



THE ZION ZEALANT

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Pastor's Zealant Article March 2022

Greetings in the Name of the Lord!

With Wednesday, March 2nd, we begin the season of Lent. “Early in the Church’s history, the major events in Christ’s life were observed with special observances, such as His birth, baptism, death, resurrection and ascension. As these observances developed, a period of time was set aside prior to the major events of Jesus’ birth and resurrection as a time of preparation.

During Lent, the Church’s worship assumes a more penitential character. The color for the season is purple, a color often associated with **penitence**. The “Hymn of Praise” is omitted from the liturgy. The word “Alleluia” is usually omitted as well. By not using the alleluia—a joyful expression meaning “Praise the Lord”—until Easter, the Lenten season is clearly set apart as a distinct time from the rest of the year. Additionally, it forms a powerful contrast with the festive celebration of Jesus’ resurrection when our alleluias ring loud and clear.

Finally, the penitential character of Lent is not its sole purpose. In the ancient Church, the weeks leading up to Easter were a time of intensive preparation of the candidates who were to be baptized at the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday. This time in the Church’s calendar was seen as an especially appropriate time for Baptism because of the relationship between Christ’s death and resurrection and our own in Holy Baptism (see Romans 6:1-11). This focus would suggest that the season of Lent serves not only as a time to meditate on the suffering that Christ endured on our behalf but also as an opportunity to reflect upon our own Baptism and what it means to live as a child of God.”¹

Here at Zion, we will observe this season of Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday with the Imposition of Ashes; and continue with mid-week worship services on Wednesdays at 7 PM. Our theme this year comes from a wonderful resource our church’s publishing company has prepared titled:

“WITNESSES TO CHRIST: PEOPLE FROM HIS PASSION”

This year’s series paints a stunning portrait of Jesus through the eyes of those whose interactions with Jesus lead us to meditate on His Passion as recorded by St. John in his Gospel. Our overall theme is “Witnesses to Christ: People From His Passion.”

John tells us he wrote his Gospel: “so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:30–31).

¹ <https://www.immanueljoplin.com/2021/01/what-is-lent/>

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those who were present as part of Jesus' journey to the cross. Along the way, we'll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate; sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus three times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by seven demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver); as well as others.

We also are encouraged in this present day to pray for the persecution of fellow Christians at home and around the world. It still continues. And this is of great concern for all Children of God in that we stand firmly in our faith of our Lord Jesus Christ crucified, died, risen from the dead and ascended into heaven so we too shall know and partake of everlasting life, salvation.

We should also pray for the war taking place in the Ukraine. We pray for a swift end to this as well as that all involved would treat each other as Christ has loved us.

I oh so look forward to seeing you all in church! Soon!

Pastor Phil Rittner



Meeting
Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

February 15, 2022

Church News.

Meeting called to order by Vice President Betty Wilkinson with six (6) members (Betty, Chuck, David E., David M., Jill and Katie), one (1) ex-officio member (Pastor Rittner) and one (1) guest (Phil C.) present.

Pastor Rittner opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: David Easterday made a motion to accept the January Board of Directors Meeting minutes printed in the February Zealant with no correction. David Merryman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Receiving Treasurer: reported by Chuck Cooper

	January 31, 2022	YTD
Unrestricted Offering Receipts	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 4,550.00
Restricted Offering/ Miscellaneous Offering Receipts	\$ 430.13	\$ 430.13
On-Line Giving Receipts	\$ 2,435.00	\$ 2,435.00
Dividends	\$ 308.90	\$ 308.90
Interest	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.78
Total Unrestricted Receipts	\$ 6,985.00	\$ 6,985.00
Total Restricted Receipts	\$ 430.13	\$ 430.13
Total Receipts	\$ 7,726.81	\$ 7,726.81

Katie Rittner made a motion to accept the January report as presented. Jill Coons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Disbursing Treasurer: reported by Jill Coons

Check/Savings as of **January 31, 2022**

General Checking/Savings	\$ 84,137.95
Youth	\$ 11,242.95
Restricted Funds	\$ 27,006.01
Lehmburg Legacy/ Kyler Endowment	\$193,805.79

Statement of Activity

	January 31, 2022	YTD
General Budget	\$ (386.20)	\$ (386.20)
Non-Budgeted/ Reimbursed	\$ (777.07)	\$ (777.07)
Youth	\$ (99.85)	\$ (99.85)
Net Revenue	\$ (1,263.12)	\$ (1,263.12)

Chuck Cooper made a motion to accept the January report as presented. David Merryman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Elders: February 13, 2022

Meeting was opened with Prayer.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Discussed the following: the volume from the sound system and the amount of noise heard during the service.

