

Looking Up | Reaching Out



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

# *Harbinger*

**April 2023**  
**Volume 155 Number 4**

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My first two years at the seminary, I was assigned a “field work” congregation for gaining practical experience. It was great training in the real world, under supervision, that saved many congregations from newly minted pastors who had no practical experience. Those two years were enjoyable, helpful, and brought great memories. In my last year at the seminary, I had no such obligation. It was a good thing as I had just gotten married and was working almost full time as a bank teller to pay for my tuition. One day a different pastor called saying I had a great reputation from my field work church, and asked if he could hire me to help with his youth group. After some discussion with my bride, I agreed to take the weekend job. To make a long story short, I went to that church, never met the pastor, and the counselors and kids really weren’t that friendly. I had been given no clarity as to what had been going on or was expected. A week later, the pastor called to tell me I wasn’t fitting in and was fired. I hadn’t even had a chance to find out what my responsibilities were! My ego was crushed. My field work church had loved me. My vicarage in Miami was a great success. I had been working since my junior year of high school and had never been fired, until then! All I could think of was how unfair this had been. As always with hindsight, this did teach me some valuable lessons.

I had allowed my ego to cause me to jump into a role, without checking it out first. Even being fired was a good experience, as it wasn’t the end of the world or the worst thing that would ever happen. Remembering such disappointments over the years has taught me to ask more questions before I answer, and pay attention to details that might easily be overlooked. Life is like that for all of us. Life is not about what is fair or unfair, but how we live with whatever we face. History doesn’t always repeat, and what worked well once might not again. Just because some people see you in a certain light doesn’t mean others will as well (and vice versa!) If we expect life to always be fair we set ourselves up for great disappointment. Sometimes, as Jesus once suggested to disciples, one needs to learn to shake the dust off one’s sandals and move on to what comes next. Even disappointments and failures can become blessings if we find ways to learn from them and allow them to remain in the past where they belong. God certainly helped me to figure some things out in this frustration, which I never would have learned without it. Blessings certainly do come in all sorts of packages, shapes, sizes, and even when we least expect them! Pastor Seeber

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## THE TRIDUUM

It has become common in our culture for many to ridicule or ignore tradition as being out of touch or old fashioned. Yet the traditions that have enriched the lives of faithful Christians for over two thousand years do indeed have meaning and value worthy of keeping before us.

One such is the Triduum, meaning “three days.”

The Triduum (from Maundy Thursday evening to Easter evening) are the three most powerful days for the lives of the faithful.

The forty days of Lent prepares us for that joy by remembering the passion of the Christ. Lent ends with the Holy Communion of Maundy Thursday as we begin our vigil at the cross and tomb.

From the early days of Christianity, Easter has been the greatest of all feasts, festivals, or celebrations.

### The Three Days

**Maundy Thursday** remembers Jesus’ gift of servant love in the washing of feet and the meal of Holy Communion which celebrates the body and blood of Christ being offered to set us free from sin and death.

As this time of worship ends a vigil begins as we wait to see what will happen. There is no benediction until Easter worship ends, as all three days of worship are one, with an emphasis on different parts of our wait.

The wait begins by remembering Jesus’ betrayal, arrest, and being handed over in the middle of the night to Pilate. It is a painful wait ...

**Good Friday afternoon** begins with the crucifixion scene as the focus, and the reality of Jesus’ willing sacrifice in the manner of the lambs whose blood allowed Israel to escape the slavery and death of Egypt. The cross is a dramatic and painful moment of darkness as Jesus is abandoned, forsaken, and left to die.

**Good Friday evening** is our time to reflect on the entire story of Jesus’ betrayal and death. Our vigil continues, as it did for the disciples after Jesus’

burial. This is a somber time of waiting, as all must do at the moment of death. We wait for what happens next.

**The Easter Vigil** is our time on Holy Saturday for a more reflective review of the entire salvation history that began immediately after creation. It is a time of prayer and reflections just as those first disciples must have done as they reflected on God’s loving plan and the hope for Jesus to accomplish what he came to earth to share.

**Easter** is the greatest day in the life of the Christian Church! It is the mother of all feasts, the father of all festivals; the most joy-filled, exciting, good news any one could ever hear.

