



The Zion Messenger

April, 2023

Using Our Gifts Together and Sharing God's Grace

Greetings Saints of God,

As this newsletter arrives in your mailbox, we will just about to enter into Holy Week. We will be preparing to process, palms waving, shouting, "Hosanna," and taking our place in a pew that doesn't have our name on it. The feeling of chaos that is hinted at might give us a little bit of an idea of the day that Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem.

Holy Week will be upon us, and there will be services for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and then we come to Sunday. Easter Sunday. The Sunday of the Christian Church year. This Sunday is the Sunday that all other Sundays are but hints. Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday... Easter Sunday... is the reason you are a Christian. Period.

That is wonderful. News worth shouting about. Yet... Yet... Yet... it isn't here just yet.

We know the end of the story. We know of the empty tomb. We are reminded of this story every time we break bread, and share the meal on Sunday mornings. We know this story. We embody this story. And Yet... Yet... it isn't here yet.

I would ask you, people of Zion, to consider taking part in the Holy Week services. The Meal in the Upper Room, Thursday at 7:00 p.m., and Good Friday, at 7:00 pm on Friday. These services help set the stage for Easter Morning. For without the first two parts of this three day service, how do we know the fullness of joy on Easter Morning.

There are those who turn to the last page of a mystery novel to find out, "Who dunnit??" And the answer is right there. However, one misses all the shadows, and the depths of the story, which help inform the listener, the believer, the one taking part, of all the things... the things that make the event what it is for us.

How do we experience the stone being rolled away from the tomb if we were not there to hear about it being put there in the first place?

Come and take part in this life changing event. Come and take part in the Resurrection Story, from beginning to the end.... Or rather... from what seems to be the end, and we find out: It is but the beginning.... Of new life. Of Resurrection Joy... and our very own new beginning!



Living in the Amazing Grace of God,

Pastor John

Rev. John W. Stevens, Pastor

720 Jefferson St ~ Oregon City, OR 97045 ~503.656.4437 ~www.zionlutheranelca.org

Worship: We continue to walk through Lent, and are getting closer to Holy Week. Since First Baptist and Zion have been doing Wednesday Noon Soup and Bible together, I invited them to our Meal in the Upper Room service. Prince of Life will join us for our Good Friday service, with a joint choir, and Pastor Rob taking part as one of the readers. We are sharing a Palm order with Zoar Lutheran for Palm Sunday.

Easter Sunday: Easter Letter is going out this week, and this is a great service in which to invite a friend.

Easter Lilies: Since we have many new members, I am trying to highlight frequently the tradition of bringing a Lilly in honor or memory of a loved one. And since this is but the second Easter back in the Sanctuary since Covid Shutdown.

Acolytes: There is a schedule for the next month and a half for Acolytes. We attempted to have a training, but 3/4 of the kids where not feeling well that morning, so we will attempt again in the coming month(s).

Love Your Neighbor Training: March 11th, from 1-4, was a training/workshop/panel discussion put on by Love, One and the Father's Heart. It was really informative, and I took away a lot from the gathering.

Confirmation: Last Confirmation Class, we asked Rabbi Barry Cohen to come and teach the class. It was so informative and helped clear up misconceptions, and shone the light on modern Judaism.

Lenten Soup and Bible: Soup has been great. Conversation around the Word has been deep. I love these times together.

Tuesday Text Study: We continue to meet online for our weekly text study with fellow pastors from across the PNW (including Alaska).

Funerals: I am officiating at two funerals this coming week. Catherine Davidson, on Saturday, March 25th and Gary Green, Chuck Krieger's Stepdad (Pops) on next Tuesday.



Are you or someone you know experiencing grief?
Do you feel like Charlie Brown?
We are starting a grief ministry that you might find helpful.
Individually focused - Walk at your own pace.

Contact Pastor for more information. |

Zion, Thanks you for your continued financial support and prayers as I reach the end of my educational journey (for now)! Just a few weeks left and I will have graduated OHSU with a Bachelors of Science in Nursing and have maintained a 4.0 GPA. I sincerely appreciate the love and support shown to me and my kiddos.

Sincerely, Jessica Dowling, RN, soon to be BSN



Zion Lutheran Council Minutes

March 21, 2023

(Approved at April Meeting)

Present: Pastor John, Susan Arterberry, Lis Horton, Eileen Wiedrich, Diane Berreth, Susan Lamb, Gudrun Hartfeil, Cheryl Steinhebel, Deb Bartel, Lorilee Cronn, Jane Arterberry.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

Devotions: Pastor read from his Lenten devotional book, "Because Grace".

