



Zion Lutheran Church

The Tidings April 2020

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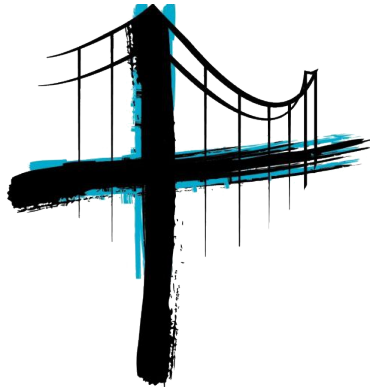
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A Message from the President

Dear Zion Family,

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, well wishes, and cards during my recent illness. I am grateful to be feeling much better.

I know this is a strange time for all of us. I hope everyone is persevering. God is always with us, I know, but if you need anything during this time, please let Pastor Larry, the church office, your member care representative, or another Zion member know. We are here for each other!



It feels like all the activities we normally think about during this special time of Lent are all canceled, but our walk with Jesus to the cross is ever present. I pray you feel Jesus close to you as we go through this journey.

God's blessings,
Pam Statler, Council President



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Facebook

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and click  Like .

This Trying Time

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

If you feel overwhelmed by what is going on in the world, join the crowd. It is unbelievable what we are experiencing. I got out of the house twice this weekend: once to walk to the mailbox and once to exercise (walk) with absolutely no one in sight.

If ever there is a time to curl up with the good book (Bible) or favorite devotional book, it is now.

It is also a time to listen to what our medical authorities are suggesting we do. By now, you've heard it a thousand times so I don't have to repeat it, but I will: wash your hands, have sanitizers everywhere, do not touch your face, stay six feet away from everyone except your one and only direct contact person, check yourself for fever, runny nose, sore throat, headache, difficulty breathing, and if at all possible, stay at home.

So what else is there to do? Check on everyone that you can think of. My daughters have checked up on me, as well as my grandchildren, and a number of you have called to tell me to take care of myself. Unfortunately, I'm also one of those at risk because of my age and pre-existing conditions.

And above all, please pray for everyone in this world who is being affected by this nasty virus.

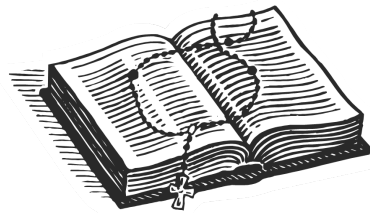
We are being forced to take each day as it comes. Tomorrow is totally unpredictable! What will it bring?

In the midst of all that, I want to remind us all that Jesus is always with us, walking with us, and at times, carrying us.

Father, we know that you are always with us, but at times it seems that things are totally out of control. Help us to see reason in the world and a path that looks like a road to recovery. Give us your love and comfort, and your healing power, as we go forward knowing that you are always walking with us. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

God is good and full of GRACE!

Blessings,
Pr. Larry



April Birthdays

2nd Amber Tucker
6th Alton Copeland
15th Rochelle Calhoun
26th Elliott Devenport
27th Roberta Harrison

April Anniversaries

19th Doug & Cindy Vogelsang

Suggested Readings

[Matthew 26 – Matthew 27](#)

The plot to kill Jesus through the burial

[Mark 11:1-10](#)

The triumphal entry

[Mark 14- 15](#)

The plot to kill Jesus through the burial

[Luke 22 – Luke 23](#)

The plot to kill Jesus through the burial

[John 11:45-53](#)

The plot to kill Jesus

[John 13:1-15](#)

Jesus washes the feet of his disciples

[John 18- John 19](#)

Jesus betrayal though the burial

[Isaiah 42:1-9](#)

The servant brings forth justice

[Psalm 36:5-11](#)

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings. (Ps. 36:7)

[Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19](#)

I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)

[Isaiah 52:13--53:12](#)

The suffering servant

[Psalm 22](#)

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Ps. 22:1)

[Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26](#)

God's mercy endures forever. (Ps. 136:1)

Seeking Shalom: Class Update

For those of you who were (and hopefully *are still*) interested in Seeking Shalom, here is an update of how we plan to move forward.

