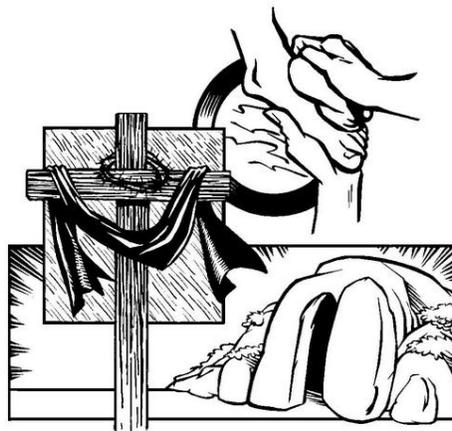
Shellee Zillner

The Fellowship Board is looking forward to the Easter Celebration at Zion this year. Our annual Easter Breakfast will be held in the Fellowship Hall. It is a continental style breakfast, with items such as muffins, fruit, and drinks. If anyone would like to make a casserole, you will not be turned down :); contact Shellee to let her know. The breakfast will be open at 7:00-ish, after the Sunrise Service. It will close at 8:45 and reopen after the Festival Service.

The Easter Egg hunt for the kids will be after the Festival Service, beginning at 10:30. The kids under age 5 will be hunting on the early childhood playground. Children 5 and over will hunt on the elementary playground. We are looking for donations of individually wrapped small candy (it needs to fit in the eggs). Small items, such as stickers, small plastic toys, etc. for the eggs are another idea, as well as prefilled eggs. There is a donation basket in the church narthex.

We thank you in advance for your generosity, and helping to make our celebration such a success. Jesus has risen!

Fellowship is also planning some additional events during the spring and summer. Please stay tuned for information about our first (hopefully) annual Chili Cook-Off. We are also brainstorming some other ideas. Do not worry, our traditional events, such as Oktoberfest and the Thanksgiving Pie Social, will still take place.





## **'He is Risen'**

*The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples" — Matthew 28:5-7*

Blessed Easter! Once again, with holy awe, we come together to celebrate the grace of God in time and history. As Paul writes, *'God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting our sins against us.'* (2 Corinthians 5:19) Indeed, more than a mere historical fact, Jesus' Resurrection is the culmination and validation of God's plan of redemption for us sinners.

Paul highlights the centrality of Jesus' Resurrection saying: *'If Christ has not been raised, then our faith is futile for we are still in your sins. ... but Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep'* (1 Corinthians 15:17,20).

Jesus, our Champion and representative, walked our journey faithfully and then willingly laid his life down for our sins (Cf. Philippians 2:6-8). This Jesus was acknowledged as the faithful one (Cf. Matthew 3:16-17; Matthew 17:4-5) and we are called to trust him and to listen to him. (Cf. John 14:1-6; Matthew 16:21-23).

The celebration of the Resurrection is nothing short than the celebration of God's loving faithfulness. God the Father planned our salvation (Cf. Genesis 3:15; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Micah 7:18-19, etc), God the Son accomplished our Salvation (Cf. Philippians 2:6-8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; John 12:27-28), and God the Holy Spirit applies this salvation to our hearts (Cf. 1 Corinthians 12:3; Titus 3:4-7)!

Here, at Easter, we see the fullness of God's glory (Cf. Hebrews 1:3) and, as a result, we have His peace (John 16:33; Philippians 4:4-9). Rejoicing in the Lord's faithfulness, we lift our voices in his praise: *'Our Savior is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!'*

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Busch

The family of Howard Bowers  
is very grateful to everyone for your support and encouragement  
during these past difficult weeks.  
Thank you all!



Tristina Rodriguez

ZLYF will be attending Hope Nights concert on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, at The First Assembly of God church in Victorville. All are welcome. Tickets can be purchased online for general admission. You must purchase tickets in advance.



ZLYF went snow tubing in Big Bear on March 7, 2026





Xiaojie Gong

We had a busy but enjoyable March. We celebrated Dr. Seuss Day by sharing Dr. Seuss' books and a special Seuss-inspired snack. The students enjoyed *Donuts with Dad and Grandpa*, and had their best spring moment recorded on Picture Day.