Minutes from the February council meeting were approved as written.

Financial Report: Total income January through February is \$37,877.15. Total expenses have been \$36,779.50. We thank Zion members for their faithful giving.

Pastor's Report: Pastor invited First Baptist to join Zion on Maundy Thursday for the Meal in the Upper Room, and Prince of Life will join us at Zion for Good Friday service at 7 pm participating in both the readings and choir.

Pastor also highlighted that Easter lilies will be accepted in memory of loved ones to help decorate the church for Easter service.

The entire report is in the newsletter.

Old Business: The Earthquake Preparedness committee will meet in May.

Lorilee has researched different types of artificial Christmas Trees for the sanctuary. She will ask for samples of trees in order to explore the purchase of an appropriate tree. It was noted council feels this purchase is necessary due to fire risk of a cut tree.

Charleen Norton and her husband have made bird houses and planter boxes that will be for sale on Sunday, April 2. All proceeds will go to the roof fund.

Charleen, a professional hairdresser, will cut men's hair on Saturday, April 29 and donate all proceeds to the roof fund.

Lorilee and Jeff Cronn are investigating ways of members auctioning off items through "Big Al's" auction house. This is another way of raising money for the roof fund.

New Business: The Synod has asked all congregations to review their constitutions to make sure all wording is in line with synod guidelines. The executive council will meet to begin work on this on April 16.

May 20th is the Synod Assembly via Zoom from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Pastor, Eileen, and Lorilee will attend.

Karl will be having knee replacement surgery in the near future. Council is exploring options for pianist/organist during his absence.

Holly Sorensen, private piano teacher, has once again requested the use of our Sanctuary on Saturday May 20th from noon to 6pm for piano recitals by her students. Council approved.

Committee Reports:

Worship: Palm Sunday and Easter will use youth as cross bearers and acolytes. Donations of Easter Lilies are requested to decorate the church for Easter.

Service: The concrete sidewalk along Madison Street is being repaired. A big thank you to Pam Bloom for paying for this repair.

Council Minutes continued on following page

Windows on the north side of the Sunday School building in the courtyard are in need of caulking. Bids are being gathered for this repair.

The drywall was repaired in LOVE INC. hallway where a drinking fountain was removed. The annual fire inspection has been completed.

Learning: Youth will have a car wash on June 4 to raise money for the national gathering in 2024. Another fundraiser will be July 15 offering a barbecue, games, and family activity time.

Mark is talking to Stuart from LOVE INC. of possible service projects for the youth.

Confirmation camp is the last week of June with Pastor and 2 youth attending.

The annual Egg Hunt will be after church on Palm Sunday.

The next meeting will be May 7 for a game night for all ages.

Pastor has been asked to attend the Youth Extravaganza in January, 2024 as a presenter and instructor in children's sermons.

Witness: The committee will be serving a luncheon on March 25 for Catherine Davidson memorial. Cheryl, Gudrun, Susan Lamb, and Pastor attended the presentation/workshop by LOVE ONE which works with the houseless. The committee is exploring ideas for giving in some way to this ministry.

The committee is also looking at ways to involve the entire congregation on *God's Work, Our Hands* Sunday in September.

Good of the Order: Congratulations to Jane Arterberry who has been accepted by OHSU, Phil Knight Cancer Center to participate in an internship this summer studying cell development.

Newsletter deadline: Thursday, 4/20/23

Next meeting: April 18, 2023 at 6 pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm



Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen Wiedrich
Secretary

THANK YOU



Many thanks to all who provided soup, bread and desserts for our Soup Suppers. A special thank you to DARLENE STENSLIE for arriving early to set up and then staying late to clean up after Bible Study! Her presence and efforts each week were greatly appreciated!

Prayer Requests: Family of Thea Bialas, Melanie Cronn, Paula Granville, Leslie Ford, Don Nissly, Dee Hanson, Tad Hyman, Ron Cole, Heidi Stevens, Carol Goodale, Katie O'Donnell, Sharon Little, Olivia McCallum (6yrs old diagnosed with Leukemia), Dennis Martin, Carol Grombeck, Caroline Ritter-Swartz, Barb Halverson, Jack Dace.

Prayers for Zion's Homebound Members: Esther Betts, Lavon Edwards, Ethel Miles, Donna Ronning, Verna Fuson, Dorothy Krueger, Ellie Woodford, Ron & Dorothy Cole.

