



# THE ZION ZEALANT

**Zion Lutheran Church, 101 E. North St., Columbia City, IN 46725**

**Phone: 244-5513      E-Mail: [zionccdq@embarqmail.com](mailto:zionccdq@embarqmail.com)**

**Web Page: <http://www.zionlutherancc.com/index.html>**

## **In This Issue**

- \* Lent & Easter Schedule**
- \* Pastor's Corner**
- \* Church Council Minutes**
- \* Ladies Aid-LWML**
- \* Easter Flowers, Easter Breakfast, B.A.B.E. and Electronic Giving**
- \* Prayers, Sunday School Scoop & Camp**
- \* Scholarship, Choir, Thank You, V.B.S. and Needs of the Church**
- \* Serving, Birthday's, Anniversaries and Baptism's**
- \* April Calendar**



# LENT



**April 2nd, Wed. Service @ 7:00 pm**

**Sunday, Lent 5—April 6th @ 10:15 am**

**Wed. Service @ 7:00 pm**

**Our Wednesday Lenten Services  
will be a series on  
“Our Crucified King.”**



## Holy Week & Easter

**Palm Sunday, April 13th  
Service @ 10:15 am**

**Maundy Thursday, April 17th  
Service w/communion  
@ 7:00 pm**

**Good Friday, April 18th  
Service @ 7:00 pm**

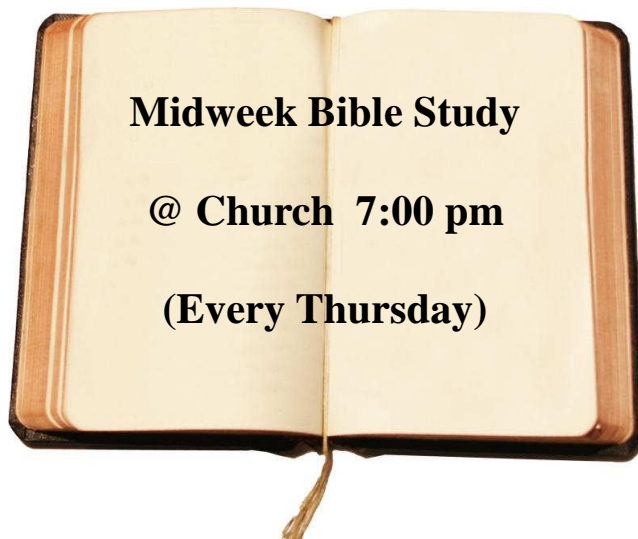
**EASTER Sunday, April 20th  
Sunrise Service @ 7:00 am**

**Easter Breakfast  
(immediately following service)**

**S.S. @ 9:00 am**

**Easter Service @ 10:15 am**

*(both services will have  
Communion)*



**Midweek Bible Study**

**@ Church 7:00 pm**

**(Every Thursday)**

**Rev. Phil Rittner  
Cell Phone: 260-415-9078  
(I text if you'd like!)  
Email: [revrittner@reagan.com](mailto:revrittner@reagan.com)**



Lenten greetings to everyone! We prepare during this season to celebrate that Jesus is the Lamb of God, who by His death takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29). John's Gospel takes great pains to show us that the crucifixion and death of Jesus coincides with the slaughter of the lambs for the Passover Feast (John 18:39; 19:31). That means also that the day of our Lord's resurrection from the dead coincides with the wave offering of the first fruits of the barley harvest (Lev 23:9–14). The risen Jesus, then, is a wave offering to the Father as the true bread of life come down from heaven, whose risen and living flesh and blood makes us acceptable to the Father (Lev 23:11). By it, our sins are forgiven and in Him, we have life. This marks us as those whom the angel of death will pass over, those who are marked by the blood of the Lamb for life (Exodus 12:13).