**HE IS RISEN!** Because we know the story so well, we can easily miss the surprise and unrestrained joy the first disciples were blessed to embrace. Can you imagine their reaction when they learned it was true? And why then, can we not approach this day with the same excitement, passion, and tear-filled joy? Answer: We can!

As Easter is put to rest with the setting of the sun on Easter evening, the three days of such special worship and prayer are complete. These the three days that have changed the world forever, and the three days that alone give purpose and power to our daily lives.

This vigil (our wait for the cross and tomb) are rewarded with the gift that changes our dying and our living forever. Satan and all the earthly forces and powers are caught by surprise as God does the impossible and gives our lives back as a true gift of grace.

Who would ever have imagined this is how the miracle of the Messiah would unfold? And how good for us that this is what happened. Saint Paul explains it this way, “the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.” [1 Corinthians 1:25 ESV].

Join us for the greatest three days ever! And don’t come alone! Bring your family, your friends, anyone you love and care about.

This is the gift that changes all living forever!

## What Makes us Lutheran? — Part 6

### Our Daily Plan

This concludes a series about what we believe as Lutheran Christians. We celebrate that we are part of the catholic (meaning “one”) Church that includes all Christians. The practical ways we go about being active members of Christ’s Church are part of the confessional heritage of Martin Luther and the other reformers who recovered what had been lost and clarified what Scripture teaches about the Church.

It is important to remember Genesis 1:27 which says “we are made in the image of God.” Knowing God is love, and he reaches out to all of his children, no matter what, helps remind us how our living is to mirror that same grace-filled love.

Jesus’ life, death and resurrection had two purposes. He came to guarantee forgiveness and a lifetime with God we do not deserve. He came to show us by the pattern of his living what the definition of love really is.

Holy Scripture proclaims his life, his teachings, and his victory for us. Withdrawing his visible, physical presence from one time and place, through his Spirit he is now physically present in all time and places. He speaks through Scripture and touches us physically in the sacraments of Baptism and Communion.

Our beliefs are not arbitrary, but flow from what is proclaimed in the Bible. Holy Scripture is not only God’s story, but reveals our story as we follow the script from creation in Genesis to our heavenly glory in the Revelation to John.

As the Church, we are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus, the physical presence of God’s forgiving and faith-filled love on earth. We are called to mirror the true love of the cross.

As we consider the vertical section of the cross we are reminded of God’s love “down” to us and our love “up to God. And the horizontal piece of the cross that forced Jesus arms to reach out to the world reminds us of our own call to reach out with the same love to the world in which we live. Love God and love neighbor are complimentary gestures of the one cross. One love that reaches out in every direction.

Matthew ended his Gospel with Jesus’ words to disciples to go out into the world. They were to make disciples, baptize, and teach. He shared, as well, the promise that he would always be with us, meaning there is nothing we ever do alone or without his presence and power.

A hallmark of Luther’s efforts were focused on our vocation (literally “calling.”) In the Roman Catholic church, the holy vocations, such as priest, monk, and nun were seen as special and worthy of more honor than any other calling. Luther rightly taught that we all have holy vocations, for all of us have been changed by our Baptism into Christ.

And so whether as parent, street sweeper, magistrate, or student, our calling is to honor God and serve those around us as a response to the love and blessings of God. This was one of the overlooked and major influence of the Reformation. If we are the hands and feet of Jesus then whatever we do and whoever we are is colored by that miraculous gift.

As we pull all of this together we begin to see a pattern and a plan, that is not arbitrary, but a gift of God, and a holy calling for all. We are summoned and sent. We are gathered to be scattered. We are the physical hands and feet of an invisible God who is with us, blessing, guiding, forgiving, and loving us daily.

Saint Paul said it well when he said no part of the body is more important than any other. We need each other and celebrate each other. When one suffers all suffer. When one rejoices, all rejoices.

Lutherans understand the congregation is the Church. We are not a building but a family, and this is where the family gathers. No individual congregation is more special than any other. This is where our faith life is nurtured, nourished, and shared. This is life together where we do what would be difficult for any of us to do alone.