I know that we only got one class under our belts before everything had to shut down. It was a shame because I feel like all of you who attended that first class really caught on to the content quick!

I received an email from the Executive Director of Send Me St. Louis, Matt Miller, and to those who wish to continue, you may contact me and I can pass along the login information to each individual interested in continuing on their own via the web. Otherwise, we will be postponing class until Zion reopens.

Maundy Thursday Vigil



As I am writing this, it seems likely that we will not be gathering to worship in person. Nevertheless, we can worship in our home and remember the life-giving sacrifice of Jesus for each of us. A list of suggested readings are on the left side of the page. If you have a hymnal at home you could sing aloud or in your heart hymns that are meaningful to you. Perhaps you have several CD's that can help you remember and meditate.

In addition, I found permission to make 20 copies of a chapter from Max Lucado's book In the Eye of the Storm. If you would like a copy for your meditation, one will be sent to you. Please call Gail Voss at 314-522-3842 if you are interested in receiving a copy by mail.

May God's Spirit fill you as you watch and wait with Jesus.

All of Us Together: What We Can Do to Keep Going at Zion

Many of you have found out – and this goes for the office of Zion too – that in these times of isolation and self quarantine, email has been the best way to reach out to all of you as a whole. We are trying to make sure that everyone who wants to stay connected has a chance by following our worship services online or by reading the daily devotionals sent out by Pastor Larry himself.

Currently, there are 2 platforms to view the videos: Facebook and YouTube. An easy way to reach these is by going to the website www.zionferguson.com and clicking on one of the two links on the home page. The Facebook link will take you to our page where you can scroll down and see all that has been posted, including the latest videos. The second will take you directly to Zion's YouTube channel where you will have a list of videos sorted by most recent date.

Soon, we will also start hosting virtual meetings and Bible class with Zoom. Zoom is super easy to use. First, the office and Pastor Larry needs to have an up-to-date email address for you to be a part of it. That's really all you have to worry about (at least when it comes to Zoom)! Once a meeting or class is created, a link will be sent to your email address with a start time. All you do is click the link at the time stated to join and boom, you're in! If you have any questions, you can always contact the church office.



A Millennial's Point of View

This whole “Coronavirus” thing has been an adventure. One of the funny things about this pandemic is some of the role reversal of the younger generations urging the older generations to “stay home” and “stay safe.” I had to use my “mom voice” to tell my own mother to stop going out to eat at restaurants! “It doesn't matter if you're sitting far away from others; germs (viruses) are invisible and can linger on surfaces that you may unknowingly be touching!” Staying home and only going out for essential errands (i.e. groceries) is key to helping us all get through.

It might be easier for us younger generation because we are already well-versed in staying connected virtually. Many of us *prefer* to stay home over going out, text instead of “hanging out,” order our meals to-go instead of staying and eating in a restaurant, order our groceries online instead of shopping at Schnucks, and most recently, watch our church services at home in our pj's.

When I was in high school (2002-2006), social media was just starting to get popular. I've had my Facebook account since 2005 (OMG, it's 15 years old! Ahh!). It was back when you had to get an invite from someone who had an account just to set up your own; you couldn't just sign up for one like you can now. Classes were still mostly conducted out of physical textbooks, our tools were still paper and pens, and we still had to learn how to use the reference section of the library instead of just asking Google to do our research for us. We're more similar than you older generations probably realize!

It wasn't long after that – I believe it was 2008 – when I got my first iPhone. Smartphones were beginning to pop up everywhere. They were useful, had internet, rudimentary GPS, social media apps, and information could be instantly learned from a few pokes on a screen! Also, it could make calls and had a calculator.

