

# Zion Lutheran Church

210 North Wayne Street  
Saint Marys, Ohio 45885

Zion Lutheran Church is a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)  
a congregation of the Northwest Ohio Mission District.

A monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church

April, Volume 2023, Issue 4

## The Lies of those in Power will Never Suppress the Truth Forever

Matthew 28:<sup>1</sup> *“Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.”*

Matthew 28:<sup>11</sup> *“While they were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. <sup>12</sup> And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers <sup>13</sup> and said, “Tell people, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ <sup>14</sup> And if this comes to the governor’s ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” <sup>15</sup> So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story has been spread among the Jews to this day.”*

It should come as no great surprise to us that those in power lie to the people about a great many things. We know it happens today, and it happened back in Jesus day. The gospel of Matthew reveals the lies those in power in the Temple - the Chief Priests and the Elders - conspired to hide the truth of Jesus’ resurrection, conspired to bribe the Temple Guards who know the truth, and then conspired to spread misinformation to the community about what has occurred.

As I said, history is full of examples of this kind of behavior from those who rule over people. Examples of those in power trying to hide the truth from the people. We still see this happening today. The writer of Ecclesiastes put it this way: ***“What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.” (Ecclesiastes 1:9)***

But my friends, the truth will always get out. No secret lasts forever. Jesus tells us in the gospel of Luke chapter 8 verse 17 – ***“For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.”*** Try as they might the good news of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead could not be kept silent. The lie might be suppressed for a little while, but the truth will eventually come out, and will be made known.

Over the centuries all the efforts of those in power to cancel Jesus, to silence the truth of his resurrection from the dead, have failed. All the tactics of intimidation and threats that have been made over time have not stopped the truth from being passed along in each generation. I believe the good news for the salvation of mankind is

that those in power will never be able to completely stamp out the truth about Jesus and his resurrection and its implications for us.

And so I encourage us to give thanks to the Father that the good news about his Son Jesus will continue to be spoken and shared and believed in until he returns. The harvest of souls for the kingdom of God will continue, regardless of the efforts of this world to stop it, until Christ returns to judge the living and the dead on the last day.

May this truth guide you each day in the living out your faith.

He is Risen!

*Pastor Bill*



## April Birthdays

01—Joann Hegemier

03—Lynn Cisco, Braeden Tuttle, Macy Vogel,  
Warren Masonbrink

05—Shaun Ruvoldt

06—Ethan Elshoff, Timothy McDermitt, Tim  
Meckstroth

07—Linda Opperman, Faith Puthoff, Jody Slemmons

09—Heather Diers

10—Rolland Hegemier, Kaci Wright

11—Derrick Brummel, Ellie Hance, Gary Orr, Annie  
Falasco

12—Courtney Hollenbacher, Virginia Loyer, Samuel  
Runnion, Mitchell Slemmons

13—Drew Houser

14—Jill Lampert, Sue Hecht

15—Wayne Rose, Abigail Pendergraft

16—Danielle Block, Pamela Fledderjohann, Mitchell  
Karner, Kimberly Reyes

17—Jocelyn Henning, Ruth Henry, Aiden Meinerding

18—Kayla Cisco

19—Makayla Opperman, Patricia Sealscott, Margy  
Vogel

20—Kyle Ankerman, Juli Clark, Cason Meinerding

21—Bethany Schrader

23—Neal Brady, Henry Hart

25—Preston Henning, Sally Schwab, Katie Mertz,  
Linda Decker

28—Jill Cisco, Ross Cook

29—Harold Hussey, Janice Rohrbach, Christina  
White, Mary Beth Torsell

30—Neil Cook, Drake Block

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.

---

“Christ did not come into the world that we might understand him, but that we might cling to him, that we might simply let ourselves be swept away by him into the immense event of the resurrection.”

—*Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

---

“God has not called you to your life mission in spite of who you are; he has called you precisely because of who you are.”  
—Reggie McNeal, *Practicing Greatness*

---



### News for the Women of Zion

I hope all of you have been using your Lenten Fundraiser envelopes during this Lenten season. The envelopes will be collected Sunday, April; 9<sup>th</sup> (Easter Sunday), at both services, and they may be dropped off at the church office. We really need everyone's support to increase our funds to continue our programs and mission work. Thank you in advance for your support.

Thank you to the Women's Fellowship and the Women's Board for hosting two of the Soup & Salad Suppers in March.

Our next workday is Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m. We will be putting together the new Kitchen Kits for the NALC Disaster Response warehouse. Everyone is welcome to join us in our mission projects.

Kitchen duty for April is Ruth Hoenie. Dora McAfee has it in May.

#### Book Club

- April 5: "The Rose Code" by Kate Quinn led by Pam Fledderjohann
  - May 3: "Sold on a Monday" by Kristine McMorris led by Nina Spencer
  - June 7: "The Measure" by Nikki Erlick led by Sue Nuss
- All meetings start at 1 p.m., in the all-purpose room. Everyone is welcome.

Creative Crafters in April will hold two sessions to teach you how to crochet. See separate article in this newsletter.