As I prepare this article for our Zealant next month, I find that no one has responded to the letter sent to every one of our members about the Indiana District's Revitalization program. It's a pretty good program; free; doesn't take a lot of time. Yet I've found hardly anyone interested in trying it. Your elders support it; the president of the congregation supports it. Later this month during our Voter's Meeting (April 27th after worship), we'll call a vote as to whether or not to begin this program of revitalization. I hope and pray you earnestly look over the information; ask questions; and through the power of the Holy Spirit you delve into participating in helping us thrive as the wonderful congregation we are. It isn't merely dropping something into the offering plate. It's about living in the true Word of God in thought, word, and deed. It's about being alive in Christ. But, here, during the blessed season of Lent that we're in, I invite you to keep reading about our stewardship:

St. Paul picks up on this theme: **“Christ has been raised from the death, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep”** (1 Corinthians 15:20, 23). We are acceptable to the Father

because the first fruits of the harvest of those who have fallen asleep, our Lord Jesus Christ, has been offered and accepted. The offering is holy, and so then the rest of the harvest is also holy (Rom 11:16). This is the generosity of the Father toward us. He offered His Son as the first fruits of those who die, so that we may be acceptable to Him, be reconciled to Him and to one another.

Christ was offered to the Father for us. He was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification (Rom 4:25). We are acceptable to God the Father by His grace on account of the death and resurrection of Jesus through faith. This is God's generosity. This is his love. That while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us and was raised so that the Father would receive us back and that we, in Christ, would be acceptable to Him.

And this is what we celebrate in Holy Week. This is what we sing about and ponder on Good Friday and Easter. We meditate on God's love for us and His generous offering of His Son. We have been making our way to the cross and the empty tomb throughout Lent with this singular focus: God by His grace and mercy has redeemed us, forgiven us, sanctified us, and found us acceptable in His sight because of Jesus. In actuality, this is why we go to church each week throughout the year! In the same way then, we who have received such mercy and grace from God our Father (week in – week out), who have then been the beneficiaries of His generosity are to be generous with all that He has given us. He has given us all that we have for this body and life and sanctified it for use in His service.

Your reason and senses, your clothing and shoes, your house and your home, your income—all that you are and have—are sanctified, made holy, for use in service to him. You are holy and so what you say, what you do, and what you give is holy too. God, by grace, has accomplished it, but He brings you into this service. He makes you fellow workers. Just as Christ is the first fruits to make you acceptable, you are living sacrifices to the Lord, holy and acceptable. Everything you do and are is employed by God, put into the service of the Gospel for the life of the world.

(Pastor's Corner continued)

this reality **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”** With the blood of the Lamb upon you, by water and word, bread and wine, all that you do and give is put into the Lord's work of making those around you acceptable in Him who died but was raised. For He has died. But He is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let us rejoice during this time of year! Let us show forth our praise in song, prayer, and in the glory shown us by Him who died to make us free! See you in church!

Pastor Phil Rittner

## **Church Council Minutes March 18, 2014**

Members present: Steve Smith, Willie & Karen Scheumann, Judy Gilbert, Jill Coons and Pastor Phil.

Pastor opened with devotions (1 Thessalonians chapter 4) and prayer.

Receiving Treasurer's Report: Karen Scheumann presented her report. It was approved as read.

Dispersing Treasurer's Report: Jill Coons presented her report. The report was approved as presented.

Elders Report: Steve Smith reporting - Grant money from the Lutheran Foundation has been received. Much of the money has already been earmarked for various projects in 2014. Church officers will be installed on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will offer the following schedule for Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service 7:00 AM, Easter Breakfast 8:00 AM, Sunday School 9:00 AM and Easter Service 10:15 AM. Average attendance for January: Sunday 47 (2 Sundays) and Wednesday 13.

Bd. of Education Report: Judy Gilbert reporting meeting in February— Sunday School attendance for Feb. Youth 7 and Adults 13. Missions - \$111.76 was collected in January for the Whitley County Ministerial Fund for Energy Assistance, this will continue through February. Missions for March/April will be Worship for Shut-ins. Pastor's Report: We will have a Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday April 20, 2014. This will be a communion service. Following service there will be a breakfast served. Discussed if we should have an Easter Egg Hunt or a Movie for the children. Pastor will be out of the office on Feb. 10-11 for a continuing education seminar on Pastoral Theology. At this time we have 3 students for Confirmation Camp – Ryan Bills, Kyler Bills and Shianne Brooke. Date for camp to be confirmed at a later date. The Baptism Breakfast went well, and Logan's Children's message explaining the meaning of Advent was enjoyed by all. Vacation Bible School materials are in; the theme “Gangway to Galilee” will have a nautical theme. VBS will be July 7-11, 2014 from 9-11:30 AM. Valentines were made by the children and will be mailed out or delivered. Joyce will continue on as Board of Education Secretary, the Library position is still unfilled. Lutheran Witness Subscription money has been put in the general fund awaiting church billing.

