

THE GUIDING LIGHT

MARCH 2026

Celebrating God as We Serve Others



Monthly Newsletter
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Every Sunday: 10:00 am Worship Service

Second Sunday: 10:00 am Sunday School

Third Sunday: 10:00 am Living Stones Worship

All Sunday morning services are available on Cogeco TV on Sunday mornings as well as our YouTube page and after the service on the Facebook page. YouTube (live streamed), Zion Lutheran Pembroke Facebook, Zion Lutheran Church Pembroke, Cogeco: community channel and broadcasts of previous week's service.



From the Pastor's Pen

During the weeks leading up to Lent the Eastern Synod Bishop offers a yearly retreat for clergy so we can be refreshed before the busy Lenten Season. It is held at Mt. Carmel Monastery in Niagara Falls. There are a couple of Carmelite Monks that still live there. It was used as a boy's school in the past and now a retreat centre with good food.

The Sanctuary in the Monastery is very 'gothic' and the acoustics are incredible. Unfortunately, this year we did not worship in the monastery as much as I would have liked.

Our main lecture topic this year had to do with the ministry of the laity. Some leaders from Martin Luther University College and the Eastern Synod presented "By Living Waters" a new lay ministry program at Martin Luther University College. The program will offer a series of courses for laity in particular areas. The courses are hybrid and/or six weeks in length. They will



From the Pastor's Pen (cont'd)

be starting with four areas of ministry three of them being homiletics/sermon writing, pastoral care, leadership. It is a great way for lay people to do some extra learning. Martin Luther University College can probably learn a few things from the laity too.

During the presentations throughout the week, we gathered in circles with our clergy present and did some exercises together discussing different aspects of the laity. What Pastor Sue and I quickly realized is that we are very blessed at Zion. We are very proud of the community of Zion. Zion is a ministry unlike most churches. The lay involvement – you the people of Zion – is outstanding. We do not have to beg people to do things. People just do it. People trust one another. We support each other. We conduct ourselves with a joyful heart in response to the love shown to us in Christ. The Spirit is ever present.

Having recently published our Annual Report it is my hope that you take some time to read Zion's Annual Report and see just how busy people are. Then pray for the health of our people, continued joy at Zion, and the continued blessing of the Lord.

Respectfully,

Pastor Scott



April - Easter Services:

Palm Sunday March 29th at 10:00 am

Maundy Thursday April 2nd at 7:00 pm

Good Friday April 3rd at 10:00 am

Easter Morning Sunday April 5th 8:00 am and 10:00 am



P.O. Box 531
Pembroke, ON K8A 6X7

January 21, 2026

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Pembroke, ON

Members of Church Council,

If you had the opportunity to go to camp when you were growing up, you know what a powerful, life-changing experience it can be. This year, we are excited to share that that we had over 100 kids come to camp – Children’s Camp, Confirmation Camp and Family Camp. Activities included Bible study, outdoor activities and music, all designed to deepen their connection with God and our community.

Another version of the camp experience is enjoyed each year by our rental and retreat groups – big and small - many of which come back to camp on a regular basis. All these groups share our values of love for nature and respect for the property and our neighbours. We are fortunate indeed to have such friends who are part of our camp family.

To keep the camp experience affordable and our property in pristine (but rustic) condition we receive funding through a variety of programs including donations, sponsorships, grants, rental revenue and fundraising.

We are writing to you, on behalf of the Board, to ask your congregation to participate if you are able in our “60th Anniversary Donation Campaign: Honouring the Past and Funding the Future”. Please find attached a poster for the campaign.

Many thanks for considering our request. If you have any questions I can be reached at lutherlyn.fin@gmail.com or by phone at 613-618-5716.

