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I wish I remembered more of the wonderful moments in life rather than times of disappointment or tragedy in which we get stuck like a car with tires spinning in a snowbank. There are so many gifts of clarity and joy that too easily slip away like a morning mist. Thankfully, one such time has not escaped my memory. It was a random, unexpected request from Abby when she was about four. It made no sense and yet taught a lesson I will never forget. The year before we had bought one of those little enclosed carts to pull behind a bicycle so Rox and I could ride and bring her along. The cart had one of those yellow flags on top of a white fiberglass pole, so anyone driving a car in the neighborhood would be sure to see something so low to the ground. One afternoon I came home for dinner and started to sit down to catch up on the day's news. Abby came running in and said "Daddy, will you take the flag off my cart and stick it in the ground in the back yard?" My typical first reaction was to say "no, we need it on the cart." But her Mom has been good at helping me learn to keep my mouth closed and be patient, as my initial responses are not always as sensitive and helpful as they should be. And so I asked, "Abby, why do you want that little yellow flag to be in the ground in the back yard?" Without hesitation she answered, "To remind us of Jesus!" That caught me off guard (even as I knew the flag would be going where she asked.) So what if it made no sense? I took it off the cart and planted it in the middle of the back yard. And, she was one happy little kid who beamed from ear to ear. That evening I caught myself wondering "why would she think a yellow flag would remind anyone of Jesus?" But she was happy and that was a good enough reason to let it go, and move on to more important issues. Days later I had completely forgotten about the flag, but when I happened to see it fluttering out in back the first thing that came to my mind was "Jesus!" That made no sense and yet she was right! It worked. Like you, I have learned that often our kids do know what is going on.

Pastor Seeber

Looking ahead to Holy Week:

Come Home for Easter!

What is your “routine” for Holy Week and Easter? Any time we have done something over and over again, it is easy to take it for granted, without paying attention to why or what we do. This year, it would be good for you to think about your plans, your needs, and what makes this week “holy.” Why do we make such a big deal about a holy week the world doesn’t seem that interested in?

In our culture, Christmas has an intense emotional, financial, and traditional buildup. It is not the same for Easter. The Christmas “thing” is a recent development. Until the last hundred years or so, all of the intensity we attach to Christmas was given only to Easter. Why do you think this has changed?

In a sense, it is a blessing that our culture has not “taken over” Holy Week the way it has Christmas. This allows us to prepare for what God has done, rather than be distracted with the commercial distortions of a broken world.

During Lent we have used the Genesis account of creation as a reminder of the relationships God intended. Our goal has been to better understand Jesus’ mission of restoring what was lost. This is an opportunity to walk in Jesus’ footsteps, remember the price he paid and the love he shared for you and for me. The many daily troubles and trials over the past year makes our Lenten journey even more poignant. Holy Week and Easter will offer us time to regroup, regather, and recommit to our daily response of faith.

Holy Week is “holy” as it celebrates the beginning of a new creation — much like the seven days of creation in Genesis. We celebrate the re-creation of a paradise that was lost, and the healing of the brokenness we call sin and death. Mark your calendars now, and make this “Holy Week” worship a powerful gift to nourish your faith. These

special worship services are also a wonderful opportunity to invite those with no church home to join you here.

As this time draws closer we will update you on plans and schedules which might involve some different approaches this year.

The Sunday of the Passion (March 28)

We will remember Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem to shouts of Alleluia! And we will remember how so quickly the tone changed as his mission was headed not to an earthly throne but a cross and tomb.

Maundy Thursday (April 1) Noon and 6:30 pm

Join us to remember Jesus “last meal” and his parting words to “love one another.” We celebrate Holy Communion and remember the beginning of Jesus’ passion. Our drama that night will focus on the Passover meal and how it was “filled full” by Jesus’ acts of love.

Good Friday (April 2) Noon—?

Traditionally this has been a three hour service in 1/2 hour segments (come when you can, leave when you must.) We’ll let you know soon what this schedule might look like.

Good Friday (April 2) 6:30pm

The evening worship focuses on Jesus’ passion and his death. Scripture, prayer and music help our meditation at the foot of the cross.

The Easter Vigil (April 3) 6:30 pm

This service remembers the disciples vigil at the tomb, and recalls all the promises that would be fulfilled on Easter.

