

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 🛛 🖈 LAKE CRYSTAL, MN 🖈 507-726-2849 🖈 WWW.ZIONLUTHLAKECRYSTAL.ORG

# Lent Worship & Fellowship Continues April 3 and April 10

5:30 Supper (see below for menu) 6:45 Holden Evening Prayer

#### April 3: Confirmation

ELCA

Proceeds go to: Youth Fund Menu: Baked potato bar

#### April 10: Zion Men Proceeds go to: Camp Scholarships Menu: Brats and Hot dogs

## Easter Breakfast: Sunday, April 21 9:00-9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall



The menu will include rolls, egg bakes, fruit and juice. A free-will offering will benefit the 2019 West Virginia Mission Trip and the Youth Fund for future events.

# JOURNEY THROUGH HOLY WEEK WITH US.

JOIN US DURING HOLY WEEK AND THEN CELEBRATE CHRIST'S RESURRECTION ON EASTER. April 14 9:00 a.m.

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 18 6:45 p.m.

April 19 6:45 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY April 21 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Brunch 9:00-9:45 a.m. (free will offering for Youth Fund)



"When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight."

(Luke 24:30-31)

One of my favorite Easter readings is the story from Luke known as "The Road to Emmaus." It's late in the day on a Sunday, and two disciples are on their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Along the way, they talk over everything that has happened that week ... including the death of Jesus, and the fantastically unbelievable reports from "some women" of their group that his tomb had been found empty that morning. As they walk and talk, they meet a stranger. He talks about all of these things with them, helping them to understand what the scriptures have to say about it.

Finally, when they stop for the night, they urge this stranger to stay with them, and they sit down for supper. And as they broke bread together, "their eyes were opened, and they recognized him." It was Jesus, alive again! He had met them along the way, and they were never the same!

We will celebrate our Lord's resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 21. And in the Easter season that follows, we will be celebrating Holy Communion weekly instead of twice a month. In this way, we welcome the presence of our living Lord, who meets us along the way in our lives to transform us with hope. We come to the table with eyes and hearts wide open in faith, trusting that we, too, will meet our Lord in the breaking of the bread.

During this season, you will note some changes in our communion distribution practices. We have recently

purchased new, hand-crafted ceramic communionware that will used for the first time on Easter Sunday. These new chalices and plates are intended for use whenever we distribute communion by intinction. The interior of each chalice is divided so that we can provide the option of both wine and grape juice (instead of juice alone). The new chalices are glazed in a lighter color than our older ones, to help worshippers more easily see the wine/juice when dipping their bread.

During the Easter season we will continue to share communion at the rail on first Sundays of the month (May 5 and June 2), and by intinction on the other Sundays from Easter through Pentecost (June 9).

Receiving the meal of Holy Communion frequently is a reminder of how precious and tangible this gift of Christ's love is in our lives. Communion is no less special when we receive it often. After all, can you ever hear our God say, "I love you!" too much?

Fed with this saving meal, the question for us in this season of Easter is how we can share the good news of Christ's resurrection with those we see every day, especially those who might consider Jesus a stranger. Remembering the meal at Emmaus, let us invite others to open their eyes and recognize that Jesus is already present in their lives.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Andrea

## "Half Truths" Series Concludes

Wednesday, April 3: "God Said it, I Believe It, That Settles It"

> Wednesday, April 10: "Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin"

A Video/Discussion session is offered Sundays through April 14, 10:15-11:00 in the Youth Room for those who want to dive deeper into each week's "half-truth."

# Zion Sunday School News

#### April 2019

Sunday School	Calendar
We will be having our final Family of Faith event of the year on Sunday, April 14th. The topic will be May Day baskets! We are inviting all parents to attend this event with their children. We will be making May Day baskets which will be delivered to Crystal Seasons residents on April 28 (our last day of Sunday School). We will also be asking everyone to fill out a brief survey on our Sunday School program, so I hope you can make it. Please check the calendar on the right to see when you are teaching or helping out with Sunday School. I am happy to report we now have all Sundays filled. Please remember, if you are signed up, you can pick up the curriculum any time downstairs on the Sunday School counter. Thank you to all members of the congregation who are getting involved! Hust a reminder that I will be stepping down at the end of the school year. Jamie Christiansen is also stepping down as Sunday School Music Director. If you are interested in taking on a more active role in the Sunday School program, olease let me know. You can email me at sundayschool@zionluthlakecrystal.com. Thank you so much. Kelly Strenge	<ul> <li>April:</li> <li>7: Regular Class PreK-K: Danielle Mueller</li> <li>1-2: Bobbie Nuytten/Heidi Thompson</li> <li>3-4: Tammi Greenough</li> <li>14: Family of Faith Event: Make May Day Baskets for Crystal Season residents. Everyone is welcome!</li> <li>21: No Sunday School – Easter</li> <li>28: Last day of Sunday School! Delivery may Day Baskets to residents at Crystal Seasons.</li> <li>Image: Complexity of the season of the se</li></ul>

