
March 31, 2023

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.

Thank You's - Lent and Easter

As we prepare to enter Holy Week on Sunday, it seems appropriate to give our heartfelt thanks to the many Zion volunteers who have worked so hard to ensure a meaningful Lenten journey for us all.

- On Easter morning, our chancel will be overflowing with lilies! **Thank you** to Louise W. and Susan S. for their work in making that happen. **Thank you**, also, to all our wonderful Zion family members who donated the lovely lilies.
- Also on Easter, our bare wooden cross will be transformed into a powerful witness to Christ's resurrection for all who pass by our front doors. **Thank you** to Louise W. for organizing, and **thank you** to all who will be bringing beautiful flowers to add to the cross.
- **Thank you** to all who donated much-needed diapers for our Lenten mission project. The diapers will be greatly appreciated by [TNC!](#)
- And finally, **thank you** to Susan S., Karen M. and all those who have worked long, hot hours to spruce up our front lawn and garden beds for the arrival of spring.

We also thank God for all the wonderful Zion volunteers who serve in our worship ministry throughout the year -

- All those who prepare and/or put away the communion elements on the altar, as well as the elements that members of the congregation use to partake of the sacrament.
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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 (See pg. 3.)

WELCA Monthly Bible Study & Mtg. - Mon., Apr. 3rd -
Bible Study @ 10:00am;
Meeting @ 10:45am

Easter Sunday - Apr. 9th

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

Sanctuary Flowers in April -

The chancel flowers in April are given by John Renn in memory of Helen & William Renn.

Thank You's - (cont.)

- All those who work incredibly hard to provide the wonderful music that we all love so much. This includes the time spent selecting anthems that go along with the readings, the gathering mid-week at the church by our faithful (and very talented!) Zion choir members to rehearse and record all the music heard in every worship service, and the time spent preparing the Wednesday recordings for use with the livestream equipment.
- Rich M. who so cheerfully and patiently serves as the "tall guy" who changes the hanging worship banners. Thanks, too, to all those who help set up the other worship banners that add both visual and spiritual inspiration to our services.
- All those who prepare our welcome bags and those who serve as unofficial greeters to ensure our visitors know they are welcome.
- All those who serve in the tech room ensuring our worship services are available to any and all, no matter where they are worshipping.
- All those who work behind the scenes to make sure our red worship folders and our large-print binders are ready for every service.

Church Women United

Friday, May 5th @ 9:30am (Full Details on Attached Flyer)

Since 1941, members of the [CWU](#) movement have held a vision of Christian unity and prayerful action. CWU was founded as a racially, culturally, theologically, inclusive Christian women's movement to celebrate unity and diversity and work for peace in the world. On Friday, May 5, 2023, the Lake County Unit of CWU will have their annual May Friendship Day at St. Stephen A.M.E. Church in Leesburg. This year's program is entitled "Living a Legacy of Love: Doing God's Work." All are welcome! Questions/Info: [Joan M.](#)

Bishop Eaton Issues Statement on Anti-Transgender Legislation

Following is an excerpt from Bishop Eaton's statement (3/20/23): *I urge us, as people of faith, to love our neighbors, care for the vulnerable and marginalized, and work for justice and equality. We may have differing opinions on "matters related to sexual orientation and gender identity," (FSJ, p. 61) but we must always uphold the dignity and humanity of everyone. These disagreements do not allow us to accept actions that dehumanize, discriminate against or objectify any individual or group. ([Click here to read full statement.](#))*

Sunday Scripture Readings for Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 2nd

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66

Maundy Thursday, April 6th

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10]
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday, April 7th

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1-19:42

Easter Sunday, April 9th

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

April Birthdays

13th - Eric Olesen
14th - John Renn
21st - Jeanne Ferguson
29th - Zac Smrekar

Prayer Request List

Our prayers are requested for:

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

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

Reprinted and/or Updated Articles

Reprinted from 03/17/22 edition of *Zion Connection* -

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 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!