



Zion Messenger

April 2024

REJOICING, REACHING OUT, and RENEWING,
we share the joy of the gospel, through a life of faith.



Rejoice in the Lord always!

*¹⁴Do all things without murmuring and arguing, ¹⁵so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.
(Philippians 2:14-15)*

*⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 4:4-7)*

It is easy to complain; it seems to be our nature to criticize. How different would our lives or world be if we were to think less in terms of criticism, scarcity and complaints, and more in terms of joy and gratitude? Philippians tells us to rejoice in the Lord always!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! With all that God has done for us in Jesus, how can we do anything BUT rejoice in the Lord? With all the blessings God has bestowed upon each of us, we have no reason to complain. Our lives are not perfect, but they **are filled with joy because of God's love for us in Jesus.**

Our society can be so critical and judgmental, but God calls us to live differently. We are to do all things without murmuring and arguing, **SO THAT** we can shine like stars in the world.

A colleague of mine shares that when he was growing up, his mother finally grew **weary of her family's complaining.** She posted a "Gratitude White Board" on the refrigerator. Before going to bed each night, every member of the family had to write at least one thing for which they were thankful that day. Before long, he says, the griping and complaining subsided, and his family was able to see life for the blessing it truly is.

For what or whom are you thankful this day? What if we started and/or ended **each day with such a question? Wouldn't** our lives be more peaceful and content if we let our attitudes be changed and directed by our gratitude?

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!
What more can be said? If we can't or don't rejoice in this, we are most to be pitied and have nothing else for which to rejoice! There's always plenty of opportunity to belly-ache about our families, our country, the economy, the church, the synod, our jobs, whatever... Perhaps there is a time and place for that, but the only way we will ever recover our joy is to embrace the long-lost art of gratitude. Let us be grateful. Let us give thanks. Let us rejoice in the Lord always!

With gratitude for all of you
and the ministry we share,

Pastor Carol



Corner

God is with us always...

President's

There is no shortcut to spiritual maturity. We need trials in our lives to help our faith grow stronger.

My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4 (NRSV)

In John 16:33 Jesus made a promise to His followers: "Here on this earth, you will have many trials and sorrows" (NLT). I can understand that, since this world is opposed to Jesus and all He stands for. But I've always had a hard time understanding how I'm supposed to count those trials and sorrows as joy. I do want my faith to become "mature and complete," but still — joy? Then I heard a story from a friend that changed my perspective on trials.

One spring Mike's neighbor gave him some duck eggs and explained how to incubate them. Mike watched the eggs carefully; he couldn't contain his excitement when he saw the baby ducks trying to break their way out. When he noticed that some were struggling, he helped them by breaking off parts of the eggshell. Sadly, those baby ducks died. His neighbor later told him the babies needed that initial struggle to help them gain strength. So despite trying to help, Mike had actually killed some of the baby ducks.

Just as those baby ducks needed the struggle to grow physically stronger, we need trials in our lives to help our faith grow stronger. There is no shortcut to spiritual maturity. To get there, we have to travel a road of trials, difficulties, and sorrows. But we can persevere because of the second half of John 16:33. The One who travels with us declares, "But take heart, because I have overcome the world" (NLT).

I found this in Guideposts written by Dianne Neal Matthews and just had to share.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Blessed Easter!
Tammy Reigle



The LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him!

(Habakkuk 2:20)

In one of my classes, we were discussing Henri Nouwen's writings on being in silence. While we were discussing the topic of silence, each one of us acknowledged that it is difficult for us to spend a moment in silence. Every single one of us agreed that when we spent more than a few seconds in silence, our minds started to wonder and we began having eternal conversations with ourselves. It also got us to think of reasons why we get nervous and scared of being in complete silence.

Some ideas were that it is because we are always surrounded by some kind of noise, such as the ticking of the clock, the humming of the refrigerator, or the traffic driving by. Noticing that we are always surrounded by some type of noise might be why we get nervous when there is silence. As a parent, the silence might be scary because that usually means your child or children are up to something mischievous.

Although silence may make us uneasy at times, the bible reminds us sometimes it is good for us to be in silence. In Job 33:33 Elihu tells Job, "If not, listen to me; be silent, and I will teach you wisdom." When we are silent, we can gain some great wisdom. We can gain wisdom from others when we are silent in the conversation and truly listen to what the other is actually saying and not just thinking about how we are going to respond. Silence is also a wonderful way to help us to become recentered and refocus our minds.

When we even take just a few minutes in silence and focus on our breathing, it helps us calm our minds so that we can focus on the task ahead without becoming too overwhelmed. Sitting in silence can also help us reconnect with God. When we sit in silence outdoors, we can catch glimpses of God's great creation that we may usually overlook. The bible even tells us about occasions when Jesus took time away from the noise to be in silence. In Mark 1:35 Jesus got up while it was still dark and went to a solitary place to pray. In Luke 5:16 after Jesus healed the man with leprosy, Jesus withdrew from the crowd to a lonely place to pray. Jesus shows us that at times we just need to step away from the noise and find a solitary place where we can be in silence and reconnect with God.

So, again I ask, why are we nervous about being in silence? Let us take some time to be uneasy by following Jesus' example and find time to be in silence so we can reconnect with God, even if it is for only a few minutes each day. When we practice Jesus' example just a few times we may find out that there is peace and hope in the silence.