Our hope at Zion is that every one will find a ministry in which to serve, and all will see how they live each day as part of a holy vocation which gives glory to God and also serves as a light in a world overwhelmed by the darkness of sin and death.

God has gathered us together and blessed us for a reason — and the reason is His. How will your daily plan be guided by God’s?

## Worship Help for Parents and Children

This continues our discussion on liturgy and worship in the Lutheran Church.

This month we focus on **“Worship Postures.”**

Do you sit or stand to read a book? Do you have a certain seat at the table for dinner? How do you greet a stranger? What do you do when you approach a long lost friend? What is your facial expression when you are confident, and how could someone look at you and know you are worried or afraid?

Posture is something we do without thinking, and yet our posture betrays our emotions, our innermost feelings, and our needs.

To accentuate praise we might stand, or raise our arms. If we desire to stress humility or reverence before God, we might kneel. We sit to listen, or merely to take a rest. Sometimes we need to even close eyes to block out distractions.

The visual elements of worship are as necessary and important as verbal. We participate in worship with our body, as much as with our hymns of praise or the silence of prayer.

People stand and people sit. We walk to receive communion and close eyes in prayer. We reach out to share Christ’s peace and smile as a way to welcome. The Pastor faces the altar and faces the people. Hands reach out in greeting or are folded in prayer. The sign of the cross is lifted over bread and wine, in baptism, or in benediction as we go into the world.

Posture is very much a part of worship.

The hymnal gives directions or “rubrics.” These are suggestions to indicate what posture we might adopt. The point of our actions is to involve our entire body in the act of serving God in worship — different postures denote different feelings (much like a frown or a smile.) And we do them together because we are “one body.”

For instance, when our legs start running our hands and heart usually follow along. And yet (like when we worshipped in the parking lot) sometimes our postures change. These rubrics are suggestions to aid in worship. Whether we

bow our heads or not in prayer is not what determines whether heaven will be our home. All these suggestions are colored by reality and experience.

Some love to stand for prayer, and others can’t because of the pain of arthritis or the reality that their four year old keeps trying to wander away. And so, what’s a mother to do???

The most important thing is to understand why a particular posture is suggested. And, at the same time reflect upon what postures in worship are distracting and hamper worship.

But worship doesn’t end at the benediction, as we have been practicing for how we will live! The postures above merely concern our formal worship service. What postures will our worship of God take on at work, or home, or play? In those settings you and not the pastor are the worship leader, and your posture in how you live is a reflection of love for God and neighbor!

### For Parents with young children

You spend much time at home helping your kids to learn through practice and the formation of good posture. There are certain places to sit and stand. There are times to touch and times not to touch. There are times to say thank you and times to sit quietly in a corner. Posture is part of all that you do.

Having children fold hands and close eyes in prayer is not the only way a prayer works but is a good practice to teach how not to be distracted when praying. Standing and sitting in worship when mom and dad stand or sit helps them to learn what is going on and why.

You can use each moment in worship as a teachable moment, if you remember everything we do is happening for a reason. Readings, hymns, bread and wine, water of baptism, and yes, even posture, all are part of responding to God’s love and sharing that love with each other.

Your kids want to know why we do what we do. Don’t be afraid to think about how you can help them to learn — even through your posture in worship. And if you have any questions or suggestions, just let us know.

Blessings! Pastor Tim

## Summer Fun

As Spring finally arrives, we are already looking forward to seeing you in the summer for some fun!

**June 26-28: VBS/Week of Service**

**July 15: Growlers game**

**August 9: Congregation Meal Packing  
Servant Event**

# Family Life

## Family Ministry News

### THE NEW PANDEMIC

Three years ago our world changed. The COVID shutdown brought about a lot of change. What was thought to be a 2 week pause turned into a 2 month pause, then a 12 month pause, then a “who knows how long” pause. The pause slowly turned into play and our schedules returned in different ways.

The pandemic of COVID might be nearing the end but a new pandemic, created by the 3 year “snap” is emerging.

This pandemic is one of mental health on our youth, specifically those who were in grade school or high school during the past 3 years. Symptoms include anxiety, poor coping mechanisms, over involvement, and a loss of respect for authority.