Alison Burkett

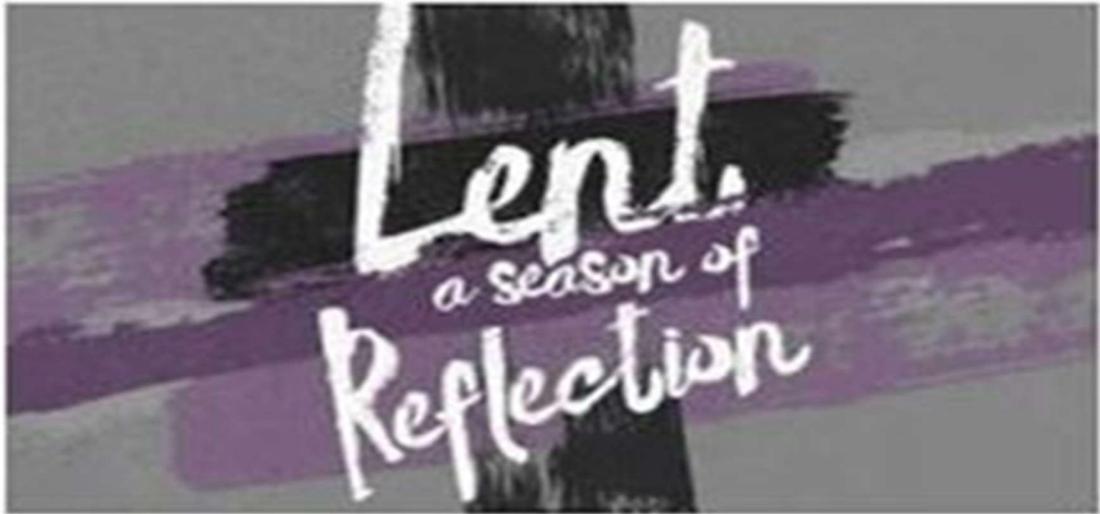
Copy: Annette Gilchrist, Fred Michel, Conrad Knabenschuh
60th Anniversary Donation Campaign Committee

HONOURING THE PAST, FUNDING THE FUTURE



Camp Lutherlyn
60 Years of
Adventure and Growth

Support Our Journey Forward and Donate Today
<https://www.lutherlyncamp.ca/donations/>



Lenten Midweek Services

Wednesday March 4, 11, 18, 25 at 6:30 pm



Lenten Soup and Sandwich Dinners

Wednesday March 4, 11, 18, 25 at 5:30 pm



Are you looking to spend some time having coffee, tea and goodies while sharing conversation with others?

Wednesday March 11th
and
Wednesday March 25th
At 10:00 am

You need not be a member of Zion.
Everyone is welcome.



Food Crafts Story
Games Fun Free!



Join us the first Monday every month.
We begin each night with a meal at 5:30 pm.



Monday March 2
&
Monday April 13

Come for an evening of
so much fun and bring a
friend!

MARCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

SOUP AND SANDWICH DINNERS Soup and Sandwich dinners will continue every **Wednesday at 5:30 pm until March 25th**. Free will offerings will go to those in need.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES will continue every **Wednesday through March 25th at 6:30 pm**. “Theme: *Wade In The Water.*”

WORSHIP & MUSIC Worship and Music will be meeting on **Monday March 2nd at 7:00 pm**.

MESSY CHURCH Please join us for Messy Church on **Monday March 2nd at 5:30 pm** for Food, Crafts, Stories, Games, Fun – FREE! All ages welcome, bring a friend!

RETIREMENT HOME SERVICE Heritage Manor Worship on **March 3rd at 10:00 am**.

COUNCIL MEETING The next Council Meeting will be on **Tuesday March 10th at 7:00 pm**.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026 The World Day of Prayer 2026 is on **Friday March 6th 2025, 2:00pm**, at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 68 Renfrew Street Pembroke.

MORNING SOCIAL Join us on **Wednesday March 11th at 10:00 am** and **Wednesday March 25th at 10:00 am** in the Parish Hall. Come on out for fun and fellowship.

SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS Senior Exercise classes on **Monday Wednesday and Friday at 1:00 pm**. Please make sure to tell your friends and we look forward to seeing you!

