

Harbinger

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As I boarded a flight from Reagan National Airport, I had an amusing experience. Washington, of course is full of military installations, so it was no surprise that when boarding began, military personnel were allowed to board first, and twenty young men and women walked past the gate to enter the plane. All were in civilian clothing, and the last was stopped as his boarding pass didn't read correctly. As the attendant was seeking to board the plane quickly, she asked him to wait behind her for a moment until she could get things figured out. As he was well over six feet tall, and she about a foot shorter, he stood out and looked like her bodyguard. He smiled as I walked by and then I heard him say "Welcome to our Delta flight to Detroit, I hope you have a pleasant and safe journey." As I moved further down the ramp, I heard him repeat the same phrase, again and again. Apparently he decided to enjoy his time waiting. I looked back at the man behind me whose smile was as big as mine. We agreed this young man's mother had raised him well. Random moments such as this not only make life interesting but reveal much about those around us. He could have been embarrassed or frustrated by having to wait, and yet he chose a different path, making the most of his wait and making the entry onto the plane much more pleasant than usual for a variety of passengers. How do any of us respond when we are momentarily delayed, slowed down, or pulled out of a normal routine? My guess is his choice of reaction was more positive than many of us have undertaken. He turned that moment into one much more different than boarding an airplane typically is. He made the boarding pleasant for those who passed by, and to see everyone entering the cabin of a jet with a smile was something to behold. Travel by air is not easy with delays, cramped seating, and overbooked planes. But for a moment there were smiles and relaxation for many who had not anticipated anything other than a crowded path down the runway to a crowded plane. The fact that I am even remembering this moment, and having a smile return on an otherwise busy morning for me, testifies to the impact one can have on many. And to do so in such a genuine and creative way was amazing. For some reason, I must have been distracted when he finally entered the cabin as I never saw him again. I wish I could have thanked him. Maybe he didn't even get on the flight. But he had been there. We heard him, and we smiled. What a reminder of how we can affect each other, when we put aside our own proclivities and distractions and make the most out of whatever we face!

Pastor Seeber

Lenten Midweek Worship Wednesdays

March 1—March 29

Noon & 6:30p.m.

Soup Suppers 5:15p.m.

HOLY WEEK 2023

PALM SUNDAY

“Sunday of the Passion”

8am and 10:30am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Noon and 6:30pm

Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY

Tre Ore: Noon—3pm

Good Friday 6:30 pm

EASTER VIGIL

5:30pm

(regular Saturday time)

EASTER

8am and 10:30 am

Holy Communion and Special Music

In our culture, Christmas has an intense emotional, financial, and traditional buildup. Not so for Easter! It isn't even a vacation time for school as it once was, unless it happens to fall over spring break. Where the church once had influence over culture, now it is school boards.

Maybe it is a blessing our culture has not taken over Holy Week as it has Christmas. This allows us to prepare for what God has done, rather than wrestle with the commercial distortions and distractions of a broken world. To celebrate an empty tomb when so many are trying to find more ways to fill their lives with stuff makes what we do on Easter even more precious.

This year the staff produced a devotional booklet to give practical, daily help with your journey through Lent. Our midweek services this year feature the characters and themes of a favorite children's book, "Charlotte's Web." We do so, as we have done with other familiar moves and books, to take the familiar, just as Jesus did with this stories and parables to assist in imagining what God means to and for us. We hope you are enjoying such support in this season.

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.

And realize how important these special worship services are an opportunity to invite those with no church home to join you here. Whom might you invite. There are some who have never heard the story, or have forgotten it and might just be waiting for an easy way to wander back in.

The Sunday of the Passion (2)

We will remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem to shouts of Alleluia, and also how quickly the tone changed as his mission was headed not to an earthly throne but a cross.

Maundy Thursday (April 6)

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 7)

The three hour service beginning at noon focuses on Jesus' words from the cross. It contains six half hour services in which you come when you can, leave when you must.)

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 8)

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

Easter (April 9)

This year we will have two, festive services, each of which is the same. Choose your best time and celebrate the empty tomb! This is the most joyful, music filled, and celebrative worship of the year.

Keep an eye on weekly emails, Facebook posts and YouTube livestreams.