We will begin April with Maundy Thursday on April 2nd. The Maundy Thursday breakfast (sausage and eggs) will be served anytime from 7:15 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. After breakfast, the *Stations of the Cross* will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the church. You are all welcome to join us! Students will have an early dismissal after their presentation. Good Friday falls on April 3rd, and we will have no school that day. Then we are going to enjoy our Easter Break from April 6th to 10th. Hope you will have fun during Easter break!

The 3rd quarter awards will be held on Wednesday, April 22nd, at 9:15 a.m. at the church. We will have an early release on Friday, April 24th, for the teachers will be having a meeting after the dismissal.

Our school is open to any student from kindergarten to 6th grade. If you know anyone who would be interested in a Christ-centered education, please have them call the school office at 730-243-3074.



"Food tastes better  
when it's shared with family."



**Preschool News**

Rosemarie Carrizosa

April is upon us and we are very busy this month with a lot of spring activities.

We start with Maundy Thursday breakfast on April 2nd followed by the elementary students' presentation of the *Stations of the Cross*. We will discuss the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior all week in the classroom. We are closed for Good Friday on April 3rd.

The rest of the month we will be discussing the season of spring and will plant a garden in our preschool playground.

Towards the end of the month, we will begin practicing for our spring musical, which will be May 8th at 6:30 p.m.

Please continue to keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

# Family<sup>+</sup>

*Parents are the primary shapers of faith and life in their children... ~ Ben Freudenburg*

## ***He is risen! He is risen indeed!***

*And I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:20b*

Our faith is a gift from God. *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God* (emphasis mine)—*not by works, so that no one can boast* (Eph. 2: 8-9). We don't give ourselves faith. We cannot decide we're going to have faith. Your faith—my faith—is a gift to each of us from God. We might not be able to make ourselves have faith, but we can practice the faith we've been given, and as with everything else in life, practice produces improvement. As we practice faith, it becomes stronger.

But what is faith? Two of the first three meanings of faith, according to dictionary.com, are 1) confidence or trust in a person or thing, and 3) belief in God or in the doctrines or teachings of religion. I remember a sermon I heard years ago. The pastor's undergraduate degree was in Greek, and the passage he was talking about was about believing. He said the word was frequently translated "believe," but it was more accurately translated "trust." In the passage, the people believed in the existence of God as God. They didn't trust Him. Faith seems to encompass not only believing in the reality of God, in who He is, but also trusting Him.

Carol Kuykendall had been diagnosed with stage-four ovarian cancer. She asked the doctor for the truth about her chances of life expectancy. He told her two years was the average. A devastating diagnoses. But then she remembered Skylar, the son of a friend.

Several weeks after his birth, Skylar was diagnosed with leukemia. He was put on life support, and finally the doctors told his parents to prepare for the worst. His mother tearfully asked the nurses to pull all the tubes when the end was near so that she could hold him until he died.

Meanwhile, across town at the family's church, a group gathered for prayer and someone reported that Skylar was dying. A pastor suddenly stood up and almost defiantly announced, "There are diagnoses and statistics—**and then there's God!**" (emphasis mine)"

Back at the hospital, little Skylar drew a few breaths on his own...then a few more, slowly at first but then more steadily." Skylar lived. Carol wrote the devotion in *Daily Guideposts* three later. (*Daily Guideposts* 2010, pg. 383)

The devotion in *Today's Light* (see page 2) for Numbers 13 and 14 begins, "Twelve spies sneaked into Canaan at Moses' command. Ten returned with a report of fear; two brought back a report of faith. The twelve did not disagree much about the facts, but they did *focus* (emphasis mine) on totally different sets of facts." (*Today's Light*, January – March 2026, pg. 94)

*Today's Light* revisited this theme of focus five days later concerning the story in Numbers 21. "Discouragement, impatience—whatever you want to call it, began in the same place—in the people's hearts. The people looked at their circumstances, they looked at God's promises, they saw [their efforts weren't] going to be effortless, and they grew frustrated." It continues with these closing thoughts: "whatever drives you to distraction and discouragement, your Lord has Good News for you today. He gives His people victory. Empowered by His forgiving love for us in Christ, we can fight the battles, walk the path, face the enemies. No matter how long it takes, our Savior stays beside us. We never walk, or fight, or suffer alone. ... God gives us the gift of praise as an antidote to discouragement and impatience." (*Today's Light*, January – March 2026, pg. 98)

Sometimes, when life gets challenging, it can be difficult to believe—to trust—that Jesus is with us. When life is thrilling, exciting, fulfilling, it's not so hard to believe and trust. Feelings are fickle, though, and our trust cannot be dependent on them. Trust is a choice, a decision, not a feeling.