MIXED & MENS CHOIRS – Men’s Choir on **Tuesday’s at 7:00 pm** and Mixed Choir on **Wednesday’s at 7:00 pm**.

SENIORS EXERCISE CLASSES Join us every **Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 1:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. Be Sure to Bring a Friend!

HOME COMMUNIONS and HOME VISITS

Do you or do you know someone who may be interested in receiving Holy Communion or a visit from the Pastor? Some people may not be on our pastoral care list but cannot get to church and, if you know of anyone in hospital or are recently deceased, please contact the church office at:

613 732-8792 or contact Pastor Scott 705 313-0333

email: sschellenberger@hotmail.com.

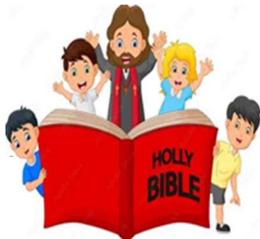


PULSE MINISTRY

consists of three different programs. Every generation is invited to worship and to Messy Church: Messy Church, Youth Group, and worship. The worship Service is called "Living Stones".



Messy Church is another alternative, in addition to Sunday School (not in place of), that is held in the evening once a month. It includes Food, Crafts, Games, Faith Talk, and Fun! It is for all individuals young and old. **The next event is Monday March 2nd 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm.**



Sunday School

Sunday School will be held the second Sunday of every month during regular worship at 10:00 am. Our next Sunday School will be on **Sunday March 8th at 10:00 am.** All children are welcome!



Living Stones The next "**Living Stones**" worship service is on **Sunday March 15th at 10:00 am.** *The regular Holy Communion Services in the sanctuary will happen as well.* The Living Stones service is an intergenerational service. It is in the gym and is led by a praise team. If you have musical gifts you would like to share, please contact Pastor Scott or Pastor Sue. Please bring a canned good to support the food bank.



Morning Social

Join us for our Morning Socials on **Wednesday, March 11th and March 25th at 10:00 am** in the Parish Hall! Come on out for fun and fellowship. Pull up a chair, grab a coffee (or tea) and a snack, and enjoy the company! Bring a friend!



Sunday March 29 – Palm Sunday -10:00 am
Thursday April 2 – Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
Friday April 3 – Good Friday 10:00 am
Sunday April 5 – Easter 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Celebrating God as We Serve Others

Zion Lutheran Church Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 3, 2026 @ 7 PM

Call to order:

Present: Pr. Scott Schellenberger, Terry Hoffman, Tiffany Freeman, Denise Schizkoske, Brent Wolfgram, Jamie MacKinnon, Gerry Vandersleen (Treasurer)

Excused / Absent: Lisa Campitelli, Pr. Sue Nevile,

Opening Devotions: Pr. Scott

- 1: Approval of agenda: Moved: Tiffany / Seconded: Jamie
- 2: Approval of minutes of last meeting: Moved: Denise / Seconded: Tiffany
- 3: Business arising from the minutes. None.
- 4: Correspondence: None

5: REPORTS

- A- Chairs Report: Nothing to report.
- B- Pastors Report: Nothing to report.
- C- Treasurer's Report: Regular offerings are down ~\$1000 compared to the previous year-to-date.

6: Committee Reports

- A. Property: Nothing to report.
- B. Worship and Music:
 - Shrove Tuesday pancake supper planned on February 17.
 - Soup and sandwich suppers planned prior to the mid-week Lenten services beginning February 18.
- C. Social Ministry: Nothing to report.
- D. Pulse Ministry: Skating outing very successful.
- A. Learning: Sunday School is now one Sunday per month. Attendance has been very low so far.

- E. Pastoral Care: Nothing to report.
- F. Social Ministry: Nothing to report.
- G. Cemetery: Nothing to report.
- H. Personnel: Committee has been temporarily suspended.
- I.

