



**Northeast Kansas
Lutheran Church Partnership
*LCMS***



APRIL, 2022

From the Pen of the Pastor

As I write this newsletter, my mind is still reeling from the latest news broadcast I've seen on the fighting in the Ukraine...specifically, the senseless slaughter of more than 400 civilians in the bombing of an art school located in Mariupol.

When you consider this senseless murder of non-combatants, alongside the unprovoked and seemingly unbridled aggression of Russia against their neighboring Ukraine, and add to that all the other issues facing the world and its inhabitants...such as the now increasing threat of nuclear war...it is enough to make us cringe. But, we must try not to let the Devil use such events to shake our faith. We must resist Satan's urge for us to wonder why God allows difficult and sometimes even horrendous things to happen; not just the senseless death and destruction of war, but also critical injuries and illnesses, deadly pandemics, natural disasters and other such things. We must instead trust that God has a perfect reason for allowing what He does, even if we don't know specifically 'what' that reason is or when and how He will intervene.

Times like this bring to my mind the story of the Canaanite woman from the area of Tyre and Sidon found in Matthew 15. As I recall this non-Jewish lady's request to the Lord was simple. "Help my little girl," she begged. And what was the Lord's initial response? Silence; the same kind of silence with which He watched the treasury and saw a woman with two mites (Luke 21:1-4)...the same kind of silence Peter heard the night he denied the Lord three times (Luke 22:61)... the same kind of silence he gave Herod and Pilate when on trial (22:66-71)...and the same kind of silence we sometimes hear before He chooses to answer our prayers.

The Lord's silence was as unexpected as the disciple's urging to 'Send Her Away' was predictable – in view of their having the same advice regarding the little children being brought once to Jesus. What was more unexpected was Jesus' verbal response to the woman when He finally spoke: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel," He stated. As we were wondering if we read that right, we read further how when she repeated her plea how He then added," It is not right to take the children's bread (children of Israel) and feed it to the dogs (the Gentiles)."

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<p style="text-align: center;">Partnership Office Address: 613 S. First, Hiawatha, KS 66434 Phone: 785-740-0268 <i>office@nekpartnership.org</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office hours: <i>8 am-1 pm Mon & Wed 8 am-3pm Tues & Thurs</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Member Congregations:</u></p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>First Lutheran, Sabetha 311 Cedar Sabetha, KS 66534 785-284-3566</p> <p>St. Paul, Fairview 110 East Maple Fairview, KS 66425 785-467-8816</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Immanuel, Fairview 656 240th St. Fairview, KS 66425</p> <p>Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha 613 South 1st Hiawatha, KS 66434 785-742-3995</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>First Lutheran, Sabetha 311 Cedar Sabetha, KS 66534 785-284-3566</p> <p>St. Paul, Fairview 110 East Maple Fairview, KS 66425 785-467-8816</p>	<p>Immanuel, Fairview 656 240th St. Fairview, KS 66425</p> <p>Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha 613 South 1st Hiawatha, KS 66434 785-742-3995</p>	<p>Pastor Michael Dunaway Cell 785-285-1714 revdunaway@gmail.com (Day off-Friday)</p> <p>Pastor Ian Kinney Cell 260-348-1891 pastoripkinney@gmail.com (Day off-Saturday)</p>
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Our surprise is genuine. This isn't the Jesus we're used to, the one who excludes no one; yet, here He is saying something we never thought we'd hear. But then another surprise; The Canaanite woman doesn't give up. She retort's, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs from the Master's table." We're as set back by her boldness...as the Lord is pleased by it, for he then compliments her faith and tells her that her daughter is healed!

Dear friends, we marvel at this story, admiring the woman and her perseverance. As a non- Jew, the Jewish culture told her she wasn't worthy; but, she boldly and rightly maintains the culture was wrong. You can almost hear her thoughts. "You say that because I am a Canaanite and not a Jew, that I am not as worthy"... "That just because I am a Gentile, I am not deserving." "That is akin to thinking that wealth trumps poverty, that Russian people trump the Ukrainians, that White people trump black people, that being Black trumps some other color, that Man trumps woman, that Republicans trump Democrats, etc." "Wrong!!!" the woman declares! "There is but one human race...one planet for all to share." "We are all in this together. As Paul says, there is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism. There are no Jews and no Gentiles. There are no male and female. Instead, we are One in Christ. And We are. Peter puts it like this (1 Peter 2: 9-10),

"(But), you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into a wonderful light."

