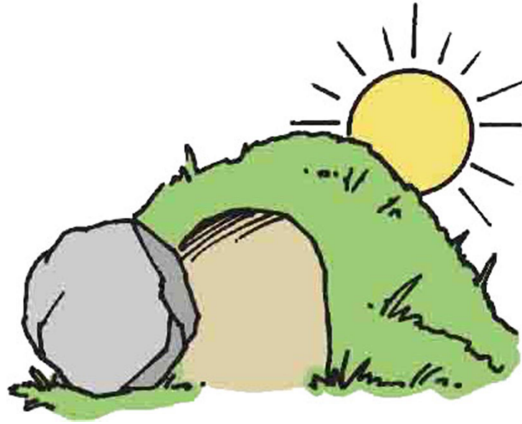


Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

April 2025



- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 2 | Lenten Worship at 7 p.m.
Soup Supper at 5:30–6:15 p.m. |
| April 9 | Lenten Worship at 7 p.m.
Soup Supper at 5:30–6:15 p.m. |
| April 13 | Palm Sunday Worship at 9 AM |
| April 17 | Stations of the Cross at 9 a.m.
Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7 p.m. |
| April 18 | Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7 p.m. |
| April 20 | Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 6 a.m.
Easter Breakfast from 7–8:40 a.m.
Easter Worship at 9 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 a.m. |

Easter



Changes Everything!

Glad Tidings

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Don Hays

Soup suppers are again being served on Wednesday evenings prior to our mid-week Advent worship services. They are intended as a time of fellowship as well as to provide an opportunity for an evening meal prior to worship for those who work late or commute.

This year our first mid-week Lenten Soup Supper and Lenten service will be on March 5. Serving will begin at 5:30 PM and end at 6:15 PM to allow time for cleanup prior to worship. If you can help out by providing a soup, salad, or dessert for one or more of these meals, it would be appreciated. In any case, please join us for a delicious meal and fellowship.



Easter Celebration

Shellee Zillner

The Fellowship Board is again looking forward to the Easter Celebration at Zion. We will be hosting our annual Easter Breakfast. Fellowship will provide the breakfast 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 children 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.

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But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31



Read the Bible in 2 years

Today's Light

Lani Sanders

Week 66 begins March 31 Ezekiel 47
Week 67 begins April 7 with Daniel 7
Week 68 begins April 14 with Hosea 7
Week 69 begins April 21 with Joel 2
Week 70 begins April 28 with Amos 7
(For more information contact Lani Sanders.)



Linda Bowers

The Community Services Board will be collecting a **'potluck' donation** during the month of **April:** canned tuna, chicken or beef, bags of rice or beans, Vienna sausages, hot cocoa mix, and/or any of the things we've collected over the past year, as well as Ziplock® bags & paper towels, toothpaste and tooth brushes, bar soap, shaving cream, etc.).

The Homeless Shelter has expressed a need for diapers and baby wipes. Donations of these items will be delivered there.

Thank you!

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Support the Mission of Zion Lutheran Church

Lani Sanders

The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is Zion Lutheran School. In offering education in a Lutheran Christian context, we are committed to teaching children about the world they live in through the lens of Jesus and his saving work. We have been given the opportunity and privilege of sharing God's love with our students and their families.

Pray for the school, the teachers, the students and their families: not only their studies, but also their family life and home issues, their influence in their communities, their health, their salvation.

Physical presence is support. Consider attending their programs, open houses and educational displays, etc.

Prayerfully consider committing to the Give25 program—\$25 a month in monetary support—a small amount to further the love of God in our community and world.



*"I want to know Christ
and the power of his
resurrection."*

Philippians 3:10, NRSV

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Since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ... When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all. – 1 Corinthians 15:21-24,28

This month, with confident joy, we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. Our Easter celebration marks the center of our faith and the pinnacle of God's gracious activity in history. Here, in our Easter celebration, we see God fulfilling his promise to 'work all things together for our good.' (Cf. Romans 8:28) Here we see our gracious God overcoming 'sin, death, and the power of the devil.' (Luther: Explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles Creed) Truly the center of history and the substance of our faith.

Paul, in our reading above, succinctly lays out for us exactly what God is doing in Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

Paul begins with our harsh reality. There's no sugar coating in his words as he lays out for us the reality of our fallenness. Paul writes, 'death came through a man ... in Adam all die.' (v21-22) This is our reality and it's not just temporal death. Our reality is our eternal separation from our loving God. (Cf. Colossians 1:21-22) Without God's intervention this would be all we would have to look forward to. Hopeless, desperate, bleak, and pathetic. But this is NOT what God desires and it is NOT where God leaves us. Rather God seeks us out. (Cf. Genesis 3:8-9) God promises to redeem us. (Cf. Genesis 3:15 & John 3:16-17) And God acts in time and history to fulfill his promise. (Cf. Romans 6:23 & Galatians 3:13)

Knowing this, Paul, in the passage above, quickly transitions to the Gospel, the good news of God, saying: 'Since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.' (v21-22) This is God's love in action. This is how God deals with our problem. This is our hope. Here we see our holy yet compassionate God remaining true to his nature, just and the one who justifies, (Cf. Romans 3:25-26) meeting us in the place of our deepest need. God so love us that he sent his Son, not to condemn but to redeem and save us. (Cf. John 3:16-17) Again, this is the substance of God's grace. This is our hope. This is our Easter celebration. (Cf. Colossians 1:21-22) Let us rejoice in this good news of God!

