



# The Mountain Top Messenger

ZION LUTHERAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, ASHLAND, WI FEBRUARY 2020

Welcome to February, the month of Groundhog Day, valentine's day, president's day, and Martin Luther's birthday. Quite the busy month, on a personal note I also have a PAL's conference and a conference in Phoenix. Just like all the others lately I believe this one will fly by as well. I don't know how February will go, nor what is going to happen to the groundhog, but I have to admit, at this point winter hasn't been that bad, and we seem to be on the downhill side now. I know March and April can have their snows, but we also know they won't hang on forever. I am going to go on the premise that Spring is right around the corner. I did have one hold over item from last month, I need to be flogged, I have completely forgotten to thank everyone for all of their Christmas wishes, cards, and gifts, I also failed to get any thank you notes out for all of you who remembered me on my birthday. When I was a child my mother made sure that my brother and I always sent thank you notes to everyone who sent us any type of card or gift for an occasion, and often we could not play with whatever we received until we had written the thank you. Alas, I have failed her and all of those who remembered me, for this I apologize. I am still intending on getting some thank you notes out, but at this point that seems to be slipping away and falling behind all of the new things that are accumulating. So, I am going to do what seems to be the appropriate and the Christian thing to do, I am going to beg forgiveness, both from those to whom I owe a thank you and to the Lord. And in so doing I will try and change my sinful ways and do better. But, caveat here is, I am human, and though I do not want to fail at this again, there is a strong possibility that I will. I think Paul said best in Romans chapter 7:

*<sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.*

We are weak, we have sin as our very nature, it is a constant struggle to do what is right considering our nature, the devil, and the world all trying to convince us to ignore what is good and right. How do we handle this, and can we overcome this? Paul gives us that answer as well as he continues in Romans → → →

**Pastor Rick Williams -**

715-209-0479

**Office Hours: M/T/Th  
8:00am-5:00pm W 12-8pm**

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

**Office Secretary**

Lynn Ladd 715-682-6075

Office Hours M-W 8-3

Days and times may change up-on need of work.

**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:**

Karyn Leino 715-682-6075

**Website**

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

**E-mail**

[secretary@zionlutheranashland.com](mailto:secretary@zionlutheranashland.com)



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**1111—11TH AVE WEST**

**ASHLAND, WI 54806**

**715-682-6075**

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am  
Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm  
Sunday School 10:15am (Sept.-May)  
Bible Studies  
Sunday 10:15am Monday 10:00am

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*<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?*

*<sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Christ has saved us, He, through the power of the Holy Spirit will help us, He will give us the strength to push through our sinful nature and do that which is pleasing in His sight. He does it through His means of Grace, through His Church and our Christian fellowship. And while we struggle and sometimes fail, God, through the Grace of Jesus Christ forgives us our sin, keeps us in His tender care and allows us to carry on in this life and promises us everlasting peace, love, mercy, and grace in the next one.


I will try and do better in the future.

May God our Father, and Jesus Christ our brother, protect you and keep you in His grace until the day of His return.

Amen.

Pastor Rick





*Life is fragile  
handle with Prayer*

**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:

Linda Larson-Nelson  
Kevin Heggie  
Brad Prill  
Mary Bullis  
Lloyd Koosmann  
Marty Kaarre  
Rebecca Gurske  
LeAnn Billing  
Angie Guski

Tim Smith  
Kate Smith  
David Kaarre  
Jim Bullis  
Theresa Koosmann  
Penny Mattson  
David Gustafson  
Ellen Hudgeson  
Duane Lynch

Bob Heggie  
Alice Balmer  
Mary Siefers  
Mike Dimich  
Helen Korpela  
Penny Larson  
Elsie Guski  
Curtis James  
*and those in our hearts.*

**PRAYERS for Homebound, 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.

Walt Schutte  
Madge Houle

Arlene Zimmerman  
Donna Graves

Violet Basina  
Nancy Zehe

**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

Emily Melecha  
Andrew Pruss

Tucker Melecha

*When you can't put  
your prayer into  
words, God hears  
your heart.*

The Super Bowl is February 2. In a never-ending effort to reach the unchurched, some churches are translating their unfamiliar terminology into familiar phrases. It is hoped to help initiate football fans into the complexities of church life.