Before my iPhone, I had a Blackberry with a full keyboard – yes, with buttons – and before that, I had a flip phone that I could use T9 (“text on 9 keys” or basically texting just using the numbers on a regular phone keypad); typing on that flip phone was a breeze because I didn't have to look at what I was typing, and it made it easier to text in class and I didn't have to look at it to text while I was driving (spoiler alert: I was irresponsible as a teenager). But then I got an iPhone with a flat screen and was no longer able to text on the DL (down low = inconspicuous). To be clear, I do NOT condone texting while driving, ever; just don't do it!

I had felt like I'd lost a super power, but gained a whole new world at my fingertips. Technology began to advance, and more and more of the world became available to me through my cellular device. There was obviously a learning curve, and lots of trial and error – we've all been locked out of an account or device at one point or another – but I got through it and I'm that much more knowledgeable today.

You've heard it before: “God gives good gifts,” and He gives these gifts for a reason. Jason and I (probably others too) are willing to use the gifts we have been given to teach and personally assist you in these trying times, to help you get connected, because technology is not just a fad, it's here to stay. Zion is working on moving towards the 21st century by setting up ways to conduct online worship services, Bible classes, and possibly even podcasts (podcasts are basically radio shows you listen to over the internet). Even after we survive the Covid-19 outbreak and we go back to life as we once knew it, Zion plans to keep going with these ways to virtually stay connected. We are willing to help teach you all how to use these resources on your own. There is no age cap on learning, and you do not have to be young to become a “tech whiz.”

No one could've predicted a pandemic like this, but in some ways it can be viewed as a blessing (or a kick in the pants to get everyone up to speed). Let's look towards the future: once taught how to view the devotions, messages, and videos online, being snowed/iced in will no longer be an issue. Being physically unable to get to worship as inevitable aging takes hold will be one less worry because now all you need is to touch a button.

Of course there are also downsides: hackers, scams, etc. You'll be fine as long as you're not giving out personal information, *especially* your social security number! If you ever have a question about security, Bill Budenholzer can help you out (bill@Budenholzer.org).

Zion's vision is the same as it ever was (you can check the back of your bulletin on this as well): A world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ makes for all people and creation. We are embarking on new paths via the web so that our mission – Jesus Christ has freed us by grace so that together we can live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully – may be fulfilled.

Andi Martin, Millennial

Council Meeting

March 10, 2020

In Attendance: Kristen Kinney, Johnnie Tucker, Stacey Tucker, Bill Budenholzer, Larry Lemke, Doris McCall, Richard Schademann, Jason Martin

Excused Absence: Pam Statler







- Welcome and Devotion
 - Wondering what really happened to a group of people that were disciples or effected by Jesus's ministry
- Confirm approval of meeting minutes from February 2020 meeting
 - Motion made, seconded, and approved
- Synod Activity Opportunities
 - Synod Assembly June 4th – 6th
 - Renaissance hotel by the airport
 - Volunteers will be needed
- Pastor's Report
 - Attended the Ferguson Ministerial Alliance meeting – 14 people in attendance
 - Guest Speaker discussed the Census and the importance of it – Pastor Larry handed out a sheet with information about the importance of the census
 - In need of a Ferguson Representative to go to different meetings in Ferguson such as council meetings and others
 - Event at Savoy on the 12th of March – Ferguson: Where we Are Now
 - Easter Sunrise Service on Easter Morning – 6:30 am
 - March 21st – Teen Toolkit Summit at the YMCA
 - Discussed the Coronavirus and ideas for service such as verbal passing of the peace and not drinking out of the chalice (intinction and small chalice's only)
- Review proposed changes to facility rental policy document
 - Discussion about increasing the security deposit and an increase in the custodial fee for clean up
 - Motion made to approve the new facility rental policy document as it is written with revisions if necessary, seconded, approved
- Team Reports
 - Finance Report – Bill
 - Nothing to report due to technical issues with accounting program
 - Andi's computer was upgraded to windows 10 and Pastor Larry's needs to be updated as well but the computer won't update to windows 10 like Andi's did
 - Got bids on laptops for Larry's use and a docking station – expenditure of no more than \$750
 - Motion made to move forward to replace a new computer for Larry not to exceed \$750, seconded, approved
 - Member Care Ministry – Richard
 - Not much to report
 - Meeting postponed until April

