

The Mountain Top *Zion Lutheran Church*

Messenger

VOLUME 54, ISSUE # 4 APRIL 2016

Well, April showers getting ready for May flowers. The year is already one quarter over. As I write this we are in the midst of Holy Week, we are reliving the Lord's passion as a reminder of the sacrifice that God made for us by giving His only Son so that our sins would be forgiven. Sometimes, I believe, we do not fully appreciate the depth of that sacrifice. As we look at our lives we all can recall times in which we have made sacrifices. Sacrifices for the good of our children, our spouses, our homes, and our jobs. Some have made even greater sacrifices through their service in the military, protective services, and even at times ordinary people in helping complete strangers. I believe at times as humans when we make sacrifices we tend to make sacrifices for those we feel are deserving of such sacrifices.

Would you make a sacrifice for someone who had wronged you? Someone who had abused you or scorned you? As sinful humans we tend to hold grudges, both knowingly and unknowingly. Our ability for both forgiveness and making sacrifices, which I believe are closely related and actually sometimes the same, is often tied to what we feel in our hearts. We, as Christian, are however reminded that we must always be open to both forgiveness and sacrifice. As proof texts I am going to reference the apostles Paul and John.

Paul writes in *Romans 5*: ⁶ *For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.* ⁷ *For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—* ⁸ *but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

And from John in *1 John 3*: ¹⁶ *By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.* ¹⁷ *But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?* ¹⁸ *Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.*

As we celebrate Easter, as we are reminded of the ultimate sacrifice made by Jesus on that cross, while we were still sinners, remember we are to love in deed and in truth. That means we make the sacrifice, even though we may have been wronged before. We forgive again, even though we have been burned before. We reach out with God's truth, we share God's love. And why, because we know, that because of God's willingness to sacrifice His Son on that Cross and more importantly His willingness to raise Him from that grave after the third day, our sins are forgiven and we have been granted eternal life with Him in heaven.

So my friends, do not fear this world, do not be afraid to sacrifice or forgive. God wasn't and by His glory, through the sacrificial death, and the resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ he claimed you as His own, now and forever.

Blessings to all of you this Eastertide, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Rick



Church Office - 1111 - 11th Ave. W

Ashland, WI 54806

Phone # - 715-682-6075

Website: www.zionashland.org

E-mail - secretary@zionlutheranashland.com

Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479 Office Hours: M/T/W/Th 8:00am-5:00pm

(Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor Williams as he may be visiting shut-in's, at a conference, etc.)

Church President: Nick Jarvela 715-682-0385

Head Elder: Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

Little Friends of Jesus Child Care Center: 715-682-5185

LFOJ Administrator: Karyn Leino 715-682-6075



NEED A PRAYER?



Zion Lutheran Church has two active prayer chains—a daytime and an evening chain. If you would like to have the chain activated to pray for a specific need, please call Marge Douglas at 682-2160. If you reach the answering machine, please leave a message, but then call the church office at 682-6075 and give the request to the church secretary and the chain will be activated. The Prayer Chain members are asked to keep all prayer requests confidential and not discuss them with others, but caller discretion is advised.

Our Prayer Concerns APRIL

Mission

Zion Lutheran Church Little Friends of Jesus Childcare Center Jordan Kroll Mission in China

Thanksgiving

To all of you who have worked faithfully and joyfully to serve our Lord by serving others and often go unnoticed by all but our Heavenly Father.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:

Larry Korbein, Katie Stipetich, Diane Hyvonen, Bob Heggie, Kevin Heggie, Linda Stolarzyk, Sandi (Sorenson) Fletcher, Sheryl Hildebrandt, Wendy Meierotto, Joni Frisco, Rodger Dewey, Brad Prill, David Frantz, Patsy Kontny, Dorothy Rusch, Janice Kuralle, Nancy Zehe, Dean Jansheski, Larry Kaspar, Ingrid Pocernich, Janesa James, Jean Wickman, Fran Fleig, Herbie Ellis and family, Jean Ekholm, Emily Hagstrom, Eddie Brown, Roger Peters, Darr Wade, Johnny Gall

PRAYERS FOR HOMEBOUND

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them. *Gordon & Mariann Vyskocil, Walt Schutte, Dorothy Rusch*

PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families. *Aaron Esala, David Wright, Johanna Pearce*





SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

Greetings All!

Sunday School is going smoothly and our Spring curriculum is now in use! The children seem to be having a blast and enjoying themselves, along with the teachers! We will be reciting the Lord's Prayer and singing a song during a Sunday church service in April. The date is yet to be determined. It's important that we have as many children as possible

attending Sunday School so we can all practice together and learn about Jesus! We hope to see you there!