Kids need bonding and they need boundaries. They need interactions with parents as well as healthy interactions with peers and other adults. They also need boundaries—spaces in which they can grow and understand healthy relationships. A great read is “Changes that Heal” by Henry Cloud. Keep caring for and loving those kids!

# Youth News

## **High School:**

### Bible Study

Sundays at 9:15am

No Bible study April 2 or 9

## **Middle School:**

### Confirmation Class

No class April 2, 5, or 9

Wednesday Class resumes  
April 12

### Confirmation Day

April 30th at 10:30am

## CONFIRMANDS:

Myla Bierlein

Gabriel Hampshire

Adrianna Schoonbeck

## Echoes

*God IS at work through people in our congregation...here is their story:*

Three collection areas are currently in the entrance to Zion: Loaves and Fishes food donations, Partners in Housing Transition blanket drive, and Ministry with Community health care items.

Throughout the year we collect other items to donate to needs in the community as well.

Last month the mail carrier came in and asked what all the containers were on the table. Marta explained what we were collecting and the purpose of the health care drive. The mail carrier said she would bring a box of “junk” in tomorrow as she saw it as cluttering her house.

Now, I do not know where this person stands in their faith life, but the fact that God can work through a table and trays is beyond amazing. The hard workers we have behind each of the drives we do make this possible. God is at work through people, places, and inanimate objects! Keep on the lookout for how He might be at work around you.

## **FRIENDS OF JESUS**

Friends of Jesus Preschool is now offering before care and wraparound childcare as an add-on to its preschool programs! Beginning in September, optional care will be available for students from 7 AM until 5:30 PM.

This is a wonderful opportunity for families who are looking for full-time care for their preschool-aged children. Please share this exciting news with friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers.

Another great way to spread the word about Friends of Jesus is to like, follow, and share our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofJesusPreschoolatZion>.

If you or someone you know is interested in Friends of Jesus Preschool, please contact us at 269-382-2360 or reach out at [jen@zionkazoo.org](mailto:jen@zionkazoo.org). We would love to answer any questions, provide additional information, or schedule a tour! Thank you!

Jen LaPorte



## **GRATEFUL HEARTS THANKFUL HANDS**

Circle Nov 18th in red on your calendar for this year's Bazaar. Our prayer is, as you begin your spring cleaning or plan for an upcoming garage sale, you will consider donating household or holiday items for our fall bazaar. Novels and cookbooks are always popular along with glassware, cookware and dishes.

It's not too early to turn in craft projects. When bringing in craft projects, please sign in the items on the sheet next to the container in the workroom.

Questions? Contact Jayne Mayer - 375-8342.



## **OUTDOOR BEAUTIFICATION SCHEDULE FOR 2023**

You are invited to join us as we care for and maintain the church grounds. Our clean up days will be WEDNESDAY starting at 8:30 a.m., and finishing around 11:30 a.m. Break time and refreshments occur from 10:00 to 10:30.

If interested, contact Jim Mayer at 375-8342 to be included on the roster. On the scheduled date, if the weather is not cooperating, the work day will be canceled or rescheduled. You will be called if your name is on the roster list.

**SPRING WORK DATES** — Projects include: blowing the lot, preparing the beds for mulch, spreading mulch in the beds, weed control, remove A/C covers, remove roof protection over outdoor stairway, clean off the roofs.

MAY 3, MAY 10, MAY 17, MAY 24, MAY 31,  
JUNE 14

**SUMMER WORK DATES** — Projects include: trimming shrubs/trees, mulching the playground, weed control, bring out hoses and water the lawn, blow off lot.

JULY 19, AUGUST 16

**FALL WORK DATES** — Projects include: installing A/C covers and roof protection, put away hoses/sprinklers, cleaning up the fall leaves when they are all down, cut down all ornamental grasses, bushes and shrubs.