Readings for the month

Sunday, April 2, Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm: 31: 9-16; Philippians 2:5-11, 13-17; Matthew 26:14--27:66

Sunday, April 9, Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

Sunday, April 16, Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:4a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 23, Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm: 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Sunday, April 30, Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm: 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10



Catherine Davidson

June 1st, 1923 - January 21st, 2023

Catherine Davidson died Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023 surrounded by family. She was born in Oregon City to Marion and James Paterson. Married her childhood sweetheart, Gale Davidson, Feb. 20, 1943. He preceded her in death in 2004. She continued to live a long fulfilled life in Willamette for 99 years, touching many hearts along the way. She is survived by two daughters and a son-in-law; six grandchildren; one great-grandson; and one great-great-grandson. Donations in her honor may be made to Oregon City Zion Lutheran Church.



Thea Bialas

March 8th, 1938 - February 5th, 2023

On Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023, Thea Bialas (nee Bauernfeind) beloved wife, mother, and Omi, passed away at age 84 in Oregon City. Thea was born in Germany March 8, 1938. She met her husband of 60 years, Manfred "Fred" Bialas, while hitchhiking on one of her many adventures. The two married in 1962 in Germany and later moved to the USA.

Fred's career in aircraft production allowed them to travel the world, living in France, Italy, China, Germany, as well as the U.S. Thea made friends all over the world, sharing her love of cultures, foods, history, books, and travel through a legendary talent for storytelling. Fred; daughters, Tina Bialas (Larry Minor Jr.), Cathy Bialas (Jim Beriault); and grandchildren, Adrian and Claire Minor treasure their memories and miss her deeply.

Her memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Pacific, April 29, 2023, at Zion Lutheran Church in Oregon City. The service will be recorded and live streamed (available at www.zionlutheranelca.com).

Donations in her name may be made to Love INC or the Zion Lutheran Church roof fund.



ADOPT A SPACE: 3rd Quarter 2023 Workers

Please consider signing up individually or as a family
for the 2nd quarter, April - June 2023.
The 2023 sign up sheet is located in the upper narthex.

Wiedrich/Dowen, Schnell NEEDED	Sanctuary & Balcony	Vacuum, dust, clean (as needed)
Stevenson	Office & Office Narthex	Vacuum, dust clean, garbage (weekly)
Cheryl Steinhebel	Main Floor Men's Bathrooms	Clean toilets, mop, sink, garbage (weekly)
Bill & Judy Heerdt NEEDED	Main Floor Women's Bathroom	Clean toilets, mop, sink, garbage (weekly)
NEEDED	Wuest Fellowship room	Vacuum, garbage, straighten up (bi-monthly)
Jessica Dowling	Main floor hallway & stairs	Sweep, mop, vacuum mats (bi-monthly)
Bill & Judy Heerdt NEEDED	Kraxberger Hall	Vacuum (as needed)
NEEDED	Downstairs bathrooms (3)	Clean toilets, mop, sink, garbage (weekly)
	Elevator	Sweep and dust (as needed)
	Kraxberger kitchen	Sweep & mop floor (weekly)
	Downstairs hallway & stairs	Sweep/mop, vacuum mat (bi-monthly)

Roof Fund Progress Report

Our roof fund is steadily climbing towards our \$100,000.00 goal. As of 3/19/2023, we have raised **\$64,569.62!** Thanks to everyone who's participated so far. We'd also like to add a special thanks to Nancy Combs who challenged anyone married in our church to add \$25.00 to the fund. This is an open-ended challenge but so far we've added over \$1500 thanks to her thoughtfulness. We'll have more opportunities for folks to participate in fun ideas to help us raise the roof - stay tuned!

Thanks, Deb Bartel. You can reach me at barteldeb@yahoo.com or 503-522-1601 if you have any questions or suggestions for fun ideas.

A bit of Lutheran Humor



A note from the church secretary:

A true friend is someone who thinks you're a good egg, even if you're cracked.



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More "Raise the Roof" Opportunities:



Bird Houses and Plant Boxes for Sale - all proceeds go into the Roof Fund!

A big thank you to Roy and Charleen Norton for the making and donation of these adorable houses and plant boxes.

The bird houses will be available in the narthex April 2nd before church and downstairs for coffee hour. The bird houses are \$20.00 the plant boxes are \$15.00.

I have created a coffee blend which I am calling, **Raise the Roof!"**

It is \$15 a bag, and \$5 of that will go toward the



RAISE THE ROOF WEDDING CHALLENGE is still going!!