Why Liturgy is Important — The Benediction

The elements of liturgy are historic, biblical, and help us in our daily lives of worship. Each month we look at one part of what we do in worship.

This month we deal with **THE BENEDICTION**.

Our worship concludes with a blessing called the “Benediction.” (It comes from two Latin words: *bene* (meaning good) and *dicere* (meaning to speak.) With this blessing we are sent out into the world, where our daily worship and witness will continue. We aren’t leaving church, the Church is moving out into the world. This is a most fitting send off for ministry and living in faith.

The most familiar benediction is, *“The Lord bless you, and keep you: The Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you: The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.”* (Numbers 6:24-26)

These are the words God spoke to Moses, who later taught them to Aaron. He was instructed to share these words for two reasons. First is that like a blanket, God wanted his people to know that he was covering them wherever they went; a reminder that we are never alone! Secondly, God chooses to remind us that God’s presence is a blessing and will bring blessings. These good words send and sustain God’s people wherever we go and whatever we do.

As formal worship ends, our daily worship begins. The Church is not a place but a people. Having gathered in a bigger family for worship, nurture, and fellowship we now go out into the world as the hands and feet of Jesus. We are the Church and are sent into the world for a special purpose.

Having been blessed by God through Word and Sacrament, we are sent to be God’s people (actually a kingdom of priests) in how and where we live out our faith! These good words send us with a reminder of whose we are and how we are to live. Like a graduation speech or pep talk they send us on our way as people who are forgiven, strengthened, and empowered for service!

As the Pastor holds up his hands to announce these words, remember how Moses held up his hands to part the waters of the Red Sea. Remember how Jesus stretched out his hands to embrace an entire world as He was lifted on a

cross. Remember how Jesus blessed his disciples as He prepared to leave his earthly ministry with the command for them to go and make disciples of the entire world.

Remember the water, sign of the cross, and blessing that touched you at Baptism. And that was followed with the reminder to let our light shine! The words of benediction touch our hearts with similar strength. We are sent for service, and we don’t go alone. The benediction is a blessing that goes with us and a reminder that we are never alone. It covers us. It changes us. It surrounds us with the promise and peace of God’s love.

When I was in high school, and would head out with my friends or on a date (which was a fairly rare occurrence) my Mom would always say, *Remember whose you are!* That was her blessing — a benediction of sorts for me to keep in mind all she and Dad had lovingly shared with me and expected of me.

The benediction we announce and receive on Sunday morning is God’s way of sending us in a similar fashion. (In recent years her blessing has been “Go with God!”) That works too!

For Parents with young children:

As parents we hug and kiss our children when we put them to bed for the night, or when they are heading out for the first day of school. That is our way of reminding them that they are loved, protected, and that even when we aren’t with them, we are still with them. Our hugs and kisses are benedictions of parental love. They cover our kids with a blanket of protection and they remind our children how important they are to us, and how important their lives are to others.

The blessing at the end of worship is God’s way of reminding children and parents alike that we are never alone, and that God’s loving guidance is a gift that is always with us touching each and every step of the day. That is why these good words are so important for our children. They need such blessings every day — as do we all, from earthly and heavenly parents alike! (Maybe you could even hold your children’s hands or hug them during the benediction, so they can feel the love that God sends along with this blessing.)

Pastor Seeber

What Make Us Lutheran — Part 5

Church History

History is important to understand the background for who we are and how we came to be. It is never perfect but the only way we can understand today is to understand yesterday, so that we learn and grow from what has been prepared for us.

After Easter Jesus' followers were ready for the new kingdom Jesus gathered them for. Then Jesus withdrew his visible, physical presence from that time and place to be invisibly present in all time and place. We are filled with and blessed by that Holy Spirit today.

The Acts of the Apostles follows the Gospels and is the history of the first generations of disciples and believers of Jesus. Its beginnings focused on the simple message Jesus taught concerning God's love for us and his call for us to love in the same way. The first Christians had a Jewish background of law (for daily living) and sacrifice (for showing love to God.)

As Jesus became the one perfect sacrifice for all time, the focus on worship centered around Scripture, Communion, and Baptism, both as the focus of worship but a guide for daily living. And, what marked the uniqueness of Christians was their commitment to forgiveness and love as a lifestyle that Jesus has prepared us for. And the Church was committed to sharing the Good News of that love of God with the world, in order that His Light might chase the shadows of sin from all life.

