

An Easter Message

I would like to share with you this Easter Message our Bishop sent the clergy heading into Holy Week.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.” – Romans 1:16-17 ESV

Dear NALC Pastors,

Greetings to each of you in this most Holy Week!

I am writing to thank you for your partnership in the Gospel and for your faithfulness in proclaiming the saving work of God, accomplished for us on the cross and in the empty tomb. The unique call we share as ministers of the Gospel is one through which God has promised to work. As we speak of what God has done for us in Jesus, as we declare what He has promised and secured for us in His Son, He promises to use our words, through the Holy Spirit, to draw people to a saving faith in Christ.

These next few days are among the most challenging for pastors. Schedules are filled. Days are long. The demands of being ready for each of the Holy Week services are real. At the same time, these next few days are also tremendous opportunities for preaching and proclaiming the name of the One through whom God has worked to save the world.

In our world today, many are afraid to speak the name of Jesus. Many are hesitant to share what they believe to be true, knowing that their sharing might cause division in relationships they value. Still others, if they do mention God at all, will argue for a god who works through the many religions of the world to offer people a choice, so to avoid making a choice that might offend.

In contrast, the Scriptures are clear “there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). The name of the One to whom the Scriptures point is Jesus. The name of the One through whom God has worked to save the world is Christ. As a result, we cannot be hesitant to speak His name, nor should we be ashamed to proclaim the Gospel. For, as Paul says, “it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”

As one who has pastored congregations for more than 35 years, I know how easy it is to let the outside challenges of the world cause an inner discouragement to take root. The two-year long pandemic has caused many to distance themselves from church. Worship attendance has declined. Relational connections have been less engaged. Political polarization has only served to make our unity more challenging. But what if, instead of seeing these challenges as reasons for

discouragement, we begin to see them as places and possibilities and platforms for the message of the saving Gospel to do its work?

I truly believe that is where we are in our culture today. Our world is searching to find answers but does not know where to look. Loneliness has increased. Self-identity is insecure. As much as people feel connected through social media, real and lasting and substantial relationships are increasingly more difficult to find. In the Church, we have opportunities to offer answers that are real. And not just real answers to the world’s real questions, but answers that point to the One in whom they are found. Our identity is given to us in Jesus. Lasting relationships are made eternally secure in Christ. And even though life might be lonely, at times, for all who live in this world, as followers of Jesus we are never alone.

My encouragement to you is to be bold in your witness of Jesus. My prayer for you is that you would do all you can to lift up the name of Christ. He is the One to whom all the scriptural witnesses point. His promises are secure. His work on the cross has been completed and accomplished for us. The tomb is empty. Our Lord is alive. And because He lives, we have no reason to be ashamed of the saving message God has entrusted to the Church to share.

There will always be people who do not believe Jesus was raised from the dead. There will be even more people who think they do not need Jesus to be assured of a place in heaven. The truth is that Jesus was raised from the dead. The reality is that we are lost and without hope apart from Christ. The promise is that through our faith in Him, and what He has accomplished for us on the cross, our place in heaven is secure.

This coming week, you have the privilege, opportunity and calling to preach that saving Word with clarity and power. Do not be afraid of the message it carries. Do not be concerned about the division it can and might cause. And certainly, do not be ashamed of the power it carries, “for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”

Know that my prayers are with you in this most Holy Week. Know that my heart is with you as you speak the name of the One alone who can save. Know that God’s promises are real and that His Holy Spirit is at work as you preach and proclaim the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen for our sin.

May God bless you and your proclamation of His Word. It remains a joy and an honor to serve with you. Thank you for your ministry.

In Christ Jesus,

Bishop Dan Selbo
North American Lutheran Church



News for the Women of Zion

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who gave to the Lenten Fundraiser. We collected \$765 which will help support our programs and work done for and by the women of Zion and our mission projects. If you would still like to give, please turn your donation into the church office. Thanks again for everyone's support.