Judy Gilbert reporting meeting in March – Sunday School attendance: youth 9 and adults 16. Missions: We raised \$192.76 for the Whitley County Ministerial Association Energy Assistance Fund. March/April will be for Worship for Shut-ins. Library: Lois Duffy continues to work on the library, although this position still needs to be filled, also Judy Gilbert and Pat Decker help when able. Vacation Bible School: We will start recruiting staff and helpers soon. Easter Sunday: We will be having an Easter Egg Hunt and Movie for the children after the Breakfast. We will need help setting up.

Youth Report: Jill gave a brief report and the Youth will be helping clean up from the Easter Breakfast.

Pastor Report: We will have one new member coming in; Laura Gerke from Faith Luth., Churubusco. I will be doing a Wedding on March 22<sup>nd</sup> non members, wedding will be in Ft. Wayne. Pastor's Family appreciates all prayers for Katie's Grandmother (Janet Blomquist) and patience with Pastor going back and forth to Pennsylvania at this time.

(continued on next page)

(Church Council Minutes continued)

Choir will keep going at this time; Joyce Reidt and Judy Hart are helping out.

Revitalization Report: Everyone received a letter around Feb. 10th, any ideas?

Bank online direct deposit through Lutheran Church Extension Fund -Joyful Response. This is an easy way to bank.

April 28<sup>th</sup> at Eagle Nest North Central IN Right to Life Banquet free dinner have two tickets. Pastor is thinking about going.

Voter's Assembly for April will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup> because Easter is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to have it on April 27th

Parkview Oaks email asking for Church's to help out on Sunday afternoon for a worship service third Sunday of the month. At this time Pastor is not asking members due to lack of volunteer commitment conducting outside of the parish. Right now Pastor will keep everything within the church.

No Trustee Report except: Still getting bids for Gym Furnace and possible Air Conditioning. Looks like it will be between \$10,000 and \$18,000 to cover it.

#### No Board of Outreach Report

No further business. Meeting was adjourned with Benediction.

### **Ladies Aid-LWML March 20, 2014**

Eight members and guest speaker Logan Landes attended the 1 PM meeting.

President Reese opened the meeting with prayer. She continued with a devotion taken from a Lutheran Indian Ministries Lenten booklet entitled "Taking a Fresh Look at Lenten Fasting": Instead of finding something to fast from, we are encouraged to find someone to fast toward. In reaching out and sharing our faith, we can help someone in need of comfort.

The Treasurer's Report remains the same as February and the Secretary's minutes were accepted as printed in the Zealant with a motion by Marty Williams and 2nd by Sami Blomquist.

Stamps for missions continue and will be taken to the April 3-Zone Rally in April.

President Reese explained about the Ladies Aid's project for sending tops of greeting cards (no writing on the reverse side) to the St. Jude's Children's Home. They should be 5x7 or smaller.

Eight quilts will be ready for knotting in June.

The LWML 3-Zone Rally will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Ft. Wayne on April 26th.

The LWML Biennial Convention will be June 20-22 in West Lafayette, Indiana. Our Ladies Aid has purchased a 10 pack of 100 Posta Notes which will be taken to the Rally for the Convention.

President Reese reviewed the new 2014 Agenda for Ladies Aid/LWML. Marty Williams will present the program for April. Please bring your LWML Quarterly.

President Reese read a "joke" about morning worship and some children's comments.

Field Worker Seminarian Logan Landes gave the program about his trip to China using a computer screen for the China Mission. The 3 week trip was in 2012. It was a 32 hour Frontier flight (Chicago to Newark, New Jersey to Hong Kong) on a 2 story airplane. He and his fiancée Lydia traveled with fellow students who had attended Concordia University in Wisconsin.