As One we should applaud this faith-filled lady for not giving up. We should strive to emulate her faith and her loving devotion to her child. We should admire her persistence, for it testified to her faith. But most of all, we should ask ourselves, 'What if Jesus hadn't chose to intervene and heal her child?' What if we persist in our prayers and they are not answered? What if when those difficult and sometimes horrendous things happen, despite our pleadings and prayers, and God doesn't seem to hear or intervene? What is our daughter or son even dies?

That, my friends is where real trust comes into play. That is where we remind ourselves that we are not God and that no matter how things look to us, He sees a bigger picture. He is in control and we must remember that in His love and mercy, He will, in His time, make everything right. As we see in this reading, in the end, Jesus will applaud our faith, as He did the Canaanite woman's.

May your faith, when tested, remain strong, as we await the eternal gift it promises.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mike



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: (F) Liam Blum, Kelsey Blum, Aaron Foist; Allan Feek, Kevin Remmers; (I) Tristan Knott, Chad O'Brien, Daniel Wheeler, Paul Reynolds Jr.; (SP) Kyle Vanness, Mary Burkett, Spencer Ernst, Bert Ernst.

Care Facilities & Shut-Ins: (F) Stan Kohlmeier, LaVonne Thieme, Rosemary Scher, Eldon Schwant; (I) Gene Rice; (StP) Carol Bauer, Betty Allen; (Z) Judy Clay, Darlene Covert, Connie Kneisel, Jaynell & Donald Robidoux, Tom Hansen.

Also in our prayers: (F) Evelyn Goodman, Karen Aeschliman, Teagen Lueger, Julie Bauman, Darrell Schuette, Mardell Duvel, Carla Bishop, Roger Riekenberg, Lisa Riekenberg, Curtis Cook, Crystal Kinkler, Gabriel Cook, Melonie Creek, Darrel & Sharon Cohoon; (IMM) Traci Rahe, Fred Meeks, Roger Pusch, Abigail McFall, Janice Backer; (St.P) Wes Duesing, David Bauerle, Dennis Wahlert, Chris Torrey, Doug Barrett; (Z) Paul Edwards, Charles Fritz, Debbie & Andy Trent, Sherry Hartley.

We Remember the blessed saints who now rest in the Lord, (Cora Lee Rahe, Emma Middendorf, Lawrence Thonen, Gerrienne Heim) and we pray for their families that they remember all who die in the Lord live with the Lord. (Romans 6:5)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Apr 1-Josh Smith, Apr 1-Sarah Strahm, Apr 2-Carole Feek, Apr 4-Drake Fries, Apr 4-Debbie Trent, Apr 6-Kim Kleopfer, Apr 6-Becky Meyer, Apr 6-Darrell Bauer, Apr 6-Darlene Covert, Apr 8-Roberta Plattner, Apr 8-Kane Tanking, Apr 8-Kellen Doyle, Apr 8-Lottie Koerperich, Apr 9-Angel Bulk, Apr 9-Caleb Deckinger, Apr 11-Dennis Kleopfer, Apr 13-Kurt Detweiler, Apr 14-Taylor Georg, Apr 14-Conner Deckinger, Apr 17-Greg Davis, Apr 18-Katelyn Poe, Apr 19-Michelle Moreno, Apr 19-Patrick Cochran, Apr 20-Brantley Doyle, Apr 20-Ben Bosworth, Apr 20-Matt Kleopfer, Apr 22-Galen Meyer, Apr 23-Joyce Meyer, Apr 24-Sarah Kleopfer, Apr 24-Mike Brockhoff, Apr 26-Joan Stoller, Apr 28-Saylor Dunaway, Apr 29-Annalee Kleopfer