During this Easter season, the Flat Jesus challenge is to practice our faith... to remind ourselves—every day—that He IS with us, as He promised. You can use the page at the end of the Tidings to record something (an area of your life that you struggled with that day) each day that you chose to focus on/trust Jesus in ... you reminded yourself: **and then there's God!**



## Lent 2026 Challenge



Flat Jesus and my friend helping me on my project



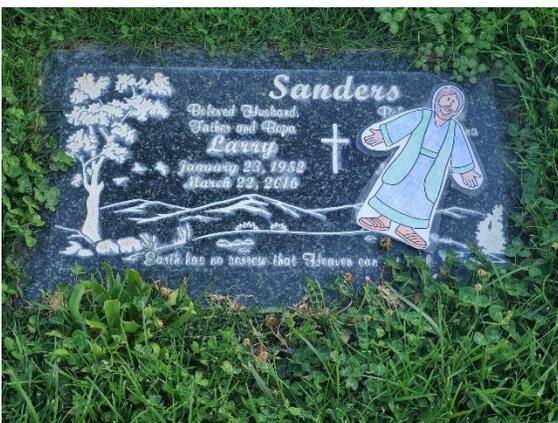
Family, friends and Flat Jesus remembering Howie



The Bowers Family and Flat Jesus after Howie's service



Flat Jesus in Texas with one of our Preschool workers, Florence.



Flat Jesus at the cemetery



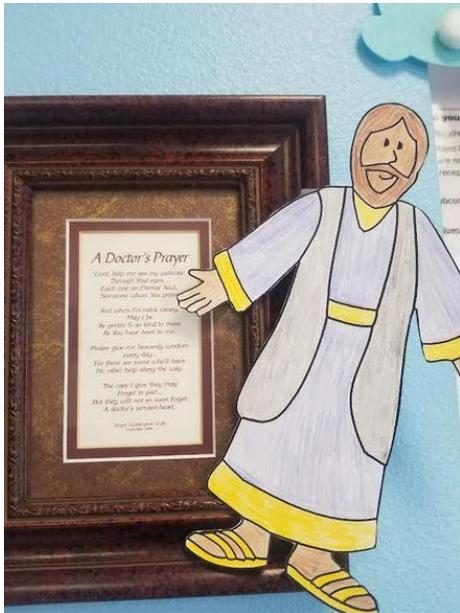
Flat Jesus in Texas with one of our Preschool workers, Florence.



Flat Jesus with Maribel (preschool worker and parent of school student) recovering in the hospital after surgery.



Wednesday Bible Study



Flat Jesus with Amy Knapp at work at Shiloh Medical Center.



Flat Jesus with Paige at her Baptism at Living Waters Lutheran Church in Buckeye, Arizona.



Flat Jesus with Amy Knapp at work at Shiloh Medical Center.



Flat Jesus with Angie Donating Blood Platelets.



## Church Family Prayer List

Lani Sanders

### Please remember...

- ...**Karen Guest**, hospitalized with an infection...
- ...**Jimmy Garcia**, hospitalized in ICU with pneumonia...
- ...**Walter Asta**, hospitalized...
- ...**Maribel Svider**, recovering from knee replacement surgery...
- ...**Roy and Skylar** (nephews of Lerma and Ernie Bockhorn), fighting cancer...
- ...**Scott** (son of Gene Dale), diagnosed with a brain tumor...
- ...**Amy Knapp**, recovering from surgery...
- ...**Joann Asta**, recovering from shoulder surgery...
- ...**Jean Sabala**, hospitalized in Texas with pneumonia...
- ...**Gidget** (sister-in-law of Della Parker), hospitalized in Florida...
- ...**Bob Dunnerman**, on hospice and suffering with heart problems...