The early Christian Church was criticized often for its lack of temples and sacred images. Unique to the history of Christ's Church is its focus on people as the hands and feet of Jesus and his living body on earth. The Greek word for church is *ecclesia* (meaning a gathering of people.) They shared the Good News of Jesus, prayed and sang hymns, they studied scripture and taught others what they learned. They gathered for mutual support and to provide a safe and healthy community for all who felt lost and alone.

Buildings larger than homes became helpful for gathering larger groups together. Structure and traditions became necessary after the first few generations in order to keep the focus on Christ and Christ alone. Baptism, Communion, the Creed, and Scripture were essential. Gradually

liturgies and formal buildings were developed, followed by consistent guidelines for training and supervising pastors and congregations. Gradually there were congregations of the Church scattered throughout many parts of the world. Rome and Constantinople became the major centers for the Church (east and west) and the bishop in each city had substantial influence over all the churches in his region.

Because the Church is comprised of imperfect people, it is no surprise that sin and selfishness would cause conflict and separation. The first major break came in 1054 AD as the eastern and western branches of the Church split following either the bishop of Rome or Constantinople.

In 1530 AD the Reformation of the western Church focused on the Augsburg Confession, led by Luther and other reformers. The issues of the power of the pope, grace rather than good works, and the priesthood of all believers were some of the issues that created new structures within the one true Church. Over time changes continued within the protestant movement with Anabaptists, Reformed, Methodists, Pentecostals, and so forth. The issues were always geographical, political, and sometimes theological.)

Luther's role was in leading a reform movement within Roman Catholicism, but eventually the split was permanent. In Germany his followers are the "evangelische" Church (meaning Gospel) but have come to be called Lutheran. Lutheran bodies in this country have much to do with traditions, culture, and where immigrants settled.) Until 1970 95% of all U.S. Lutherans were part of the LCA (colonial, east coast) ALC (Scandinavian, upper Midwest) and LCMS (Midwest and central states.) Thirty years later the LCA and ALC merged into the ELCA. Zion was established in 1868, and moved to our present location in 1954. It has a history of being ecumenical, and reaching into the community through radio, campus, music, and worship.

In Lutheranism, the congregation, not administrative assemblies or officials are the Church. Our organizational structure comprises a board of directors who have both an administrative and spiritual focus, working in partnership with the professional staff that is called by the congregation to lead and serve in ministry. We believe every member of Zion is a minister, and our call is to love God and love neighbor.

Midweek Worship

One of my most prominent memories of my home church is Wednesday night worship. During Lent (time before Easter) we have a similar opportunity at Zion. Join us at 5:15pm for dinner (you don't have to cook!) and then stay for worship at 6:30pm. Worship usually ends around 7:15pm. Taking a pause from your typical evening routines can be so beneficial to your family. Join us on Wednesdays in March!

ADDICTION TO TECHNOLOGY (PART 2)

It's amazing what happens when a screen addicted youth is separated from their addiction for a set amount of time. In my experience, screenagers are very isolated. They may be connecting virtually or invested in whatever they're watching, but they are oblivious to their surroundings and what is happening around them.

This has seriously stunted spiritual growth.

One doesn't need a screen or a phone to be oblivious to God working in the world around them. A screen becomes yet another layer on top of the every day busyness of distractions. I've observed, firsthand, how the removal of a screen changes personality, participation, and even attitude. Sure there are immediate negative effects but the long term implications help one out of isolation and into that relationship with the Creator. Be free from not only the addition of technology but also from the distraction away from the Creator.

Family Life

Family Ministry News

Youth News

High School:

Bible Study

Sundays at 9:15am

All Youth:

Diaper Bank Service Project

On March 18th from 9-11am we will be volunteering at the St. Luke's Diaper Bank downtown. All youth are encouraged to join us for a morning of service. Seems like a simple job: unpack and repack diapers...and yes they're all clean!

Middle School:

8th Grade Project

Sunday, March 5th we will meet from 11:30am-4pm to start AND complete our confirmation project!

