



APRIL 2004

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Tidings

The monthly newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church

Zion Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Southern Ohio Synod
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Easter: we're almost there!

We are now coming to the end of our Lenten journeys.

On Palm Sunday we will sing praises to God. Holy Week will begin. You can tell when the climax of the story is near. Time slows down until we can take it all in and feel the full effect. Our senses are heightened as we attempt to integrate what's happened.

Now we are almost there, almost at the hour when Jesus' death itself was overcome, the death become life – the victory we so need. Now time stands still for us to remember all that has gone before. No time of the year is so full of the heritage of faith; at no other time in the church year do we gather together all of the richest metaphors and symbols of our faith.

During the next week, we will wrap the great stories of faith like a blanket around ourselves. We recall our ancestors and God's saving work among us throughout the ages – creation from a word, the earth washed clean in the flood, the deliverance at the Red Sea, dry bones given life again, the miracle in the fiery furnace and others. The baptismal font beckons us to affirm our baptisms, to remember and confess our welcome into the community of faith, and maybe to welcome others into the faith.



The gospel reading draws us out of our holy recollections and into the events of the story again. Now we are prepared. We know where we have come from before – we peek into the tomb with the women and Peter. We hear the angel say, "He is not here, but has risen" and we know again that life is always God's way with us. Death is defeated. We can dance through the holy Eucharistic meal, each one confessing the truth of the story.

Light the Church! Shout Alleluia! Celebrate with high praise! He is risen!

On Easter we are able to feast with abandon. He who was dead lives. The promise has been fulfilled. Flowers, which begin again the cycle of life, surround us.

See EASTER, Page 3

Zion Lutheran Church
 Mission Statement
 "To share the
 Good News of
 God's love shown
 to us through
 Jesus Christ; in
 gathering for
 worship, Baptism,
 and Holy Communion;
 through studying
 God's word in order
 to share an active
 faith; providing
 loving service
 to our community."



Men sponsor lunch

There will be no men's group meeting in April because the second Sunday of the month is Easter. But, the Men's Group will sponsor a Mother's Day barbecue lunch on Mother's Day here at Zion following worship that day. More details later. Mother's Day is May 9.

'The Chosen People'

At 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 25, Rev. Steve Ger from Chosen People Ministries will be with us to give a presentation on "Jesus in the Passover Meal." All are invited. Guests are welcome as well. For more information, see the Pastor.

Bowling ends

The bowling season ended with a potluck at St. Paul's Church in New Rome on March 14.

Karen Brooks bowls with the *Just for Fun* team while Malenie Hadidon, Arlene Castor, Joyce Gossett and Linda Koch are on the *Zion Strikers* team.

The Strikers tied for third place and were awarded \$50 for the charity of their choice which was the Good Samaritan Food Pantry. Each bowler in the league was given a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Target Stores.

April happenings?

- 4 Palm Sunday, confirmation 5 p.m.
- 5 adult choir 7:30 p.m., AA 8 p.m.
- 8 Maundy Thursday Worship 7 p.m.
- 9 Community Good Friday Worship, Free Will Baptist Church, 7 p.m.
- 11 Easter, early service 7 a.m., breakfast 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., worship 10:30 a.m.
- 12 adult choir 7:30 p.m., AA 8 p.m.
- 13 Council 7 p.m.
- 15 Weight Watchers 6 p.m.
- 17 Esther Mae Baker's birthday party

- 19 adult choir 7:30 p.m., AA 8 p.m.
- 22 Weight Watchers 6 p.m.
- 26 adult choir 7:30 p.m., AA 8 p.m.
- 29 Weight Watchers 6 p.m.

Those who serve ...

April 4 – greeters, Anne Marie and Alex Lutz; acolyte, Tyler Hadidon; lector, Louise Johnston; worship assistant, Malenie Hadidon; nursery, Nathan McNutt/Sally Hurt.

Maundy Thursday – lector, Susie Taylor; worship assistant, David Ritchie.

April 11 Early – greeter, Linda Koch; lector, Louise Johnston; worship assistant, David Ritchie.

April 11 10:30 – acolyte, Tyler Hadidon; lector, Linda Koch; worship assistant, Wesley Porter;

April 18 – greeter, Joyce Gossett; acolyte, Niki Biler; lector, Susie Taylor; worship assistant, Wesley Porter; LSS Food Pantry donation from Jerry and Paula Paulins in honor of their anniversary April 16.

April 25 – acolyte, Kate Mahon; lector, Dana King; worship assistant, Joyce Gossett; LSS Food Pantry offering from Bob and Dortha Feddern.