Send the tax deductible donation to the church office along with **your names** and **wedding date**.

It will be interesting to find out who was married at Zion throughout the years.



Note: Currently our Roof Fund is nearing \$66,000. Goal: \$100,000!

Thanks to all who have contributed already!

Hey the men of Zion. Want to help out on raising money for our roof fund. Charleen Norton is giving out hair cuts for you men on April 29th from 12:30-2:30. First come first served. **The fee for her services will be a free will donation to raising money for our roof fund.** ☩ Charleen is a licensed hairstylist and would like to perform a cut that would please you. So come on into Zion between 12:30-2:30 on Saturday April 29th. Room will be ready for you to come in and get a great cut.

COMMUNITY GIVING — APRIL 2023 CAMP LUTHERWOOD

Camp Lutherwood Oregon is open to all people for year-round camps, retreats, outdoor school, and events. We are located on 85 beautifully forested acres in the foothills of the Coast Range. As a not-for-profit organization, we are committed to serving people of all ages through our programs, facilities, and staff. Camp Lutherwood is an association of Lutheran congregations in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Your donations make a difference!

Donations can be given throughout the month of April.



For all Kids, all ages!!!!
Palm Sunday, April 2nd, after worship



Holy Week Services
Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7:00PM
Good Friday, April 7, 7:00PM

Easter Service

Sunday, April 9, 2023, 10:00AM
All are welcome, join us for worship.
Cross decorating: 9:30AM



There is a place for you here!



MEMORIAL EASTER LILIES

If you would like to donate an Easter Lily to decorate our sanctuary. If possible, please bring it to the church by Thursday, April 6th.

If you are giving the lily in memory or honor of someone, please let LaVonne in the office know by Wednesday, April 5th so it can be published in the bulletin.

Reminder: Join us for our weekly gatherings:
Sunday worship service is held in the Sanctuary and being
live streamed on **Facebook and Youtube.**



Topic: Church Service

Time: 9:50 AM Pacific Time

or Dial by your location 1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 811 2851 1393 Password: 97045



**REMEMBER: WE DON'T WORSHIP
THE LORD ON SUNDAYS ONLY!**



WE WORSHIP HIM EVERYDAY!

**Pastor John is doing daily studies online at 10AM.
"10 at 10" with Pastor John. Live on facebook and YouTube,
Monday through Thursday.**

Bible Study : Pastor John is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom
meeting. Thursday, 7pm

Topic: following Sunday Gospel Lesson

Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 817 7889 8995 Passcode: bible

Have you remembered
Zion in your Will?



Can you find the hidden Fish?

Somewhere in this newsletter is the fish symbol. It
could be large or small, a picture or article. See who in
your family can locate it first!!



Zion Lutheran Church Financial Report at 2/28/2023

February Offering received	\$ 14,331
Other Income received	<u>1,097</u>
Total Income	\$ 15,428

February Expenses	\$ 18,907
(Admin of staff—\$12,659)	
EXPENSES in excess of Income	(3,479)

YEAR TO DATE (Jan-Feb) Offering	\$36,008
Other Income received	<u>1,869</u>
Total Income	\$37,877
Year to Date Expenses	(36,780)
Total Year to Date Income	\$ 1,097



Notes:

February Community Giving = \$320

Year to Date = \$1,120

Terri Hammond markterrih@gmail.com (503)349-9654 - Questions





2/19/23

Thank you so much for the prayers for Don and I while waiting for his open heart surgery. He finally had it done yesterday and he is doing great. God is good!!! We appreciate all of your prayers for us.

Love, Karin & Don Nissly

Worship Helpers



April	Palm Sunday 2 	Easter 9 	16	23	30
Ushers	Ryan LaGrange Jana LaGrange	Ashley George Elyjah McFarland Eileen Wiedrich Patti Anderson	Allen Fawcett Dick Keefer Richard Patterson	Chuck Krieger Cathy Krieger Roger Stevenson	Jeanette Kmetc Mickey Cate
Readers	Bill Fox, Jeff Cronn, Peter Mora-Stevens	Ashley George	Pam Bloom	Rachel Hample	Lorna Kautzky
Acolytes	Daphne Schmit, Presley, Harper, Adeline Berreth	Daphne Schmit, Presley, Harper, Adeline Berreth	—	Presley Berreth	Daphne Schmit
Communion Assistants	Allen Fawcett	Mary Downen	Eileen Wiedrich	Deb Bartel	LaVonne Priester
Flowers	Diane Berreth	Jeff & Lorilee Cronn			
PowerPoint Operator	Lori Fawcett	Cheryl Steinhebel	Jeanette Kmetc	Eileen Wiedrich	Lorilee Cronn
Computer Streaming	Lori Fawcett	Lis Horton	Ashley George	Lorilee Cronn	Eileen Wiedrich
Altar Guild	Mary Downen Molly Schnell Eileen Wiedrich	Mary Downen Molly Schnell Eileen Wiedrich	Mary Downen Molly Schnell Eileen Wiedrich	Mary Downen Molly Schnell Eileen Wiedrich	Mary Downen Molly Schnell Eileen Wiedrich
Yard Care/ Mowing	Logan Schmit	Logan Schmit	Ron Rohde	Carston Berreth John Wicklund	Eileen Wiedrich