# **Thank You Sunday School Volunteers!**



## April All-Youth Gathering!

The youth and confirmation groups (Grades 7-12) will meet on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:30pm. We will meet in the Youth Room and discuss plans about making some changes to the room to make it more suitable for our developing youth ministry program. We would love to hear your ideas and we will have pizza for dinner during the meeting.

Email Marrett Broady Grund (<u>youth@zionluthlakecrystal.org</u>) or text him at 507-351-9618 if you have questions.

## Keep Up with the Latest Youth News

We're doing our best to keep students and families informed about youth ministry at Zion. One of our newest tools is Remind.

Sr. High Students and parents: text @ZionYouth to 81010

Jr. High Students and parents: text @ZionConfirmation to 81010

Or use the Remind app on your smartphone to sign up.

# Confirmation During Lent

**Worship:** Mid-week Lent Services and mentor conversations continue April 3 and 10. Students are also strongly encouraged to attend worship on Maundy Thursday (Apr 18) and Good Friday (Apr 19).

Regular classes resumes on April 24.

Youth Serving Lenten Supper April 3: Confirmation youth and their families are serving a Baked Potato Bar. Sign-up links were sent out in late March. Contact Pastor Andrea with questions. The offering received on April 3 will go to the Youth Fund to support future youth events and trips.

# West Virginia Mission Trip Update

Mission Trips provide youth a unique opportunity to step out of their comfort zone and step into faith! This summer, 7 of our youth will spend a week in West Virginia. As they learn about the personal challenges and needs present in Appalachian communities, they'll be listening closely to how God is calling them to love others in Jesus' name.



This month, you have two opportunities to support these youth and their fundraising efforts:

**Easter Breakfast, April 21:** Come for a delicious meal between worship services (served 9:00-9:45). Your free-will offering will support the Youth Fund, with 60% designated for the West Virginia trip.

**Become a West Virginia Shareholder:** Your investment (\$25 per share) helps our youth experience this life-changing and faith-nurturing adventure. **Shares will be for sale at the Easter Breakfast as well as before and after worship on April 7 and 28.** Every investor will be invited to our special Shareholder Presentation after worship on Sunday, July 14, 2019.





Remember God's special gift of Jesus by making this craft.

#### What you need:

- Large piece of blue paper
- Large bowl
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paint (green and red)
- Paintbrush
- Wet wipes
- 3 wooden craft sticks
- Craft glue
- Black marker
- Bible

#### What you do:

- 1. On the paper, trace around the bowl. Cut out the circle.
- 2. Paint your palms green, one at a time, and press them in the circle side by side. (Clean your hands with wet wipes.)
- 3. Dip a finger in red paint and make a dot on the center of each handprint.
- 4. Between the handprints, glue two sticks end to end vertically. Glue the third stick horizontally to make a cross.
- 5. In marker, write the words of John 3:16 around the blue circle.



Answer: palm branches, perfume, bread, crown of thorns, dice, cross, nails, vinegar on a sponge, stone, spices, linens, silver coins

#### Bible Quiz:

After Jesus raises Lazarus from death, what does his family do to thank Jesus?

- A. They host a dinner for him.
- B. Martha serves the meal.
- C. Mary anoints Jesus' feet with an extravagant amount of expensive perfume.
- D. All of the above.

Answer: See Page 9



<b>April <u>3</u>: Rebecca Circle</b> Hostess: Rhonda Teigen @ church Bible study: Karen Myers	7:00 p.m.
<b>April 4: Miriam Circle</b> Hostess: Darlene Halvorson @ churc Bible study: Diana Lantz	10:30 a.m. h
<b>April 4: Martha Circle</b> Hostess: Lois Davis @ Crystal Seasor Bible Study: Jean Childs	2:00 p.m. ns
March 16: ZLCW Board Meeting	2:20 p m
March 23: Bible Study for Leaders	2:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.



The following changes to our constitution are being recommended by the ZLCW Board. This information will be reprinted in the May newsletter, and if there are no concerns, will be approved at the May board meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Roberts.