**We ask for the Lord's comfort and peace** for Maria and Norm Briggs, at the passing of her father...

Names on our prayer list will remain for two months. If you need ongoing prayers, or if you have a prayer request, please contact the church at 760-245-9725, or email [secretary@zionvv.org](mailto:secretary@zionvv.org).





## Using Your *Talents*



### **Revocable Living Trust Template**

**Diana Santini, RHIA**

**(909) 240-4907**

[trustsantini@gmail.com](mailto:trustsantini@gmail.com)

11931 Autumn Wind Lane

Victorville, CA 92392



#### **Revocable Trust Includes**

- Pour Over Will
- Certification of Trust
- Abstract of Trust
- Power of Attorney
- Advanced Healthcare Directive
- Grant Deed Documents
- Trust Asset Forms
- Personal Effects Form
- Amendment to Trust Form
- Codicil of Last Will & Testament Form
- Final Arrangement Form
- Successor Trustee Guidelines
- Glossary of Terms

#### **Contributors:**

Pastor Lewis Busch  
Rosemarie Carrizosa  
Xiaojie Gong  
Don Hays  
Charlene Perry  
Tristina Rodriguez  
Lani Sanders  
Shellee Zillner

**Glad Tidings** is a monthly publication. Suitable articles are welcome, and will be printed as space permits. Articles are subject to editing for clarity and length. The deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

# April 2026

## *Zion Lutheran Church and School*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: 8px; text-align: center;"> <caption>Mar 2026</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: 8px; text-align: center;"> <caption>May 2026</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>  9:00 AM Stations of the Cross  7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship	<i>3</i>  7:00 PM Good Friday Worship  School & Office Closed	<i>4</i>
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# Serving The Lord at Zion This Month

## April 2026

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### Counters

4/5 Chuck Knapp/Lisa Reimers  
4/12 Marlene Henry/Chris Peterson  
4/19 Lisa Reimers/Loretta Donner  
4/26 Betsy Otte/Christy Bottom

### Flowers

4/5 Guy & Donna Cox  
4/12 Loretta Donner  
4/19 Troy & Lisa Reimers  
4/26

### Song Leader

Wendy Waiwood

### Lay Minister

Sunday: Jeff Sievers

### Sound & Media Technicians

Rob Waiwood  
Meaghan Imes  
Zack Bottom

### Altar Care

Sat: Beth Erickson / Carolyn Peterson  
Sun: Lisa Reimers

### Acolytes

4/5  
4/12 Grace Griffin  
4/19 Alex Xia  
4/26 Jose Rodriguez

### Readers

4/5/2026  
4/12/2026  
4/19/2026  
4/26/2026

### Sunday

Guy Cox  
Debra Kleinsmith  
Linda Seidenglanz  
Jeff Sievers

### Anniversaries

2– Guy & Donna Cox, Mike & April O’Hara;

### Birthdays

4– Kevin Henry; 5– Justin Taranto; 7–Mary Varela; 8– Barbara Garcia; 9– Duane Reynolds, Mike Meyer; 11– Noelle Dimas; 12– Amy Bowers, Laurie Henry; 13– Terry Olsen, Andrew Meyer; 15– Jacob Bowers, Ali Taranto, Kaden Duffy, Cody Duffy; 17– Ken Leeper; 18–Trinity Rodriguez; 20–Jeffrey Taranto; 21–Leah Benavidez; 22–Marlene Henry, Arabella Lugo

*I am always with you*  
Matthew 28:20



### ...and then there's GOD!

April 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
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*He has risen! He has risen, indeed! Hallelujah!*



EASTER  
CHANGES EVERYTHING



Sharing Life in Christ  
is

ZLYF

Tristina Rodriguez

MEETINGS:

*Every Sunday during Sunday School at 10:30 AM*

ACTIVITIES:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*April 18 – Hope Nights*

*July 3-7, 2028 – LCMS National Youth Gathering in San Antonio, TX*