Congratulations to Deb Green with the high bid on the baby quilt. Thank you, Deb, for your support!

The Men's Workshop has been working on the kitchen sink cabinet. The counter tops have been picked out. Things are progressing, no date on completion of work on the kitchen, as there are many factors to work around. Getting an installer has been hard and working around schedules is another factor. When completed it will be nice! Thank you to the men for their hard work!

Mary Bates came and picked up 27 flood buckets, 20 personal care kits, 27 quilts/blankets, 10 packages of baby wipes, 2 packages of diapers and 1 Bible, at the beginning of April. These items went to help stock the new NALC Disaster Warehouse in Michigan.

Our next workday is Thursday, May 19th, at 9 a.m.

Kitchen duty for May is Ruth Hoenie and June is Kathy Bishir.

Craft Junkies project for May is a set of tea towels. They would make a nice Mother's Day gift. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex, only 12 openings are available for Thursday, May 5th, at 6 p.m. The June project will be to plant succulents for your home. Look for more details in this newsletter, as well as on the display table in the Narthex.

Our book club will meet on June 1st, "Recessional" by James Michener, presented by Sue Nuss. July 6th, "This Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger, presented by Joyce Finke.

Hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend!

Nora Staunton, Chair of the Women of Zion of the NALC

Memorials as of April 25, 2022

- A gift was given in memory of Emily Leonhard by Bob & Linda Suchland.
- An Easter gift was given in memory of Terry Finke by Joyce Finke.
- Gifts were given in memory of Noreen Stienecker by Harry & Nora Staunton and Ed & Linda Yahl.
- Gifts were given in memory of Carol Bishir by Harry & Nora Staunton and Ed & Linda Yahl.

"The first hour of the morning is the rudder of the day. It is a blessed baptism which gives the first waking thoughts into the bosom of God."

—Henry Ward Beecher



Birthdays

May Birthdays

Wishing a Happy Birthday to the following members of Zion Lutheran Church. We invite you to pray for the following people on their special day.

- 1-Stephen Glass, Isabella Torsell
- 3-Elizabeth Ackroyd, Marlene Rutschilling, Lane Houston
- 4-Edwin Danner, Nicholas Kiel, Ingrid Miller
- 5-Sandra Yahl, Mary Merricle
- 6-Brookelle Grunden
- 7-Calvin Morris
- 8-Elizabeth Fitzgerald
- 9-James Freewalt, Mark Hegemier, Kyle Schmehl
- 10-Addison Masonbrink
- 11-Robert Fitzgerald, Michele Miller
- 12-Michael Hoenie, Dianne Storer, Judith Von Blon
- 13-Debra Sudman, Lucas Falasco
- 14-Allison Ankerman, Richard Allan Broyles, Eileen Zimmerman

- 15-Justin Weber
- 16-Amy Berner, Jeremy Hoenie, Robert Sudman
- 17-John Ankerman, Amanda Prichard, Michael Sudman
- 18-Allison Ackroyd, Janet Doute
- 19-Sarah Torsell
- 20-Brent Miller II, Haylee Opperman
- 21-Joseph Hegemier, Bryan Sands
- 22-Raegen Alley
- 23-Amber Paul, John Vogel, Marc Yahl
- 24-Joyce Ross
- 25-Jill Gasson, Ruth Hoenie, Braylon Lampert, Jeffrey Suchland
- 26-Doug Stetler, Randi Glass
- 27-Maddox Vogel, Sophia Merricle
- 28-Dustin Cernan, Chloe Gibson
- 29-Martha Meyer

If your name was omitted or a correction needs to be made in this list of birthdays, please contact the church office, 419-394-3115.