Thank you,
Renee Bolz, Superintendent



Stewardship Thoughts

As this article for April was being written, this writer sometimes takes for granted the resources available to write an article about stewardship. Wouldn't call that practicing what you preach. Humble pie anyone?

This article comes from the publication "Lutherans Engage the World" where Mark Hofman, the executive director of LCMS Mission Advancement explains that the LCMS is at the forefront of "intergenerational ministry." That is where children and young people are in regular contact with people of mature years and vice versa and all grow together in discipleship.

So the question is, what does this have to do with stewardship? Young people are one of God's greatest blessings. The LCMS invests time, talent, toil and treasure in the next generation of Christian disciples.

One example is the Synod's official archive the Concordia Historical Institute where young people can learn from our mistakes and joys as they learn to lead and carry the Gospel forward into the world.

We invest in Lutheran Schools, from daycare (LFOJ) to universities and seminaries as well as ministering to young people from local youth groups to the office of National Mission's Youth Ministry.

Lastly, we invest in our young people through catechesis, intentional instruction in the chief parts of the Christian faith using a treasure handed down from one generation to the next over nearly 500 years: Luther's Small and Large Catechisms. The LCMS also equips pastors, directors of Christian outreach, school teachers and others to support the parent's task of raising up a child in the way God wants that child to go.

Apparently what we do has caught the attention of other Christians who are beginning to seek us out. To God be the glory!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!!!!

Galatians 6:10 - As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all [men], especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Grief Support Services. - Facilitator Training August 3 & 4, 2016

Event Cost: \$250.00 includes lunches, breaks, all training materials and 13.5 CEU's [the cost will be covered by the church]

Event Type: Continuing Education, Grief

Date(s): 8/3/2016 Time: 8:15 - 4:30 pm

Location: Duluth, MN

Facility: Essentia Health-St. Mary's Medical Center (Duluth)

Description:

The purpose of the Bereavement Support Group Facilitator Training Program is to train those who will be developing and facilitating bereavement support groups. This comprehensive program is designed to teach participants about the grief and bereavement process, facilitation skills, group process and learn how to develop and organize a support group.

If you are interested please speak with Lynn in the office (682-6075).

PRAYER LIST PROJECT – We need someone to take on a new project for our people on the prayer list. We would like to dedicate a section on the bulletin board for those on the list. It could include their names, maybe pictures, updates on their conditions for those who are ill, or where our military people are located, thank you notes from these people, etc. If you are interested please contact the office.



Lost and Found



There are many items in the cloak room that have been left. Please check it out if you have any missing items. They are at the end of the hangar rack when you first enter the cloak room. We will be remove any remaining articles in May.

LWML Rally at Zion Lutheran Church

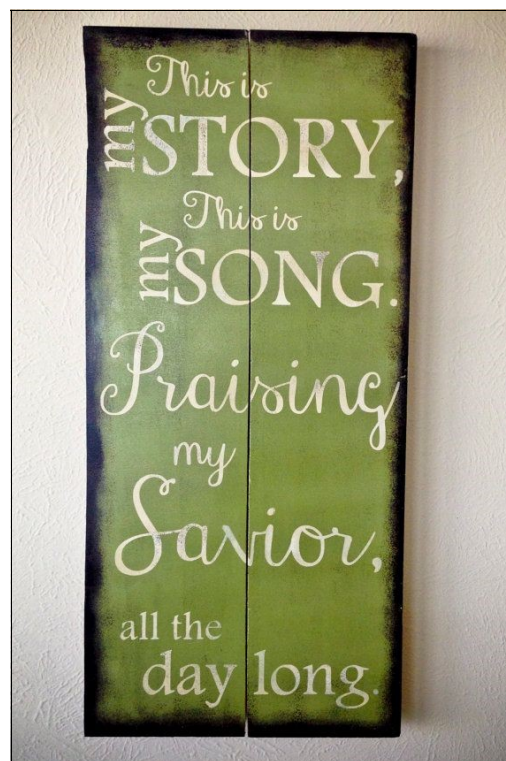
Saturday, April 23, 2016

Registration: 9:30

Rally begins at 10:00

Theme:

This is My Story; This is My Song
Gifts of the Hearts to Ashland Cares
Please join us for a wonderful program with other area churches.
Lunch will be provided.



THRIVENT

Are you an eligible Thrivent member with Choice Dollars available to direct?

Each year, eligible Thrivent members are designated Choice Dollars based on their qualifying insurance premiums, contract values and volunteer leadership. If you're an eligible Thrivent member with Choice Dollars available to designate, you can help strengthen our community by directing them to Zion Lutheran Church.