**BLOCKING:** Talking endlessly to the pastor at the church door and keeping everyone else from exiting.

**DRAFT CHOICE:** The decision to sit close to an air conditioning vent.

**END ZONE:** The pews.

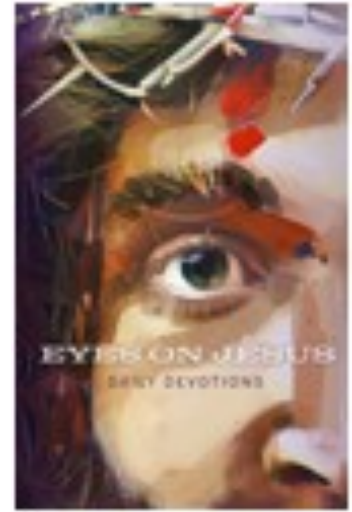
**EXTRA POINT:** What you receive when you tell the preacher his sermon was too short.

**ILLEGAL MOTION:** Leaving before the benediction.

**INTERFERENCE:** Talking during the organ prelude.

**TWO MINUTE WARNING:** The pastor's wife looking at her watch in full view of the pastor.

**QUARTERBACK SNEAK:** Sunday School teacher entering the building five minutes after classes begin.



## **EYES ON JESUS**

**Daily Devotions** will be put out by the office door around February 16th. These devotions will go along with Wednesday night Lenten services.

### **MINUTES FOR ANNUAL MEETING DECEMBER 1, 2019 Postponed to December 29, 2019**

Prayer by Pastor Rick

Attendance – New Members NA

Reading of the 2018 minutes 1<sup>st</sup> Nick Jarvela 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron Schwiesow MC

Financial report 1<sup>st</sup> Lynn Ladd 2<sup>nd</sup> Peggy Draeger MC

New business

1. Board Officer elections - still need to fill positions for Elders, Education, Stewardship and Evangelism
2. 2020 Budget – 1<sup>st</sup> Lynn Ladd 2<sup>nd</sup> Jule Jarvela MC
3. Annual Meeting – Motion to hold annual meeting in February  
1<sup>st</sup> Nick Jarvela 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron Schwiesow MC

This will allow time to have a complete assessment of the year along with the annual report. Therefore the next annual meeting will be February 2021

Adjournment 1<sup>st</sup> Sandy Frisco 2<sup>nd</sup> Jule Jarvela MC

Lord's Prayer

# “Eyes on Jesus”

## Resources for Lent–Easter Preaching and Worship

Sermon series by Carl Roth

Contributors: Jonathan Schkade, Lisa M. Clark, Matthew Machemer,  
James R. Pierce, and Aaron Schian

### GENERAL INTRODUCTION

O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Gradual for Lent, based on Hebrews 12:2)

When the characters in the Passion narrative look at Jesus, what do they see? In most cases, people misunderstood who He is and what He was doing. In some cases, by faith, people recognized Him aright. Our Lenten series this year, based on the Gospel according to St. Mark, will examine how the various people around Jesus viewed Him—and how we should view Him. We will “fix our eyes” on what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death, and celebrate what God sees on account of His work: our justification for His sake.

On Ash Wednesday, we will see how, in spite of Jesus’ repeated predictions about His upcoming Passion, the disciples with “Misjudging Eyes” fail to recognize that soon He will not be with them, and they cannot see the anonymous woman’s anointing of Jesus as preparation for His burial. But Jesus sees her actions as a beautiful deed that will be proclaimed throughout the world wherever the Gospel is heard.