Easter (April 4) 8am and 10:30 am

This is the most joyful, music filled, and celebrative worship of the year. Join us to celebrate at the empty tomb!

Special devotion and worship will be posted each of these days on Facebook and YouTube for those who are unable to attend.

Everyone needs a home!

The word "HOME" is such a special word, and I would like for you to think about why that is. Most of us think about where we live as our home, and yet many don't have that feeling. Military troops on assignment overseas or inmates in a prison might have a roof over their heads and daily meals, but certainly don't feel like they are "home." Children in an orphanage or residents of a care facility might be told they have all the comforts of home, but they certainly don't feel they are living in a real home. What makes a home?

Is "home" where you were born? Where you live? Where you grew up? Is it where you sleep or have most of your meals? I think most would agree a house doesn't make a home, but the memories and lives lived there do. Home is where your heart is!

Our home is a place of shelter. A place where meals are more than just food. Where children are raised and visitors are welcome. Home is where memories are fondest and where we have reunions on holidays and special family gatherings.

Zion is our church home. During this time we have been living away from each other, there have been new efforts to keep you connected with Zion.

Zion's Facebook page has weekly devotions from Aaron and Pastor Seeber.

Worship is posted on Facebook and YouTube every Sunday, and our WKZO radio broadcast is a weekly outreach as well.

This year's Lenten meditations will be posted every Wednesday at Noon. We are following the 7 days of Creation in Genesis to better prepare for the new creation. Lent is preparing us to celebrate in the great miracle of bright light of Easter!

Even as we begin to return to a normal worship schedule, we know that COVID is scary enough that safety will keep some away for longer than others.

As we have been scattered for the past year, think about all that we miss as we have been away from our "home" congregation. Zion has been a special type of home for many years, and can continue to be so.

Zion is where many of the momentous moments in the life of people of faith takes place, such as baptisms, weddings, confirmation, worship, funerals, classes, meetings, fellowship and so many servant ministries and activities!

This is where ministry is planned and carried out. It is where communion, fellowship, and prayer build the family and give us that feeling of home. Just as I did not appreciate much of what happened in my home until I moved away, so this year of distancing has reminded all of us what was easy to take for granted. We pray for a day when all of you can come home again! And we pray for God to keep us safe while we are still absent from many of our family here at Zion.

Please pray for the day to come quickly when vaccinations and healing will free everyone to be ready to "come home" again. Reach out to friends you have missed and those who you know are living alone. Certainly we need to keep everyone safe, and until all are vaccinated many will have to wait for this reunion. But don't ever give up on coming back home to Zion!

We are thankful for how all continue to support ministry while many are living in exile. Your prayers and phone calls and any contact we have had with each other mean more than you will ever know. Christ has gathered us as a family, offered the greatest love the world has ever known. And this is where we make our home. See you soon!

Worship Help for Parents and Children

The "Liturgy" patterns our response to God's love. "Liturgy" was a Greek word meaning "the duty of the people." Martin Luther was instrumental bringing the people (and not just the priests) into active worship! And don't forget *the preparations before you arrive; your attitude, your mood, your temperament. Those set the tone as much as what we do together.*) *The musical prelude offers time for reflection and prayer, and then we speak!*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION begins our formal act of worship. We "confess" sins and then hear God's promise of forgiveness.

For Dads and Moms and younger adults: What was it this week? Not speaking to your spouse? Or maybe a fight with your parents? No time for prayer or spiritual growth? Did any morning begin by remembering your Baptism? "Sin" simply devastates God's family, and it is important to remember what God has done to restore what we break. We are created to live as one family but daily find ourselves separated from God and one another. If worship is to be "as one," some thing is needed to bring us together "as one."

"CONFESSION" begins our time of healing as we *silently* admit specific sins (why pretend or try to hide — who are we fooling?) USE this time of silence. Open your heart! Admit your mistakes and trust God will love you anyway!

And then, in unison, we speak as one, because we are one family in Christ! In a general way we confess what is true for all, the general symptoms ("what we have done and what we have left undone").

How can we worship God if we don't begin by being honest? It is like getting baptized every time we worship — we begin with the washing away the crust and grime of daily sin and selfishness. God's touch begins worship.