The 1st week: they visited the city of Macao which was on an island. The city is independent of China. It had many casinos and apartment dwellings similar to the U.S. For religions there were the Atheists and many people did a worship of their ancestors. Shrines were set up on streets for the people to bring incense to the shrines. Historically, Macao was owned by the Spaniards who invaded China. Thus Christianity was brought to the city. A picture of a ruined Cathedral was shown with just one wall standing. Another photo was of the temple of the Monkey King. The city had 100 story high elegant buildings. The 4 story McDonalds was a top class restaurant. The U.S. dollar was worth \$5.00. The

(Ladies Aid continued)

stores were all out and in the open and the sales persons liked to haggle the prices with you. Besides clothes there was also fish, tea and incense to buy. They also went into a beautiful Cathedral where it was said no one seemed to attend. The group saw beautiful gardens where people came to meditate. Their main purpose for the trip was to teach English. They taught at the Concordia English Center. They taught using the Bible stories. Those attending the classes were very interested to hear about "what Jesus did for us."

The 2nd week: they took a ferry Kiangmen to mainland China. The city was known for "no Christianity allowed." It was a very poor city, but Americans were treated like celebrities. The English language was rarely known there. The language there was Mandarin. The streets were crowded and the homeless and poor people were many. There were city busses and many mopeds, but no traffic laws and narrow streets. It was said many people did a lot of fishing. Hanging in some places were large red balls sold to people so they might expect good fortune. In this city the group stayed in a 5 Star Hotel as it was a safety factor. At the Concordia English Center they taught English with songs and Bible studies. There were Chinese who helped with the translating for teaching the children. They also worked on a computer. One day they went out into the farmland there. In a barn they taught English to farmers using the New Testament and singing Christian songs with the children. Plus they themselves learned some little Chinese song too. The children were always respectful! About the farmland they also saw chickens, ducks, pigs and dogs. What the farmers grew there were trees, bushes and greenery to sell.

The 3rd week: they traveled to Hong Kong. It was evident that it was a very wealthy city. It was because of their trade with the United States. It is independent of China. The majority of the people did speak English and Christianity was supported and thriving there and was already being taught. They saw the schools and also the skyscrapers. Bamboo ladders were used to help construct the tall buildings. It was at the Ma Chan Duen Hay Memorial College where the group taught 2 different grades of elementary school. They did the VBS program to about 500 students. They were happy to have some very good assistants. They were given a tour of Hong Kong. A high tower had neon lights; so beautiful.

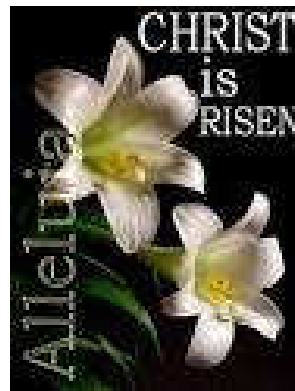
The malls were packed with people. The U.S. dollar there was worth \$25.00. Their Chinese guide bought them a meal. It turned out each were served a "pig head." It tasted good, Logan said, but they did not eat the eyes or the snout and they removed the skin. Two of the girl assistants were girls taken in by Concordia to live and work. They were the 2nd and 3rd girls born to a family who were only allowed the 1st born, but then later perhaps a son. Girls and women have no "say" about anything in China unless they have a husband. Food in Hong Kong was surprising: a snack was made up of chicken feet that was fried. Dumplings were common and they were filled with perhaps dog, cat or fish guts. You were allowed to spit out anything you did not like. Lots of spices were used. With every meal tea was served even if you also ordered a coke. Bottled water was usual. Once a huge fish was served whole and as usual they only had chop sticks to eat with. Logan did not eat it. It was good manners to slurp your tea. Smoothies were made of grass and ice cream. The tradition there was to wash hands and utensils before eating. Lemons were put on most drinks. They sat in regular chairs in restaurants. For a meal in someone's home they sat on the floor. They went to a Karaoke place for fun. They could not sing the Chinese songs. Logan learned to say thank you in Chinese, it is (SHE SHI) and for no (BO).

Members thanked Logan for his most informative account of his trip to China. He had to return to his classes at the Seminary.

Members each read an Ash Wednesday "Giving up List" for Lent. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer and Table Prayer.