At our midweek service after the First Sunday of Lent, we will look through Judas’s “Betraying Eyes” and learn why he did this awful deed. Yet the behind-the-scenes-reality is that Jesus was “handed over” (another way of translating the verb for “betray”) by God the Father Himself, so that Jesus could die for the sin of the world.

“Sleepy Eyes” is the theme for the second week of Lent. In Gethsemane, Jesus’ inner circle of Peter, James, and John cannot keep their eyes open to watch and pray with Jesus for even an hour, while Jesus comes to see that His Father’s will is that He drink the cup of God’s wrath when He comes to the “hour” of His suffering.

In the third week of Lent, we stare into the “Denying Eyes” of Peter and the other apostles. They could not see how they could ever fall away from Jesus, but after Jesus is betrayed by Judas, ten of them flee, and Peter—when he is spotted by a servant girl and sees that his own neck is on the line—sees fit to deny Jesus, which leads to his own eyes weeping in remorse. We sinners likewise deny our Lord in many ways, but Jesus denied Himself to take up the cross for our salvation.

“Murderous Eyes” is the theme of week 4 in Lent. The chief priests and scribes saw Jesus as an obstacle to be rid of by murdering Him through the Roman judicial system. Yet during the Passover festival, they would unwittingly bring about the Father’s sacrifice of the ultimate Passover Lamb.

(continued on next page)

In the fifth week of Lent, we look through the “Worldly Eyes” of Pilate, the Jewish leaders, and the Roman soldiers. Pilate can only view matters in a worldly, pragmatic way, wishing to placate the worldly Jewish leaders and crowd, so he consents to handing Jesus over for crucifixion. The soldiers see the opposite of a worldly king, but their ironic hailing of Him as “King of the Jews” proclaims who He really is. The world looks for power and glory; God’s way is suffering and the cross.

On Maundy Thursday, there is “More Than Meets the Eye” to the Lord’s Supper. We will look into the Old Testament background of the Last Supper and rejoice in the mystery that Jesus, in and with, bread and wine, gives us His body and blood in order to deliver to us the benefits of His Passion.

On Good Friday, we look through “God’s Eyes” to see what is happening during the Passion: the once-for-all atonement for the sin of the whole world and the justification of all sinners on Easter.

“Resting Eyes” is the theme for Holy Saturday. Various disciples rested their eyes upon the dead Jesus, cared for His body, and buried it. As Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus rest their eyes upon the sealed tomb and on February further anointing of His body the next day, they cannot see that Jesus’ own eyes are merely resting temporarily, and Easter morning will bring a dramatic reversal.

Finally, Easter Sunday gazes upon “Angel Eyes.” The angel in the tomb knows the whole story of Jesus’ resurrection. When he sees the women, he proclaims the Gospel to them, shows them where Jesus’ body had formerly lain, and tells them that they can see Jesus themselves in Galilee. Likewise, the “angels” or messengers of the Church in the apostolic ministry tell God’s people where they can find Jesus and His salvation in the Means of Grace.

## In the Word

### LWML

*Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations ... (Psalm 119:89–90a).*



## Of the Word

Isn’t it amazing how many things have changed in our lifetimes? Travel that may have taken our grandparents days or weeks can now be done in hours. We can be almost anywhere in the world within minutes, thanks to the Internet. Things don’t even look the same as they did when we were growing up. Televisions, appliances, and the car in the driveway have all undergone dramatic changes.

Change doesn’t always come easily to us. We may yearn for a slower pace, a simpler lifestyle, or an uncomplicated telephone!! We sometimes ask, “Why can’t things just stay the same?” But change is inevitable!

With all that is changing around us, how wonderful it is to know that God’s Word is the same for all time. What He said yesterday still stands today. His promises to love us, grant us peace, and never leave us are still in effect. God hasn’t changed His plan of salvation for us, and it won’t be any different tomorrow.

*“... the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever”*  
(1 Peter 1:24b–25a).