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Apr 5-Stan & Patty Remmers, Apr 6-Allan & Marcia Spellmeier, Apr 9-Eldon & Rosalie Mellenbruch, Apr 12-Dwight & Vicki Edelman, Apr 13-Jeff & Abby Tanking, Apr 19-Richard & Cindy Schilling, Apr 22-Josh & Selena Smith, Apr 24-Carl & Ruth Swart, Apr 24-Greg & Diane Davis, Apr 28-Donald & Jaynell Robidoux

SUNDAY SCHOOL



We invite all kids to come and join us for Sunday School!
Sunday School meets each Sunday morning at **9:15am** at **First and Zion**.
Sunday School at **St. Paul** starts after the service at **9:30am**.
The Zion Adult Bible Class and the **First Adult Bible Class** meet
on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. Please come join us!!

MEETINGS

JOINT ELDERS – April 11th @ 7:00pm

JOINT COUNCIL – April 18th @ 7:00pm

PARTNERSHIP ADULT BIBLE STUDY

*Wednesday nights following the
Partnership Lenten Service.
Starting April 20th, Bible Study
will start at 6:30pm.*



Partnership Ladies Bible Study

*Tuesday nights at 6:30pm
at Zion Lutheran.
Please join us!*

April

VISIT THE PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE

Our website, (www.neklutherans.org), contains the history of the partnership and partnership churches, a calendar of events, recent happenings and future events.

New pictures are added frequently.

It has past copies of the newsletters and the calendar for you to reference.

Special announcements are also placed on the website.

Go to www.neklutherans.org.

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH:

LYF will meet on the first Sunday of the month unless otherwise posted.



PLEASE HELP TO KEEP US UP TO DATE:

If you have a new phone number, address, or email address, please make sure you send it to the Partnership office.



You can e-mail the office at office@NEKpartnership.org or call 785-740-0268. The office would also like the names and addresses of any members who are at college. Thank You!

SERVERS FOR APRIL

FIRST LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Apr 3rd: Elders–Allan Spellmeier & Scott Schremmer, Acolytes–Jethro Steiner & Tyson Detweiler, Ushers–Mike Bulk & John Feek, Greeters–Patrick Sheik Family, Counters–Vicki Edelman & Jason Steiner

Apr 10th: Elders–Dwight Edelman & Shane Schuette, Acolytes–Hadden Bachelor & Naomi Pearson, Ushers–Les Trentman & Steve Goodman, Greeters–Michael Bachelor Family, Counters–Darrell Schuette & Patty Remmers

Apr 17th: Elders–Patrick Cochran & Kurt Detweiler, Acolytes–Tinner Bachelor & Paycen Schremmer, Ushers–Paige Strahm & Shaun Pearson, Greeters–Shane & Christa Schuette, Counters–Heather Lehwald & Allan Spellmeier

Apr 24th: Elders–Scott Schremmer & Allan Spellmeier, Acolytes–Millie Stoller & Chloe Detweiler, Ushers–Steve Aeschliman & David Bauman, Greeters–Allan & Marcia Spellmeier, Counters–Ken & Joyce Meyer

Altar Guild for April: Karen Kohlmeier, Patty Remmers, Carole Feek

Trustees for April: Ed Hatheway & John Feek

ZION LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Apt 3rd: Elder–Kurt Killman, Acolyte–Remington Killman, Ushers–Leon Wissmann & Richard Clay, Greeters–Killman Family, Lector–Leon Wissmann, Sound System–Leon Wissmann

Apr 10th: Elder–Leon Wissmann, Acolyte–Brady Killman, Ushers–David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen, Greeters–Killman Family, Lector–Jessica Gigstad, Sound System–Derrick VanDusen

Apr 17th: Elder–Scott Gigstad, Acolyte–Corey Dunaway, Ushers–Bob Freese & Larry Walter, Greeters–Gigstad Family, Lector–David Middendorf, Sound System–Bob & Virginia Freese