In fact, this past year eligible Thrivent members directed \$2,183 to Zion Lutheran Church. Thank you to those members who participated in the Thrivent Choice program and helped support our church's mission by directing Choice Dollars!

Choose to make a difference by directing Choice Dollars today. Simply visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions.

Thanks!

Sandy Nutt, Zion's Thrivent Advocate

Something to Behold!



School is cancelled today for we woke up to a full-blown spring blizzard. As I look out our blurry bay window, a nor'easter wind-tunnel is blasting snow and bending our landscape. Weighted trees sway and gusty snow-squalls dance through the yard. Through snow-blotted windows, I watch deter-

mined birds ride the wind-waves. I eagerly put out seed-treats to invite birds to the front door. Human and nature seek shelter together. This scene is something to behold.

In our journey of faith, we often focus on the "gentle" moments of Jesus: the babe of Bethlehem, the Good Shepherd, the Heavenly Father. But there is more. God is also the God of the storm: the flood, the betrayal of Joseph, the plagues, the Angel of Death, the despair of Job, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, and the final blow of the cross. But there is more. Three days later, the power of sin and death is blasted by the empty tomb and our hearts are bent to proclaim: *Christ is Risen Indeed!* This dance of faith is something to behold!

Yes, we belong to the great-gusto God. The God who energizes the winds of grace, ignites hungry hearts of faith, fuels eager hands of healing, transforms the weight of despair, drives human betrayal to reconciliation, throw opens hospitality to the poor... and so much more. May we remember in times of stillness and in times of storm to seek shelter in Christ. His amazing grace is something to behold.

APRIL MISSION



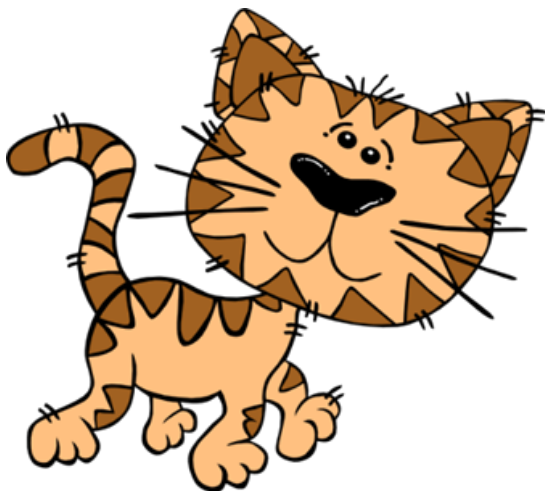
Chequamegon Humane Association Inc. 

Keeping animals off the street since 1980

www.CHAadopt.org

You may donate any of following items during the month of April.

- First Class postage stamps
 - canned cat food
 - cat treats
- laundry detergent (powdered preferred)
 - Ink cartridges (Epson 126 or 127)



Zion Lutheran Council Minutes: March 14, 2016

The March 14, 2016 Church Council Meeting was called to order by President, Nick Jarvela. Pastor opened with prayer and devotion. Pastor's devotion was on priorities.

Jesus Christ and his disciples stopped at the house of Martha in Bethany, about two miles from Jerusalem. Her sister Mary lived there, along with their brother Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to his words. Martha, meanwhile, was distracted with preparing and serving the meal for the group. Frustrated, Martha scolded Jesus, asking him whether he cared that her sister had left her to fix the meal alone. She told Jesus to order Mary to help her with the preparations. "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:41-42)

For centuries people in the church have puzzled over the Martha and Mary story, knowing that someone has to do the work. The point of this passage, however, is making Jesus and his word our first priority. Today we come to know Jesus through prayer, church attendance, and Bible study.

Roll Call: Nick Jarvela (President, Trustees), Lynn Ladd (Education), Lisa Guski (Co-treasurer & LFOJ),, Mary Koosmann (Financial Secretary) Chuck Chronis (Stewardship), Carol Key (Co-treasurer)

February 2016 Minutes: Motion to accept minutes by Guski, second Key MMC.

Treasurer's Report: . Motion to accept monthly statements by Chuck, second Mary. MMC

Meeting Agenda: Motion accept agenda by Chuck, second by Carol MMC.

Pastor's Report: Pastor attended the 'Best Practices Ministry Conference' in Phoenix, AR in February and said it was a wonderful event and would like to take others to it next time if the opportunity is available. He started his spring class March 7th and has registered for the summer intense course in St. Louis, but hasn't heard if he made the cut. He continues with LFOJ Chapel monthly, had 10 worship services, one that was graciously taken by Darryl Warren while he was in Arizona, four bible studies, 5 visitations, attended Elders' meeting, did an opening for the dart ball league since Zion was hosting the tournament, completed new member and refresher class, will be doing a memorial service for Howard Fuhrnan in Iron River in June and now preparing for Holy Week.

