



Zion Lutheran Church

The Tidings

April 2022

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We continue the final walk with Jesus to the cross this week. All in person worship services will be live-streamed and recorded. May we open our hearts and minds to Jesus' outpouring of love and sacrifice for each of us.

Palm Sunday

Worship at 9:30 AM

Maundy Thursday

Worship at 6:30 PM

Good Friday

Open Meditation from 12:00-3:00 PM

Worship at 6:30 PM

Easter Sunday

Worship at 9:30 AM



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facebook.com/zionlutheranferguson

and click  .



Lost Things

I just completed my Monday Daily Devotion and it was about the 15th chapter of Luke. But it is about more than just “Lost Things”; it is about God’s reaction to them. Lost people matter to God, and if they matter to God, I’m guessing maybe we ought to pay attention. What d’ya think?

It is easy to say, “Yup, I got it!”, but then, what do we do about it? That reminds me of the Children’s Message where we talked about making sure that “We Walk the Talk with our children.” And it is more than that, isn’t it? In all that we do, we can’t let our many, many thoughts about our own feelings and concerns keep us from doing what God is asking us to do.

God is asking us to get out of our comfort zone and do the work that he is asking us to do. I’m amazed at the need that is out there in our world, our country, our state, our county, and our community. Yesterday at church, we read the Values that helped us determine our Vision and Mission, which can be found weekly on the back page of the Sunday worship bulletin.

The last of the six Values says, “By God’s grace, together we go into the world to love, serve, and make disciples.” What does living out that value look like? That question is one for every one of us to answer. Each of us is different. Some of us are introverts, some of us are extroverts, some of us are left brained, some of us are right brained, some of us like change, some of us don’t like change, and the list goes on and on.

Zion made some bold decisions in the last five years, some that our President Pam Statler talked about in her article in this month’s Tidings. Some have been very bold, and in every case, God was leading us. Yes, the pandemic slowed things down a bit, but we have still moved forward trying new and different things with our ministries.

I don’t know what God has in mind for us, but I do know that it will take some dedicated Zionites to make it all happen. People are hurting and crying out for our help. Ministry opportunities abound.

So, as we go forward, we will continue to pray for our future, a prayer that has been with us since the beginning of our adventure together:

“O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

God is good and full of GRACE!

Blessings & Peace to You,
Pr Larry



April Birthdays

2nd Amber Tucker
26th Elliot Devenport
27th Roberta Harrison

April Anniversaries

19th Doug & Cindy Vogelsang

Easter Flowers



Please help us celebrate Easter on April 17th with an explosion of color by loaning us some of the flowering spring bulbs and plants that you purchase for your own garden. Please bring your labeled plants to church during office hours 9am to 3pm Holy Week. There will be a table in the hallway across from the church office. You may take your plants home after Easter service. Thank you!

5 Minute Bell

A gentle reminder that the bell rung 5 minutes before worship is a time to settle down and quietly prepare for the service.

Some members have expressed a concern that talking/noise during those 5 minutes is a distraction for them. You are encouraged to be considerate of others and limit your conversations to before the bell and after the service, thank you! – Kristina Oswald

Good Friday Meditation

The worship team invites you to set aside a time to reflect and meditate in the church sanctuary on Good Friday, April 15 from noon to 3 pm. Please continue to follow Zion's mask and social distancing policy.

Worship Server Volunteers Holy Week

We are looking for some volunteers to help out during worship for Holy Week. For Maundy Thursday, we are in need of an assisting minister, a lector, and two ushers. Good Friday, we would like to have two readers, two ushers, and two people to help strip the altar. Please contact the church office if you are available to help out for either or both of these services.

Ferguson Easter Sunrise Service

You are invited to come and celebrate Easter at the annual 2022 Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service, Sunday, April 17th at 6:30 AM at the January-Wabash Memorial Park, located at January Ave. and North Florissant Rd.. The service will be held outside on the west side of the lake. Bring your own chair if desired. Giving a brief meditation for the informal service will be The Rev. Kerry Allison, recently installed at First Ferguson Presbyterian Church. Clergy from various churches and ministries in Ferguson will also participate.

As the numbers for COVID decrease, masks and social distancing are optional, but all are asked to respect those who still find these precautions necessary due to underlying health conditions or protecting unvaccinated children.

This special service is sponsored by the Ferguson Ministerial Alliance. A free-will offering will be received for PAKT which benefits the Ferguson Community.

A Message from the President

Dear Zion Family,

I've been writing each month about ministries that Zion is involved in or getting involved in. This month I thought about how much has changed since I joined Zion almost 20 years ago.