SEPTEMBER 13, OCTOBER 18, NOVEMBER 1

**THE FINAL FALL LEAF CLEAN UP DATE WILL  
BE SELECTED ONCE ALL THE LEAVES ARE  
DOWN.**

**CONNECTIONS...** Are you in your 20s/30s and looking for others at Zion to connect with and have some spiritual "safe space?" Every other week meet virtually for bible study and discussion. Then, once a month meet for breakfast enjoying conversation and food. Additionally, we are exploring an evening get-together option. Email Aaron at [dcegrube21@gmail.com](mailto:dcegrube21@gmail.com) for more info.

### Endowment Committee Update

Over the last couple of years, Endowment funds have been used for ministries and upkeep of properties.

Some ministries helped: Special music (WMU Brass and Student Brass), Campus, Art, & Youth Ministries, Blessing Bag Service Project, Youth Ministry, Right Now Media Subscription, Congregational and Food Packing Servant Event;

Some property improvements: Zion House roof replacement, Sanctuary & parking lot lights, Zion House kitchen and Living room improvement and furnace replacement.

Now you know we are here to help ministries at Zion. Dennis O'Brien – Chair of Endowment



### Zion Women's Book Group

Meets at 2:00p.m.  
on the below dates

Date	Book Title	Author
4/18/2023	Britt Marie Was Here	Frederick Backman
5/16/2023	The Final Race	Eric Eichinger
6/20/2023	The Soul of an Octopus	Sy Montgomery

### New Art Ministry Display in Blends

#### SPIRIT of the PEN:

#### A Pen Dragons Calligraphy Guild Exhibit

Pen Dragons Calligraphy Guild consists of 55 artists focused on the study, practice, and promotion of the lettering arts.

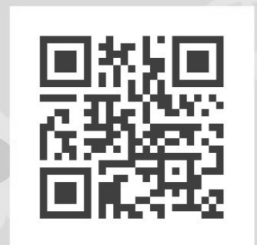
Pen Dragons hope you enjoy this selection of pieces reflecting themes such as spirituality, kindness, love of nature, humanity, meditation or prayer.

For more information on Pen Dragons Calligraphy Guild, visit their website at [pendragonscalligraphy.org](http://pendragonscalligraphy.org)

# April Playdate

at

Zion Lutheran  
Church



Thursday, April 13th  
9-11 AM

Children ages 0-5 and their caregivers  
Free fun, games, snacks



**Book Review:** “You Are What You Love; The Spiritual Power of Habit.” James Smith. Brazos Press. 2016.

The title would seem to be a fairly obvious truth and just a matter of common sense. But as I read the book I started to understand this from a different perspective. Rather than taking our important loves for granted and assuming they influence life, the book challenges us to look at our lives as a better means for determining what we truly love and value most. That can be a sobering realization, worthy of some time.

For instance, we all love God which is why we worship Him, right? Yet, Martin Luther once suggested: “*Whatever your heart clings to, and confides in, that is really your god.*” The author then quotes David Foster Wallace who said, “*There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what we worship.*” [p. 23]

Smith then goes on to discuss the liturgies of life, meaning our patterns and rituals, as a type of worship, or a revelation of what we really love. He goes on to reference popular movies, books, art, and movements as indicative of what we worship, or in other words, the loves of our life.

We are very certain of whom and what we love, and yet there is so much we are unconsciously drawn to that often our actions don’t necessarily match what we think is our reality. Sometimes we are on auto pilot and don’t even realize how committed we are, fascinated by, or are drawn to in the same way we are drawn to our spouse or our God. We are wired that way and sometimes don’t even know it.

He uses the example of traveling a familiar road that you have been on so often that you might suddenly realize you have travelled for miles, made many correct turns, but never even noticed where you were going or what you were doing. In daily living, we often have similar patterns and priorities we aren’t even aware of as we have been there and done that so often we don’t even think about them. Sound familiar?

As worship is so much a part of our faith life, this discussion centered on worship is an easy place to begin as we talk about the love of our lives.

