

April 2024



The Mountain Top Messenger

APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Elders: April 7 Doug 10 John S 14 Andy 17 Darryl 21 Scott 24 John P 28 John S May 1 Doug 5 Andy						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study 2:00pm LGP	8 10:00am Bible Study	9 1:00pm Sewing Circle	10 Hospice 6 Weekly 10:30-12 Hospice Monthly 1:00-2:30 6:30pm Worship Service	11	12	13
14 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study	15 10:00am Bible Study 5:30pm Council Mtg	16	17 Hospice Monthly Mtg. 1-2:30pm 6:30pm Worship Service	18 9:00am Winkel	19	20
21 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study 2:00pm LGP	22 10:00am Bible Study	23 1:00pm Sewing Circle	24 6:30pm Worship Service	25	26	27
28 8:45am Sunday School 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study	29 10:00am Bible Study	30	ALTAR GUILD Kathy Osmak 715-292-6207 Sandy Nutt 715-663-1110 Baptism: Valerie Jean Gogle 3-11-2024			

Regional Hospice Services:
 6-Week Sessions: April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15
 10:30am -12:00pm
 Monthly Meeting: April 17
 May 15, June 19, July 17,
 August 21 1:00-2:30PM



Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia! I was considering ending the newsletter cover there, because after that what else is there? You know what it means, because our Lord and Savior is risen from the dead. We who have been baptized into His death, have also been baptized into His life, and we to shall Rise Again! Alleluia!! Jesus Himself couldn't have said it any more clearly than He did in *Mark 16:16* "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." Pretty plain and simple; baptized and believing, you're in. Not baptized and/or not believing, you're out. Two options, only two. Sheep and Goats.

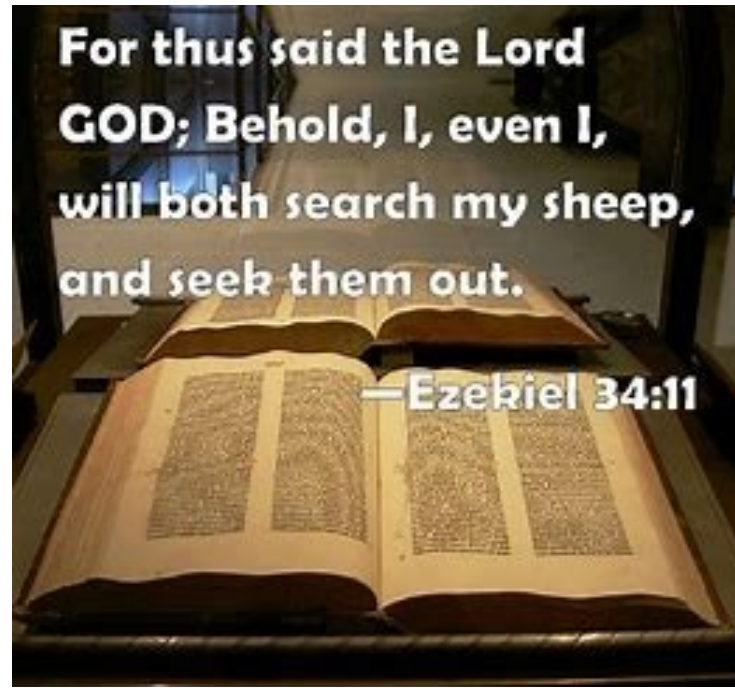
As I was considering what to write I was thinking about the world today, how convoluted and confusing it is. How it seems to do its best to confuse us. It seems when I was younger things were much more clear, much more simple. There weren't the choices, the overflow of information. Today, even though I am sure it was there before, today, there seems to be so much deception and greed. You have to be careful in everything that you do. Every time you turn around someone is trying to scam you, deceive you, do their best to make what is yours, theirs.

It reminds me of a few weeks ago. Some scammer sent out a text to a number of members of this congregation. It came from a cellphone number that wasn't mine, but stated that it was from me. It said that I was working with several women who were suffering from cancer, and I needed their help. I needed them to buy Apple gift cards and send them to me. But don't call me to ask about it because I am in a meeting and can't be disturbed. To the best of my knowledge none of you succumb to that scam, if you did please let me know so we can report it. I did report the number where the message came from but it was a bogus number and the people behind it will probably never be caught, at least not on this side of salvation. I want you all to know, regardless of the situation, I will never, email, text, Facebook, instant message, or any other form of digital communications to ask you for money. And if you ever experience anyone claiming to be me, please let me know so we can take what action we can to try and stop it and prevent anyone from being sucked in. I am thinking there will be a special little place in Hell for these folks.