#### **Article IX Finance**

**Section 1. Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year and budget year for this unit shall be <del>January 1</del>. November 1 through December 31 October 31.

**Section 3. Transmittal.** All financial obligations will be transmitted by <del>December 31</del> October 31 of the <del>calendar</del> <u>fiscal year and budget</u> year in accordance with established procedures.

**Section 5. Audit.** An annual audit of this unit's financial records shall be conducted by an individual or committee established by the General Board. The treasurer shall give the financial records to the individual or committee by <del>January 31</del> November 30 of each year. The completed audit shall be approved at the next regular meeting.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

<u>Minnesota River Conference Spring Conference</u> is Saturday, April 27, 2019, at Grace Lutheran Church in Waseca. This year's theme: *Taste and See That the Lord Is Good*. Information regarding this event is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

<u>**City-Wide Garage Sale**</u> is Friday and Saturday, May 10 and 11. Please begin to set items aside for donations to support our budget (<u>no clothing is accepted</u>.). More information about dates and times will appear in the May newsletter.

<u>Community Band Social</u> is Wednesday, June 5.

Tour of Tables is Saturday, October 12.

Thank you to those who donated to purchase groceries for Food for Friends at the Salvation Army on March 23. Our volunteers who gave their time to serve 99 meals to those less fortunate are pictured here. From left to right (back row): Brett Strenge, Beth Paumen, Joyce Roberts, Cheryl Lantz, Donna Roesch, Fran Jurs and Beth Dostal; (front row): Kelly and Julia Strenge, Lilly and Tyson Dostal. Photo by Linda Isebrand.



#### Breakfast With the Bishop Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 9 am—11 am at Cabela's, Owatonna Reservations are due by Friday, April 19, 2019.

"Lessons Learned from 35 years of Teaching, Coaching and Raising Teenagers"

Gary Sloan has worked in the Grand Meadow School District for nearly 35 years as a teacher of special education students. He has coached football that entire time, serving as the head coach for the past 26 seasons.

Sloan's coaching record is 206 wins and 79 losses. His teams have won 4 state championships, 7 section championships and 10 conference/district championships. He has been the school's Athletic Director and Transportation Director for the past 11 years.

Gary was raised on a dairy farm near Ellendale and graduated from Ellendale-Geneva High School in



1980. He graduated from Winona State University in 1985 with degrees in Special Education, Physical Education and Coaching. The has three college-aged children that currently attend the University of Minnesota, St. Cloud State University and Minnesota State University. Gary lives in Grand Meadow and is a member of Grand

Meadow Lutheran Church.

To sign up for this event, send your reservation and a \$10 check to: Russell Tesch, 906 4th Avenue SE, Waseca, MN 56093 or stop in the Zion church Office no later than Thursday, April 18 with a \$10 check. Checks and reservations will be mailed on April 18 from the church.

#### Newsletter Due Date:

Articles for the May newsletter are due by Tuesday, April 23, 2019.

# Sharing Shelf

Each month a volunteer from Zion delivers our food offerings to the Sharing Shelf. Many thanks to Joyce Roberts for volunteering in March. April volunteer is Barb Feder. April needs include macaroni and cheese, Hamburger Helper, tuna, tomatoes, pancake mix, syrup and toilet paper. The Sharing Shelf is located at the First Baptist Church, 312 South Oakland Street. Hours are Wednesday evening from 6:00-6:30 p.m.



Applications for the spring scholarship are due **April 30.** The application form is posted on the Zion Website under "News."

# COMMUNION WORKSHOP

AN EXPLORATION OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS.

SUNDAY, MAY 19 10:15 AM-12:45 PM



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your prayers and notes following my surgery on February 12! Your support has been a great encouragement to me. My recovery has gone smoothly, and I'm grateful for the healing that God has provided.

Pastor Andrea



### February & March Meeting Highlights

**Council** Finance and Stewardship: Coun-Highlights cil approved payment of the balance due for the Stewardship

for All Seasons program in the amount of \$216.54 (10% of our 2018 increased giving). It was also unfortunately noted that total offerings in January & February were \$7,178.20 less than last year. Some of this discrepancy can be attributed to weather impacts on worship attendance, including cancelled worship on February 24.

**Building and Grounds:** Following a review of comparable estimates, the Council approved switching back to Church Mutual from Guide One, at a projected savings of \$900 per year. A bid from Hennegar Plumbing to install a new water fountain unit outside the Fellowship Hall (replacing two old fountains) was also approved.