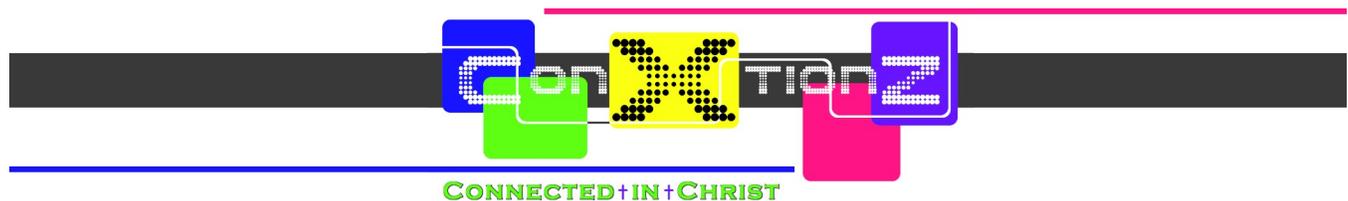
When you look at the physical space we have, you realize it is quite a lot. The "little church" was unused once the CDC moved up to be completely in the lower level of the church in April 2009. Then God led us to a relationship with All Among Us and a lease was signed with them in 2017. What a relief to not have an empty building on our campus and to share that building with an organization who is helping women gain long-term self-sufficiency and emotional health.

Then in 2020 we were faced with how to use the space in our lower level and God gave us another opportunity. We were able to share our space with a new congregation who wanted to worship and serve in Ferguson. We signed a lease with Woke Bridge Community Church in August 2021. We hope to get to know them better soon! Look for an opportunity to share a meal with them early this summer, hopefully.

It is not always easy to start "ventures of which we cannot see the ending" but we have done that these last five years in order to use all of our buildings to serve our God and love our neighbors.

Blessings!

Pam 



The return of ConXtionZ is almost here! Tell your friends, neighbors, and family that we will meet Friday, April 22nd at 6:30 pm on the patio at Zion. Join us then for worship, conversation, and snacks. We are so excited to gather again outside to praise God and connect with each other. We have been using this time to investigate new ideas, so come see what we are doing now.

Laundry Love

Observation Opportunity

I spoke with Mary Duba from Holy Communion Episcopal Church about their first fully indoor Laundry Love (LL) session since the beginning of COVID! Mary is quite excited about it. They would love to have us come this month to observe. If you are interested, please mark Tuesday, April 19th from 6 to 8 PM on your calendar to observe their LL ministry at Classic Coin Laundry located at 7200 Balson Ave. in University City.

Some information about Holy Communion's LL Ministry...

- Third Tuesday of each month, 6 to 8 PM.
- Spend between \$400 and \$600 each month out of church budget and serve approximately 40 people. Many are repeat customers with whom they have formed relationships. Sounds heavenly, doesn't it!
- Advertised in laundromat, U. City library, Schnucks, other stores, etc.

Please let me know if you plan to attend by Thursday, April 14th. Also, if you'd like to carpool please, let me know that as well. Thanks!

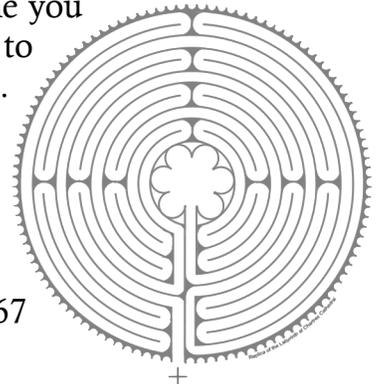
-Linda Lemke

Labyrinth

Last month a paper labyrinth was included in the newsletter with suggestions on how you might use it to deepen your faith practice during Lent.

Here is a little history. During the Middle Ages (medieval times) labyrinths began to appear on church walls and floors around 1000 AD. The most famous was set in the floor of the Chartres Cathedral in France in the early 1200's and that is the one you have. As a person walks the path to the center, it is an opportunity to meditate on the life, crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. Christians were expected to make a pilgrimage to the holy land, but such a journey would not be possible for most people so walking the labyrinth was a way to make a pilgrimage. (Information from Bill Budenholzer and Gail Voss)

If you would like to walk the labyrinth at Zion UCC on N. Hwy 67 in Florissant, please contact Gail Voss at 314-780-7863.



Thank You



A big Thank You! to St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Pontiac Michigan, for their very generous gift of worship materials including over 50 ELW hymnals (the ELCA's most recent hymnal), two accompanist's music books, as well as the altar missal. St. Andrew Lutheran, closing its doors at the end of 2021, has opened new doors and windows for Zion. God is good and full of grace!

Lutheran Resale Shop

We are looking for volunteers for our semi-annual change-over on April 4th, 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM. You will sit or stand and put clothing on hangers. Change-over is always an enjoyable day for all of us. Consider coming and bringing a friend. Bring your sack lunch. We are at 6701 W. Florissant across from Rally's. Questions? Call the Shop at 314-389-9970.