We begin in complete honesty! No barriers. No pretensions. *Like Adam and Eve we stand naked before God.*

The "**ABSOLUTION**" is God's response, in which the Pastor announces that God removes the guilt for what we have done, and has taken the punishment we deserve on Himself. This is great news ("the entire forgiveness of ALL your sins!") Now that decks are clean, real worship can begin. It is like hearing the angels sing on Christmas; we can now run to the manger! What a change this makes! How cool that God's love brings us together. How neat that the walls that separate are replaced with the outstretched arms of a loving God! Now we are ready for whatever comes next!

For Parents with young children:

Ask your "little ones" WHY you sometimes want them to say "I'm sorry." Ask what "sorry" means! Talk about how it is better not to hide things that we are afraid of, or that we might be in trouble for. Talk about why telling the truth always makes things easier. Remind them that even when you get upset, you still love them, feed them, and take care of them. Tell them how happy they make you when they come to you and say "sorry." Let them know you will always love them and just want them to learn the right way to do things.

Ask if there is anything you have done to hurt them? Is there anything they want you to say "I am sorry" for? And, if there is, DO IT! And then hug and kiss and say "I love you!" And keep hugging and kissing every day! Let them know how special you feel when they hug you — even when you have hurt their feelings or been a little too loud! This is exactly what God has done for us!

(And remember, much of how they view God comes from how they view you as parent!!!) Explain, as best you can, that confession is "sorry!" and absolution is "love you anyway!"

What a neat way to color our time with each other as a family, both at home and with our family here at Zion!

- tws

CATECHISM REVIEW — Ten Commandments

(Part 3) Why Do We Have the Law?

Any society without laws or rules is not a society but a collection of individuals. Laws are the rules which establish and maintain order and teach the values of a particular culture. For instance, a culture that protects the lives and rights of any individual has a very different basis than one that protects only those with a certain skin color or accent.

In the confessional Lutheran approach to law and Gospel, our quick and easy statement is “the law convicts” and “the Gospel sets free.”

In other words, Commandments show us who we really are and how far we fall short of God’s purpose for our lives. The Gospel is the good news that God’s love offers forgiveness and invites us to live in a relationship with Him even though we don’t deserve such grace.

Lutherans often describe law as a “curb, mirror, and rule.” In other words, the law keeps us from straying, it allows us to look at ourselves to see whether we look like God wants us to or not, and it gives directions for how to live as faithful people. God’s law instructs, gives our “marching orders,” and reveals our brokenness (sin) when we turn from God and live as if there was no God.

Civil laws do the same thing. They structure our society. They establish limits, they inform whether we are “in bounds” or “out of bounds,” and they are the authority which ultimately condemns or give us a pass. We are either guilty or free. With guilt comes deserved punishment, with innocence comes affirmation and freedom.

The only problem is that none of us are able to always keep God first, and daily allow selfishness (acting as if I am “a god”) to distract us from God. We break God’s law and live like disobedient children. With guilt comes punishment. (If I speed, I pay a fine. If I drink and drive, I lose my license. If I rob a

bank I spend time in prison. And so on, and so on.) There are consequences for actions, and when actions involve law breaking, there is always a price to pay.

God’s law is no different, if I disregard what God asks, then I am in violation of the law, or in other words, “a sinner.” And the result of walking away from God is eternal death. (And that only makes sense.) Judgment is not God arbitrarily deciding to strike out in anger because he is ignored, but announcing what is true. Disobedience is a renunciation of our willingness to live as part of God’s family.

However, for people of faith there is Good News. God forgives. Jesus’ efforts on our behalf accept the guilt we rightly deserve and buried that in a tomb. He sets us free; not to do anything we want but to be restored to the family, forgiven, and free to live again and for always.

Cheap grace is a concern, as it would be easy to take advantage of such a loving God by saying, “It doesn’t matter what I do because I can always say I am sorry.” But it does matter, when we understand the purpose of God’s guidance! Jesus went to great lengths to simplify the process as he summarized all law with one phrase, “Love God, love neighbor.” And his earthly life served as a model of what that looks like.

The bottom line is not getting hung up with what we can get away with, or tremble when we fall short. Instead, accept the law as a gift, as it makes clear what it means to love God and neighbor. (Who would want to engage in any sport or business without knowing the rules?) And the wonderful part of this thing called discipleship is that one of the rules is that God loves us so much he forgives our failures so that we continue to grow into a closer walk with him. So that we might “walk the talk,” remember what God asks, and reveal his presence to the world. It always was and will be about God’s love!