Smith says, “*Worship is not for me — it’s not primarily meant to be an experience that meets my felt needs ... rather worship is about and for God ... So worship is a site of God’s action, not just God’s presence.*” [p. 70]

He suggests we read scripture not just to learn about God but to see ourselves as the main characters in God’s story. We are “*called to play the role of God’s image bearers who care for and cultivate God’s creation, to the praise of his glory.*” [p.88]

His premise seems so obvious, I wasn’t sure I would enjoy an entire book about such common sense reality. But I am so glad I read the entire book. It would be like saying, I read Matthew’s gospel, why do I need to read Mark, Luke, or John, as they all tell the same story? Sometimes we need to come at an issue from many sides and viewpoints before, like a lightning bolt, we finally take notice and understand.

The idea of worship being a daily activity is quite biblical, but foreign to our modern world. There were so many laws dealing with worship in the Old Testament, because everything we do as people of God shows either our love, or lack of love for God. Granted, the literalists made the law more mechanical than full of life, but we often have wandered in the other direction, for instance in seeing worship as a one-hour activity (when we are up to it) and of little value in daily life.

We worship as one so that we live as one. We worship the One we love so that our living allows that love to shine in all we do. When we lose the interest or desire for worship, we have lost sight of the basic love of our lives, and allow other loves (interests, passions, inclinations, routines, etc.) to guide how we think, feel, and live.

He shares a story of two stonecutters who are asked what they are doing. “*One responds, I am cutting this stone in a perfect square, while the other says “I am building a cathedral,” to which the first responds, “that’s right. I forgot. We are building a cathedral.*” [p.131]

If God is the love of our lives, and we embrace the rituals and gifts that empower that love, our living will be about building cathedrals and not just cutting stones! He is our true love that surpasses all loves.

Pastor Seeber



## April BIRTHDAYS

4/1	Marvin Rutgers
4/2	David Alsvig, Brynley Bauer, Dorothy Decker, Natalie Linebaugh,
4/4	Janice Davidson, Janis Dinda, Bill Ferris, Charlotte Flamm
4/5	Andrew Newman, Carol Segerdahl, Neil Segerdahl, Beverly Snow
4/6	David Mayer
4/7	Michael Nuyen
4/8	Kim DuBois, Rebecca Morgan,
4/9	Michele Proos, Savannah Waterlander
4/10	Charles Krill
4/12	Alison Carlson, Garr Gast, Marilyn Lawrence, Kenneth Mutz
4/13	Robert Folck, Anthony Huberty, Sharon Oisten, Bill Squires,
4/14	Nicholas Cosgrove, Julie Griesbach, Rhonda Newman
4/15	Michael Bussey, Sarah Fitzgerald,
4/16	Jill Hamilton
4/18	Helen Reinkensmeyer, Joseph Zerbel
4/19	Noah Bentz, Anthony Cullimore
4/20	Donald Daenzer, Megan DuBois, Ollie Rutgers
4/21	Austin Simmons, Richard Pasman
4/22	Sarah VandenBerg
4/25	Susan Longjohn
4/26	Avery Eastman, Steve Weber
4/27	Christine Brege, Madeline Brennan, Eric Carlson, Vincent Westra, Larry Zerbel
4/28	Corryn Adams, Dain Soppelsa,
4/29	Annabelle Wolfe
4/30	Elaine Biddle, Hannah Carlson, Bradd Schultz, Margaret Soppelsa



Zion members continue to be very generous with donations in support of Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes in their efforts to address food insecurities within our community.

Their recent newsletter contains a few almost startling statistics worthy of passing along.

- ◇ In 2022, they registered 2007 new households—the highest for any given year in their history.
- ◇ Between December 2021 and December 2022, their service numbers increased by 62%
- ◇ KLF is expecting to spend approximately \$1.6 million on food this year; 187% higher than two years ago.

Thank you for all your generosity as it is apparent the need continues to grow.

April's wish list item is **Canned Tuna**.

Please use the gray tubs in the Lobby under the Office window for donations.

**Thank You**

### LADIES SEWING GROUP

Is in need of gently used adult T Shirts. We have a lady that sews baby shirts for our sewing project. Place donations in the Work Room next to the Church Office.