(continued on the next page)

(continued from the cover page)

Well enough on that little rant. I wanted to let you know that I am going to be doing a special series using the Book of Ezekiel during this season of Easter, from now until Pentecost. I thought it would fit well as the folks in the Sunday Bible Study have been working through Ezekiel for several months now. The themes for the next seven weeks include; A New Shepherd, A New Covenant, A New Heart, A New Glory, A New River, A New City, and for Pentecost – A New Life. The Main theme for the series is All Things New!



What a great thought for spring. All things new. I don't know about you, but I am ready for some new things of spring. While it has been a very mild winter, for me at least it seems like it has been long, and I am longing for some warmer weather, some new fresh green grass, some new fresh green buds and then leaves on the trees. I am going to keep this a little shorter this month and I am going to close with a big thank you. A thank you to all of you, for helping to make this a memorable Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. I found this season to be spiritually refreshing for me and I pray it was that way for you too. Thanks again for all that you all do here at Zion. God bless and always remember: Christ is Risen!

The Lord Bless you and Keep you, the Lord make His face Shine upon you and be Gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with Favor and give you Peace!

He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

Pastor Rick

Alpha and Omega

Jesus depicted with the alpha and omega letters in the catacombs of Rome from the 4th century

Main article: Alpha and Omega

The use since the earliest Christianity of the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet, alpha (α or Α) and omega (ω or Ω), derives from the statement said by Jesus (or God) himself "I am Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last the Beginning and the End" (Revelation 22:13, also 1:8 and 21:6).



Back row : Paul, Pastor, June, Rick, Clyde,
Front row: Curt, Olivia, Brooklyn, Dylan, Mike, Shirley
The Zion Team took 1st Place in the regular season and 2nd Place for the tournament.

Bible Trivia Answers

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| The Gospels | 40 | 5 loaves and 2 fishes |
| Paul | Barnabas | He kissed Jesus. |
| Luke | Philippi | The chief priests had persuaded the crowd to demand his execution. |
| Revelation | 2 years | |
| Good news | Malta | |
| Herod the Great | Seven | Greek |
| Matthew | Patmos | Revelation |
| River Jordan | Pearl | Mark |
| Turning water into wine | Bethlehem | Zacharias |
| Zacchaeus | To escape from King Herod, who wanted to kill Jesus | Luke |
| Elijah and Moses | Nazareth | Mathew |
| Dipped a piece of bread and passed it to him | Turning water into wine | Stephen |
| Golgotha | Sleeping | 40 |

Zion Lutheran Church Council
March 18, 2024

Call to Order – John Pruss, President

Opening Devotion – Darryl Warren, Head Elder

Roll Call - John Pruss, President Darryl Warren, Elder & Education
Nick Jarvela, Trustees Jule Jarvela, Secretary
Andy Pruss, Treasurer Wendy Shields, Evangelism
Joann Martikonis, LFOJ

Approval of Minutes – 1- Daryl Warren 2- Nick Jarvela MMC

Pastor's Report – None

Treasurer's Report – As printed . Rename Organ Fund to Capital Projects Fund where dona-
tions collected for LCEF Loan will be deposited.
Nick Jarvela 2- Darryl Warren MMC

Approval of Agenda – 1- Nick Jarvela 2- Joann Martikonis MMC

Board Reports

Elders – None

Trustees – Roofing update, new Janitor hired, roof fund at \$546. Flower beds to be removed
and grass planted

Financial Secretary – None

LFOF – Attendance changes, need Zion member for Board, Culver's fundraiser on April 2, 4-
9PM

Evangelism- New member welcome on April 21st, Lisa Eyerly book discussion on April 28th,
Church Picnic on August 4.