**Updated Service Agreements:** A new service agreement with A+ Monitoring Systems has been successfully negotiated, saving \$400 per year for monthly monitoring and an annual cleaning of all the sprinkler heads. Work continues to negotiate a new phone/internet agreement that will upgrade internet speed and reduce annual costs as we shift the fire system monitoring service to cellular lines. **Worship, Music and Adult Education:** A request to purchase three divided Intinction Chalices for communion was approved. Undesignated Memorial Funds will be used. The team has started planning for Dinner Church worship this summer.

Youth Ministry: The team has accepted, with appreciation, the resignations of Kelly Strenge (Sunday School Superintendent) and Jamie Christianson (Sunday School Music Coordinator), effective at the end of April. The team will evaluate the current program (including a parent survey) to see if changes need to be made in the future.

At-Large Personnel Team Rep: Linda Isebrand will

serve as Ministry Team representative on the Personnel Team (which also includes the Executive Council).

**PTO Adjustment for Mary Gilman:** Council approved an increase of PTO to 90 hours for 2019.

## Sermon Recordings Now Available on our Website!

You can also subscribe to "Zion Lake Crystal Sermons" as a Google or Apple podcast!



#### **Spring Festival Luncheon**

Living Meadows Auxiliary will be sponsoring a spring festival luncheon at Trinity Lutheran Church in Madelia, on Tuesday, April 9 from 11 am - 1 pm to Benefit Living Meadows at Luther, Madelia. Cost \$6.00 (salads, beverage and cupcakes). Raffle tickets for baskets - \$1.00 per ticket. See Joyce Johnson, Linda Isebrand or Janette Abraham to purchase a ticket. Tickets are also available in the church office. Take out and in-town delivery (Madelia only) is available by calling 507-642-8301 between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm.

#### 2019 Community VBS is Coming

Save the Date! Zion will again partner with local congregations for our Community Vacation Bible School. Zion will be hosting this year as we welcome students entering preschool through 5th grade in the fall. VBS will be held during the eve-

nings of Sunday, August 4 to Thursday, August 8.



# Happy April Birthdays!

Ethan Anderson Mason Anderson Lily Anderson Chelsea Ankeny Janet Becker Matt Christianson **Cooper Copeland** Lillian Dostal Scott Ellanson Nathanial Feder Sandy Friday Ean Gilman Benjamin Gilman Maya Gilman Lindsay Gilman Kari Gustafson Mary Hutchens Heather Isebrand **Barry Jacques** 



**Carol Jones** Maya Jones Michele Kennedy **Carter Lowis** Sandra Meixell Joseph Mueller Lexi Nuytten Judi Olson Khloe Olson Andrea Stoll **Brett Strenge Ron Teigen** Emma Teigen Heidi Thompson Sandy Tibbetts Sara Walters Jennifer Winters

#### <u>April (Team 1)</u> Leaders: Gus & Marsha Larson

James and Norma Abbott Tim & Barb Anderson Aaron & Heidi Bartelt Kent & Sandra Beecher Loren & Linda Beecher Chad & Shawna Brandts Terry & Vicky Chesney Don & Lois Davis Frieda Deopere Pat & Susan Gengler Seth & Leesa Gilman John & Kari Gustafson Dustin & Angie-Knutson Icks Tony & Laurie Jacobs Travis & Alisha Jordon Arlen & Judy Karau Scott Larson **Dorothy Maurer** Mike & Jody Maurer



Sheldon & Holly Meyer Chris & April Neal Jim & Tracy Nickels Tim & Judi Olson Ray & Donna Roesch Jerome Sandstrom Myron & Cheryl Sandstrom Rachel Sandstrom Norm Sieling Scott & Donna Spencer Judi Thiesse Jennifer Zumwalt

#### Happy April Anniversaries: Todd & Lisa Jacoby Dennis & Donna

Mikkelson

Scott & Donna Spencer Charles & Karen Stoll Brett & Kelly Strenge Bill & Kim VanRyswyk

# **Caring Coins**

Thank you to all those who generously donated \$246.55 toward March's Caring Coins. The dollars received will be shared between the Lake Crystal Sharing Shelf (\$100) and the ECHO Food Shelf (\$146.55). Since 2016, our members have donated more than \$1,064.00 to these organizations to help reduce food scarcity among our local families.

April's Caring Coins gifts will be designated toward Lutheran Disaster Response and "U.S. Flooding," where 100% of our gift will help support those adversely affected by spring flooding in at least four states. Thus far, three people have died, and hundreds of homes and businesses have been affected. Mandatory and voluntary evacuation orders remain in place. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 200 miles of levees have been compromised in four states and historic flood levels have been recorded at 42 locations across six states. Though water is receding, more rain is anticipated in many areas, along with warmer weather that may melt snow and ice and raise water levels further. Please give generously and continue to pray for our neighbors in need.