Paul then reminds us that the final step of God's plan of Redemption is still to come. Paul continues: 'The end will come, when [Jesus] hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ... When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.' (v24,28) In the end, and as a result of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, God's original will, purpose, and plan will be restored, and we will dwell in the presence of God forever! (Cf. Revelation 21:1-5; Revelation 22:1-5) Here at Easter, in awe, we see and rejoice in God's great love for us. Blessed Easter!

Pastor Busch

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LORD, hear our prayers

Lani Sanders

Please remember...

...**Bob Bowers**, struggling with health issues...

...**John Asta**, recovering from a fall...

...**M'Less Tripple**, recovering from surgery and waiting for treatment to begin...

...**Maxx Martyn** (son of Leigh Hannon), for strength and a continued assurance of God's presence during this season as he serves in Jordan...

...**Emily** (daughter of Beverly Rauscher) for healing of body and soul...

...**Paul Tarskabon**, struggling with digestive issues and potential medical procedures...

...the **family of Cozelle** (M'Less Tripple's mother) as they care for her...

...**Michael O'Hara**, recovering from eye surgery...

...**Frieda Gudmundson**, recovering from a stroke...

...**Joann Asta**, recovering from pneumonia ...

...**Richard Waiwood** (brother of Rob), recovering from surgery for brain cancer....

...**Gary Sinclair** (son of Ruth Reynolds), who is fighting a blood infection...

...**April O'Hara**, suffering with health issues...

...**Bob Dunnerman**, on hospice and suffering with heart problems...

...**Lerma Bockhorn** as she continues ongoing dialysis and recovers from cataract surgery ...

...Please continue to pray for **our brothers and sisters affected by the terrible fires**...

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.

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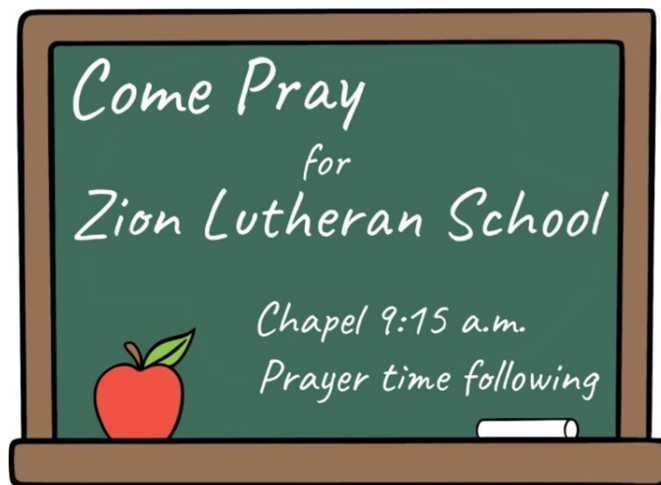
Please join us for fellowship and dinner before our mid-week Lenten services every Wednesday in March, from 5:30 – 6:15 PM. You are welcome to bring a soup, salad, or dessert, but it isn't necessary.

Special services during Holy Week include Palm Sunday, Stations of the Cross, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise Service, and The Festival Easter Service. See page 1 for times, and other special activities.

Please join us on Wednesdays after chapel as we **pray for Zion Lutheran School** together.

Circles of Friends are close small group faith families forming friendships to support and encourage faith in each other's lives. Sign-up now!

Support Zion Lutheran Church's mission—Zion Lutheran School. **Adopt a class** to faithfully pray for during the school year. Pick up your class list in the narthex now.



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Kristina McCormack

Happy spring! We have just entered the fourth quarter of the school year. It is hard to believe there are only a few months left of this school year.

In March, we presented our third quarter awards. We also went on a field trip to the San Bernardino Museum.

On Maundy Thursday, April 17th, the students will be presenting Stations of the Cross at 9 a.m. in the church. Before the service, we will have our annual Maundy Thursday breakfast starting at 7:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to join us. The students and staff will have spring break that next week, April 18th-27th.

We are starting our registration for the 2025-2026 school year. If you know anyone looking for a Christ-centered education, please have them call the school office at 760-243-3074.



Preschool News

Geoffrey Bottom
Rosemarie Carrizozo

Children and staff alike are busy learning about Jesus and His journey to the cross of salvation! We continue to share in the joy of knowing His great LOVE for us His children.

We will be studying bugs and flowers this month. We will be planting flowers in our garden as we do each year, celebrating with balloons and streamers.

We will be having our Maundy Thursday/Stations of the Cross service on Thursday April 17th. School will be closed on Friday April 18th to observe Good Friday.