We have three more proposals on new seat cushions for in the pews. They are for the following approximate amounts: \$9,646.00, \$9,795, and \$9,795.00. The Elders recommend to the Board of Directors that we go with Waggoners for \$9,795.00.

The west entrance railing has been tabled until spring.

Red Cross will be here on Tuesday, March 8.

Average attendance for January was 35

Meeting was closed with the Benediction.

Respectively Submitted,
Stephen Smith (Sec.)

Board of Education:

Board of Christian Education meeting was held on February 13, 2022 those present were Barb Lahrman, Kenny and Barb Knuth, and Judy Gilbert.

Opening Devotions: Read from Portals of Prayer

Minutes: Were approved.

Sunday School Report:

Average Attendance: Students 2021: September 4; October 2; November 5; December 4

2022: January 5

Adults: 2021: September 12; October 13; November 13; December 10

2022: January 11

Barb Knuth is updating our 2021 & 2022 Sunday School directory and year end Sunday School report for the year.

Missions:

We sent \$387.67 to Worship Anew for September and October 2021

We sent \$354.36 to Whitley County Babe for November and December 2021

So far we have collected in January & February \$167.49 for Dr. Jane Weaver (LAMB)

Our missions for March & April is Armed Forces

Our missions for May & June is Destiny Rescue

Old Business:

Barb Lahrman will remain our chairperson for 2022.

We sent valentines to 13 shut-ins.

Pat Decker made 25 treat bags for our children and passed out at our Christmas Program and Christmas Eve in 2021. We are only going to make 20 bags in 2022 not enough children attend.

New Business:

April 10, Palm Sunday, after church we are having a potato bar potluck lunch. Board of Ed will furnish potatoes and all the toppings and congregation is asked to bring salad and dessert.

Other:

We sent out thank you notes to Don and Nancy Gilbert for making pulled pork for Pastors 10th anniversary as our pastor. Patsy Decker for making Christmas treat bags and Tracy Decker for making Kaden Deckers Confirmation cake.

Pastors Report: No report

Library Report: No report

Next meeting is March 13

Respectively submitted by Judy Gilbert

Board of Christian Outreach:

The board is asking for your help collecting items through the season of Lent for personal care item kits to be donated to Lutheran World Relief. Items needed:

- Light-weight dark bath towels, sized between 20x40 52x27
- 8 or 9 oz bath size bars of soap (unopened in original packaging)
- Toothbrush (unopened in original packaging)
- Sturdy comb
- Metal nail clippers

There will be a box across from the mailboxes for the donated items. One the season of lent is over the board will make up the kits and mail them out. Thank you in advance for any donations you can make.

Board of Stewardship:

Praise the Lord for His goodness and blessings!

Board of Youth:

The youth will be hosting a trivia night in the gym on Saturday, April 23, beginning at 6:00 pm. Get your team together (limit 6 people per team). Entry fee of \$100 per team. Door prizes, and prizes for best table theme. Concessions will be available. All proceeds go to sending our youth to the National Youth Gathering in July in Houston. Come and get your game on! Come and have fun! Come support our youth!!

The youth are putting together a cookbook of beloved recipes of Zion for a fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering in July. The more recipes the better! There is a special form to be filled out and you can pre-order as many copies as you like. What a great gift idea to share the recipes we have all come to love and enjoy at potlucks. See Jill Coons for more information.

Pastor:

- Since the move to the Board of Directors – which is running very smoothly and efficiently – there are a couple of things that have to be configured for oversight.
 - The Trustees previously were responsible for the oversight (hire/termination/evaluation) of the church secretary. The Board of Directors as a whole are the Trustees for the church. In an effort to ensure continuation and when the need arises a smooth transition, the Board of Directors in coordination with Pastor are to begin working together with the secretary (Tonya) to put together and keep on file the following information:
 - Job description
 - Detailed daily, weekly, monthly, yearly job duties (i.e., bulletins, newsletter, annual report to the congregation)
 - Specific notes with file locations and any special instructions for specific duties (i.e., annual LCMS 2021 Congregation Year-end Statistics and Lay Leader Updates to Synodical office)
 - In addition, there is confusion on who or whom is responsible for oversight. It was discussed that the Head Elder and the President of the Congregation will hold joint oversight.