Family Life

Family Ministry News

Calendar

At home Sunday School will continue. Please check your packet for Lenten materials, too!

Vacation Bible School in “family pods” will take place the week of June 21-24

Middle School/High School families are invited for a week of service projects: June 21-24

A Year in Review

It has been one year since all the shut downs began. We were under the impression it would last 2 weeks. Even that seemed to be such an inconvenience to our daily routines. No March Madness, no school, and work from home. Toilet paper was hoarded, lines for stores were out the door, and yet the impression was a 2 week pause and life would be back to normal.

Well, we know *that* didn't happen! Instead, we adapted. We shifted routines, priorities, and schedules. Soon the biggest frustration or fear wasn't the virus itself, but “normalcy” changing. The desire to “go back” lingers on...even after a year. But what are we going back to? Are there changes that need to be made? Have changes happened that we want to keep? Do we need to be more open minded to constant adaptation?

I'd like to start a “Corps of Discovery” much like Lewis and Clark. If you're interested in discussing how we might “march off the map” let me (Aaron) know!

Youth News

High School:

Bible Study

New time!!! By request, we have moved our Bible Study time to immediately follow the late service. We meet from 11:15am—Noon and are currently discussing tough teachings of Jesus!

Middle School Youth:

Confirmation Classes

Wednesday class takes the annual Lenten pause.

All Youth:

Climb Kalamazoo

We are hoping to get a group together the weekend of March 13th/14th or 20th/21st!

Echoes

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

Be sure to check out Facebook and YouTube for a video created by some members of the Board of Directors, indicating how their faith has grown over the past year.

Some questions for you to think about as well:

- Have I run more towards God or more away from Him during the past year?
- What has Zion provided that has really helped you during this time?
- What God sightings have you had or heard about from others?
- How have you answered God's call?
- What spiritual growth opportunities have you taken advantage of? Identified? Needed?

If you would like to share the answers to any of these with Aaron so others can see God at work, please do! There may be more opportunities for videos like the one mentioned above as well.

CAMPUS MINISTRY: FEBRUARY 2021:

Recent events have been a reminder of how campus ministry can play an important role in the lives of college students who may be struggling and trying to figure out what they believe.

In my first year of campus ministry in 2001-02, there was a student named Casey Rogalski who came to Solid Grounds with two of his friends, Doug and Ryan, who were student leaders at Solid Grounds. Both Doug and Ryan told me that Casey was struggling with several issues in his life and was very reluctant to attend Sunday services and Bible studies.

However, he really wanted to be a part of our community. At that time, we had Monday Night football gatherings at Solid Grounds. Students would invite their friends to come and watch Monday Night Football, play cards and hang out at Solid Grounds. Casey told me that he would love to cook chicken wings on his deep fryer. So, every Monday night, Casey would set up his deep fryer in the front lawn of Solid Grounds and make a ton of wings for everyone.

One of those evenings, he asked me if he could use the garage of Solid Grounds to work on his car and the cars of any students whose needed fixing. Casey loved working on cars and his dream job was to one day work on a car racing team.

That dream was fulfilled years later. He landed a job working on a racing team in Arizona. While he was at Solid Grounds, he met and fell in love with Megan, who was one of our worship leaders. They married in the summer of 2007 and have lived in the Phoenix area for the last 10 years. They have a 10 year old son and an 8 year old daughter.

Sadly, Casey developed colon cancer over a year ago and passed away two weeks ago. On Saturday, February 13th, we held a virtual memorial service for Casey. One of the pastors of the congregation that he and Megan attend in Arizona, as well as several family friends, members of the church and I took part in Casey's virtual memorial service.

Megan had a taped message that was shared during the service. She talked about how she and Casey

met in college at Solid Grounds and how Casey often talked about what a blessing it was to have the chance to use the garage to work on cars and how much he felt welcomed by his friends and other students at Solid Grounds and how that made a big impact in his life.

There were 6 former Solid Grounds students that took part in the virtual memorial service. A couple of them sent me a text after the memorial thanking me for their years at Solid Grounds.