Echoes

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

“When we (youth group) went on our Winter Retreat, we had the honor of meeting Matthew (Matthew is autistic). I personally had a goal of meeting new people even though I'm not the most social and can be shy sometimes. But God brought Matthew right over and made it a lot easier. He came over to us at lunch and asked us to play on a team in the volleyball tournament with him. Two other girls from our church, a girl from another church, and a boy from his church joined Matthew and me to form a team. He brought us all together—people from different places—and we were given a chance to meet each other and work as one. Matthew was a great encourager. We had just met him and only said a few words before the game but after every point he would say “good job” and give a high five. We made it all the way to the championship game and left the tournament in second place! After the game we said hi and chatted every time we saw him. God definitely encouraged me to get out of my shell by introducing me to Matthew—someone special who I will always remember.”

CAMPUS MINISTRY REPORT: FEBRUARY

Now that the Spring Semester is underway, here is a summary of our ministry events thus far...

MONDAY EVENING DINNER & DISCUSSION EVENTS:

We are averaging between 6-7 students attending weekly on Monday evening. Our discussion topic is "Depending on Jesus", which is a 10 week study from Group Life Bible Study. A couple of students that attended in the Fall semester have not been able to join us this semester due to work or taking a class Monday evening.

TUESDAY EVENING VOLUNTEER EVENT AT THE KALAMAZOO YWCA:

From 6-7PM every Tuesday evening, there are 3-5 students and I that volunteer at the YWCA in downtown Kalamazoo. We spend the time volunteering with kids whose moms are at the shelter for victims of domestic violence. The students that are a part of this volunteer effort are WMU athletes and students that are not able to be a part of our Monday evening event.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH FOR WMU STAFF MEMBERS:

On Wednesday, Feb. 1st, we had lunch for WMU staff members who work in landscaping, maintenance and facilities on campus. There were 14 WMU staff members that attended the lunch. My plan is to do this lunch every 2-3 weeks. At the lunch last week, I shared that above and beyond our lunch's together, I would be open to leading a Bible study/time of prayer or conversation group with them. There are at least 20 different WMU staff workers that have attended our lunches at Solid Grounds this semester. Serving and ministering to WMU staff members is now a part of our campus ministry that I plan to continue and develop.

Another new community outreach that we are beginning is working with the students at Maple Street Middle School. The principal of Maple Street Middle School, Dr. Jeffrey Boggan, is also a pastor. I've known Dr. Boggan for a long time and he has been instrumental in providing us the opportunity to volunteer with the kids at the school. There are 5 WMU students from FCA that will be volunteering on Thursday February 8th from 11AM-1PM. We will be interacting with

the students during the lunch time hour. The plan is to volunteer in this capacity a couple of times and see how it plays out.

I am also helping Pastor Tim and Pastor Larry in reaching out to some of our members from Zion who are not able to make it to church on a regular basis.

God's blessings and peace to you all,
Pastor Mark

**FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL**

Friends of Jesus Preschool is continuing to accept enrollments for the 2023-2024 school year!

Please spread the word about our faith-based, family friendly programs available to three and four-year-olds. We have upcoming

Open Houses

**Tuesday, February 28 from 6:30-8 PM and
Thursday, March 16 from 10:30 AM -noon**

Tours are also available, upon request, by calling the preschool office. Check out our website at www.friendsofjesuspreschool.com and Facebook page for more information. If you have any questions or know someone who is interested in the preschool, please contact Jen LaPorte at jen@zionkazoo.org or call us at 269-382-2360.

Thank you for your continued support of Friends of Jesus Preschool!

Jen LaPorte



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 April 2nd.

Contributions will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin.

In Loving Memory of:

In Thanksgiving of:

In Honor Of:

Given By:

Giving Envelope # _____ Amount _____

Wednesday Soup Menus

3/1	Loaded Bake Potato Texas Black Bean
3/8	Beef Vegetable Creamy Mushroom/ Wild Rice
3/15	Taco Soup Broccoli Cheese
3/22	Ham & Beans Creamy Vegetable

No Meal Wednesday, 3/29



COFFEE & CRAFTS

Women of Zion.... Come join a morning of fun!

Saturday, March 11th 9-11a.m.

Everything you need to get you caffeinated and crafting. Whether you're an expert or have never touched a bead or glue gun. A great time creating is at your fingertips and you'll go home with a beautiful craft.