Prayer List

We invite you to include the following people in your daily prayers: Janet Dicke, Judy Von Blon, Brent Paulus, Lindsay Stephan, Sandi Deerhake, Alma Kuffner, Caleb Yahl, Mark, Amelia Green, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Vicki Bishir, Kason Thobe, Ann Morris, Craig Raney, Ken Ankerman, John & Katie, Darlene Henekener, Mike, Andrew, Rick Broyles, Jim, Beth Olberding, Gary Kesley, Rhonda's Dad, Pastor Phil Gagnon, Gerry Cordier, Ruth Brandenburg, James Moyer, Bill Nuss, Dora McAfee, Kathy, Kristin Hemmelgarden,

Teresa Roode, Deb Ranly, Russell, Linda Diers, Peter Ackroyd, Shelly Finke, Eileen Zimmerman, Becky Harvey, Family of Carol Bishir, and the Family of Noreen Steinecker.

Please pray for Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Jason Gross, Daniel C. Lukac IV, Michael Franklin and Kyle Schmehl who are in the service. Please pray for them, their family, and their safe return home.

May Loose Offering

Our loose offerings each Sunday/Wednesday for the month of **May** is earmarked for the Oesterlen Services for Youth in Springfield, OH.

Since its founding in 1903, Oesterlen's single objective has been to serve children and their loved ones. We are a mental health treatment and social services agency serving youth and families. Our full range of services includes residential mental health treatment, foster care, outpatient counseling, in-home programs, and in-school programs.

2022 College Scholarships Awarded

On Sunday, May 1, at either service, we will be recognizing our 5 youth who will be receiving our college scholarships at both services. They are Liz Ackroyd, Samantha Ackroyd, Zachary Hesse, Savannah Slater, and Carrie Stetler.



Craft Junkies

The May, "Craft Junkie" project on Thursday, May 5, at 6 p.m. will be to make a Mother's Day tea towel set (2 piece). Choose one of three color choices for the tea towels. We invite mother's/father's and your child, grandmother/grandfather and grandchild, or for you to make a set for yourself. Registration is for the first 12 people. Sign up at the display table in the Narthex. The fee is \$15 –red or yellow and \$20—flamingos.



Flower Chart

The flower chart is now available for all 12 months of 2022 is available on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the Tuesday before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and contact the church office, 419-394-3115, to let us know what information you would like included in the bulletin.



Vacation Bible School

HayDay! Growing in Friendship with Jesus is our VBS this year! HayDay! will be held at Zion on **Saturday, June 11, 9:00 - 3:00** and teen and adult volunteers are needed. Student registration is now open for ages 3 - 12 on the church website. Please contact Mindy for more information.

Weekly Needs 17 Weeks		Budget Y-T-D	Received 4/24/22	Offerings Y-T-D	On Hold
Current	\$6,068.75	\$103,173	\$4,587	\$92,450	\$0
NALC Offering	\$290	\$4,930	\$132	\$2,338	
Bank Balance as of 4/25:			\$79,284		

Life Line Screening

Zion is the site for the next Life Line Screening event to be held on Friday, June 3. See the posters and flyers in Sunday's bulletin for more details on scheduling your appointment or call 800-679-5192.

3.) The church kitchen is in need of some updates: electrical breakers, an updated sink, and more storage.

Funds have been set up to help defray the cost of each of these projects: **carpet, drapes, and kitchen.** Earmark your check or offering envelope with the project of your choice.

High School Graduate Recognition



We will be recognizing our High School graduates, class of 2022, on Sunday, May 8, at either of our Sunday worship services.

Congratulations to:

- Liz Ackroyd
- Jordan Freewalt
- Preston Henning
- Morgan Hirschfeld
- John Jenkins
- Gretchen Langsdon
- Jocelyn Opperman
- Tyler Ruvoldt
- Savannah Slater
- Haydon Wenning

Annual Ice Cream Social

The congregation will be celebrating Zion's 173rd anniversary on **Sunday, June 12.** At 5 p.m., we will host an Ice Cream social to celebrate our anniversary, in the auditorium.

A light meal and ice cream will be served, in the auditorium.



Please watch to sign up on your "I Worshiped Today", so we may plan for enough food and beverages. We hope to see you there!

3 Projects

There are three substantial projects that the trustee's plan to pursue in 2022.

