

April 1, 2022

Zion Connection

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Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

We're all about helping you get connected -

With one another, with your faith, with the greater church,
and with opportunities to serve our community & beyond.

Holy Week Services at Zion

All services will be conducted in-person with [livestream](#) provided.

Holy Week is a very special and sacred time in the church year, a time in which Christians all over the world remember and celebrate the last week of Jesus' earthly life.

Palm Sunday - April 10th @ 11:00am

When Christ entered Jerusalem as a victorious king, he welcomed the praise of the people because he was indeed their king. As king, he would face the enemies of sin, death, and Satan by dying for the people. His death would bring spiritual victory to all those who believe in him.

Maundy Thursday - April 14th @ 12:00pm (corrected time)

Our worship on Maundy Thursday leads us to remember the Thursday of Holy Week when Christ instituted the Lord's Supper (Communion), washed the feet of His disciples, and gave a new commandment of love.

Good Friday - April 15th @ 12:00pm (corrected time)

We remember the death on the cross of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, for our sins. Knowing that his death is payment in full for all we've done wrong, we can look forward with joy to Easter and Jesus' resurrection.

Church Calendar

Weekly Worship Service -
11:00am - In-person and via
livestream ([Link](#))

Men's Prayer Breakfast -
Mondays - 8:30am @ Rainbow
Restaurant in Groveland

Pastor's Bible Study via
Zoom - Thursdays @ 2:00pm
(For info, email [church office.](#))

Mah Jongg Fellowship -
Fridays - 1:00pm @ Zion

WELCA Meeting via Zoom -
Mon., April 4th @ 10:00am
Link: [WELCA Zoom Mtg.](#)

Palm Sunday Service - April
10th @ 11:00am - In-person
and via livestream ([Link](#))

Church Council Mtg. - Sun.,
April 10th @ 12:00pm

Maundy Thursday Service -
April 14th @ 12:00pm - In-
person & via livestream ([Link](#))

Good Friday Service - April
15th @ 12:00pm - In-person &
via livestream ([Link](#))

Easter Sunday Worship -
April 17th @ 11:00am - In-
person & via livestream ([Link](#))

Zion Church Family Picnic -
Sun., April 24th @ 12:00pm

(Holy Week Services - cont.)

Easter Sunday - April 17th @ 11:00am

The Easter message for all people is that Jesus is alive, and he wants all of us to have life in heaven forever with him. Jesus' death, which we remembered on Good Friday, has paid the penalty for our wrongdoings. Jesus' resurrection, which we celebrate on Easter, is his proclamation of victory over death.

Before the worship service on Easter Morning, Zion's traditional flowered cross will be out on the front porch of the church. We invite all our Zion family to bring a flower(s) to be added to the cross in joyous celebration of Easter. Something from your home garden or from the store would be perfect. The decorated cross will remain on the porch proclaiming to all who pass by the joyous Easter message -He is Risen! He is Risen,Indeed!

Church Picnic - Food, Fun & Fellowship!

Sunday, April 24th, 12:00pm @ Lake David Park

Pat McCurdy and her team of enthusiastic WELCA helpers are hard at work planning our upcoming Zion family church picnic. We have reserved Pavilion #1 (near the splash pad) for use. The picnic main dish (meat) and cold beverages will be provided for all to enjoy. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish to share (salad, fruit, dessert, etc.) as they are able. Come one, come all, and bring a hungry friend!

News From Our Church Council

At their March meeting, Council began consideration of the following proposed updates to the current guidelines for in-person worship at Zion. Any changes would not be implemented until Easter Sunday, allowing time for members of our Zion family to provide their input and suggestions. Contact Council President Mike Harrass or any of our faithful Council members with your input.

DRAFT Ideas:

- Item 1 - We will encourage worshipers to only do what they are comfortable with and will accommodate concerns as we are able.
- Item 2 - For fully vaccinated worshipers, masks are not mandatory, although encouraged.
- Item 3 - Social distancing will remain in place, i.e., seating will stay every-other row. We will be returning the red hymnals to the pews along with Booklets with Setting 4, and likely not photocopying hymns or complete worship service.

In other business, Council also approved in-person WELCA meetings.



Sunday Scripture Readings

Sunday, Apr. 3, 2022

(Reader: Becky Wehman)

Isaiah 43:16 - 21

Psalms 126

Philippians 3:4b - 14

John 12:1 - 8

Palm Sunday, Apr. 10, 2022

(Reader: Joan Missell)

Isaiah 50:4 - 9a

Psalms 31:9 - 16

Philippians 2:5 - 11

Luke 22:14 - 23:56

Easter Sunday, Apr. 17, 2022

(Reader: Louise Willim)

Acts 10:34 - 43

Psalms 118:1 - 2, 14 - 24

1 Corinthians 15:19 - 26

Luke 24:1 - 12

Sunday, Apr. 24, 2022

(Reader: Rich McCamant)

Acts 5:27 - 32

Psalms 118:14 - 29

Revelation 1:4 - 8

John 20:19 - 31

April Birthdays -

13th - Erik Olesen

14th - John Renn

21st - Jeanne Ferguson

29th - Zac Smrekar

Updated &/or Repeated Information

Reprinted from 3/18/22 edition of *Zion Connection* -

Eastern Europe Crisis - Lutheran Disaster Response

How We at Zion Can Help Through the [ELCA's LDR](#) -

On Feb. 24, Russian forces invaded Ukraine, launching land, sea and air attacks. Millions of civilians fleeing the violence are heading toward Ukraine's western districts and to neighboring countries. According to one report of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, 3 million people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries and over 1 million people are displaced within Ukraine. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter and such basic necessities as food, water and toiletries. Care for people also includes pastoral and psychological support to address the trauma they've endured.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has joined other religious leaders from Europe and around the globe in issuing an [interfaith call for peace](#) in the region.

What we at Zion can do:

- Pray: Please pray for those in Ukraine, Russia, Poland and neighboring countries that have been affected by the crisis in Ukraine. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.
- Give: Your gifts designated for "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region. [Click here](#) to donate online **or** donate via check made payable to Zion and marked "LDR Eastern Europe."