Quote of the month – It matters more how one gives than what one gives. –*Pierre Corneille*

Happy Easter to everyone!

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

---

### Belly Praise

*Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits. –Psalm 103:1-2*

Have you ever wondered what is in the very middle of the Bible? Well, this is it. Praise. Praise from the poet king David's "inmost being". The image here is of the whole belly. You've heard of belly laughs. Well, the middle

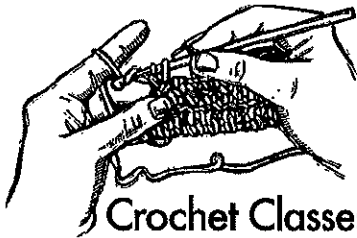
verse of the Bible urges us to break out in some big old belly praise.

Is there a whole lot of praise going on in your “inmost being” today? If you need a praise prompt, read the rest of Psalm 103. You won’t believe how many reasons you’ll find there for letting loose with your belly praise.

---

## Creative Crafters – Want to learn to crochet?

Creative Crafters will be making two easy crochet projects in April. Nora Staunton will lead this two session project.



The first session will be Sunday, April 16, at 1:30 p.m., in the all-purpose room, when we will make a cozy cup holder.

The second session will be Sunday, April 23, at 1:30 p.m., when we will make a set of potholders.

All supplies are included in the cost of \$10. All three items can be made from a skein of yarn. So when signing up please note the color of yarn you want. I will try to find that color of yarn for your project.

---

## Prayer List

We invite you to include the following people in your daily prayers:



*Let us kneel before  
the Lord, our Maker!  
Psalm 95:6*

*Janet Dicke, Judy Von Blon, Brent Paulus, Sandi Deerhake, Alma Kuffner, Caleb Yahl, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Ann Morris, John & Katie, Darlene Henkener, Margaret Moore, Amelia Green, Dwight & Carmen Axe, Elaine Marbaugh, Dale Sprague, Pam Fledderjohann, Bill & Carolyn Slemmons, Mary & Tim Smith, Lesley Cook, Brandye Patterson, Andrew O’Bryan, Emily Henkle, Eric Kupay, Nolina Moran, Kristin Hemmelgarn, Mary Willmann, Kathy Hart, Doug Mucci, Kelsey, Karen Vornholt, Brenda Purdy, Sandee Burd, Lisa Suchland, Vicki Bishir, Eileen Zimmerman, John Hiles, and the Family of Debra Clark.*

*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.*

---

## Memorials

A gift was given in memory of Karen Kemmann by Ed & Linda Yahl and Harry & Nora Staunton.

## 2023 Flower Chart

The first part of the 2023 Flower Chart is 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. Upcoming dates still available:



\*April 23

\*May 21 & 28

\*June 4 & 25

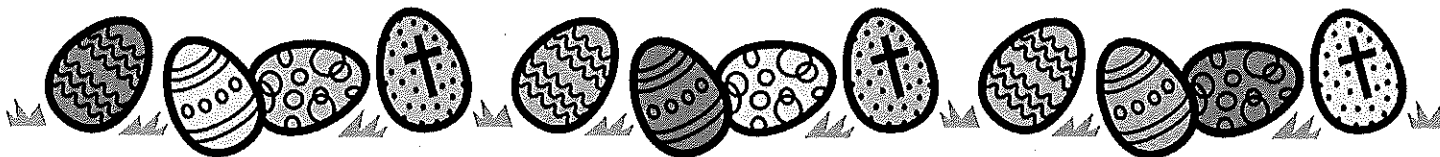


### Seder Meal

Our Seder Meal will be held in the Auditorium beginning at 5 p.m. on **Sunday, April 2**. We will once again have the traditional foods of the Seder and their meaning, along with roasted Lamb, Turkey breast, mashed potatoes, green beans, and wine. Please RSVP on your "I Worshipped Today" or call the office to reserve you place for the event. Please let us know how many people you will be bringing to the meal.

### Community Easter Egg Hunt

The Community Easter Egg Hunt is **Saturday, April 1**, 10-12 noon. All are welcome. Cookie, prize, and cash donations are welcomed and needed as well. Prayerfully consider donating or volunteering your time to help us with this event. Teens and older children can help too! Thank you in advance.



### 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 ..... [wllmmaki@yahoo.com](mailto:wllmmaki@yahoo.com)  
Kathy Bishir ..... [kbishir@hotmail.com](mailto:kbishir@hotmail.com)  
Ann Maki ..... [annmmaki@yahoo.com](mailto:annmmaki@yahoo.com)  
Mindy Thiebeau ..... [zionbpe@hotmail.com](mailto:zionbpe@hotmail.com)  
General Mail..... [zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net](mailto:zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net)

