

3/28 email to congregation

"It is with great joy and thanksgiving that the Call Committee and the Board of Directors announce Pastor Michael Saylor has accepted the call to be Zion's Senior Pastor. When Pastor Saylor called, he sounded very excited and conveyed that the Lord had been leading him in this direction for the past three weeks. He shared his wife, Laura, and his two youngest daughters are excited to move to Kalamazoo.

Pastor Saylor has several commitments he needs to finish in his current call to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Convoy, OH. We are working with Pastor Saylor and Pastor Seeber to define the exact date, but the installation is expected to be in early June. Please keep Pastor Saylor, Laura, and the members of Redeemer in your prayers. While we are excited that he will be joining us, they will be starting their moving preparations and saying their "good byes" in Convoy. We pray that this move will be the best for God's entire kingdom."

In His service, Garr Gast, President / Ryan Bickel, Call Committee Chair

Final Lenten Midweek service this Wednesday at Noon and 6:30 pm.

April 2 is Palm Sunday. We will be blessed with the music of a brass quintet for the beginning of Holy Week. Come and bring a friend or two!

Reminder: Sunday, April 2nd is the last day for Easter Lily donations.

Trumpet Recital – WMU student, Jake Fekete, will hold a recital here on Tuesday, April 11 at Noon.

April Playdate is Thursday, April 13th from 9-11 AM. Children 0-5 and their caregivers are invited to join us for games, activities, and snacks. Activities begin around 9:30 AM but come whenever you can. More information can be found at <https://fb.me/e/TSQ6pb5r>.

Christian Art! Calligraphy in BLENDS! We have an incredible exhibit of calligraphy in BLENDS this month. Art has always been important.

in the Church, whether in illuminated manuscripts, altar pieces, woodcarvings, paraments, or even the architecture of our places of worship.

Also check out several books on **display in our library** that show how calligraphy brings attention, color, and life to the words of faith. This is well worth your time!

COVID brought many changes both in our personal and work schedules. Consider the value of faith in your life, and the nurturing of your own life and the support you offer others as you are present here for worship, fellowship, holy communion, and prayer.

Interested in serving on a ministry team but not sure who to speak with? Contact Marta in the church office, Aaron, or Pastor Tim. We can help with questions.

Friends of Jesus Preschool is now offering wraparound childcare beginning Fall 2023. As an addition to its preschool programs, Friends of Jesus will now offer

before care beginning at 7 AM and after class care until 5:30 PM. For more information, contact Director Jen LaPorte at jen@zionkazoo.org.

Worship This Week

Wednesday Noon or 6:30pm
Saturday 5:30pm
Sunday 8:00 or 10:30 am
Classes 9:15 am (PK – 12 No Classes 4/2)

Lenten Soup Supper / Wednesday at 5:15pm.

Soups this week are: Chicken Noodle and Chili

*Have you ever wanted to be a “**better pray-er?**” Do you want to understand what it means to pray? Curious about different types of prayer? Join DCE Aaron Grube as he leads us through a study on prayer. This adult cluster will meet at **Zion during Lent at 4:30pm**. Consider joining the group as part of your Lenten discipline. To sign up for this class, contact the church office.*

Ministry with Community - We are collecting health care items to serve those in need. Please continue making this a success by donating. Baskets are set up in front of the church office along with a list of those items needed to make your shopping a bit easier. Many of these items are available at our local dollar stores.

THANKS TO ALL who continue to bring new and gently used blankets to our collection box in our lobby. They will go to St. Luke's Episcopal Church downtown to support their efforts for those with housing difficulties. Call for more information.

Food Gathering for LOAVES and FISHES! We continue to feed the hungry in our community through Loaves and Fishes. Any canned and boxed food items are accepted, but the greatest need is: **Canned Fruit – no sugar!**

Thank you for your continued financial support. Any additional, regular support would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you also for your prayers and the many other ways you are involved in and support our ministry!

To make an online donation, or to set up regular online giving, follow this link:

<https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/zionkazoo>

SYMBOL IN THE WINDOW: Palm Sunday leads to the betrayal of Jesus. On the New Testament side at the very top, you will see Judas leaving the table with a hangman's noose over his head.

Adult Choir practices on Thursdays, under direction of Roxanne Nieboer. Come when you are able, we are always looking for more voices.

Call Roxanne or church office for more info.

Weekly meditations continue to be posted Mondays and Fridays on Zion's Facebook page! Lessons for Sunday worship posted on Wednesdays.

We have been blessed with a number of guests and visitors over the past few months! Please introduce yourself to anyone you don't know! Help everyone (even fellow members) to feel welcome and special enough for you to talk to.

Pastor Seeber's Classes:

Sunday 9:15 am Gathering Space / relating Biblical characters and stories to daily living

Saturday Men's study 8:00 am (zoom) / real world issues and the Gospel of John

(Contact Pastor Seeber for Zoom link if you would like to be included!)

Pastor Brelje's Class -- Book of Romans

Tuesdays 10am in Gathering Space

Church Office hours:

Mon - Thurs 9am to 4pm

382-2360 / zion@zionkazoo.org

For pastoral assistance:

Pastor Seeber 501-3624 / Pastor Couch 598-8167

Aaron 271-2848 / Pastor Brelje 330-9538

If you have been hospitalized, are newly confined to home or a residence facility, or have a new address or phone number, or email address, please call the church office and let us know!

Prayers: Neloise Vlietstra and family on the death of husband, Glenn.