This will be a work in progress and both Pastor and Tonya will work together to complete this information.

- Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2 at 7:00 pm with our Ash Wednesday service. Katie will be hosting Soup, Salad and/or Sandwiches before the services at 5:30 pm for anyone interested in coming.
 - March 2 – Tomato soup and Grilled Cheese
 - March 9 – Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad and Bread Sticks
 - March 16 – Chili
 - March 23 – Baked Potato and side salad
 - March 30 – Ham and bean with cornbread – Board of Education
 - April 6 – TBD

Unfinished/Old Business:

The final estimates were presented to Board of Directors for the replacement pew cushions. Jill Coons made a motion to accept the estimate from Waggoners as they offer the best warranty (20 years) and the material will be able to withstand the most use. Chuck Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed. Pastor advised the turn-around time will be around 4 months.

New Business:

Jill Coons made a motion to place undesignated memorial funds to Zion into restricted funds to be used at the discretion of the Board of Director. David Easterday seconded the motion. The motion passed. This does not affect the memorial funds designated for the Altar Guild or for other restricted accounts.

David Easterday requests a peaceful release from the Board of Directors at Zion Lutheran Church. David and Joyce are moving to Pendleton to be closer to family and will be greatly missed by us all. Chuck Cooper made the motion to grant David Easterday a peaceful release from the Board of Directors. David Merryman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

With no further business, Jill Coons made a motion to adjourn. Katie Rittner seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Pastor Rittner closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine (Katie) Rittner, Recording Secretary

LADIES AID

March 3rd & March 17th @ 9am Ladies Aid Sewing Group

SERVING WITH GLADNESS



Easter Flowers



We would like to fill the front of the Sanctuary with colorful pots of flowers and white lilies. You can bring your own and put them in the library room by Wednesday of Easter week.

OR
The Altar Guild will have a door offering on March 27th and April 3rd to purchase flowers on your behalf.

With either way you may fill out the sheet to honor those you wish and give it to an Altar Guild member or put in the offering plate. Look for it in your Sunday Bulletins!

As always, we thank you for your help in beautifying our church for Easter. Donated flowers may be taken after the 10:15 service.

Please remember in your daily prayers:

Lois Duffy, Linda Hobkirk, Maxine Lott, Janice Klopfenstein, Jeanine Slavicek, Jack & Joanne Lane, Ralph Keiper, Lynn Kyler, Ralph Brooke, Ralph Sexton, Steve Smith, Tonya Stanford.

The family's of William Neidermeyer and Sandy Barrett



- 2 Ge'Onna Decker
- 3 Morgan Sawyer
- 10 Alysa Sawyer
- 11 Bonnie Spoerke
- 12 Stephen Yann
- 13 Ryan Bills
- 13 Peggy Brooke
- 13 Kinsley Schuller
- 14 Lily Lane
- 18 Joyce Easterday
- 20 Chuck Cooper
- 25 Joan Lane
- 26 Ethan Crutchfield
- 28 Melinda Puckett



23 Jerry & Barb Lahrman



- Ralph Sexton
- Verna Doehrman
- Brody Hart
- Levi Hartman
- Ralph Kieper
- Mason Knuth
- Maddox Lahrman
- Ryan Bills



March 13th

SPRING is almost HERE!! Flowers will BLOOM!



WORSHIP  WITH US!

Come join us for dinner @ 5:30pm (Soup/Salad/Sandwich) then stay for Lenten Worship
Wednesday Evenings @ 7pm {Menu below}



*Thursday Night Bible
Study @ 7 pm.*



HIGHLIGHTING UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW OFFICE HOURS for Pastor Phil, his days and hours in his study at church are Wednesday, Thursday and of course Sunday. Other hours will be available by appointment. As always, Pastor Phil is available 24/7 for emergencies and for funerals and weddings

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2 at 7:00 pm with our Ash Wednesday service. Katie will be hosting Soup, Salad and/or Sandwiches before the services at 5:30 pm for anyone interested in coming.