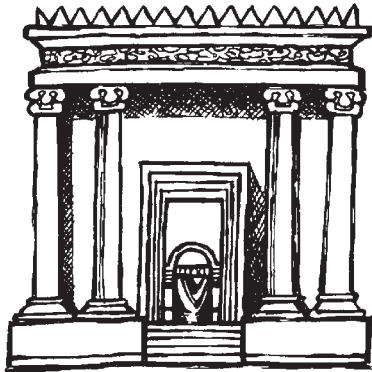
Lift up in prayer

Lift these people up during your daily prayers: Angie, Sylvia Bailey, Dorothy Byerly, Maxine Campbell, Minerva Casto, Pete Cavinee, Bob Christ, Jeffery DeLong, Charles Edwards, Ray Flowers, Doug Forrest, Gwin Gaines, Doug Gast, Fred Goldstein, Jim Kline, Randy Kythe, Don LeFavour, Judy MacLaughlin, Ron McNutt, Paula Morgan, Dorothy Mumford, Skip Nitz, Rose Owens, Robert Richards, Rob Robinsons, Steve Russell, Don Schiff, Sarah Starner, Debbie Terry, Wallace Ward, Debbie Warner and Pat Woods.

Tell it to the Judge!

In Florida, an atheist became incensed over the preparation for Easter and Passover holidays and decided to contact his lawyer about the discrimination inflicted on atheists by the constant celebrations afforded to Christians and Jews with all their holidays while the atheists had no holiday to celebrate.

The case was brought before a wise judge who after listening to the long, passionate presentation of his lawyer, promptly banged his gavel and declared, "Case dismissed!"



The lawyer immediately stood and objected to the ruling and said, "Your honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case? Surely the Christians have Christmas, Easter and many other observances. And the Jews why in addition to Passover they have Yom Kippur and Hanukkah...and yet my client and all other atheists have no such holiday!"

The judge leaned forward in his chair and simply said: "Obviously your client is too confused to know about or to celebrate the atheists' holiday!"

The lawyer pompously said, "We are aware of no such holiday for atheists, just when might that be, your honor?"

The judge said, "Well it comes every year on exactly the same date - April 1st!"

The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'

Psalm 14:1, Psalm 53:1

Easter is almost here

Continued from Page 1

The aroma of bread and wine reminds us that the holy meal is a celebration this day, for in it we confess that life is stronger than death under God's reign and we have seen it with our own eyes. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Join us this week for a Holy Week experience. On Palm Sunday (April 4), we began our worship service with the procession of palms and a song of thanksgiving. Then on April 8, Maundy Thursday, we continue by gathering for worship here at Zion at 7 p.m. as we remember, "our Lord, Jesus Christ, in the night in which he was betrayed. . ." In keeping with our Lenten theme, we will hear about the

Blood of Christ. On Good Friday we have the opportunity to join the community for a community Good Friday service at the Free Will Baptist Church at 7 p.m. Our Easter Sunday experience will begin at 7 a.m. where our Lenten theme will be completed as we hear about the *Body of Christ.* Our Festival worship service will take place at the usual 10:30 a.m. time slot. Easter breakfast will be served between 7:45 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. that morning. Please come and join the celebration.

He is Risen!

Pastor Dennis

GOD

IS

LIKE...



BAYER
ASPIRIN

HE WORKS MIRACLES.



FORD

HE'S GOT A BETTER

IDEA.



COKE

HE'S THE REAL THING.



HALLMARK
CARDS

HE CARES ENOUGH TO
SEND HIS VERY BEST.



April Birthdays

- 4/1 Willie Harrison
- 4/3 Ward Weber
- 4/4 Harry Keckley
- 4/5 Jena Sterling
- 4/7 Danielle Jenkins
- 4/10 Loretta Durban
- 4/15 Esther Mae Baker
- 4/16 Richard Bausch
- 4/29 Julie Feddern
- 4/29 Norma Hicks
- 4/30 Carol Mahon

April Anniversaries

- 4/16 Jerry and Paula Paulins – 16
- 4/24 Bob and Dortha Feddern – 55
- 4/26 Timothy and Melinda Biler – 18

May Birthdays

- 5/1 Larry Johnston
- 5/2 Alex Lutz – 7
- 5/3 Nathan McNutt
- 5/4 Joshua Gelber – 13
- 5/5 Jim Feddern
- 5/6 John Hall
- 5/7 Ginny Fogt
- 5/9 Paula Paulins
- 5/12 Ralph Connor
- 5/14 Johnny Balderson – 8
- 5/15 Linda Collins
- 5/18 Bob Feddern
- 5/25 Rick Hurt
- 5/26 Steve Midura
- 5/29 Nell Sheller
- 5/30 Dick Hurt

May Anniversary

- 5/24 Ron and Milly McNutt – 30

Want to submit
an item for
the newsletter?

Contact Susie Taylor
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