At fellowship time, Crème d' Mint cake was served by Lois Duffy and Kathaleen Reese and the tables were decorated using the St. Patrick's theme. Marty Williams won the table prize.

Submitted by Lois Duffy, Secretary





# Spring Flowers for Easter

**Altar Guild  
invites you to bring in Spring Flowers  
for Easter morning.**

**You may bring them in  
during Holy Week  
and place them in  
the library.  
(Make sure your name  
is on them.)**

**You may take them home  
after Easter service.**



**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In honor of:**

---

---

**In celebration of:**

---

---

**In memory of:**

---

---

Please make sure that Cheryl (Secretary) receives this sheet, if you want your name in bulletin for flowers.

## Easter Breakfast

**There is a list of items needed for the breakfast, if you would like to donate please see the sign-in sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.**

**We also need people to help  
set up on Saturday.**

**Thank You!**



**B.A.B.E. Of Whitley  
County Inc.** is launch-  
ing its 6th annual  
“Baby Bottle Cam-  
paign” to help offset  
the cost of diapers,  
wipes, clothing, etc.

The Board of Outreach  
is asking Zion members to help out!

Starting April 1st—April 30th, Zion will help  
fill up empty baby bottles with their loose  
change, dollar bills, checks...whatever the  
Lord lays on their hearts to help support the  
youngest members of our community.

## Electronic Giving

Bank online direct deposit through Lutheran  
Church Extension Fund -Joyful Response  
(Vanco). This is an easy way to bank. You  
can electronically give your church offering  
weekly or monthly. It will come out of your  
bank automatically and Vanco will send an  
email to the church each week stating what you  
gave.

If you are interested, see Cheryl (Secretary) for  
forms to fill out.



The following Shut-In Members, in Nursing

Homes or those who are ill (hospital or at home): Janet Blomquist, Sami Blomquist, Barb Cotner, Linda Hobkirk, Bill & Patricia Neidermeyer, Sharon Reid, Ruth Ryan, Michael Sexton, Charles Stanley, Dorothy Ummel, Alberta Warnick and Mary Wilkinson.

Those Serving in the Armed Force:

Eric Childs (Stateside), Jeffery Clark (Stateside), Jessie Contreras (Stateside), Chris Decker (Stateside), Alex Hart (deployed MEU), Joshua Rittner (Stateside), Matt Shoda (Stateside), Jason Weatherly (Stateside) and Dayne Zielinski (Stateside)

#### SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

for

Katie's grandmother; Janet Blomquist who will be with her Father in heaven very soon.

... and anyone else we have not mentioned that might be in our hearts. ... Lord, hear our prayers.



## Sunday School Scoop

**APRIL 2014**

April brings Easter celebration on April 20th. The Sunday School students will be having an egg hunt and movie during the Sunday School hour (9:00-10:00a.m.) Bring your children and grandchildren to celebrate the resurrection of our Christ!

Lessons for April:

6th—"Jesus Raises Lazarus"

13th—"The Passion of Christ"

20th—"The Resurrection of Jesus"

27th—"The Empty Tomb"

Sunday School Missions for March & April is supporting "Worship for Shut-ins." Please give prayerful consideration to this wonderful ministry that reaches in community homes via Sunday morning programming.

S.S. STATS for February 2014

Class Attendance:

Primary—100% (Banner Class!)

Preteen—68.8%

Jr./Sr. High—75%

Perfect Attendance:

Emerson & Mason Knuth

Begin your week by attending Sunday School and worship!

The countdown has begun! And if you're like us, we can't wait for the summer. Join us this year for an incredible outdoor adventure!



**Camp Lutherhaven**

1596 S. 150 W.

Albion, IN 46701-9695

260.636.7101

[www.lutherhaven.org](http://www.lutherhaven.org)

[camp@lutherhaven.org](mailto:camp@lutherhaven.org)



**The Family of Ladd Slavicek** would like to extend our heart felt thanks to Pastor Phil & Katie, as well as all who attended services, sent cards, memorial donations and specifically the prayers that helped support our family in our time of grief on the unexpected loss of our loved one, Ladd. Zion has been a source of comfort—thank you.