Please continue to pray for our school and our church.

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

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

The Lonely Ember

A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the pastor decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening. The pastor found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for his pastor's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a big chair near the fireplace and waited. The pastor made himself comfortable but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the play of the flames around the burning logs.

After some minutes, the pastor took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent. The host watched all this in quiet fascination.

As the one lone ember's flame diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and "dead as a doornail."

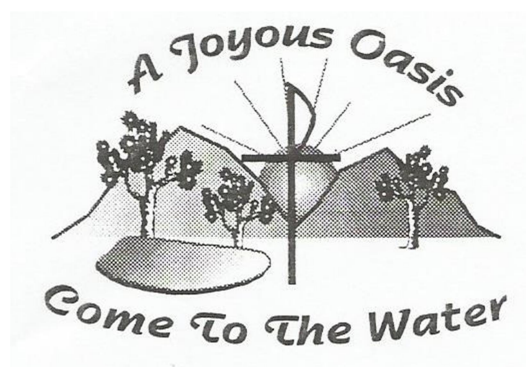
Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting.

Just before the pastor was ready to leave, he picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the pastor reached the door to leave, his host said, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday."

Source: unknown

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing (1Thess.5:11)



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Prayer and Faith Stories

Lani Sanders

We all have faith stories—stories about God’s action in your life at a specific time or for a specific need. We all have stories about answered prayers.

We all need the joy and encouragement of talking about and sharing our faith with others in our lives. God asks us to do this for a reason. Please share some of your stories with us. Everyday stories are just as encouraging as “big” stories.

Please contact Lani Sanders for more information.

Zion Family Adventures with Flat Jesus



Flat Jesus in Fairbanks, Alaska, looking at the Northern Lights.
Edy Busch & Lauren, Tyler, & Lenny Miller - March 21, 2025

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Lani Sanders

Let it be known to all who enter here that Christ
is the reason for this school.
He is the unseen but ever present teacher
in its classes.
He is the model of its faculty
and the inspiration of its students.*

Lutherans care about quality Christian education. Lutheran churches have established schools in our country since 1640.

Why is a Christian education so important? Why pay for school when you can get it for free?

Lutheran schools are driven by a commitment to the Gospel and focused on a mission of bringing hope and healing to students and families. Lutheran schools meet or exceed state and national academic standards at all grade levels. Lutheran teachers study God's Word, share their personal faith story, apply Law and Gospel appropriately in life, exhibit a passion for ministry, act courageously, equip God's people for service, care for others, demonstrate integrity, and pray both with and for their students and their students' families. Life is shared in and through Jesus Christ.

Education is more than learning how to make a living...a LOT more. Because an education greatly influences a child's character, thoughts, thinking processes, and values, the elementary—which means basic, fundamental, rudimentary—education is extremely important. It determines everything that follows.

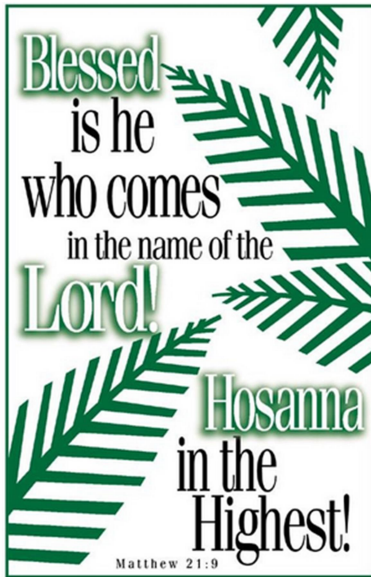
At Zion Lutheran School, the foundation of life and learning—of education—is the cross. God's grace—His undeserved love—in Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord, is fundamental to who we are and what we do.

*From an Abby Press poster

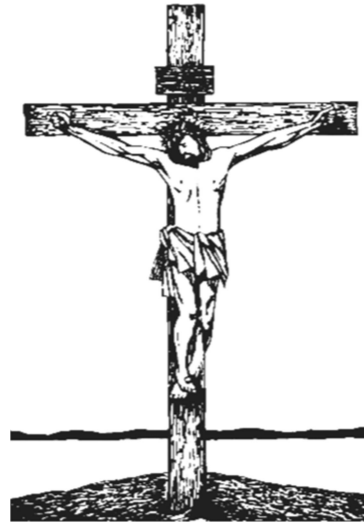
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Take it; this is my body...
This is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many.
Mark 14:22-24



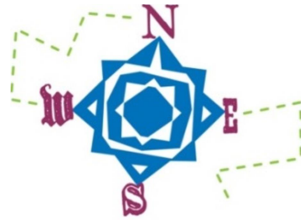
HE IS RISEN!



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Sharing Life in Christ

is

ZLYF

Tristina Rodriguez

MEETINGS:

Every Sunday during Sunday School

ACTIVITIES:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 2025 – LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA



Contributors:

Pastor Lewis Busch

Geoffrey Bottom

Linda Bowers

Don Hays

Kristina McCormack

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 20th of each month.