I am so thankful to God for the blessing of being able to serve as a campus pastor at WMU and how many wonderful students He has sent to our campus ministry and how many different doors and opportunities He has opened over the years.



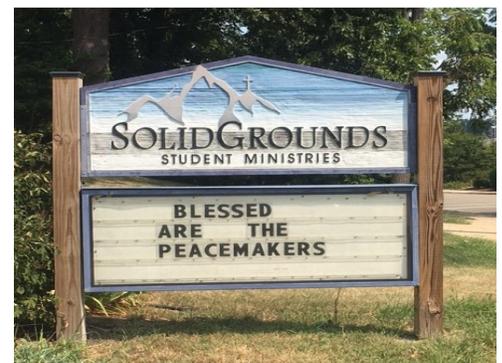
Next month, I hope to have more information about a new outreach ministry we are planning on launching in Dalton Hall in the WMU Music building starting in the Fall semester 2021.

So far, there are several WMU music majors and WMU faculty and staff in the Music department that have expressed an interest in helping be a part of this new outreach. Right now, we are trying to get as much feedback from as many music majors and faculty about what would peak their interest and be meaningful to them.

Please pray for the Lord to continue to lead and guide our efforts and to wait on His timing and guiding.

God's peace and blessings to you all!

Pastor Mark





The lilies are used to decorate the church sanctuary.

Anyone interested in making a contribution to the “**Easter Lilies**” may do so by sending their gift to the church office or putting it in the offering plate along with this form. Please note on your check “**Easter Lilies.**”

Contributions are due by March 22nd.

Contributions will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin.

In Loving Memory of:

In Thanksgiving of:

In Honor Of:

Given By:

Giving Envelope # _____ Amount _____

Legends of Easter Traditions

Would you be surprised to learn many of our Easter traditions originated in Germany?

DYEING EASTER EGGS - It is said the eggs represent rebirth and life. People celebrated this by giving colored eggs to friends and family as gifts. Stories were told of Mary taking eggs with her to Jesus' crucifixion and His dripping blood colored those eggs.

THE EASTER BUNNY— It's thought that German immigrants brought their tradition of an egg-laying hare called "Osterhase" to the U.S. in the 1700s. This also represented life and rebirth with rabbits being famous for their fertility.

EASTER BASKETS - Continuing with the German Osterhase, kids would fashion nest of straw for the "giant bunny" to visit their home. Over time and to contain the 'mess' the nests evolved into baskets.

HOT CROSS BUNS - These sweet rolls studded with raisins or currants and marked with a cross on top are found during the week leading up to Easter Sunday. It's said the tradition started in the 12th century with a monk inspired to mark his rolls with a cross to celebrate Good Friday.

SUNRISE SERVICES— Mary opened Jesus' tomb at dawn to find it empty. In honor of this, some churches recreate the experience by holding a service at sunrise. The first one on record was held in 1732 in Saxony, Germany.

EASTER HAM- The tradition dates back to at least 6th-century Germany. Hunters often slaughtered hogs in the forest in the fall, then left them to cure all winter. By spring, pork was one of the only meats ready to go for spring celebrations.

**Book Review. "Teaching a Stone to Talk."
Annie Dillard.** Harper and Row. 1982

Stones can't talk, right? Why would anyone even consider teaching a stone to talk? Annie Dillard is an incredible writer and even her titles are provocative enough to make one slow down and smell the roses.

This past year we have had more time on our hands than we sometimes know what to do with. Our schedules, activities, and routines have taken on new dimensions as we have been quarantined, masked, shut out, and diverted to new endeavors. We have not been able to spend time as we usually do and have searched for new ways to fill time.

We laugh about how our dogs are getting tired of four and five walks a day, but running, reading, and even more meaningful conversations with spouses and children have become part of the new use of time. There is productive use of time and wasted time and it seems likely that teaching a stone to talk would fall into that latter category.

Annie Dillard has spent much of her efforts as an author, by first sitting and quietly observing; usually in the wilds of nature. Many know her first book "Pilgrim at Tinker Creek," which was awarded a Pulitzer Prize.

This book is a collection of brief topics of observation. It is written in the spirit of "Walden Pond" by Henry David Thoreau or "Desert Solitaire" by Edward Abbey. Each spent time alone in the quiet of the natural world to consider the wonders of creation and relationships that connect everything.