## Walking with my Lord

Loving Father, I am grateful that Your unchanging Word and love are always there to give me strength. Help me to cling to it in all of life’s situations. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

## Chili Feed and Cook Off

Sunday, February 9th -(after Bible Study)

Bring your best chili concoction and find out how it ranks with the crowd. People will be given a sample from the ones they would like to try. There will be prizes for the winners in various categories.

There will be a sign-up sheet for sides and desserts.

Proceeds will go to the funding of the front steps.



### Above All, Please Jesus

2020 is just another year. 365 days. 8,760 hours. 525,600 minutes. Just a tad more than 31 million seconds. For a follower of Jesus, the importance of this short period of time is exclusively connected to how you invest it for eternity. When the budget is lagging, when staff and volunteers resign, and when the critics pile on, how we react in those moments should be governed by a moment yet to come. I want to hear "well done" when that moment comes. Commit in 2020, above all, to please the One who called you to this task. - *By Joel Rainey*

Below is the January 13th Final Jeopardy answer—how many of you know the question? Two of the three contestants knew the question. I will bet our percentage of answering correctly will be a lot higher.

**Category: The Bible**

**This book of the Bible ends with "Fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys"**

Check with others and see if they have the same answer.



January 29, 2019

Alice Ellis

In January, Herb and I invested in a treadmill. We both know walking is good for us, but we realize that icy winter roads are a challenge; an in-home treadmill was the solution. We also felt that if we could watch DVD's while walking, we were more likely to meet our walking goals and enjoy the opportunity. Thus, we bought a cheap TV from Walmart and installed it right in front of the treadmill. We were ready!

Each day now, we walk up to 2 miles, and already are feeling that our legs are stronger. But the real bonus has been to watch the BBC *Planet Earth* series and explore many different types of landscape.

Thanks to *Planet Earth*, we have walked on tall mountains, desert dunes, prairie flatlands, and even on ocean water. We have seen bearded vultures along the Ganges River, foxes in the Arctic, yellow-billed hornbills in the Kalahari Desert, pikas in Tibet, squirrel monkeys in the jungle, humpback whales near the Aleutian Islands, killer whales in the waters of Antarctica, birds-of-paradise in the rainforest, and so much more. The photography of this amazing series dives underwater to swim with sting rays, rolls in snowbanks with polar bears, stalks moose in the forest, sways with elephants on savannahs, witnesses wildebeest cross rivers, huddles with penguins in winter, snorkels coral reefs with octopi, zooms in on awakened cicadas...the beauty of planet earth reaches beyond human imagination and instructs us how animals and humans adapt to seasonal changes and environmental limitations.



Through this "virtual" journey, we now have a better understanding of God's creation and why "He saw that it was good." For as we see and learn more about our planet, we also see that *it is good*. And this magnificent view inspires us to treasure the earth and let gratitude define our response. For ecosystems are fragile, the needs of animals and humans are great, and it is only through "smart" stewardship that we care



## Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting: January 20, 2020

**Call to Order** by President John Pruss.

**Opening Devotion and Prayer:** Pastor Rick reminded us that Christ came to be our servant. Let us “choose” to be His service to show the glory of God.

**Roll Call:** John Pruss- President, Nick Jarvela- Trustees, Alice Ellis- Secretary, Mary Koosmann- Financial Secretary, Darryl Warren- Elders, Pastor Rick Williams.

**Motion to approve** November 11/25/19 meeting by Warren. Second by Jarvela. MMC.

**Pastor’s Report:** Advent and Christmas went well. Pastor’s recovery on schedule. Installing new computers this month. Pastor will be at PALS Feb. 9-12. Pastor will be in Phoenix Feb. 17-26. Monday Bible study is in the Book of Amos.