Apr 24th: Elder–Dale Strobel, Acolyte–Remington Killman, Ushers–Leon Wissmann & Richard Clay, Greeters–Killman Family, Lector–Kurt Killman, Sound System–Dwight Meyer

Altar Guild for April: Cindy Schilling, Barb Shefferd, Lela Middendorf

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Apr 3rd: Greeters– Dennis & Cindy Manche

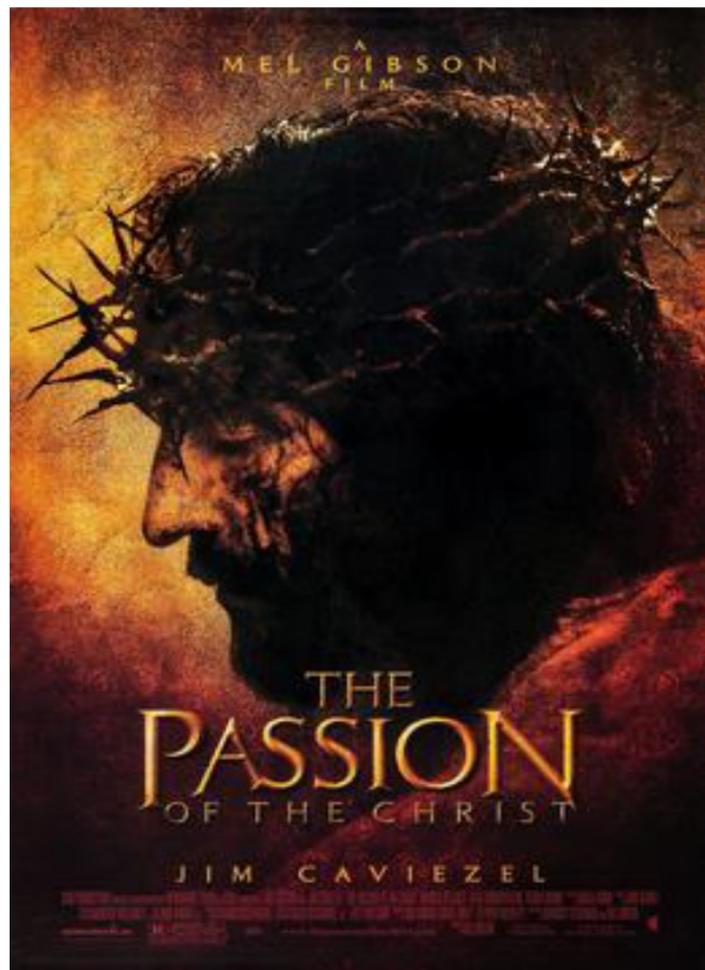
Apr 10: Greeters– Doug & Sarah Kleopfer

Apr 17th: Greeters– Clif & Kathy Heiniger

Apr 24th: Greeters– Dwight & Charlotte Kruse

Altar Committee for April: Kim Kleopfer, Becky Meyer, Jeff Brockhoff

Passion of the Christ
Showing and Discussion
Palm Sunday, April 10th
6-8pm @ First, Sabetha



Movie snacks, babysitting, and beverages provided!

Free Will Offering—to benefit the LYF

14th Annual

FREE

Open to all ages and parents

COME and GO

Fill the
World
with
SONshine

this Easter at New Life Festival

APRIL 16, 2022

~ 2 Hours of Fun ~
10:00-12:00

- Bounce House
- Crafts
- Snacks
- Easter Lessons
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Grab-n-Go Lunch
- Animals
- Games



First Lutheran Church
311 Cedar Street
Sabetha, KS 66534

FIRST LWML

The March 2, 2022 First Lutheran LWML was called to order at 1:30 by Vice President, Lorene Strahm, with 6 members present. Brenda Meyer had the opening devotion, "He Never Changes" taken from the book "By The Way". The Bible study from Lutheran Woman's Quarterly, Winter 2022, was "His Faithfulness to All Generations" telling of God's Love for all generations. Roll call was "something for me" to improve in the new year.

Ruth Swart, secretary, read the minutes from November 10, 2021, the last meeting we had. They were approved as read. Carole Feek gave the treasurer's report. Carole also gave her annual year report. Mites and dues were collected.