7: **Old Business:** None 8:

8: **New Business:**

- 1) The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2026. Karen Gauthier has kindly volunteered to record the Minutes of Meeting.
- 2) The Camp Lutherlyn Board is embarking on their 60th Anniversary Donation Campaign, and has requested Zion and the other area congregations to participate. Notifications will be posted on bulletin boards and the bulletins in the coming weeks.
- 3) Concern has been expressed with respect to the third week of Kid's Camp at Camp Lutherlyn being dropped this coming summer, leaving only two weeks of Kid's Camp for 2026. A letter to express our concern on this matter will be drafted by Pastor Scott, and signed by Tiffany Freeman, and subsequently sent to the Camp Lutherlyn Board of Directors.

Next meeting date: March 10, 2026

Motion to Adjourn: Moved: Denise / Seconded: Jamie

W & M Meeting Minutes - Monday, February 2, 2026

Celebrating God As We Serve Others

Present: Pastor Scott, Gayle Seegmiller, Blaine Sack, Ellen Vandersleen, Koit Rull, Lorraine MacKenzie, Diane Hammel, Joan Lehman

Regrets: Sandra Graham, Cheryl Sack

Welcome and Opening Devotions: Gayle welcomed everyone and Pastor Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Agenda: Addition of Licensing and Technology

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes: Done on-line.

Committee Reports:

Pastor Scott:

- Blaine and I met earlier this month.
- There is a Blended Service on Feb. 15th.
- Feb 18th is Ash Wednesday. Service will be at 7 pm.
- It was decided that we would use Setting 3 from ELW on Sundays during
- Lent.
- We will be using Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm with the theme *Wade in the Water: Living into our Baptismal Covenant* during Lent.
- Prior to each Wednesday service there will be a Soup and Sandwich Supper.
- I will be away Feb 8th to attend the Bishop's retreat. Lay leadership has been arranged.

Blaine Sack: Church Musician

- **Instruments:**
- Both the organ and Yamaha grand piano in the sanctuary are holding tune quite well. Since both were tuned in early December, there is more moisture in the air from the humidifiers that are quietly running under the pulpit and directly inside the organ chamber upstairs.
- The increased humidity should help keep the instruments better in tune during the dry winter months and will also prevent the cracking of any wood.
- Temperature and humidity readings, both downstairs and upstairs, are now being monitored electronically using a new system of sensors and wifi. The readings are recorded in a logbook.

- The Baldwin grand piano on the stage in the Parish Hall was last played on Pageant Sunday during the Potluck lunch (Dec. 21, 2025). It continues to hold its tune well and isn't scheduled for tuning.
- **Worship services:**
- (1) Liturgy/Service music:
 - The liturgy will change to the traditional Setting 3 starting Transfiguration Sunday (Feb. 15), and will continue into the season of Lent.
 - New Offertory music, set to a familiar tune with new words in the ACS supplement, was sung on Feb. 1st and will be used for the next 6 weeks or so.
 - Hymn and song suggestions have been prepared for the month of February.
- (2) Hymn Sings:
 - Hymn sings will continue on the last Sunday of the month, with the next hymn sing planned for Feb. 22nd.
 - The hymn sing in March will probably be scheduled for March 22nd, with Palm Sunday being March 29.
 - Songs and hymns from the new '*All Creation Sings*' supplement will continue to be introduced and learned as part of this pre-service 'sing-a-along'.
- **Choirs/Guest musicians:**
- (1) Choir singing schedule:
 - Feb. 8 - Mixed choir
 - Feb. 15 - Blended Worship Service in sanctuary (Transfiguration Sunday)
 - Feb. 18 - Mixed choir (Ash Wednesday)
 - Feb. 22 - Men's choir (First Sunday of Lent)
- (2) Guest musicians/soloists:
 - During Lent, for our mid-week evening services and regular Sunday worship, special music will be shared by guest instrumentalists and/or vocalists, or by myself on organ or piano, when the choirs aren't singing.
 - Choirs will participate in Holden Evening Prayer with a single leader being either Pastor Scott or a choir member.
- **Other:**
- Special dates to keep in mind:
- March 29, 2025 - Palm Sunday
- April 3 - Good Friday
- April 5 - Easter Sunday

Miscellaneous:

Palm Sunday:

- Gayle will order 125 palms for Palm Sunday.