Sign up on the Kiosk or call the office.

Contact Dana Butt 352-0063 or

Sue Bickle 832-4493

for more information.

Congregational Meeting Update:

The Meeting held Sunday, 2/19 resulted in Zion extending a Call to:

Pastor Rev Michael W. Saylor

- * Age 57 Born—Ft Wayne, IN
- * Current Pastor @ Redeemer Lutheran Church—Convoy, OH
- * BA—Concordia University—Wisconsin
- * MDiv—Concordia Seminary—Ft Wayne
- * Family—Spouse, Laura & 7 Children
Ages 19—32

Please keep Pastor Saylor and family in prayer as they determine their course. Additionally, please continue to hold this information in confidence, respecting the Saylor's privacy.

Special thanks to the members of the Call Committee as they continue their work.



EMAIL COMMUNICATION

If you're not receiving Pastor Tim's weekly email, please contact the church office with your current email address.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Thank you to the following people for decorating the church this season as well the removal of various decorations. Making our church so beautiful is due to special efforts of:

Don Daenzer, Pat Frohnafel, Cindy Krill, Laurel Miner, Melissa Noseworthy, Steve Nuyen, and Mike O'Connor

Gratefully, Jim Mayer

CONNECTIONS...

Are you in your 20s/30s and looking for some 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

if you'd like to be part of this group.

PRAY-ER GROUP STUDY...

DCE Aaron Grube is leading a small group Bible study cluster on the topic of "Prayer." We meet Wednesday evenings at 4:30pm. Come on over for some discussion, dinner, and then worship! Our last session will be March 22nd.



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY
PLAYDATE**
AT
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Thursday, March 9th
9-11 AM

Free games and activities
Socialize with other caregivers

For children ages 0-5 and their caregivers



Book Review. “How to Be; A Monk and a Journalist Reflect on Living & Dying, Purpose & Prayer, Forgiveness & Friendship. Judith Valente. Paul Quenon. Hampton Roads Publishing. 2016.

Judith Valente was a staff writer for The Wall Street Journal and Washington Post, as well as being a Pulitzer Prize finalist. Br. Paul Quenon joined the Trappist Abbey of Gethsemani, in 1958 as a 17 year old young man, studying under Thomas Merton.

Brother Paul has committed his life to his faith in Christ. Judith was always a Christian, but became more involved in her spiritual journey after being a successful writer and commentator for NPR. It began when she visited a monastic community in Atchison, Kansas. Over the years she has spent more and more time in such settings, which is how she came to know Brother Paul, who has been in one of the most well known such communities in this country.

This is an inside-out book, as Valente looks into the structured monastic life from the outside world, and Quenon looks at the outside world from his perspective inside a monastic community. While on the surface that would seem to make them very different, their sharing with each other reveals the similarities that faith brings about. Appearances can be deceiving.

Over the years, the two have become good friends and this book is a joint effort which is based on correspondence between the two of them on various topics. The correspondence between friends has become a lost art, and this book shows what a gift such communication is.

What I find interesting is how each looks at the same issue from a different human perspective, yet their perceptions are colored by the faith they share. Here are comments from Kathleen Norris in the foreword to the book:

“Like Judith, most of us know what it’s like to be so consumed by work that we lose sleep over it. We fret over being so overloaded and distracted we feel it’s all been wasted time. But few of us hear the wisdom of Paul’s response: that a good way to get over the feeling that you’re wasting your time is to waste more of it. He suggests that she intentionally slow down and look to see what’s really there.” [p. x]

It is always a wonderful thing to see two people who have had different life experiences and directions come together and explore the common experience of faith which helps to understand that neither have been on separate journeys, but one.

They have walked the same path in different ways. There is a lesson in this as too often we allow the differences emphasized by our culture to define us rather than allowing the gift of faith to define how we will live with our unique gifts and opportunities in a world that has different ideas, values, and needs. Br. Paul writes, *“I draw a distinction between having a purpose and following a vocation. A vocation is beyond what you might call a purpose in life. I didn’t find a purpose; my purpose found me. I live with a sense of call — a sense of someone calling.” [70]*

Through a series of letters they share thoughts and ideas on issues such as prayer, work, mediation, useless care, silence, eternity, and navigating the unexpected moments in life.