A motion made by Kathy Steiner to give \$110.00 to our zone for annual dues, 2nd by Carole. Motion passed. Tami Rutten told of plans for her Sunday school class. The state convention will be in Overland Park, Ks April 22-24, 2022. The spring rally will be hosted by St. Paul's, Fairview, Kansas in April. Kathy made a motion to give "New Life Festival" \$100, 2nd by Tami. Motion passed.

It was announced that our group would no longer collect greeting card fronts, as the postage was too expensive. Our "Best Choices" labels will be given to the preschool.

Several "thinking of you" cards were signed for our "shut-in" members. A beautiful mixed flowers bouquet was given to Ruth from the group from her stay in the hospital. Ruth thanked the ladies.

The Bible study for April will be the first lesson on our Spring quarterly, "Promise, Power, Peace". Closing was saying the League Pledge.

Ruth Swart, Secretary

ST. PAUL DORCAS

The St. Paul Dorcas Society held their March meeting after church in the church basement. President Nancy Manche called the business meeting to order. She read a letter from LCMS to help support the people of Ukraine. She also read a letter from Orphan Grain Train and gave an address to OGT for monetary donations for shipments to Ukraine.

Our NE LWML Zone will be collecting socks and underwear for OGT at the Zone Spring Rally. The February minutes were approved as read. There was no treasurer's report available.

In unfinished business, the Love offering of food will go to the Hiawatha Food Pantry. The spring cleaning date is Saturday March 19, weather pending.

In new business, the youth group is asking our society to provide desserts for the Lenten supper on March 30. Cindy, Leslie, Kathy, Karen, and Nancy volunteered to bring cookies. Serving begins at 6pm.

We discussed hosting the NE Zone LWML Spring Rally on April 9, 2022. Carolyn and Rosalie are providing table decorations. Cindy is in charge of the registration table. The cost is \$5. Nancy will provide morning refreshments. Nancy passed out a list for salads. Pastor Kinney will be our speaker. His topic is Missions through the centuries. We will have an ingathering of socks and underwear. Sharon and or Sarah will provide the music during song breaks.

Our business was concluded and we watched a dvd from OGT. The video informed us of how OGT began in Norfolk, NE, in 1992. It has expanded to 30 warehouses in USA and reaches 65 countries. It is run by volunteers.

We had our society offering and announcements. Next month is LWML mite collection. Kathy Heiniger is the hostess. We sent a card to our dear sister in Christ, Esther Ideker, from Netawaka. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by, Cindy Manche

ZION LWML

The regular meeting of Zion Lutheran LWML was called to order by Lela Middendorf, President, on Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. with 5 members present. Juanita Fritz was welcomed as a new member.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, and the treasurer's report was provided by Diane Davis.

We received a thank you from the Rahe family for Cora Lee's funeral dinner, a thank you from the Lawrence Thonen family for his funeral dinner along with a thank you and donation from Mavis Geiger.

Lela reminded everyone of the Spring Rally at St. Paul in Fairview on April 9, 2022 with registration at 8:30 a.m. The ingathering will be socks and underwear for children and adults to go to Orphan Grain Train. Anne moved and Janette seconded to donate a \$50.00 gift card from Zion LWML to buy socks and underwear, and our members can also contribute socks and underwear.

Six quilts for Orphan Grain Train are ready to tie, and members were encouraged to take some home to tie and then return them to the church.

The next meeting of Zion LWML will be April 10, 2022 at 10:00a.m.

Anne Arnesen, Secretary

CANTATA

The choir of Zion Lutheran Church, Everest, along with several members of the community, (including David & Lela Middendorf from the Partnership) would like to invite you to the performance of the beautiful Cantata, Because He Lives...Amen! The cantata will be at 2:00pm on Sunday, April 10th, at Zion Lutheran Church, 1521 Prairie Road, Everest.



CONFIRMATION

Those being confirmed this year include :

Chloe Detweiler & Naomi Pearson from First, Mylia Rygaard from St. Paul, and Julie Lowe from Zion

Please keep our new confirmands in your prayers that God would keep them ever strong in their faith in Christ.