Licensing:

- Diane shared that June Frost has renewed *SundaysandSeasons*.

Technology:

- Ellen shared that internet connection issues that affected previous recordings have been corrected.
- The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting:

- Monday, March 2, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

Social Ministry Meeting
Minutes Thursday February 12, 2026 @ 1:00 pm

Members Present; Pastor Scott, Pastor Sue, Gayle Seegmiller, Denise Schizkoske, Debbie Sitkiewicz, Karen Gauthier, Kathy Godin, Ellen Vandersleen

1. Ellen welcomed everyone and Pastor Scott opened the meeting with prayer.
2. A motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2025 made by Gayle Seegmiller and seconded by Denise Schizkoske. All in favour.
3. The next Senior Meal is scheduled for Friday May 1, 2026.
 - a. Menu:
 - i. Soup frozen from Lenten suppers
 - ii. Ham with roasted potatoes and vegetables with bun or biscuits.
 - iii. Bean Salad
 - iv. Lemon Delight for dessert.
 - v. We will prepare as per usual. We will begin preparing at 8:00 am. The dessert will be made the day before.
 - b. Deliveries will be in the afternoon.
 - c. Current list stands at 37 members.
4. There is an account called Zion's Food Cupboard: 632.77 which has not been used in the last few years.
 - a. Motion: Moved by: Karen Gauthier. Seconded by: Debbie Sitkiewicz. To purchase 3 - \$20.00 gift cards from No Frills and move the remainder funds into the Outreach funding account. All in favour.
The gift cards will be left in the office for use as needed if someone were in need, we would have something to give.
 - b. Debbie will pick up a resource sheet from the Food Bank listing the places and services available for people needing help for various reasons. This resource sheet will be left in the office for reference.
5. Messy Church is working out well with 2 teams of people for the kitchen alternating preparing meals every month. Pastor Sue gets the crafts organized and the worship. Justine Mutlow organizes the games. February Messy Church had about 30 in total. The last session of the season will be in May. Susan's team will be preparing March and April's meal and Ellen's team the last one of the season in May.
6. Friends of Creation CLWR. Ellen reported that ZLW is planning a presentation of CLWR'at their June meeting and that all members will be invited. Pastor Sue and Pastor Scott reported that Bishop Carla had recently returned from the Chad area and had seen the restoration project in action. Pastor Sue suggested that we invite Bishop Carla to Zoom in to give the presentation if she was willing and available. We all thought this was a great idea. Pastor Scott will reach out to Bishop Carla.

7. The next Wednesday Morning Socials will be March 11 and 25. Susan Dupuis and Karen Gauthier are running the program. They will break for summer. There is usually an average of 15 people in attendance however on Feb 11 no one came.
8. Garage Sale booked for Saturday April 25. *** Where the proceeds would be directed was not discussed. A suggestion is: Please let me know what you think. Thanks.
 - a. The proceeds will be directed to Friends of Creation and The General Fund. 50/50
9. Other Business:
 - a. Sunday February 15 there will be a Valentine's Extravaganza in the parish hall following worship. There will be silent auction, extra treats out for coffee hour and games on the tables. The proceeds will be given to the Food Bank.
 - b. Jan Vandersleen donated 4 dozen roses to be given out to all the women at the end of worship.
10. Next meeting: September 22 @ 1:00pm
11. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Worship Assistants

March 1 – Susan Dupuis
March 8 – Ella Smith
March 15 – Paul Merredew
March 22 – Krista Smith
March 29 – Lorraine MacKenzie

Sexton

March 1 – Tyler Smith
March 4 – Karen Gauthier-Lenten Service
March 8 – Don Boldt
March 11 – Diane Hammel-Lenten Service
March 15 – Hunter Denney
March 18 – Tyler Smith-Lenten Service
March 22 – Karen Gauthier
March 25 – David Lehman-Lenten Service
March 29 – Diane Hammel