Official Acts

Baptism – Valerie Jean Gogle 3-11-2024

Old Business - None

New Business

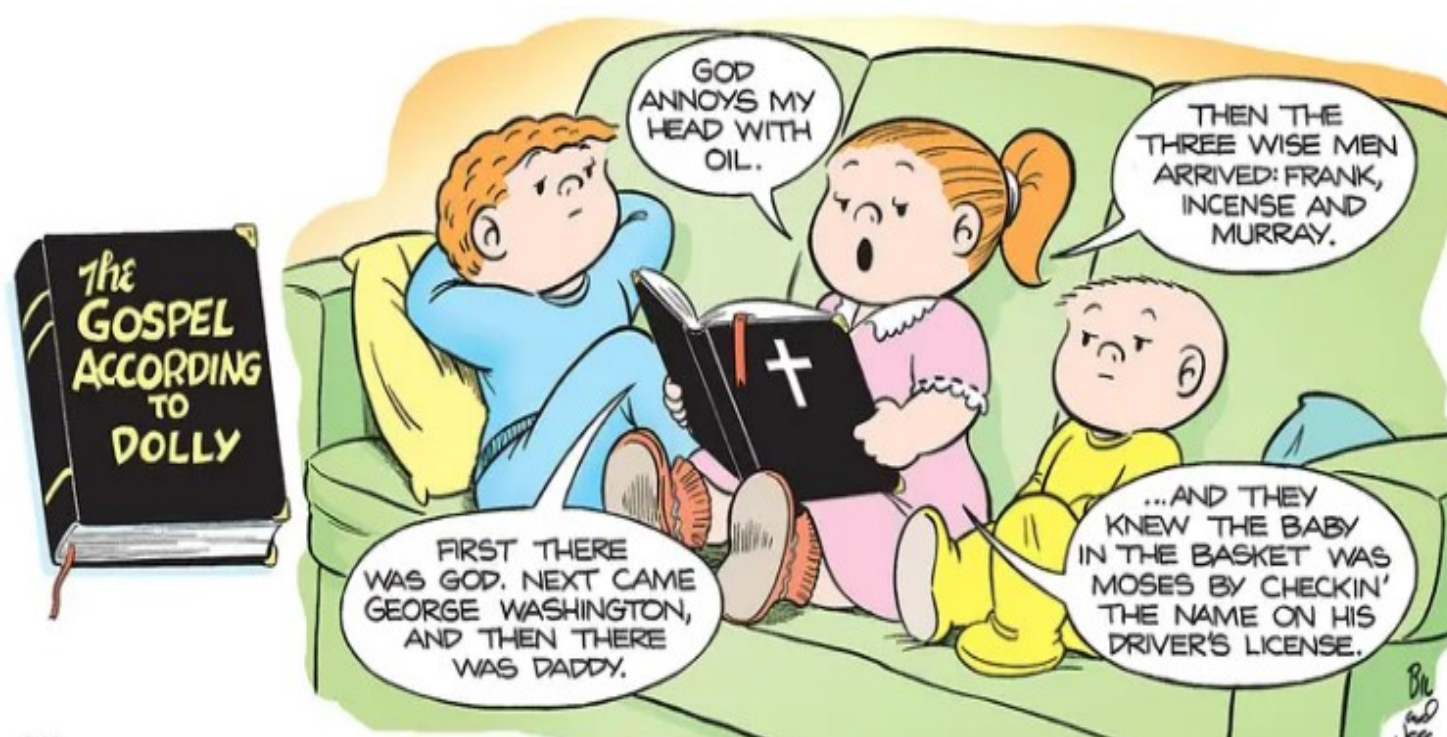
Fund raiser update

Next meeting – April 15, 2024

Adjournment – 1- Andy Pruss 2- Darryl Warren MMC

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Jule Jarvela, Secretary



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1111-11TH AVE WEST
ASHLAND, WI 54806

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am live streamed
Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm
Sunday School - 1st – 8th grade Sunday 8:45am
Bible Studies
Sunday 10:15am Monday 10:00am

Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479

Office Hours: M /T/Th 9-5 Wed. 12-8 Fri. off
Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor.

Office Secretary Lynn Ladd 715-682-6075 Office Hours M/W/Th 8:30-2:30
Days and times may change.

Church President: John Pruss 715-292-4825 **Head Elder:** Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

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

LFOJ Administrator: JoAnn Martkonis 715-682-6075

Website www.zionashland.org **E-mail** secretary@zionlutheranashland.com

PRAYERS for Home-bound, Assisted Living, Nursing Home

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them.

Ingrid Pocerlich
Arlene Zimmerman
Violet Basina

PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families.