This is a book that can generate much thought and discussion, and can be read all at once, or simply when there is a topic one is wrestling with that they have written about to each other. Whether for personal meditation or small group discussion, this is a useful book

Many monasteries survive by producing a product to sell, such as having a dairy, baking bread, or operating a winery. Paul talks about how flexible his monastery has had to be in order to continue, and have changed from selling crops to the community to a mail order business of fruitcake and fudge. *“If you live in a monastery and are unwilling to change, you will become dissatisfied, fixated, and isolated from the rest of the community.” [p. 31]* Is it just me, or does that not sound like helpful advice for every one of us no matter which side of the fence we are on?

Enjoy the dialog between these two special people and allow it to assist in your own reflection of your life and your living and the difference faith makes in how you keep remembering whose you are and how you are gifted to live. Peering into the faithful questions and discussions of two friends who are so uniquely different in so many ways, and yet one in their faith is a helpful reminder for each of us to learn to share and be shared with as well.

Pastor Seeber

From Zion families who delivered HELPING HANDS gifts – Christmas 2022.

Our annual Helping Hands program for Christmas gifts for needy families in our community assisted eight families, comprised of 35 children and adults. Despite the snowstorm, deliveries were made before Christmas. During COVID we began having families come to Zion for pickup. Sponsor families from Zion wrap your gifts and arrange for them to be delivered.

These comments are from some of our sponsor families:

“One young mother and her three children came to Zion to pick up their gifts and food. There were tears of gratitude, hugs, and conversation. She has sent several emails thanking the people of Zion for their generosity and texted twice with similar thanks.”

“The generosity of Zion’s people is beyond amazing! So many went above and beyond the requests. I was worried not all requests would be met, but our members came through! Our family was a single mom with three kids under three. She was so appreciative and said this help could have not come at a better time. Problems keeping her car running had caused her to lose her job, which resulted in her losing her apartment. She is temporarily living with her mom, and her children could not believe all the gifts we piled into her car.”

“Our family texted us after Christmas letting us know of their appreciation, and that everyone loved their gifts. It was a blessing to be a sponsor family.

“All of the families we serve are in very difficult and different circumstances. Some more than others. While we would all love to see smiling children and healthy families, that is not always the case. The young woman we shared gifts with was very timid, and quietly shared her words of thanks. Her needs were obvious, and the generosity of our congregation was remarkable, as always. The spirit of love was certainly conveyed on Zion's behalf. We pray this young mother, and her children, will be okay. I want our congregation to know how meaningful this ministry is, and how much we appreciate their support.

A very special THANKS to Zion's sponsoring families: Adam, Christine, Cam and Hanna Brege. Brandon, Jill, Audrey, and Kaitlyn Hamilton. Jay, Evie, Indy, Rudy and Natalie Linebaugh. David and Linda Mayer. Todd, Suzie, and Anna Schierbeek. Angelo, Shelby, Jacob, and Savannah Waterlander. Kurt and Patricia (Kaukola) Weber. Joe and Larry Zerbel.

Jim Mayer adds: *Thank you, people of Zion, for your tremendous support in purchasing all those beautiful gifts.*



HELPING OTHERS

We are collecting health care items during March and April

for Ministry with Community

Items Needed:

- ◆ Bath size towels / wash clothes (new or gently used)
- ◆ Bars of soap—travel size
- ◆ Shampoo / Conditioner travel or full size
- ◆ Body Lotion—travel or full size
- ◆ Toothbrushes
- ◆ Toothpaste—travel or full size
- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Lip balm
- ◆ Razors / shaving cream
- ◆ Nail clippers
- ◆ Sturdy tooth combs
- ◆ Band-aids

Place your contributions in the bins located in the hallway beginning **March 6th**. Contact Jayne Mayer 375-8342 with questions.

Thank you for helping others as Jesus shows us His love every day in our many blessings.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/2	Emma Hendricks, Alice Tomer
3/3	Joanne Mills
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	Cathy Geib,
3/16	Daniel Frazier
3/17	Nick Alsvig, Pat Frohnappel, Nick Huss, Matthew Schuppel, Mary Tuttle
3/18	Philip Kunze
3/19	Gina Schipper
3/21	Kim Schommer, Lena Turczyn
3/22	Julia Richards
3/24	Andrew Gast, Jason Masek, Connor McGill
3/25	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



New Art Ministry Display in Blends

March and April

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.