Counters

March 1 – Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier,
David Lehman
March 8 – Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier,
David Lehman
March 15 – Gerry Vandersleen, Jean & Kevin Rutz
March 22 – Gerry Vandersleen, Jean & Kevin Rutz
March 29 – Diane Hammel, Pamela Duplessis,
Wilmer Verch

Ushers

March 1 – Kevin Rutz, Ryan Parcher
March 8 – Peter & Patti Wegner
March 15 – Doug & Pauline Malliff
March 22 – Pamela Duplessis, Cindy Thrasher
March 29 – Allen Rose, Cheryl Sack

Altar Care

March 1 – Sandra Graham
March 8 – Maria Denney
March 15 – Wendy Schutt
March 22 – Kathy Godin
March 29 – Don Boldt

Projector Operators

March 1 – Gerry Vandersleen
March 8 – Philip Vandersleen
March 15 – Sherri Phannenhour
March 22 – Rick Gerundin
March 29 – Philip Vandersleen

Video Recorders

March 1 – Ryan Schmidt
March 8 – Ryan Schmidt
March 15 – Zac Phannenhour
March 22 – Korbin Smith
March 29 – Korbin Smith

Sound Operators

March 1 – Noah Schmidt
March 8 – Noah Schmidt
March 15 – Todd Phannenhour
March 22 – Brian Smith
March 29 – Brian Smith

Coffee Hour

March 1 – Debbie & Stan Sitkiewicz
March 8 – Kathy Hoffman, Susan Dupuis
March 15 – Denise & Barry Schizkoske
March 22 – Dornetta Mau, Wilmer Verch
March 29 – Lorraine MacKenzie,
Michael Laabs

MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 am Worship Service with Holy Communion	2 8:30 am & 6:30 pm Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 5:30 am Messy Church 7 pm Healing Vets 7 pm Worship & Music Mtg	3 9:30 am & 6:30 pm Tai Chi 10 am Heritage Manor Worship 7 pm Men's Choir	4 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 5:30 pm Soup & Sandwich 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7 pm Mixed Choir	5 9:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Healing Vets	6 1 pm Exercise Class 2 pm World Day Of Prayer at Holy Trinity Anglican Church	7
8 10 am Worship Service with Holy Communion & Sunday School	9 8:30 am & 6:30 pm Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 7 pm Healing Vets	10 9:30 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Council Mtg. 7 pm Men's Choir	11 10 am Morning Social 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 5:30 pm Soup & Sandwich 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7 pm Mixed Choir	12 9:30 am Tai Chi Service 7 pm Healing Vets	13 1 pm Senior Exercise Class	14
15 10 am Worship Service with Holy Communion and Living Stones Service	16 8:30 am & 6:30 pm Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 7 pm Healing Vets	17 9:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Men's Choir	18 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 5:30 pm Soup & Sandwich 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7 pm Mixed Choir	19 9:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Healing Vets	20 1 pm Senior Exercise Class GUIDING LIGHT DEADLINE	21
22 10 am Worship Service with Holy Communion	23 8:30 am & 6:30 pm Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 7 pm Healing Vets	24 9:30 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Men's Choir	25 10 am Morning Social 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 5:30 pm Soup & Sandwich 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7 pm Mixed Choir	26 9:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Healing Vets	27 1 pm Senior Exercise Class	28
29 10 am Palm Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion	30 8:30 am & 6:30 pm Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 7 pm Healing Vets	31 9:30 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Men's Choir	April 1 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 7 pm Mixed Choir	2 9:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm Healing Vets	3 10 am Home School Group 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 10 am Good Friday Service	4

**HOLY WEEK: PALM SUNDAY MARCH 29 @ 10am
GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3 @ 10 am**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 2 @ 7 pm
EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 5 @ 8am & 10 am**