- Will discuss who needs to stay on the roll and who are considered no longer members
 - Want to come up with a plan for more visits to homebound members
- Worship – Pr. Larry
 - Discussed Lent, Holy Week, and Easter
 - Foot washing on Maundy Thursday
 - Journey to the Cross
- Education – Jason
 - 1st session of Seeking Shalom was March 1; the 2nd is March 15th
- CDC Support – Kristen
 - Janine’s last day is March 17th – having a luncheon for her during the lunch hour at the CDC
 - Applicants still coming in for the director position and interviews will commence when Pam is back and recuperated from her surgery
- Strategic Planning – Pam
 - Larry reported – almost there regarding the planning team
 - Once team is in place, a meeting will be held to discuss what comes next
- Service/ Community – Stacey
 - Easter Breakfast was discussed and looking for volunteers to help set up and clean up, serve, and provide food
 - Discussed people coming in and educating people on different things inside the community
 - Murder Mystery dinner coming up June 27th
- Property – Pam/ Johnnie
 - Justin getting bids to get the parking lot resealed or paved
- Personnel
 - No Report – Still need a volunteer to step up to take on this HR task
- Hospitality – Doris
 - We are forever running out of things in the little kitchen
 - Linn Moore is taking inventory of the needs in the little kitchen and will work on replacing things as needed
- Council Retreat – March 21st at 9AM, finish by 2pm
 - Cancelled – to be rescheduled
- Voter’s Meeting – March 22nd
 - Packets are available for pick up
- Next Meeting Date – April 14th
- Closing Prayer
- Adjourned 8:15pm



Zion Lutheran Church

April Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9:30am-Worship	30	31	1 6pm-Worship Online	2  A Tucker	3	4
5 Palm Sunday 9:30am-Worship Online	6  A Copeland	7	8	9 Maundy Thur. 6pm-Worship Online	10 Good Friday 12pm-Worship Online	11
12 Easter 9:30am-Worship Online	13	14	15  R Calhoun	16	17	18
19 9:30am-Worship Online  D&C Vogelsang	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:30am-Worship Online  E Devenport	27  R Harrison	28	29	30	1	2

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**Celebrating
God's Grace**

April 2020

Zion Leaders

Congregation Council

Pastor	Larry Lemke
President	Pam Statler
Vice President:	Stacey Miller
Secretary:	Kristen Kinney
Treasurer:	Bill Budenholzer
Member At-Large:	Doris McCall
Member At-Large:	Johnnie Tucker
Member At-Large:	Jason Martin
Member At-Large:	-

Member Care Ministry

Richard Schademann
Carole Herrmann
Dorothy Kaiser
Doris McCall
Deborah Balestier
Pat Martin

Committee Chairs

Finance	Pam Statler
Property	Johnnie Tucker
CDC Support:	Janet Schaper
Stewardship:	Pam Statler/Gail Voss
Worship	Gail Voss
Education	Jason Martin
Personnel	Ara Tess
Nominating	Gail Voss/Stacey Miller

Organizations

Fellowship:	Robert Negwer
Altar Guild:	-
Hospitality	Doris McCall

Team Leaders

Worship	Gail Voss
Community Outreach	Dott Kaiser/ Doris McCall
Service	Pam Statler/Stacey Miller

Team Members:

Worship Team

Gail Voss*
Kristina Oswald
Nyokia Robinson
Norma Wolz
Doris McCall

Community Outreach Team

Dorothy Kaiser*
Doris McCall*
Bill Budenholzer
Linda Lemke
Bob Oliver
Richard Schademann
Janet Schaper
Ara Tess
Faith Tucker
Johnnie Tucker
Deb Murrish

Service Team

Pam Statler*
Stacey Miller*
Sue Dunham
Justin Kinney
Kristen Kinney
Linn Moore
Annis Tucker
Dawn Tucker