

March 17, 2023

# Zion Connection

547 So. Main St., PO Box 607, Groveland, FL 34736

(352) 429-2960 | [info@zionlutheranfl.com](mailto:info@zionlutheranfl.com) | [Zion Website](#) | 



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.

### Palm Sunday - April 2nd @ 11:00am

On Palm Sunday, we mark Jesus' procession into Jerusalem. Known alternatively as Passion Sunday, the service marks the start of Holy Week and will progressively become more introspective as we consider Christ's looming crucifixion that saves us from sin and death. **For those who are able**, we'll have a short processional with palms from the narthex at the beginning of the service.

### Maundy Thursday - April 6th @ 11:00am

On Maundy Thursday, we are reminded of Jesus' commandment to love one another ("mandatum," from which "Maundy" comes). As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

### Good Friday - April 7th @ 4:00pm

Good Friday worship offers us the chance to reflect upon the lengths to which God will go to tell us we are loved and not forgotten. A contemplative service will create a powerful backdrop to consider our Lord's great sacrifice. As Christ went willingly to the Cross, may we

## Church Calendar

(For more info re: any of these events, [please email the church office.](#))

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

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** -  
Mondays, 8:30am @ Rainbow

**Mah Jongg Fellowship** -  
Fridays, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

**Ice Cream Party for April Birthdays** - Sun., Apr. 2nd

**Holy Week** - Sun., Apr. 2nd  
thru Sat., Apr. 8th

**WELCA Monthly Bible Study & Mtg.** (Hybrid) - Mon., Apr. 3rd - Bible Study @ 10:00am; Meeting. @ 10:45am ([Link](#))

**Easter Sunday** - Apr. 9th

**Church Council Mtg.** - Sun.,  
April 16th @ 12:00pm

## Sanctuary Flowers in March -

Chancel flowers in March are given by Susan Moser in loving memory of Austin Umphries.

---

## Holy Week - (cont.)

open our hearts to the pain and joy of living. **Please bring the nail** which you received earlier in Lent to add to our Lenten cross as a reminder of the pain Jesus experienced to bring healing to all of us.

### **Easter Sunday - April 9th @ 11:00am**

A festive celebration of the resurrection story, we gather with joy to commemorate Christ's defeat of death and our hope of eternal life. Worship resounds with great "Alleluias" as we break the quiet of Lent and proclaim our collective triumph.

**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!

## Attention: Thrivent Members

### **Current Year Choice Dollars Must Be Designated By March 31st.**

Thrivent Choice Dollars lets eligible Thrivent clients with membership, of whom Zion has several, choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year. Choice Dollars are the dollars made available to you from Thrivent's charitable outreach funds. As eligible Thrivent members, you can direct funds to the charity of your choice, including our own Zion Lutheran Church. You can learn more by visiting [Thrivent's website](#) or by contacting our local Thrivent representative, Timothy Smith, at (407) 446-2373 or [timothy.smith@thrivent.com](mailto:timothy.smith@thrivent.com). (Attached to the email with which this *Zion Connection* was sent is a flyer with additional details.)

## Baby Steps Towards Children's Ministry

Thanks be to God! We rejoice that Zion has recently been visited by children! Check out the new kids' ministry basket that is on the small table in the narthex. Inside you'll find activity sheets, books, coloring pages and crayons to make sure our younger visitors feel welcome at Zion. Be generous in distributing them, to kids in worship and also to your friends and neighbors with children. It's a 'baby step,' to be sure, but what a blessing it is to see children among us!

---

## Sunday Scripture Readings

### **Sunday, March 19th**

*(4th Sunday in Lent)*

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalms 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

### **Sunday, March 26th**

*(5th Sunday in Lent)*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalms 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

### **Sunday, April 2nd**

*(Palm/Passion Sunday)*

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14-27:66

---

## March Birthdays

**8th** - Paul Brown

**8th** - Terrence Renn

**13th** - Gail Huntley

---

## Prayer Request List

Intercessory prayer is a meaningful way we can support one another. Our prayers are requested for:

Nalja, Leif, Monika, Malcolm, Dylan, Mike, Bob, Jim, Karen S., Chris, Donald, Ginger, Linnea, Karen M., Kim, Rich, Susan M. and Michael.

**To add a name(s)**, please speak to Pastor, Susan S., or Joy, or [email the church office](#).

---

## Reprinted and/or Updated Articles

---

Reprinted from 03/03/22 edition of *Zion Connection* -

### Lent Mission Project - Well Worth Repeating

The wonderfully generous supply of diapers donated by our Zion family during the Advent season was so greatly needed and so greatly appreciated that WELCA members wholeheartedly agreed the project is well worth repeating this Lenten season. We will be collecting diapers throughout Lent and will deliver them during Holy Week. All diapers will be donated to The Neighborhood Center of South Lake. Our entire Zion family is encouraged to participate by either/or/both:

- Providing packs or boxes of diapers (sizes 4, 5, and 6 are most needed). Diaper wipes are also greatly needed.
- Praying throughout the Lenten season for the families who will be receiving the diapers and the little ones who will be wearing them.

**Note:** To learn more about the mission of TNC, the services provided to clients, and the many and varied ways you can support our neighbors struggling with food insecurity and other challenges, check out TNC's new website: [The Neighborhood Center of South Lake](#).

### Looking Ahead to Easter Lilies

Even as we are just now taking our first steps along our Lenten journey, scheduling challenges require that we look ahead to the beautiful Easter lilies that will once again adorn our chancel area on Easter Sun., April 9th.

Members of our church family are invited to donate an Easter lily in honor, appreciation or memory of a special person or meaningful occasion. The cost for the lilies is \$9.00 per plant. Following the Easter service, all who donated are invited to take their lily(s) home.

#### How to Participate -

Order forms are now available at church. The form is also attached to the email with which this ZC newsletter was sent. Or, you may mail a check made out to Zion with a note detailing the person or occasion you are honoring. **The last day to place your order to ensure your name and commemoration appear on the printed Easter Lily Donation List is Sunday, Mar. 19th.**