**Motion to approve** Treasurer’s report by Warren. Second by Jarvela. MMC.

**Motion to approve** Agenda by Warren. Second by Ellis. MMC.

**Board Reports:** Trustees by Jarvela. Approved \$416 to Blakeman for annual Furnace inspection. Lift certificate is in the lift. Looking for replacement to sewage pump.

**Official Acts:** Death: Michael DeLasky. December 27, 2019

### **Old Business:**

Chili Feed/Cook-off will be held at Zion on February 9<sup>th</sup> after morning Bible Study. Freewill offering will be applied to spring repair of front entrance.

### **New Business:**

**Camp Luther** will send a rep for a short presentation to encourage summer campers.

**Motion to apply \$1000 donation from Washburn Iron Works** to front entrance projects by Jarvela. Second by Warren. MMC.

**New Plan for Soup/Sandwich meal during Lent.** Please NOTE two Wednesdays will be “pot luck” sign up to include others who may not serve on committees. Altar Guild/LWML- Ash Wednesday February 26. Pot Luck sign-up sheet for March 4<sup>th</sup>. LFOJ March 11<sup>th</sup>. Pot-luck sign up for March 18<sup>th</sup>. Sunday School/Confirmation March 25<sup>th</sup>. Elders/Evangelism April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**LWML request.** Starting March 1, LWML will head up Mission of the Month projects (doing 1 project every 2 months) which means 6 projects each year. They will often focus on local needs. Council enthusiastically received their offer.

**Memorial Donation of \$1000 from Es Guitar (Lee).** Council recommends to Memorial Committee to consider a “funeral table and cloth” for Urns during Funeral Service.

**Motion to Adjourn** by Jarvela. Second by Warren. MMC.

**Next Council Meeting: February 10<sup>th</sup> (NOTE CHANGE)** at 5:30 pm.

Meeting closed with MLK prayer by Pastor Rick, and prayer for our national leaders. Council then joined in *The Lord Prayer’s*.

Respectfully submitted: Alice J. Ellis

## **FOOD SHELF SUNDAY**

### **Last Sunday of each Month**

The BRICK appreciates your food donations each and every month. It truly helps our community giving those who are need of food to sustain their life. It’s hard to believe that these days there are still some who are surprised by a layoff, lose their home, have a dysfunctional family, can’t cope with life. They need a helping hand and Zion tries to provide some help every month to

## KinderCamp at Camp Luther

Are you looking for a special place to bond with your youngster? KinderCamp is a program designed to allow parents (or aunts, uncles, godparents, or other significant adults) to experience an incredible weekend at camp together with your child (Pre-K to Kindergarten). Our trained staff will lead a variety of fun, engaging activities, allowing you to relax and enjoy creating those unforgettable memories. Visit [campluther.com/weekend-camps](http://campluther.com/weekend-camps) to learn more!



## 4th of July Family Camp at Camp Luther



Bring the whole family to celebrate the 4th of July Northwoods style! Enjoy an incredible weekend at camp, with awesome activities like kayaking, swimming, cooking out over a fire, and campfire devotions. In addition, enjoy a fun-filled 4th of July parade in the nearby town of Three Lakes and a truly spectacular display of fireworks on Saturday

night. Register at [campluther.com/family/#july](http://campluther.com/family/#july)

## Camp Luther Cottages

Slow down your pace of life for a while. Go snowshoeing in the quiet, white-covered woods. Join your kids in squeals of joy tubing down the hills. Get in your much-needed quiet time with God in front of a warm fireplace.