God's blessings to our members celebrating birthdays! If your birthday is not listed or is incorrect, please call the office at 503-656-4437. Thanks.



4/2 Diane Berreth
Jordyn Campbell
Whitney Kinny
Carmen Schmit
4/4 Judi Gellert-Zorr
4/9 Kevin Keith
4/11 Keli Cronen
4/14 Michelle Pikkarainen
4/15 Ruby Dowling
4/17 Gudrun Hartfeil
Pam Bloom
4/19 Bob Rierson
Mike McFarland
4/20 Lori Fawcett
4/21 Janet Oleson
4/27 Cheryl Steinhebel



4/19 Allen & Lori Fawcett
4/25 Richard & Judi Zorr

April 2023

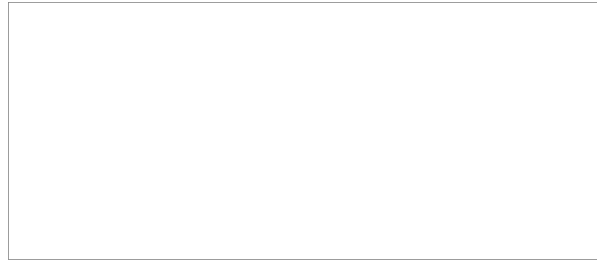
Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Bring Memorial Lilies to Church by Thursday, April 6th				1
2 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 10:00AM Worship, Sanctuary & Live Streamed Coffee hour following worship & Easter Egg Hunt	3 "10@10"	4 "10@10"	5 "10@10" 6:30 Choir Practice	6 "10@10" 7PM Maundy Thursday Meal in the Upper Room" at Zion with St. John's Baptist	7 7PM Good Friday Service at Zion with Prince of Life	8
9 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 10:00AM Worship, Sanctuary & Live Streamed	10 "10@10"	11 "10@10"	12 "10@10" 6:30 Choir Practice	13 "10@10" 7PM Bible Study	14	15
16 10:00AM Worship, Sanctuary & Live Streamed	17 "10 at 10"	18 "10 at 10" 6PM Council meeting	19 "10@10" 6:30 Choir practice	20 "10@10" 7PM Bible Study Newsletter deadline	21	22
23 10:00AM Worship, Sanctuary & Live Streamed 11:30 Confirmation	24 "10@10"	25 "10@10"	26 "10@10" 6:30 Choir practice	27 "10@10" 7PM Bible Study	28	29 Thea Bialas Memorial, 11am 12:30-2:30PM Men's haircuts with Charleen
30 10:00AM Worship, Sunday School in Sanctuary & Live Streamed 11:30 Confirmation @ Zion						

Zion Lutheran Church
720 Jefferson St.
Oregon City, OR 97045

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Return Service Requested
TIME MATERIAL
April 2023



Zion Lutheran Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 8:00AM - 1:00PM

Pastor John available via text, email or leave a message with LaVonne at the church office.
503-656-4437

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Thursday, April 20th

2023 Zion Church Staff

Phone: (503) 656-4437
Pastor: Rev. John W. Stevens
Admin.Assist: LaVonne Priester
Minister of Music Karl Gustafson
Website: www.zionlutheranelca.org
Email office@zionlutheranelca.org

2023 Zion Church Council

President:	Susan Arterberry	Gudrun Hartfeil
Vice President:	Lis Horton	Cheryl Steinhebel
Secretary:	Eileen Wiedrich	Service: Eileen Wiedrich
Worship:	Diane Berreth	Support: Eileen Wiedrich
	Deb Bartel	Learning: Susan Arterberry
	Lorilee Cronn	Lis Horton
Witness:	Susan Lamb	Jane Arterberry
	Lis Horton	
	Diane Berreth	