- 1.) The carpet in the sanctuary needs to be replaced.
- 2.) New drapes are needed in the educational building due to age and extreme deterioration.

Staff E-Mail Addresses

Zion is linked to the Internet. We are currently receiving e-mail service provided by bright.net. Staff e-mail addresses are:

- Pastor Bill Maki wem1@aol.com
- Kathy Bishir kbishir@hotmail.com
- Ann Maki annmmaki@yahoo.com
- Adam Poe ympoe@yahoo.com
- Mindy Thiebeau zionbpe@hotmail.com
- General Mail... zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net

May 2022

S/1	8 & 10:30	Traditional Worship Service*	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship*
	8 & 10:30	College Scholarship Presentations	1:30 p.m.	Grief Support Mtg.
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School Breakfast	M/16 3:30 p.m.	Newsletter Article Deadline
	7:00 p.m.	The Underground	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360,
M/2	5:00 p.m.	Elder's Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship Group
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout PLC Meeting	T/17 9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship Group	W/18 11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
T/3	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Info. Deadline
	6:00 p.m.	Trustee Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Worship*
	7:00 p.m.	Congregation Council Mtg.	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Test
W/4	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting	T/19 9:00 a.m.	ZNALC Workday
	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Info. Deadline	S/22 8 & 10:30	Traditional Worship Service
	1:00 p.m.	Book Club	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Worship*	M/23 7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360
T/5	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class	7:00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship Group
	6:00 p.m.	Craft Junkies	T/24 9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
S/7	8:00 a.m.	Ohio Mission District Convocation	W/25 12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Info. Deadline
S/8	8 & 10:30	Traditional Worship Service	6:30 p.m.	Worship
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Committee Mtg.
	8 & 10:30	High School Graduate Recognitions	T/26 3:30 p.m.	Council Report Deadline
M/9	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360	S/28 7:00 p.m.	St. Marys Tri-Squares
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship Group	S/29 8 & 10:30	Traditional Worship Service *
T/10	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
W/11	9:30 a.m.	WNALC Board Meeting	M/30	Office Closed—Observance of Memorial Day
	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting	T/31 9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Info. Deadline		
	6:30 p.m.	Worship		
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class		
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study		
T/12	2:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study		
	7:00 p.m.	Contemporary Rehearsal		
S/14	9:00 a.m.	Men in Mission Bible Study		
S/15	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service*		
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School		

Special Dates

- National Day of Prayer, May 5, 2022
- Mother's Day, May 8, 2022
- Armed Forces Day, May 21, 2022
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 23, 2022
- Ascension Day, May 26, 2022
- Memorial Day, May 30, 2022



Zion Lutheran Church
210 N. Wayne St.
St. Marys, Ohio 45885-2194
zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net
www.zionstmarys.org

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ORGANIZATION:

President Neal Brady
Vice-President Chris White
Secretary Jeanne Wurster
Assistant Secretary Genevieve Brown
Treasurer Pete Ackroyd
Assistant Treasurer Andrew O'Bryan

COUNCIL AT LARGE: ... Cheryl Macklem, Darl Bishir, Doug Stetler, Andrew O'Bryan, Pete Ackroyd & Ryan Yahl

BOARD OF DEACONS: Dan Macklem, Sandy Wierwille,, Judy Schultz, Dwayne Hoenie,
..... Steve McAfee, Jeanne Wurster, Jody Slemmons, & Mark Torsell

BOARD ELDERS: Kathy Lampert, Chris White & Vic Von Blon

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Eric Langsdon, Kurt Rodeheffer, Dan Hegemier & Ed Yahl

BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION: Leslie Wobler, Emily Meinerding, Karrie Hughes & Alexa Coldiron

BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION DIRECTOR: Mindy Thiebeau

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE: Genevieve Brown

MEMBERS TO THE TRUST FUND: Doris Cook, Darl Bishir, Marion Slater, Rick Green, Bill Kellermeyer

**Chairperson*