The Guild members have exhibited their original artwork in group shows around the Kalamazoo and southwest Michigan areas for decades, including here at Zion Lutheran Church in 2007. This is their first group exhibit since 2019.

Pen Dragons members' skill levels range from beginner to professional. They work in a multitude of lettering styles, or "hands," and in a wide range of media: paint, ink, pencil, collage.

Pen Dragons hopes 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



The wish list item for **March is Canned Fruit (no sugar)**. Place your donations in the gray bins under the church office windows.
Thank you!

MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Lent 1 Worship Noon & 6:30 4:30 DCE Prayer Study 5:15 Soup Supper	2 7:00 - 8p Choir	3	4 8:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Worship
5 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS ; Bible Study 10:30 Worship 11:30 - 4 Conf Project	6	7 10:00 P. Breije Bible St	8 Lent 2 Worship Noon & 6:30 4:30 DCE Prayer Study 5:15 Soup Supper	9 9-11 Play Date Noon - Finance 7:00 - 8p Choir	10	11 8:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Worship
12 Daylight Saving 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS ; Bible Study 10:30 Worship	13 6:30 Endowment	14 10:00 P. Breije Bible St	15 Lent 3 Worship Noon & 6:30 4:30 DCE Prayer Study 5:15 Soup Supper	16 10:30-Noon PreSch Open House 7:00 - 8p Choir	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 8:00 Men's Bible Study 9 -11 Youth Project 5:30 Worship
19 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS ; Bible Study 10:30 Worship	20 Vernal equinox (GMT) 6:30 BOD	21 10:00 P. Breije Bible St	22 Lent 4 Worship Noon & 6:30 4:30 DCE Prayer Study 5:15 Soup Supper	23	24	25 8:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Worship
26 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS ; Bible Study 10:30 Worship	27	28 10:00 P. Breije Bible St	29 Lent 5 Worship Noon & 6:30 (No Soup Supper)	30 7:00 - 8p Choir	31	
Notes						

March 2023 WORSHIP LEADERS

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
Head Ushers 8:00am	Matt Simmons Walter Kohnke	Steve Weber Dave Mayer	Stan Leitz John DuBois	Fred Bierlein Rich Rakow
Head Ushers 10:30am	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast	Ken Lundquist Dave Borak	Steve Nuyen Dennis O'Brien	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast
Communion Assistants Saturday 5:30pm	Roxanne Seeber	Kathleen Jordan	Roxanne Seeber	Ted Maxson
Communion Assistants 8:00am	Matt Simmons		Jim Mayer	
Communion Assistants 10:30am	Jon Tomer	Sue Bickel	Dee Wentzel	Dana Butt
Acolytes 8:00am	Emma Hendricks	James Mayer	Grayson Field	Anna Schoonbeck
Acolytes 10:30am	Gabe Hampshire	Sarah Skuratowicz	Eli Frazier	Noh Bentz
Cantor	8a Karen Chappo- Stokes	8a Vicki Holt	8a Vicki Holt	8a Linda Stieve 10:30a Dennis O'Brien
Lectors 8:00am	Jayne Mayer	Dave Mayer	Carol Daenzer	Andrew Niedbala
Lectors 10:30am	Jill Hamilton	Rollie Preuss	Erin Hampshire	Alice Tomer
Altar Ministry Saturday 5:30pm	Phil Reitman Mary VandenBerg	Arlene Masek	Phil Reitman	
Altar Ministry 8:00am	1. Carol Daenzer 2. Pam Leitz	1. Linda Mayer 2.	1. Vicki Holt	1. 2.
Altar Ministry 10:30am	1. Toni Holt 2.	1. Carrie Chapman 2.	1. 2.	1. Toni Holt 2.

Shaded Boxes indicate assistance needed. Please contact the office if you are available to assist. Thanks so much!

Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

March

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Lenten Worship
Wednesdays,
March 1—March 29
Noon & 6:30p.m.
Soup Suppers 5:15p.m.