Treasurer's Report: . Motion to accept monthly statements by Chuck, second Mary. MMC

Board Reports:

Trustees: Monthly inspections were accomplished.

LFOJ: Waiting lists have been updated. LFOJ served Soup/Sandwich on 2/24 and the proceeds will go towards the replacement deck, exterior paint and fencing. Their next fundraiser will be the selling of Dutch Mill bulbs. Parent/Teacher Conferences were March 14th.

They are planning an open house in April. In April Karyn and Amy will attend the Directors' Gathering in Wausau. LFOJ would like to have a garden.

Old Business:

Boiler - Jarvela reported the one boiler had failed again, then started. Blakeman was called in and a new igniter was ordered. Trustees will continue to monitor the boiler and Blakeman will come in when necessary. These changes are still under warranty. Even though one boiler goes out, there are still two more to take its place.

New Business:

B LFOJ Garden – LFOJ would like to start a garden. The state and Star both recommend having a garden since it provides some fresh garden supplies and teaches the children at the same time about growing, caring and eating fresh vegetables. They will start out small to see how it goes. There are grants out there for supplies to get started. A motion to allow LFOJ to start a garden within the fenced area by Chuck, seconded by Carol. MMC

Meeting closed with **The Lord's Prayer**.

NEXT Church Council Meeting is April 18, 2016, at 5:30 pm. Respectfully: LCL

**APRIL
Servers for
Worship
Services**

Our Servers for our Worship Service are very important. We ask that if you are unable to serve on your designated date, please find someone else to take your place. We really appreciate your help in this matter!! If you would like to be added or taken off one of our lists please contact the office. Greeters and Ushers should arrive 20 minutes before services start. Thank-you to all who serve.



ELDERS
 April 3 Darryl Warren & Doug Warren
 Apr. 6 John Pruss
 Apr. 10 John Pruss & Darryl Warren
 Apr. 13 Doug Warren
 Apr. 17 Doug Warren & John Pruss
 Apr 20 Randy Spangle
 Apr. 24 Andy Pruss & Randy Spangle
 Apr. 27 Andy Pruss

_Acolytes
 April 3 Ashlee Moreland & Trista Bolz
 Apr. 10 Kyle Sapper & Logan Esala
 Apr. 17 Taylor Warren & Terrell Butterfield
 Apr. 24 Heather & Emily Dickrell
 May 1 Ella Bauer & Abbie Moreland



Ushers
 April 3 Chris Bolz & Todd Vyskocil
 Apr. 10 Tim Bauer & Andrew Wickman
 Apr. 17 Karl Williams & Adam Hinch
 Apr. 24 Cody Sunie & Warren Draeger
 May 1 Jerry Frisco & Henry Truchon

GREETERS (Please use name badge—small box on the bottom shelf by the office door)
 Apr. 3 Ethel Guss & Penny Mattson
 Apr. 10 Adam Hinch
 Apr. 17 Truchon Family
 Apr. 24 Heather Gust & Linda Stenroos-
 May 1 Ron & Brenda Schwiesow



**ALTAR
Guild**
 Sandy Frisco 682-5401
 Judy Nevala 682-2927
 Stephanie Wegener 682-9822

Little Friends of Jesus-
Preschool and Daycare
1111 11th Ave. W.
Ashland, WI 54806
715-682-5185



Zion Lutheran Church
1111 11th Ave. W.
Ashland, WI 54806
715-682-6075

secretary@zionlutheranashland.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Mite Sunday Elders Mtg. 7:45am Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am	4 10:00am Bible Study	5 LFOJ Chapel 11:00am	6 LFOJ Chapel 11:00am Confirmation 6- 8pm Worship 6:30pm	7	8	9
10 Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Trustees Mtg. 10:15am	11 10:00am Bible Study	12 Sewing Circle 1:00pm	13 Court Manor 10:15am, AHRC 1:45pm Confirmation 6- 8pm Worship 6:30pm	14	15 <i>Newsletter Items Due</i>	16
17 Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am	18 10:00am Bible Study Church Council Mtg.	19	20 Confirmation 6- 8pm Worship 6:30pm	21 Winkel Trinity Glidden	22	23 LWML Spring Rally 10:00am
24 Food Shelf Sun- day Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am	25 10:00am Bible Study	26 Sewing Circle 1:00pm	27 Confirmation 6- 8pm Worship 6:30pm	28	29	30