Book a cottage at Camp Luther and enjoy your time in nature, reconnecting with God and the ones you love. Visit [campluther.com/book-a-cottage](http://campluther.com/book-a-cottage)



## Keweenaw Base Camp -- "Bring a Friend"

Bring a friend to KBC this summer and if either of you has never been to KBC before you'll each receive \$75.00 off of your registration! That's right - \$75.00 off of your registration and your friend's registration! Visit [campluther.com/](http://campluther.com/)

CAMP LUTHER, 1889 KOUBENEC RD, THREE LAKES, WI 54562  
(715) 546-3647 [CAMPLUTHER.COM](http://CAMPLUTHER.COM)



## New Plan for Soup/Sandwich Meals during Lent

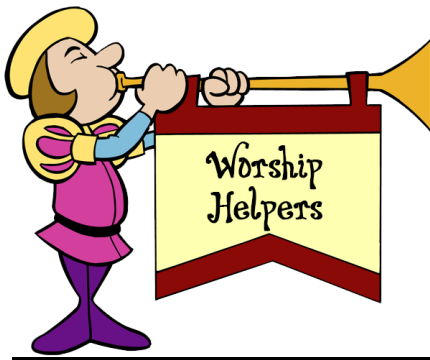
Currently we are short a couple committees and some people are on more than one committee, so that doesn't leave very many people preparing for our Soup/Sandwich Meals. Therefore we are going to have two Potluck meals giving the opportunity to those who may not serve on committees to participate. The Potlucks will be whatever people would like to bring. Also, we hope that others would help with the clean-up afterwards.

Ash Wednesday February 26 Altar Guild/LWML  
March 4<sup>th</sup> Pot Luck sign-up  
March 11<sup>th</sup> LFOJ  
March 18<sup>th</sup> Pot-luck sign-up  
March 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday School/Confirmation .  
April 1<sup>st</sup> Elders/Evangelism



# FEBRUARY 2020

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Mite Sunday <b>Worship 9:00am</b> Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am LGP 2:00pm	<b>3</b> 10:00am Bible Study Dartball Saron Lutheran 7pm  Evangelism Mtg. 5:30pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Confirmation 4-5:30pm <b>Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>Worship 9:00am</b> Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am <b>Chili Feed &amp; Cook Off 11am</b> PALS Conference →	<b>10</b> <b>Council Mtg. 5:30pm</b> Dartball Washburn Methodist 7pm	<b>11</b> Sewing Circle 1pm	<b>12</b> <b>Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <b>Worship 9:00am</b> Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Trustees' Mtg. 10:15am LGP 2:00pm	<b>17</b> Pastor at conference in Arizona →	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>Newsletter Reports Due</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Food Shelf Sunday <b>Worship 9:00am</b> Sunday School 10:15am → → → →	<b>24</b> → → → →	<b>25</b> Sewing Circle 1pm → → → →	<b>26</b> <b>Soup/Sandwich Supper 5-6pm</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>Worship 6:30pm</b> → →	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>




Our Helpers 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.

**February Elders Acolytes Ushers Greeters**

Jan. Wed. 29	Randy			
<b>Sun. 2</b>	Darryl Doug	Ayeisha	Tim Bauer	Don and Lauri Moreland
Wed. 5	Scott			
<b>Sun. 9</b>	Randy John	Gloria	Chris Bolz	Kathy and Clarence Osmak
Wed. 12	John Darryl			
<b>Sun. 16</b>	Doug	Sophia	Pat Colgrove	Tiffany Darling
Wed. 19	Scott			
<b>Sun. 23</b>	Randy	Faith	Nick Jarvela	Ethel Guss Diane Beiersdorff
Wed 26	Scott	Adeline	Warren Draeger	Linda Stenroos
<b>March Sun. 1</b>	Darryl Randy	Austin	Curt Harpster	Nick & Jule Jarvela

**OFFICIAL ACTS**  
Death: Mike Delasky 12-27-2019

**February**  
Kathy Osmak 715-292-6207  
Sandy Nutt 715-663-1110



*Thou shalt love  
the Lord thy God  
with all thy heart,  
and with all thy soul,  
and with all thy mind.*

MATTHEW 22:37

Kristina Aschenbrenner, from Camp Luther will be at Zion on Sunday, February, 16th, to tell you about their camp offerings. She will have a table in the Narthex and will answer questions after the service. Be sure to ask her about "Every Kid to Camp" scholarships for first time attendees.