Dillard spends more time focused on God's role than many writers have done as she looks for His finger prints or presence. Her vantage point might be a quiet evening watching the sun set in a forest, or sitting in front of a candle in a log cabin as moths flutter and are drawn to the light. Her writing is amazing.

Some of her writing is philosophical, some is whimsical, and some wrestles with religion and faith. At times she begins with one question or observation, gets distracted and winds up somewhere far afield. Yet isn't that how scientists make discoveries? It is also how writers can hook us into their work with images and questions that are familiar and easy to wrestle with. And it certainly is how Christians can slow down enough to hear the "still, small voice of God!"

Here is a sample: *"God used to rage at the Israelites for frequenting sacred groves. I wish I could find one now. Now we are no longer primitive; now the whole world seems not-holy. We have drained the light from the boughs in the sacred grove and snuffed it in the high places along the banks of sacred streams. We have moved from pantheism to pan-atheism. Silence is not our heritage but our destiny; we live where we want to live ... It is difficult to undo our own damage, and to recall to our presence that which we have asked to leave. It is hard to desecrate a grove and change your minds. The very holy mountains are keeping mum. We doused the burning bush and cannot rekindle it."* [69-70]

I did not share that passage to explain anything, but rather to give a feel for her style. Her words call us to slow down and think, just as seeing a flock of ducks descending on a pond with noise and flapping always grabs our attention.

Many talk about finding God in nature. My experience is that when we do take time to look we are slowing down and learning to live in God's time. The effect that has is immediate, but also lasts. For when we have learned to stop, look, and listen, we get used to the idea of doing that when we are back in our own place and time. When we learn to look for God, we get used to doing that more often and in more ways. She can write!

Pastor Seeber



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/2	Emma Hendricks, Ken Jorae, Alice Tomer
3/4	Pete Asaro, Priscilla Mercier, Jon Nelson
3/6	Kevin DeVries
3/7	Andrea Grube
3/8	Alan Sarver, Olivia VanDenBerg
3/9	Frank Geib
3/10	Addyson Emig, Kaitlyn Hamilton, Walter Kohnke
3/11	Lynne Gerfen, Kathy Harmon, Katie Woodhams
3/13	Ryan DeMorrow, Mark Meyer, Mike Proos
3/15	Graham Butler, Cathy Geib,
3/16	Daniel Frazier
3/17	Nick Alsvig, Pat Frohnappel, Matthew Schuppel, Mary Tuttle
3/18	Philip Kunze
3/19	Gina Schipper
3/21	Kim Schommer
3/22	Julia Richards
3/24	Andrew Gast, Jason Masek, Connor McGill
3/25	Susan Ahrenholz, Mary Horensky
3/26	Randall Parat
3/27	Marie Freudenberg, David Masek
3/28	Madison Geib, Brian Kiessling, Daniel Zerbel
3/29	Mary Berkhausen, Allison Watson, Alexandria Whittaker
3/30	Todd Schierbeek



GRATEFUL HEARTS /THANKFUL HANDS

Additional times for collecting items for the church bazaar are scheduled in March.

Monday, March 8th & March 22nd
from 9:00—11:00 both days.

Please drive to the door closest to the sanctuary where you will be assisted.

Please DO NOT bring items to the church office. **Masks are required.**

For questions, contact Jayne Mayer
(375-8342)

FRIENDS OF JESUS PRE-SCHOOL

Enrollment for the **Fall 2021** is now underway. If you or someone you know is interested in more information or reserving a place for Fall, please contact the Church Office @ 269.382.2360



The wish list item for **March is Canned Fruit (no sugar)**. Due to COVID, the church is not accepting donations Thank you!