- March 2 – Tomato soup and Grilled Cheese
- March 9 – Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad and Bread Sticks
- March 16 – Chili
- March 23 – Baked Potato and side salad
- March 30 – Ham and Bean Soup with Cornbread
- April 6 – TBD

Let's update the Family tree out by the entrance of the gym. Please bring updated pictures of your family. We also need our newer members of Zion especially those who joined us from 2019 to 2022. If your picture is not on the tree then we will need one.

Please put names on the back of the picture and put them in Marty Williams or Peggy Brooke mailboxes. We would like these by March 31.

Thank you.



The youth will be hosting a **trivia night in the gym on Saturday, April 23**, beginning at 6:00 pm. Get your team together (limit 6 people per team). Entry fee of \$100 per team. Door prizes, and prizes for best table theme. Concessions will be available. All proceeds go to sending our youth to the National Youth Gathering in July in Houston. Come and get your game on! Come and have fun! Come support our youth!!



The youth are putting together a cookbook of beloved recipes of Zion for a fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering in July. The more recipes the better! There is a special form to be filled out -find it in the bottom right-hand mailbox, take 1 & then use any paper- You can pre-order as many copies as you like. What a great gift idea to share the recipes we have all come to love & enjoy at potlucks. See Jill Coons or Tonya for more information.



Palm Sunday Potato Bar Lunch, Sunday, April 10 after worship. Hosted by the Board of Education. Potatoes & all of the fixings will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. (Then write out your recipe and put in office mailbox!)

The board is asking for your help collecting items through the season of Lent for personal care item kits to be donated to Lutheran World Relief. Items needed:

- Light-weight dark bath towels, sized between 20x40 52x27
- 8 or 9 oz bath size bars of soap (unopened in original packaging)
- Toothbrush (unopened in original packaging)
- Sturdy comb
- Metal nail clippers

There will be a box across from the mailboxes for the donated items. One the season of lent is over the board will make up the kits and mail them out. Thank you in advance for any donations you can make.

Don't forget that there are 2 easy ways to **donate free money** to the church

2 EASY ways to make Money for the CHURCH

If you shop Amazon, use the link and the church will get a donation from amazon. You are not charged for this, but you must use **smile.amazon.com** If you use our link you just have to click that you want to support the church, you only do this once. Then each time you log on to smile.amazon.com, you will automatically have the church as your charity.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-6041630>

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program:

Simply go to visit **<http://www.kroger.com>**.

Once logged into your Kroger account then you can search for **ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** either by name or **NA108** and then click Enroll.

New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *rewards* card, get your card from the service desk.

We got our first check from Kroger, it stated that there are only 2, yes 2 people signed up for the community rewards program at Kroger, and I am 1 of them!!! If you need help signing up, let me know and I can help you out!

Thanks!!



Coming in April!!!

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1	2 Ash Wednesday Pastor's in Office Lent - 7pm Food - 5:30pm Tomato Soup/Grilled	3 Pastor's in Office 9am Ladies Aid Sewing Grp 7pm Bible Study	4	5
1st Sunday's COFFEE after 6 WorshipToday! 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Srvc W/Holy Communion 1130am Board of Outreach	7	8 Blood Drive goto redcross.org	9 Pastor's in Office Lent - 7pm Food - 5:30pm Grilled Chk Ceasar Salad /Breadsticks	10 Pastor's in Office 7pm Bible Study	11	12 
13 Daylight Saving Starts 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Srvc 1130am Board of Education 1130a Elder's Mtg	14	15 7p - Board Meeting	16 Pastor's in Office Lent - 7pm Food 5:30pm Chili	17 9am Ladies Aid Sewing Grp Pastor's in Office 7pm Bible Study	18	19
20 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Srvc W/Holy Communion	21	22	23 Pastor's in Office Lent - 7pm Food - 5:30pm Bkd Potato and Side Salad	24 Pastor's in Office 7pm Bible Study	25	26
27 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Srvc 1130am Board of Youth	28	29	30 Pastor's in Office Lent - 7pm Food - 5:30pm Ham & Bean Soup w/ CORN Bread	31 Pastor's in Office 7pm Bible Study	1 April Fool's Day	2