David Wright
Jordan Thimm
Andrew Pruss

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:



Brad Prill	Riley Bretting
Vi Basina	Mike Trimble
James Fletcher	Jamie Klema
Sheryl Hildebrandt	Mike Ariens
Harold Larson	Karen Piff
Diane Beiersdorff	Molly Colgrove
Linda Stenroos	Linda Parrish
Steve Key	Cory Nyara
Tim Erickson	Chuck Sandor
Patty Hmielewski	John Belany
Jean Wickman	Carl Kubley
Janet Houle	and those in our hearts

Dear Lord, "We come to You today with heavy hearts, as we lift up those who are in need of prayer. We ask that You would bring healing and restoration to their body, mind, and spirit" Amen.

1. What is the common name given to the first four books of the New Testament?
2. Who wrote most of the books in the New Testament?
3. Who wrote the Acts of the Apostles?
4. Which book comes last in the New Testament?
5. What does the word gospel mean?
6. Who was the king of Judea at the time of Jesus' birth?
7. Which gospel records the fewest of the miracles performed by Jesus?
8. In what water was Jesus baptized?
9. What miracle did Jesus perform at the marriage in Cana?
10. Who was the tax collector that climbed up a tree so he could see Jesus?
11. Which two Old Testament characters appeared with Jesus at the transfiguration?
12. How did Jesus reveal the one who would betray him?
13. Where was Jesus crucified?
14. For how many days did Jesus appear to his disciples after his resurrection?
15. Who went with Paul on his first missionary journey?
16. Paul and Silas were imprisoned during the second missionary journey, but in what city did this happen?
17. During Paul's third missionary journey, roughly for how long did he minister in the school of Tyrannus at Ephesus?
18. On what island was Paul shipwrecked as he made his way to Rome?
19. How many churches of Asia Minor were there?
20. On what island was John when he was given the vision of Revelation?
21. In the New Jerusalem described in Revelation, what are the twelve gates made from?
22. Where was Jesus born?
23. Why did Joseph take Mary and Baby Jesus to Egypt?
24. Where did Jesus grow up after returning from Egypt?
25. What was Jesus' first miracle?
26. As Jesus and His disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat, a big storm arose. Jesus rebuked the wind and waves and the storm disappeared. What was Jesus doing when the storm arose?
27. Jesus miraculously broke just a few loaves of bread and fishes and fed 5000 men, along with women and children. How many loaves and fishes did he start with?
28. How did Judas identify Jesus as the one to be arrested?
29. On Good Friday, Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate for trial. Why did Pontius Pilate condemn Jesus to death?
30. What language was most of the New Testament originally written in?
31. What is the last book of the New Testament?
32. In which Gospel did Jesus say and quote: "Everything is possible for one who believes."?
33. What is John the baptizer's father's name?
34. Who wrote Acts of Apostles?
35. What is the first book of the New Testament?
36. What was the name of first Christian who was stoned to death?
37. For how many days and night was Jesus fasted?
38. Which wood has been used by Noah to build the ark?

Now that I've hit a new decade of years on this earth I find some of the trivia lists that I have to agree with, making me old. So here are a some of them.

19 Things Old People Love That The Rest Of Us Don't Understand.

Gossip - *Is this on the descend, hope so.*

miss out on.

Telling You Who Died

Giving Direction Despite The Fact We All Use

Their Gardens - *Many have gardens but not to the extent of "what used to be".*

GPS Now - *Still prefer written instructions especially those that include, 'turn left at Mac-D, one block after the church.*

People Watching

Saying Hello To Babies - *Hope that never ends.*

Stereotypical Old People Music

Precious Moments Figurines - *They still sell them?*

Watching The News

Telling Everyone About Their Ailments

Casino Slot Machines - *Wouldn't know who the cliental are since I'm never there*

Candies - Candy Necklace, Fruit Slices (hard and , Candy/Gum cigarettes (*we thought we were so cool*), Easter nonpareils, , Hard Candy assortments (strawberry filled bon bons, root beer barrels, butterscotch discs, thin ribbon candy [*always in our Christmas treat bags from Sunday School*]. Circus peanuts (*my dad's favorite*) Mello Cups (*Cups of Gold –Aunt Ina would always send a box of them from California for Christmas. Starting December 1st we were always watching for the mailman's car to drop off a package. By the mailbox. That day no one whined about having to go out*

Facebook - *Since I don't do Facebook, I don't understand this one.*

Fine China and Silverware

Soap Operas

Recliner Chairs - *Won't give mine up.*

Talking About The Weather - *What else are you going to talk about.*

Being Naked In Gym Locker Rooms - *I hated middle school gym class*

Admiring The Scenery - *Too many places to*

LFOJ Update

The center is doing well! We had some illness go through this past week, so we are hoping for healthy kiddos soon. Our

Rooms are almost full with space left only in the 3 year old room.