Thank you,  
Leona Van Antwerp

# April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship
<b>2</b> Palm Sunday 8:00 Worship 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship  (No Sunday School)	<b>3</b>  6:30 Personnel	<b>4</b> 10:00 P. Breije Bible S.	<b>5</b> 9:00 Sewing  5:15 Dinner	<b>6</b> Maundy Thursday Noon - Worship  6:30p Worship Choir Reh. After Wshp.	<b>7</b> Good Friday Noon - 3p Tre Ore  6:30p Tenebrae	<b>8</b> Easter Vigil   6:30 Holy Worship
<b>9</b> Easter 8:00 Worship  10:30 Worship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00 P. Breije Bible S.	<b>12</b> 9:00 Sewing  5:15 Dinner 6:00 Property 6:15 Confirmation Cls	<b>13</b> 9-11 Play Date Noon - Finance  7:00 Choir	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship
<b>16</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS ; Bible Study 10:30 Worship	<b>17</b>  6:30 BOD	<b>18</b> Taxes Due 10:00 P. Breije Bible S.  2:00 Book Group	<b>19</b> 9:00 Sewing  5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Cls	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship
<b>23</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS ; Bible Study 10:30 Worship	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:00 P. Breije Bible S.	<b>26</b> 9:00 Sewing  5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Cls	<b>27</b>  7:00 Choir	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship 6:00 Confirm. Banquet
<b>30</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS ; Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Confirmation		Notes				

# APRIL 2023 WORSHIP LEADERS

	April 2 Palm Sunday	April 6 Maundy Thurs	April 7 Good Friday	April 9 Easter	April 16	April 23	April 30 (Confirmation 10:30)
<b>Acolytes 8:00am</b>	James Mayer Nikko Quezada	N/A	N/A	David & Gabe Hampshire	Anna Schoonbeck	Grayson Field	Eli Frazier
<b>Acolytes 10:30am</b>	Eli Frazier Grayson Field	<b>6:30pm:</b> Emma H.	<b>6:30pm:</b> Sydney Woods	Mark & Sarah Skuratowicz	Myla Bieferlein	Noah Bentz	David Hampshire
<b>Head Ushers 8:00am</b>	Walter Kohnke Alan Sarver	N/A	N/A	Steve Weber Dave Mayer	Brian Bauer Stan Leitz	Dave Newman Rich Rakow	Walter Kohnke Alan Sarver
<b>Head Ushers 10:30am</b>	Ken Lundquist Dave Borak	6:30pm N/A	<b>6:30pm:</b> N/A	Steve Nuyen Dennis O'Brien	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast	Ken Lundquist Dave Borak	Steven Nuyen Dennis O'Brien
<b>Cantor 8:00am</b>	Karen Stokes Chapo			Dennis O'Brien	Linda Stieve	Vicki Holt	Dennis O'Brien
<b>Cantor 10:30am</b>				Dennis O'Brien		Karen Stokes Chapo	Dennis O'Brien
<b>Communion Assistants Saturday 5:30pm</b>	Roxanne Seeber	N/A	No Communion	No Communion <b>Vigil – 6:30p</b>	Joanne Bowes	Roxanne Seeber	Ted Maxson
<b>Communion Assistants 8:00am</b>	Jim Mayer	Noon: Staff	<b>Noon -3: Tre Ore</b> No Communion	Staff	Matt Simmons	Mike Schlack	Jim Mayer
<b>Communion Assistants 10:30am</b>		6:30pm: Staff	6:30pm No Communion	Staff	Garr Gast	Lorraine Hanna	Steve Nuyen
<b>Lectors 8:00am</b>	Dave Mayer	Noon: No Lector	<b>Noon - 3:</b> No Lector	<b>Staff</b>	Jayne Mayer	Andrew Niedbala	Carolyn Daenzer
<b>Lectors 10:30am</b>	Jon Tomer	6:30pm No Lector	<b>6:30pm:</b> No Lector	<b>Staff</b>	Chris Wilkins	Erin Hampshire	Jill Hamilton
<b>Altar Ministry Saturday 5:30pm</b>	1. 2.	N/A	N/A	No Communion <b>Vigil – 6:30p</b>		1. 2.	1. Lucy Maxson 2.
<b>Altar Ministry 8:00am</b>	1. 2.	N/A	<b>Noon – 3 Tre Ore No Communion</b>	1. 2.	1. Larry & Joe 2. Zerbel	1. Vicki Holt 2. Jayne Mayer	1. 2.
<b>Altar Ministry 10:30am</b>	1. 2.	N/A	<b>6:30pm</b> No Communion	1. 2.	1. Carrie Chapman 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.