**Health Professions Scholarship** For more than 110 years, our Member Lutheran Congregations have worked together to support the physical, mental and spiritual health of our community. The Lutheran Foundation honors that legacy by offering scholarships for students pursuing a career in healthcare. Eligible applicants must reside in one of the 10 counties served by the Lutheran Foundation, must plan to attend an eligible college or university, and must have a GPA of 2.8 on a 4.0 scale. The application deadline is April 15, 2014. For full eligibility details, visit [TheLutheranFoundation.org](http://TheLutheranFoundation.org)



will be on Saturday's at 10:30 am  
until further notice.

All are welcome to join!

## Needs of the Church

Altar Guild is in need of a Brass Candle Stand for the Christ Candle.

Donations are welcomed.



## Vacation Bible School will be held July 7-11, 2014

For those of you scheduling your vacation times this summer.

Please put VBS on your calendar for your children/grandchildren, friends or neighbors to come; and for yourself to help out as a teacher or volunteer.



## Worship Services

**SUNDAY**  
Sunday School—9:00 a.m.  
Worship—10:15 a.m.  
w/Communion  
1st & 3rd Sundays

**WEDNESDAY**  
Worship—7:00 p.m.  
w/Communion  
2nd & 4th Wednesday

# SERVING IN APRIL 2014

## USHERS

6th—Mike Gerbers  
13th—Steve Smith  
20th—Willie Scheumann  
27th—Ralph Sexton

## ACOLYTES

6th—Payton Coons  
13th—Chris Brooke  
20th—Alisha Kimmel  
27th—Logan Bachelder

## GREETERS

6th—?  
13th—Lois Duffy  
20th—Pat Decker  
27th—Kathaleen Reese

## ALTAR GUILD

Peg Brooke

## BLOOD PRESSURE

Monica Koldyke

## POWERPOINT

6th—Larry Haug  
13th—?  
20th—7am  
20th—10:15 am  
27th—?

## COFFEE HOUR

6th—?  
13th—?  
20th—Easter Breakfast  
27th—?

---

## BIRTHDAY'S

2 Samuel Mullett  
3 Gene Klopfenstein  
17 Nannette Hart  
17 Stephen Smith  
19 Zackary Wilburn  
22 Judy Gilbert  
27 Christopher Brooke  
27 Robert Gallmeyer  
29 Amanda Welch



## BAPTISMS

Melissa Bender  
Mike Gerbers  
Donald Gilbert II  
Jason Gomez, Jr.  
James Jackson  
Richard Lane  
Lily Pressler  
Ronald Puckett  
Harriet Redman  
Austin Rittner  
Steve Wilkinson

## ANNIVERSARIES

3 Ken & Barb Knuth  
4 Ralph & Mary Sexton  
5 Dennis & Bonnie Pease  
11 Ervin & Verna Doehrman

23 Wm. & Juliette Branning  
25 Tim & Sandra Rueger  
30 Bryan & Nanette Hart



# APRIL 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Lenten Evening Service 7 pm	3 Ladies Aid Sewing 9 am Bible Study 7 pm	4	5 Choir Practice 10:30 am
6 S.S. 9 am Worship w/Communion 10:15 am Bd. of Education 11:15 am Youth Bible Study 7 pm	7	8	9 Lenten Evening Service 7 pm Elders meet after service	10 Bible Study 7 pm	11	12 Choir Practice 10:30 am
<b>13 Palm Sunday</b> S.S./Staff 9 am Worship w/Communion Youth 11:15 am	14	15	16	17 Ladies Aid Sewing 9 am LWML 1 pm Maundy Thurs. Service w/Communion 7 pm	18 Good Friday Service 7 pm	19 Set-up for Easter Breakfast  Choir Practice 10:30 am
<b>20 Easter</b> Sunrise Service 7 am Easter Breakfast following service S.S. 9 am Easter Service 10:15 am (both services w/Communion)	21	22	23 Wed. Evening Service 7 pm	24 Bible Study 7 pm	25	26
27 S.S./Staff 9 am Worship 10:15 am Voters Assembly 11:15 am Trustees & Blood Pressure 11:15 am	28 Zealant Items due	29	30 Wed. Evening Service 7 pm			