One of our assistant teachers has completed all her classes, so she is officially a lead teacher! She has such a creative side, and it has been so fun to have her take over the Toddler room.

A new teacher started last Month and has been a wonderful addition for our Learner Room. She is very soft spoken and patient

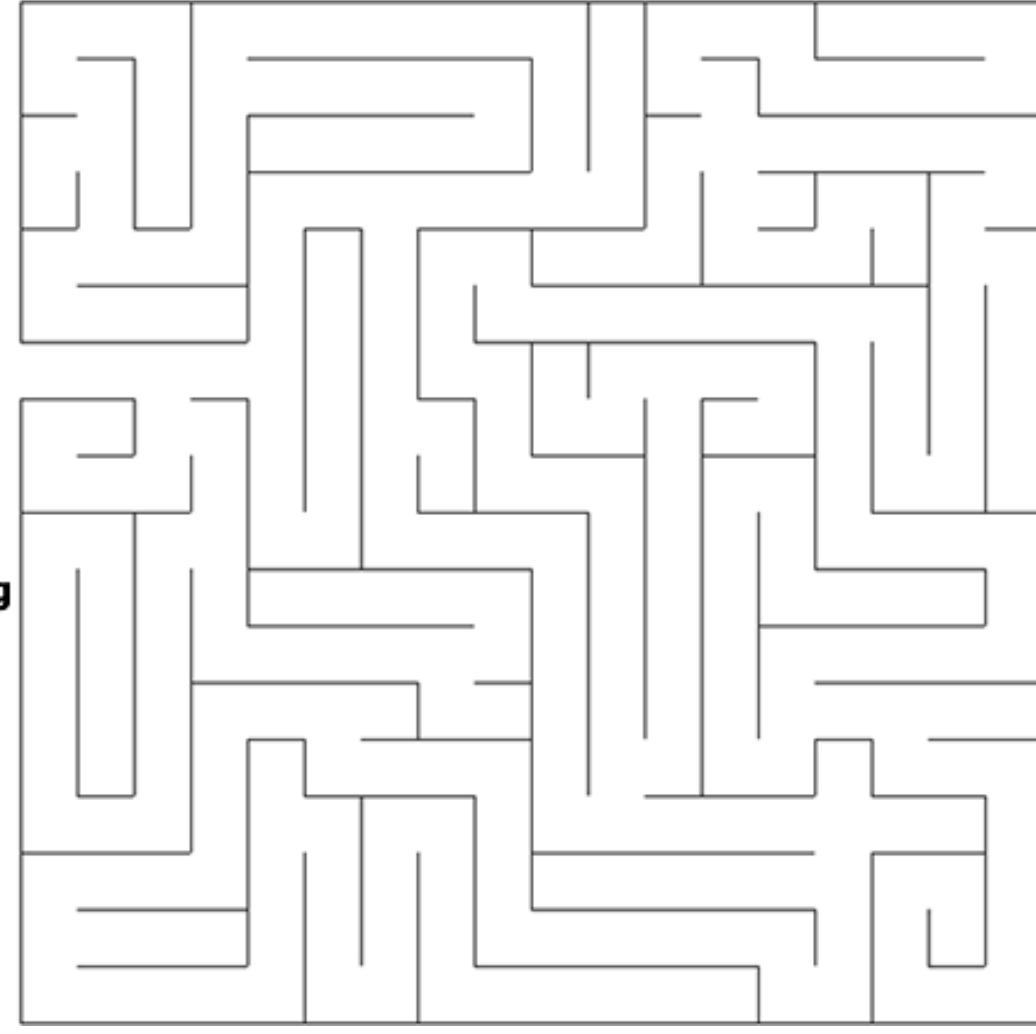
with the children. She has been fitting in very well and has an adorable 3-month-old.

We are planning a family night for April 18. It will be a planting party where kids and families can decorate a pot and take a plant home or plant some flowers around the center!

Our chocolate fundraiser raised over \$1500 for the center and Our Culvers Fundraiser brought us just over \$775. Thank you to all who helped and participated.