For those of you who enjoy working with fabric or yarn, please consider using your gifts to support Little Dresses for Africa (pillowcase dresses) or by knitting sweaters for Knits for Kids. Patterns and materials for these are available in the narthex. Completed items can be returned to the church and will be shipped to facilities where they can be distributed to those in need. Please note that these items can be created by anyone who enjoys sewing or knitting, regardless of membership with Zion. Thanks to those who are already helping.

Bible Quiz Answer: D (See John 12:1-3)

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# THE BRIDGE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR CONGREGATIONS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



#### Getting to Know Rev. Dr. Eric Barreto: Our 2019 Synod Assembly Bible Study Leader

Rev. Dr. Eric Barreto will be this year's Bible study leader at the 2019 Synod Assembly. He also led the Bible study for the 2017 assembly. Barreto currently serves as the Weyerhaeuser Associate Professor of New Testament Princeton Theological Seminary.

# What energizes you about studying God's word in community with others?

Jesus promised that when we gather together the Spirit shows up. I have experienced this to be the case especially when I'm reading Scripture with folks who see the world very differently than I do. My neighbors can often notice things I do not, and in their witness to what God is teaching them through the Bible, I catch a glimpse of the depth of God's grace.

# What's the value of incorporating group Bible study into a Synod Assembly?

My hope is that Bible study keeps us grounded in God's word as we deliberate and discern God's will. The Bible does not give easy answers to our complex questions, but the Bible does help expand our imaginations, remind us of God's promises, and delight us with the surprising ways God acts in our midst.

# What are some of the spiritual practices that you use in your own daily life?

My work takes me to Scripture daily as I teach and write. That is a gift of my work. What becomes important to me as a spiritual practice then is remembering to be grateful. Through prayer and contemplation, God reminds that my work is supported by generations of faithful believers, by a family that loves me, by faculty and students who stretch my thinking, by churches that teach me what God is up to in the world today.

#### interested in re-engaging God's word but doesn't know where to begin, what do you advise? What's a good place to start? Are there any good online or print resources that one can use?

My advice would be to start anywhere! But don't try to do this alone. The Bible is both accessible to us through the Spirit but also complicated. We all need the help of others to read Scripture. So, I would suggest finding or starting a Bible study group at church. I would point to resources like Enterthebible.org and bibleodyssey.org. I would turn to folks you know who love the Bible and ask them for help.

# How should people best prepare to participate in the 2019 Bible Study at assembly?

Pay attention to the ways God is moving in your corner of the world. In what ways do you see God's Spirit moving in delightfully unexpected ways. What new people and perspectives is God bringing to your attention?

The 2019 Synod Assembly will be held on May 31-June 1 at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester. The theme is "Following Jesus into a Changing World." For more about the gathering, please visit http:// semnsynod.org/assembly2019.

#### Zion Brass Group:

If you can join the Zion Brass group on Easter Sunday, please contact Sheldon at 507-327-0060 or talk to him at the church organ!

"Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all of your eggs in one basket." (Evan Esar)



#### If someone hasn't picked up a Bible for awhile and is

### Zion Lutheran Church

211 East Robinson St. P.O. Box 236 Lake Crystal, MN 56055 Presort STD US Postage PAID Permit # 2 Lake Crystal, MN 56055

#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



#### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

<u>Church Office e-mail:</u> zioninfo@ zionluthlakecrystal.org pastor@zionluthlakecrystal.org

<u>Church website:</u> www.zionluthlakecrystal.org

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Holy Week and Easter

Celebration Sunday

Caring Coins for Midwest Flood Relief

Breakfast With the Bishop

Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m. Worship Communion the 1st & 3rd Sundays

Sunday School 10:05 a.m.

Listen to sermons at www.zionluthlakecrystal.org

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday (8-4) Tuesday (8-12) Wednesday (8-4) Thursday (8-4) The Office is closed on Fridays.

Phone: 507-726-2849



#### Zion Lutheran Church 211 East Robinson Street Lake Crystal, MN 56055

**Pastor** Rev. Andrea Myers

Youth Ministry Coordinator Marrett Broady Grund

> **Office Manager** Mary Gilman

Choir Director Linda Isebrand

**Organist** Sheldon Meyer

**Custodians** Bob and Barb McDonald