

March 11, 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.

## Farewell to Our Beloved Lennings

### A Fond Farewell to Gary & Maryanne -

For the past several years, our Zion church family has been blessed to have as beloved members, loving friends, and faithful servants, Gary and Maryanne Lenning. On Sunday, February 27th, we celebrated their ministry among us with words of encouragement, feelings of gratitude and hope for the future, colorful balloons, and even some tears as we bade them farewell. Maryanne and Gary have been integral in every aspect of ministry at Zion. Each of our lives and that of our worshiping community have been immeasurably enriched and blessed by their truly countless hours of work and their abundant love and concern for us all. Thank you, Gary and Maryanne, and may God bless you in your new life in Vermont. (A few photos from the celebration are attached to the email with which this ZC newsletter was sent. Thanks to Ann & Dona for the photos!)

### And a Thoughtful Note From Them -

To our Dear Zion friends,

We are so grateful to everyone at Zion for such a wonderful and cheerful send off. We were greeted here in Vermont with a yard full of snow, reminding us of one of the things we will miss about Florida. But Zion is what we will miss most.

With thanks and prayers for all,

Gary and Maryanne

## Church Calendar

**Sunday 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

**Church Council Mtg. -** Sun.,  
Mar. 13th @ 12:00pm

**WELCA Spring Fling -** Sat.,  
Mar. 26th in Winter Park

**WELCA Meeting via Zoom -**  
Mon., Apr. 4th @ 10:00am

**Holy Week -** April 10th - 16th

**Easter Sunday Worship -** Apr.  
17th @ 11:00am

**Zion Church Family Picnic -**  
Sun., Apr. 26th @ 12:00pm

## March Flowers -

March flowers are given by  
Ann Schultz in loving memory  
of her husband, Rick Schultz.

## An Invitation For Lenten Reflection

Salem Lutheran Church in Orlando has started a cycle of Sunday readings in Lent, focused on the gospel of Luke. We at Zion have been invited to join Salem in reading the entire gospel of Luke. A calendar of daily readings has been prepared for the 40 days of Lent (Sundays are always celebrations of the resurrection and are not included in the days of Lent). Each day will include a link to a short video reflection on the day's readings. These reflections include contributions from Salem, several other congregations, and people from around the broader church. Here is the link: [Reading Luke Through Lent](#)

## Looking Ahead to Holy Week

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. Full details will be forthcoming as we journey ever closer to Holy Week. For now, please be sure to mark your calendars for the following special services. All services will be conducted in-person with livestream provided.

Palm Sunday - April 10th @ 11:00am

Maundy Thursday - April 14th @ 1:00 P.M.

Good Friday - April 15th @ 3:00pm

Easter Sunday - April 17th @ 11:00am (with traditional cross of flowers)

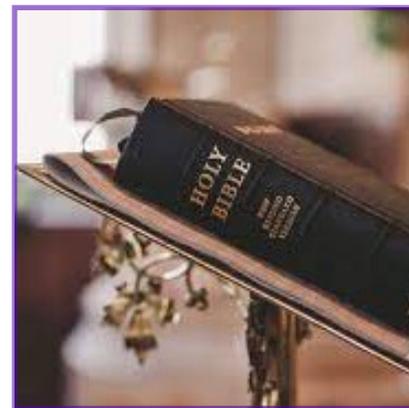
## Enhance Your Charitable Giving

### A Note From Our Treasurer, John Renn

With fixed incomes and inflationary pressures, we may feel challenged about our support of Zion and other charitable groups. For those with IRA's, there may be a way to enhance your giving by minimizing the tax liabilities from withdrawals from the IRA. It's called the "QCD."

IRA holders age 70.5 and up are required to make minimum withdrawals from tax-deferred accounts, often called the RMD (Required Minimum Distribution). But there is a provision to direct the distribution to a qualified charitable organization such that the distribution is not subject to (federal) income tax. This is the QCD or Qualified Charitable Distribution.

If you have not done this before, your financial or tax advisor can demystify this process and show you how easy it is to maximize your contribution. **Disclaimer:** *This is intended only as educational and informational material. It is not financial or tax advice. Please consult a qualified professional for guidance appropriate for your circumstances.*



## Sunday Scripture Readings

### Sunday, Mar. 13th

(Reader: Ann Schultz)

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

### Sunday, Mar. 20th

(Reader: Rae Starke)

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

### Sunday, Mar. 27th

(Reader: Pat McCurdy)

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## Zion Family Birthdays in March -

8th - Paul Brown

8th - Terrence Renn

13th - Gail Huntley

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## Updated &/or Repeated Information

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**Reprinted from 2/25/22 edition of *Zion Connection* -**

### WELCA Spring Fling

Each spring, the women of Heart of FL Conference gather for *Spring Fling*, a fun time of renewing friendships, singing, Bible study, delicious lunch, guest speaker and closing worship with Communion. This year's *Spring Fling* will be held on **Saturday, March 26th, at St. John's Lutheran in Winter Park**. Mark your calendars, and let's fill a car or two for the event from Zion! For more info, please contact [Louise Willim](#).

**Updated info:** A detailed event flyer is attached to the email with which this ZC newsletter was sent. There is still room in our Zion car for YOU!

### Looking Ahead to Easter Lilies

Even as we are just now preparing to take 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 Sunday, April 17th.

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 \$8.00 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 very last day to place your order to ensure your name and commemoration appear on the printed Easter Lily Donation List is Sunday, Mar. 20th.**

### Opportunities for Personal Lenten Reflection - Lenten Calendar

Diane Brown has prepared a Lenten calendar for us to use in support of the [ELCA Hunger Appeal](#). (Thanks, Diane!) This eye-opening and thought-provoking calendar is filled with daily ideas for reflection, giving and action. As Diane explains, "For millions of people, hunger is no journey. It is a daily struggle. In this small way, you are invited to accompany hungry people for the next 40 days by praying for them, learning about the causes of hunger, and resolving to act." **Updated info:** A copy of the calendar is attached to the email with which this ZC newsletter was sent.