Feed My Starving Children



Thank you to everyone who participated and bought tickets for this spring's FMSC Raffle! We are completely sold out!

For those of you lucky ducks who bought tickets, the drawing will be Sunday, April 3rd at 4:00 PM on Zoom.

The FMSC Mobile Food Pack is finally coming back this July 8th-9th! It will take place at Lutheran Church of the Atonement and there will be multiple shifts to choose from. Registration opens on June 1st at 8:00 AM. Make sure to mark your calendars!

2021 Contribution Range Report

Zion is fortunate to have many generous members, and other individuals, that contribute financially to support our mission. The following table is an effort to show the giving range for budget related contributions, which includes loose offerings and special envelopes such as Birthday, Lent, Easter, Christmas, etc. Zion has 18 sets of contribution envelopes and about 47 contributors with 3### numbers in use, this includes 16 that use EFT.

Contribution Range Report January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Contribution Range	# of Contributors	Total Given	Avg. per Contributor
0 – 0	8	0	0
.01 – 50	3	67	22
50.01 – 150	3	322	107
150.01 – 500	9	2,718	302
500.01 – 1,000	11	7,682	698
1,000.01 – 1,500	6	7,075	1,179
1,500.01 – 2,500	6	11,040	1,840
2,500.01 – 5,000	7	22,262	3,180
5,000.01 – 10,000	1	7,400	7,400
10,000.01 – and up	7	129,287	18,470
Total	65	\$187,853	\$3,296

This does not include contributions made for:

ELCA/Central States Synod	10,131
Property Maintenance	14,598
Future HVAC System	2,595
Memorials for Individuals	1,305
All Among Us	1,886
Good Samaritan Fund	680
Feed My Starving Children	1,400

We are thankful for your past support, and ask if you can consider moving up to the next “giving range.”

Zion Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – 6:30PM (Zoom Meeting)

In attendance – Pam Statler, Pastor Larry Lemke, Doris McCall, Jan Roevekamp, Kristen Kinney, Johnnie Tucker, Bill Budenholzer, Stacey Miller; Absent: Jason Martin

- **Welcome and Devotion**

- Genesis 15 – “Do not be afraid; I am your shield, your reward will be very great”
- Lord reckoned to him because he believed
- Do we believe when we hear God say things? – Trust in God’s promises

- **Confirm Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 2022 Meeting**

- Motion made to approve meeting minutes, seconded, and approved

- **Pastor’s Report**

- Ferguson Ministerial Alliance met 3/8
 - Nothing major to report – Mayor, Chief, and council people came
 - Discussed ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act
 - Saint Louis County getting a large sum of money and non-profits can apply for a grant – Money from COVID relief – might be beneficial to look into it and input ideas on the best way for the money to be spent
- Easter Sunrise Service – 6:30am at January Wabash Park
- VBS at Immanuel will be happening this summer – dates unknown – Education team will be looking into it

- **Space Sharing Update, if any**

- Have still been meeting regularly
- Wanting to do something with them when the weather gets nicer – Maybe a meal – looking at a Saturday lunch in June

- **Zion’s Bus – Transportation Needs**

- Bus has been sold - \$1,500 recorded to miscellaneous income

- **Synod Assembly – June 9th – 11th in Olathe, Kansas (late afternoon Thurs thru Noon Saturday)**

- Looking for delegates – male and a female

- **Mask Conversations**

- STL County lifted the mandatory mask mandate
- Motion made to make masks optional for fully vaccinated people with no other changes to the worship service at this time – communion will still be held individually in the pew and social distance will be maintained, seconded, approved, one abstained

- **Team Reports**

- Worship Team – Pastor Larry/ Doris
 - Very exciting things happening, and the team has been doing amazing things
 - Trying to continually look at everything and how to make it new or different for the next year
- Member Care Ministry – Doris
 - Did not meet before this meeting – set to meet 3/10
 - Looking at some inactive members – recommendation coming from Pastor to send a letter and remove from membership roster