From
Doubting



To
Believing

H O M A G E T E M P L E
 K W C L O T H E D E A D
 S J E R U S A L E M L K
 I I C J I E K R H N D H
 Y T N E S S R E C E E P
 A N S A S N S E R H A V S S K J
 H R N M I N F A R E A S S K J
 T H E O T T U F P H L E
 E C P R A I S I N G B W
 F O R G I V E N E S S P

Christ	suffer	rise
dead	repentance	forgiveness
sins	preached	nations
Jerusalem	witnesses	promise
Father	clothed	power
Bethany	blessed	heaven
homage	temple	praising

DATES TO REMEMBER

Regional Hospice Services:

6-Week Sessions: April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15 10:30am -12:00pm
Monthly Meeting: April 17 May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21 1:00-2:30PM

Sunday, April 28th 10:15am following the church service. **Book Discussion** - Liisa Eyerly has set her murder mystery book "Obedient unto Death" in the ancient city of Ephesus, Turkey, book discussion for April 28th. Our church has copies of the book to check out in the office. Those who have already read it highly recommend it. You'll have approximately 21 days to read the book.

SENIOR'S LAMENT

A few days ago I was tooling along through a neighborhood on my wheelchair when I noticed a young boy sitting on the retaining wall in front of his house, crying as if his heart was breaking.

I pulled alongside the youngster and asked, "Son, what's the matter? Why are you crying so?"

"I'm... cry... crying 'cause I can't do what my 20-year-old brother does," he said.

So I sat there and cried with him.

WHAT WAS THAT AGAIN?

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me.....I know we've been friends for a long? time.....but I just can't think of your name. I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally, she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

PRAYERS BEFORE BED

I'm a nurse in a hospital's children's ward. One night, I was at the nurses' station when I heard a little boy in his room talking. He kept the patter up for some time. Finally, I got on the intercom and said softly but firmly, "All right, Johnny, it's time to go to sleep now." There was quiet in the room, and then he said, "OK, God, I will." I didn't hear a peep from him until morning.

Ezekiel: All Things New!

Ezekiel is one of the Judean exiles deported along with King Jehoiachin to Babylon in 597 BC. Five years into the exile, in the year when Ezekiel would have begun his duties as a priest at the age of thirty, God called him to be a prophet. And what a prophet he was! Ezekiel's extensive use of symbolic actions, angelic intermediaries, numerology, and vivid visions make him one of Israel's greatest spokesmen.

Through it all, Ezekiel describes the death of one world and the rise of a new one. Ezekiel 1-33 depicts Israel's exile and demise but beginning in Ezekiel 34 the prophet announces the *Gospel*. God will make **All Things New!**

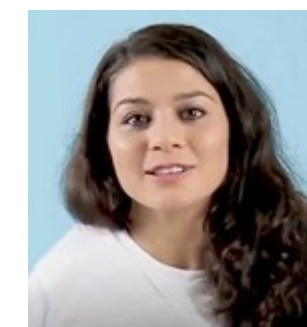
All Things New! What a grand and glorious theme for us during our joyful Easter Season!

Preaching plans are as follows:

A New Shepherd (Ezekiel 34:11-16)	April 7, 2024
A New Covenant (Ezekiel 34:25-30)	April 14, 2024
A New Heart (Ezekiel 36:24-29)	April 21, 2024
A New Glory (Ezekiel 43:1-5)	April 28, 2024
A New River (Ezekiel 47:1-12)	May 5, 2024
A New City (Ezekiel 48:30-35)	May 12, 2024
PENTECOST A New Life (Ezekiel 37:1-14)	May 19, 2024

Raelin D'Alie, 3x3 Basketball (Italy) [2021]

Raelin D'Alie is five-foot-four and grew up in Racine, Wisconsin. But over the next couple of weeks, she'll be representing Italy as a member of their three-on-three women's basketball team. The 33 year old, who has represented Italy for the past 10 years, made the basket that qualified Italy in the Olympics after going 0-9 to start the game.



Last year, D'Alie's season with Virtus Bologna was shut down because of the pandemic. "I'm a person of faith, so how I respond to suffering is I pray and I sing to God. I told my roommate, 'This is a real hard hit for Italy.' And we prayed that God would use this moment to also give them one of the greatest joys that they ever experienced in a short amount of time," she [told The Journal Times](#). "I know that Italy is so proud that we're going to the Olympics and I really hope to do something incredibly special for Italy, especially because of the suffering they've gone through for the last 18 months."