Zion Financial Report for February 28, 2023

ZION: February Giving exceeded Spending by \$8,645  
 YTD Giving is under by \$12,926; YTD Spending is under by \$20,087

Questions? Please email Don Klug at dakdwk@msn.com

Solid Ground: February spending exceeded giving by \$256  
 YTD Income over by \$1,524; YTD Spending over by \$1,779

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
<b>INCOME</b>						
Zion Giving & Misc.	61,892	65,196	3,304	526,148	513,222	-12,926
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Zion Staff Support	31,316	29,174	2,142	283,616	283,429	186
Office Operations	1,355	713	642	11,802	15,573	-3,770
Church Property	9,582	11,228	-1,646	74,110	78,047	-3,937
Education Ministry	1,270	-234	1,504	8,890	8,926	-36
Evangelism/Missions	50	118	-68	350	352	-2
Worship Ministry	550	511	39	4,600	4,198	402
Other Ministries	510	167	343	2,490	2,187	303
Music Ministry	2,560	1,575	985	22,375	18,951	3,424
Finance Ministry	9,365	6,576	2,789	84,295	72,761	11,534
Zion Haus Ministry	1,083	307	776	10,097	2,332	7,765
Missions - General	5,450	6,417	-967	53,929	49,711	4,218
Total Expenses	63,090	56,551	-6,540	556,554	536,467	20,087
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-1,198</b>	<b>8,645</b>	<b>9,843</b>	<b>-30,406</b>	<b>-23,244</b>	<b>7,161</b>

<b>SOLID GROUND</b>						
Solid Ground Income	8,392	9,469	1,077	88,048	89,572	1,524
Solid Ground Expenses	9,955	9,726	229	86,465	88,244	1,779
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-1,563</b>	<b>-256</b>	<b>1,306</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>1,328</b>	<b>-255</b>

BALANCE SHEET	5/31/2022	2/28/2023	YTD Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash	70,269	97,977	27,708
Investments	189,391	160,547	-28,843
Due To/From SG & Endow	3,430	-37,457	-40,887
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,089</b>	<b>221,068</b>	<b>-42,022</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Payroll	2,616	4,441	1,826
Dedicated Funds	121,187	100,564	-20,623
Unrestricted Funds	139,287	116,063	-23,224
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,089</b>	<b>221,068</b>	<b>-42,022</b>

<b>MORTGAGE LOAN</b>	
Balance 2/28/2023	\$476,346
Monthly Payment	\$6,350.00
Additional Principal	\$0.00

**Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000**

Ins. Claim Water	\$3,217	Future Debt	\$13,368
Besser Benevolence	\$5,049	Youth Ministry	\$8,055
FOJ Fundraising	\$10,347	New Staff	\$48,905

Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

April

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 479  
KALAMAZOO, MI

2122 Bronson Boulevard, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## Holy Week Worship Schedule

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 6

**12:00 Noon and 6:30 p.m. Holy Communion**

The vigil begins with the stripping of the altar at the conclusion of this service. We recall how Jesus endured his three-day journey by himself.

### GOOD FRIDAY TRE ORE

April 7

**12:00 Noon until 3:00 p.m.**

During the same three hours our Savior endured the tree of death, that it might become a tree of life, we gather for meditation and prayer.

### GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE

April 7

**6:30 p.m.**

We gather in evening's darkness as our vigil continues. Through reflective meditation and prayer we remember our Savior's love and await the gift this love brings.

### EASTER VIGIL (HOLY SATURDAY)

April 8

**6:30 p.m.**

Prepare for Easter as we gather to end our vigil at the tomb. By the light of the Christ candle and the power of Baptismal water we are prepared for Christ's journey from death into life!

### EASTER SUNDAY

April 9

**8:00 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.**

As disciples gathered in joyful disbelief at an empty tomb, so we come together with our family in Christ on this most powerful morning of all! This is the day which changes our life, our death, and our living FOREVER!