- Discussed members and their current needs
 - Property – Pam/ Johnnie
 - Nothing to report
 - Treasurer Report – Bill
 - Income of \$9,720 for the month of February- includes \$1,500 from the bus
 - Investments are down, but still doing well
- **Strategic Goal Reports**
 - Financial Sustainability – Pam
 - Nothing new to report; next meeting 3/9/22
 - Still planning to look at Scholarship Fund
 - Community in Unity (Partnership/Outreach) – Stacey
 - Meeting 3/10/22
 - Working on a fundraiser for Laundry Love – quarters
 - Donated 2 meals for 3 or 4 months for the Warming Center – nothing for March currently, but will maintain contact
 - Discussed God’s Helping Hands and how Zion can help out there as well
 - Education and Faith Formation – Jason
 - No report
 - Alternative Worship – Kristen
 - No meetings in March or the first part of April – will worship again after Easter
 - Working on new ways engage people and keep up with engaging conversations
 - Hoping to get outside in April
- **Shout Outs for people sharing talents and time**
 - Gail Voss – everything she does for the worship team and everything she does for Zion as a whole
 - Annette, Carolyn, Jack, Bob Oliver and Bob Kemper for their music
 - The members of the Alternative Worship team who have been leading the conversations on the Zoom nights
 - To everyone who participated in the devotional booklet for Lent and for Andi for sending it in an email form so people can pass it along and for putting it all together so beautifully.
 - Shout out to Deb Murrish for folding the frogs for the last Alternative Worship session
 - Shout out to Bill Budenholzer for coming up with the idea of Shout Outs at the end of Council Meetings
- **Live Streaming**
 - Elite has come out to diagnose the sound problems and recommended a new sound board. It has been ordered but is on backorder.
 - Live stream might sound “off” due to this when watching it – can hear voices that have microphones well, but can’t hear piano or music as clearly
- **Next Meeting Date – April 5th due to April 12th being Holy Week**
- **Closing Prayer**
- **Meeting adjourned – 7:45pm**

Zion Lutheran Church

April Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:30am-Worship	28	29	30	31	1	2  A Tucker
3 9:30am-Worship	4 1pm-Worship Team	5 6:30pm-Council	6 10am-Bible Discussion 6:30pm-Mid-Week Lent Zoom	7 10am-Member Care	8	9
10 Palm Sun 9:30am-Worship	11	12	13 10am-Bible Discussion	14 Maundy Thur 6:30pm-Worship	15 Good Fri 6:30pm-Worship	16
17 Easter Sun 9:30am-Worship 	18	19  D&C Vogelsang	20 10am-Bible Discussion	21	22 6:30pm-ConnectionZ	23
24 9:30am-Worship	25 Tidings Deadline	26  E Devenport	27 10am-Bible Discussion  R Harrison	28	29	30

Zion Lutheran Church

Serving on Sundays in Apri

	Apr 3	Apr 10	Apr 17	Apr 24	May 1
Pastor	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke	T Reyes	L Lemke
Music Accompanist	C Rock	A Mayhew B Kemper	C Rock	A Mayhew	C Rock
Assisting Minister	P Statler	P Herrmann	R Schademann	N Wolz	P Statler
Lector	A Martin	Li Lemke	S Miller	L Moore	D Tucker
Children's Message	N Wolz	L Lemke	G Voss	N Wolz	L Lemke
Ushers	G Voss J Roevekamp	D Kaiser L Wolk	Li Lemke J Tucker	G Voss J Roevekamp	D Kaiser L Wolk
Altar Guild	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	J Stoverink T Harkins
Video Streaming	B Budenholzer	B Budenholzer	B Budenholzer	TBD	N Wolz

* Scheduled servers are subject to change at the discretion of organization leaders.

If you have a schedule conflict, please inform the Church office of any changes or schedule swaps.

Zion Lutheran Church
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**Celebrating
God's Grace**

April 2022

Zion Leaders

Congregation Council

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

Member Care Ministry

Doris McCall*
Ron & Wanda Devenport
Dorothy Kaiser
Richard Schademann
Deborah Balestier
Carol Tillmann

Committee Chairs

Finance	Pam Statler
Property	Johnnie Tucker
Stewardship:	Pam Statler
Personnel	Ara Tess
Nominating	-

Organizations

Fellowship:	Robert Negwer
Altar Guild:	-
Hospitality	Doris McCall

Team Leaders

Worship	Gail Voss
Service & Community	Stacey Miller
Education	Jason Martin
Alt. Worship	Deb Murrish

Team Members:

Worship Team

Gail Voss*
Kristina Oswald
Nyokia Robinson
Norma Wolz
Doris McCall
Bill Budenholzer

Community in Unity Team

Stacey Miller*
Pam Statler
Bill Budenholzer
Linn Moore
Doris McCall
Sue Dunham
Deb Murrish
Kristen Kinney
Nikki Tucker
Annis Tucker
Dorothy Kaiser
Justin Kinney
Richard Schademann
Linda Lemke
Ara Tess

Education Team

Jason Martin*
Norma Wolz
Stacey Miller
Linda Lemke
Andi Martin

Financial Sustainability Team

Pam Statler*
Bill Budenholzer
Paul Herrmann

Alternative Worship Team

Deb Murrish*
Andi Martin
Jason Martin
Kristen Kinney
Christine Walters
Bill Budenholzer
Pam Statler
Gail Voss