Question and Answer, April 8th, 7:00pm at St. Paul

Confirmation Day is April 10th.





LWML Spring Rally
April 9, 2022
Fairview Community Center

Registration at 8:30 - \$5.00

Meeting begins at 9:00

Lunch to follow

Guest speaker is Rev. Ian Kinney

Celebrate 80 years of KS LWML with an
in-gathering for Orphan Grain Train.

Socks and underwear for children
and adults. Let's have 80!

LENTEN SCHEDULE – 2022

April 6th: Services @ Immanuel at 7:00pm
(LYF Meal before the April 6th Service at Immanuel - 6:00pm)

April 14th: Maundy Thursday Services @ First at 7:00pm

April 15th: Good Friday Services @ Zion at 7:00pm

PALM SUNDAY-April 10th **Services at All Churches**
LYF Fundraiser – Showing of Passion of the Christ @First 6:00-8:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY: April 17th: Services at ALL Churches

St. Paul Preschool

All the students were so excited to get ready for spring break, mainly because they knew we were putting the new playground in.

Putting up the new playground came with lots of challenges, as the first project came with no hardware or instructions. We did get the grass seeded and some of the equipment put together and it looks really nice so far.

Over break the lockers got new paint and the kids were super excited when they saw them today.

Thank you to the Dennis & Cindy, Galen, Mark, Joey, and Pastor Kinney for all your help with the playground. Thank you to Leslie and Evan for helping paint lockers.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of our wonderful program.



First Preschool

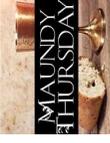
The preschoolers are excited for Spring! We get closer each day as we do our Calendar Time. Some fun activities have included sponge painting lambs, fork painting tulips, and making umbrellas for letter "U".

For the study of letter "V" we did a fun science experiment making a volcano erupt. The kids were excited and fascinated to see the baking soda and vinegar reaction!

Our Bible lessons have been about Jesus Calms a Storm and Jesus Walks on the Water. The kids are also learning several Bible songs.

We look forward to Easter parties and Muffins with Mom this month!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>3 5th Sunday in Lent 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First 9:30 St. Paul Dorcas 9:30 St. Paul Bible Study Elder's mtg. @First 5:30 LYF mtg.</p>	<p>4 9:00 Staff meeting</p>	 <p>5 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:00 Study session for confirmands</p>	<p>6 10:30 Ministerial Alliance 1:30 First LWML 6:00 LYF Meal 7:00 Lenten Service 7:45 Bible Study</p>	 <p>7 Week 1 visits 6:15 AHG Mtg</p>	<p>1 Pr. Dunaway Day Off</p>	<p>2 Pr. Kinney Day Off 9:30 Confirmation Class</p>
<p>10 Palm Sunday Confirmation Day 9:15 Bible Study Zion & First 9:30 St. Paul Bible Study 10:00 Zion LWML</p>	<p>11 9:00 Staff meeting 7:00 Joint Elders</p>	<p>12 9:00 Circuit @Atchison 6:30 Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Holy Thursday  7:00 Maundy Thursday service</p>	<p>15 Good Friday  7:00 Good Friday service</p>	<p>16 10:00 New Life Festival @First</p>
<p>17 Easter </p>	<p>18 Articles Due for Newsletter 9:00 Staff meeting 7:00 Joint Council</p>	<p>19 6:30 Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>20 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>21 Week 3 visits 6:15 AHG Mtg</p>	<p>22 Earth Day Pr. Dunaway Day Off KS LWML District Convention</p>	<p>23 Pr. Kinney Day Off KS LWML District Convention</p>
<p>24 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First - Breakfast @F 9:30 St. Paul Bible Study & Fellowship</p>	<p>25 9:00 Staff meeting</p>	<p>26 6:30 Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>27 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>28 Week 4 visits</p>	<p>29 Arbor Day Pr. Dunaway Day Off</p>	<p>30 Pr. Kinney Day Off 8:00 Zion Men's Group</p>