MARCH 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pastor T Devotion 6:30 Personnel	2 10:00 P. Brelje Study 1:00 Aaron Devotion 6:30 Pastor T Zoom	3 Lent 2 6:30 Worship Online	4 2:30 Aaron Devotion	5 Pastor T Devotion	6 8:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Worship
7 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship 11:15 HS Bible Study	8 Pastor T Devotion 6:30 Endowment	9 10:00 P. Brelje Study 1:00 Aaron Devotion 6:30 Pastor T Zoom	10 Lent 3 6:30 Worship Online	11 Noon Finance 2:30 Aaron Devotion	12 Pastor T Devotion	13 8:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Worship
14 Daylight Saving 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship 11:15 HS Bible Study	15 Pastor T Devotion 6:30 BOD	16 10:00 P. Brelje Study 1:00 Aaron Devotion 6:30 Pastor T Zoom	17 Lent 4 6:30 Worship Online St Patrick's Day	18 2:30 Aaron Devotion	19 Pastor T Devotion	20 8:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Worship
21 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship 11:15 HS Bible Study	22 Pastor T Devotion	23 10:00 P. Brelje Study 1:00 Aaron Devotion 6:30 Pastor T Zoom	24 Lent 5 6:30 Worship Online	25 2:30 Aaron Devotion	26 Pastor T Devotion	27 8:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Worship
28 Passover 8:00 Worship 10:30 Worship 11:15 HS Bible Study	29 Pastor T Devotion	30 10:00 P. Brelje Study 1:00 Aaron Devotion 6:30 Pastor T Zoom	31			



February 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	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						

April 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				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	



Financial Report for January 2021

ZION: January Giving was over budget by \$5,926. Expenses were under budget by \$6,743. January ended with a Net Gain of \$14,939. YTD Net Income Gain was \$37,831, over budget by \$25,893. YTD Contributions are under budget by \$44,033.

FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL: Income was under budget by \$13,728. Expenses were under budget by \$11,771. January Net Gain was \$492. YTD Net Income Gain was \$2,409, under budget by \$6,861.

Solid Grounds: Income was over budget by \$1,776. Expenses were under budget by \$286. January Net Gain was \$566. YTD Net Income Gain was \$1,754, under budget by \$1,918.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
INCOME						
Zion Giving & Misc.	60,625	66,551	5,926	484,000	439,967	-44,033
EXPENSES						
Zion Staff Support	28,072	28,145	73	231,425	229,645	-1,780
Office Operations	1,635	1,376	-259	11,880	10,659	-1,221
Church Property	6,372	6,591	219	59,924	45,433	-14,491
Education Ministry	1,335	304	-1,031	8,110	3,727	-4,383
Evangelism/Missions	250	0	-250	550	0	-550
Worship Ministry	900	359	-541	4,475	3,473	-1,002
Other Ministries	275	189	-86	1,975	1,046	-929
Music Ministry	2,725	1,555	-1,170	19,750	12,555	-7,195
Finance Ministry	10,341	6,366	-3,975	82,723	51,010	-31,713
Zion Haus Ministry	400	90	-310	3,200	1,702	-1,498
Missions - General	6,050	6,637	587	48,050	42,886	-5,164
Total Expenses	58,355	51,612	6,743	472,062	402,136	-69,926
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	2,270	14,939	-12,669	11,938	37,831	25,893
FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL						
INCOME						
FOJ Income	14,385	657	-13,728	88,010	7,252	-78,758
FOJ Staff Support	10,161	0	-10,161	64,160	3,737	-60,423
FOJ Operations Expenses	1,775	165	-1,610	12,580	1,106	-11,474
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	2,449	492	-1,957	9,270	2,409	-6,861
SOLID GROUND						
Solid Ground Income	8,168	9,944	1,776	79,840	75,409	-4,431
Solid Ground Expenses	9,664	9,378	286	76,168	73,655	2,513
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	-1,496	566	2,062	3,672	1,754	-1,918
BALANCE SHEET						
	6/1/2020		1/31/2021		YTD Change	
ASSETS						
Cash	78,336		150,009		71,673	
Investments	137,222		137,950		728	
Other Assets	10,944		7,757		-3,187	
TOTAL	226,502		295,716		69,214	
LIABILITIES						
Payroll	5,829		6,794		965	
Dedicated Funds	87,136		115,145		28,009	
Unrestricted Funds	133,537		173,777		40,240	
TOTAL	226,502		295,716		69,214	
MORTGAGE LOAN BALANCE	\$753,565					
Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000						
Youth Ministry	\$9,962		FOJ Estate Gift	\$3,592		
New Staff	\$50,000		FOJ Fundraising	\$11,518		
Ins. Claim Water Damage	\$27,824					

Monthly Publication of

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Lenten Worship
Wednesdays,
March 3—March 24
Online at 6:30p.m.