## Holy Week & Easter Services

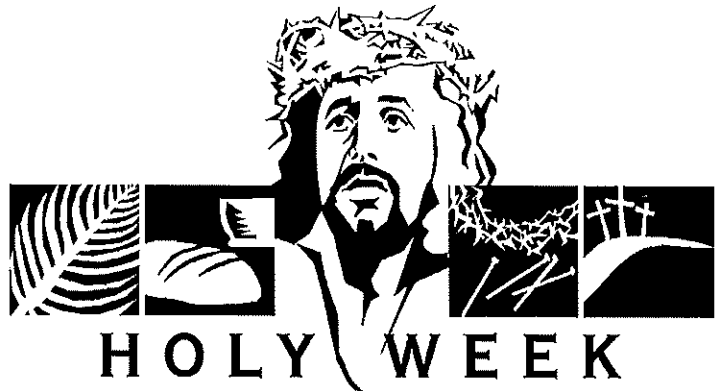
Our Maundy Thursday Service with students receiving their First Communion and Stripping of the Altar will be held on **Thursday, April 6**, at 7 p.m., in the sanctuary.\*

Good Friday Service of Shadows will be held on **Friday, April 7**, at 7 p.m., in the sanctuary.

### Easter Sunday, April 9:

- Easter Sunrise Traditional Service will be at 7 a.m.\*
- Easter Breakfast will be from 8-9 a.m., in the Auditorium.
- Sunday School will be at its usual time of 9:15 a.m.
- Easter Worship Service will be at 10:30 a.m.\*

*\*services will be with Holy Communion.*



### Easter Breakfast

Our annual Easter Breakfast will be held between 8-9 a.m., on **Easter Sunday, April 9**, in the auditorium. If you plan to attend, please sign up on your "I Worshiped Today" or call the church office with the number attending.

### April Loose Offerings

Our loose offerings each Sunday/Wednesday for the month of **April** are earmarked for the NALC Disaster Response Fund - North American Lutheran Church, 2299 Palmer Dr., Suite 220, New Brighton, MN 55112-2202. **Our Easter Sunday loose plate will go to Zion's current expenses.** The Disaster Response Fund provides resources for: respond rapidly when domestic natural disasters occur, alleviate human suffering, provide transitional assistance, and enable those affected to begin the rebuilding process. The NALC's Disaster Response Coordinator administers the use of the fund, working cooperatively with and through local NALC congregations and members, as well as other compatible disaster relief organizations such as LCMS Disaster Response.

### Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed at 12 noon on **Good Friday, April 7**. We will also be closed all day on the **Monday after Easter, April 10**. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, April 11, at 8:30 a.m.





## First Communion

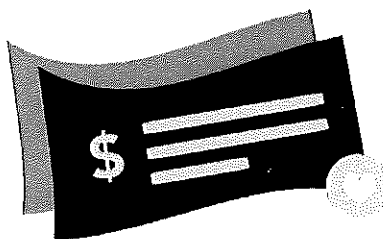
First Communion is the first time that a person receives his/her Sacrament of Holy Communion, which is the eating of consecrated bread and drinking of consecrated wine. Five youth will receive the Sacrament for the first time on Maundy Thursday, April 6. We recognize the following youth, they are: Addison Masonbrink, Zaila Yahl, Xander Meinerding, Lauren Wobler and Kate Wobler.

---

## Year-to-Date Financial Information

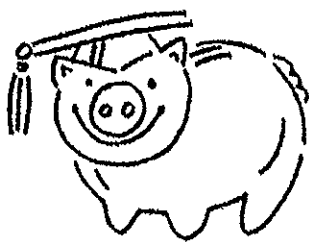
Financial Information: Our current financial information for Zion is as follows for year-to-date for the month March, 3/28/2023.

- 1/1/2023 Beginning Balance--\$86,923
- March 2023 YTD Income--\$67,591
- March 2023 YTD Expenses--(-\$74,267)
- Payroll/Interest Adjustments—\$422
- March 2023 Ending Bank Balance--\$80,669



## A look ahead to May. . .

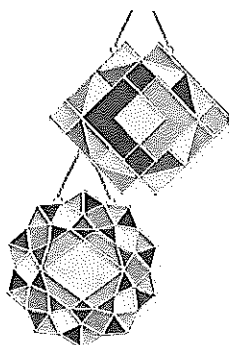
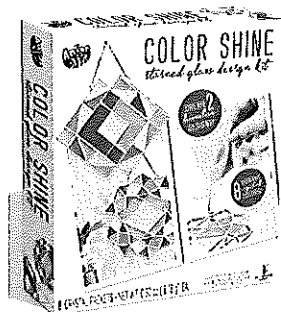
- **Reception for Scholarship Recipients**



We will be recognizing our college scholarship recipients on Sunday, May 21. They will be presented with their scholarship funds at both services on that day. A coffee and cookie fellowship reception will be held between the two services for the students and congregation, in the Narthex. The reception will be held between 9:15 and 10:15 a.m., on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Join us at the reception, where we will greet and meet the students and their family. The recipients are: Carrie Stetler, Savannah Slater, Liz Ackroyd and Morgan Hesse.

## Scholarships Awarded

- **May Creative Crafters**



Our May Make & Take Craft is focusing on making stained glass ornaments. This can be a mother and child activity or anyone wishing to make the ornaments. Each person registered will make and take two stained glass ornaments, on Sunday, May 7, at 1:30 p.m. Meet in the church kitchen. Supplies are limited to the first six people who register. The cost is \$10, payable the day of the event.