Blessings,
Vicar Keith Powell



*Zion Congregational Council
Minutes from February 19, 2024*

Call to Order: Tammy Reigle called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Present: Kay Flanagan, Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Jim Meyer, Chris Nelson, Vicar Keith Powell, Sara Rasmussen, Tammy Reigle, Amber Salwei, Roberta Seda, Josh Thayer, Mary Kay Tisthammer,

Excused: None

Equipping Time – Pastor Carolann led the equipping time from the Kate Bowler book, *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day!*

She also shared the poem, *Blessing the Dust* by Jan Richardson. We discussed what we gave up or took on for Lent.

A sign-up sheet was passed around for council members to sign up to lead our equipping time/devotions.

March – Tammy Reigle

April – Mary Kay Tisthammer

May- Chris Nelson

June – Jim Meyer

August – Roberta Seda

September – Josh Thayer

October – Sara Rasmussen

November – Amber Salwei

December – Kay Flanagan

January – Vicar Keith Powell

Approve Meeting Minutes: Sara Rasmussen made a motion to approve the minutes of January 22, 2024.

Roberta Seda seconded. Motion carried.

Report of Officers

President: Tammy Reigle

The city of Albion is asking for donations for the National Safety Council. We have a line item for local concerns. This was tabled until our March meeting so that more information may be gathered.

Vice President: Mary Kay Tisthammer – no report.

Treasurer: Nancy Ahlers – Corrections to the Treasurer's report. The first and second columns for January should be the same on all pages. Page 10: Clear Fly - Church phones - should be \$162.02. We have the final bill from Chris Levander. Josh Thayer said the bill was sent to the insurance company. Mary Kay Tisthammer moved to accept the treasurer's report. Amber Salwei seconded. Motion carried.

Staff Reports

Senior Pastor: Rev. Carolann Hopcke

She shared a flyer from the Nebraska Synod for Leadership Training on Saturday, April 13th. This is a zoom meeting that all Council members & committee chairpersons are invited to attend.

Zion's Congregational Report is due to the ELCA by March 1st.

We have 5 funerals/memorial services coming up in April and May.

Intern Pastor – Vicar Keith Powell

The semester is off to a busy start. It will be completed the second week of May.

He will do his CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) hours at the Samaritan Home in Albion this summer (May to August).

He is doing the midweek Lenten Homilies and the Sunday morning children's sermons during Lent.

High School Youth Coordinator: Dorothy Grosch

The soup supper went well on Ash Wednesday. The leftover soup was sold after the Ash Wednesday service.

They have begun planning the Easter Sunrise Service.

The Egg Your Yard fundraiser will be on Saturday, March 30th.

Standing Committee Reports

Finance – The finance received a printout of Zion's Bank Account Information. The dishwasher fund has a total of \$200.

Mary Kay Tisthammer made a motion to move this money to the kitchen repair fund. Chris Nelson seconded.

Motion carried.

Mission Endowment – The Mission Endowment Committee recommends the following distributions.

The Theresa Rengler Fund: Interest is to be given away twice a year (locally & globally).

The first two quarters (\$479.42 + \$490.20 = \$969.62) will go to the Kahe fires in Hawaii through Lutheran Disaster Response. The second half of accrued interest (\$495.58 + unknown amount) will be divided between Blessings in a Backpack and Boone County Food Pantry.

Harry Kruse Scholarship Growth Fund – to be awarded to Timothy Woebbecke in the amount of \$1,000.00 instead of \$250.00 due to the recent quarterly distributions of \$1,280.20.

2023 Earnings = Mission Demand Account: \$178.71; ELCA Ministry Growth Fund: \$5,969.00; and Mission Endowment Savings: \$177.05 = \$6,324.76. 40% (\$2,529.90) to the Eli Porter Playground Fund, 40% (\$2,529.90) to Zion's ADA Building Fund, and 20% (\$1,264.96) to ELCA World Hunger. And to give 100% (\$580.50) of Property Care Growth Fund to Zion's ADA Building Fund.

Josh Thayer made a motion to distribute the money as the Mission Endowment Committee recommends. Chris Nelson seconded. Motion carried.

Property & Maintenance – We received the bill from Hagerbaumer Drywall and it was \$1200 more than the estimate. The council asked Josh Thayer to talk with them about this discrepancy.

Janice Mangelson is painting the hallways and wooden doors.

Cont'd on page 5

Jon Porter and Josh Thayer cleaned the kitchen stoves, and they seem to be working well with no gas smell. However, the kitchen is not properly vented, and this may need to be addressed at some point. The Insurance Adjuster came out to look at the bell tower; he needed more information, which we gathered, and Mitch Koch sent to him.

Worship & Music – Taking down Christmas decorations went well.

On Pretzel Sunday, they did crafts in the fellowship hall as well as a food pretzel activity. The Boone County Ministerial Association will again sponsor the Good Friday Crosswalk. The Easter flowers have been ordered from Petal and Stem in Spalding. Palms have been ordered with the cluster from EcoPalms.

Task Force Reports

Handicap Accessibility Project – We still haven't heard back from the elevator company. We are waiting on an engineer to look at the plans and make a recommendation to the Elevator Company. Josh Thayer met with the contractor in May 2023. As of January 31st, we need to repay the building fund \$46,000 for Phase I of the ADA improvements. Phase III is the bathroom renovations; we can start planning this phase. We will need an estimate to be able to apply for any possible ADA grants.

Old Business - none

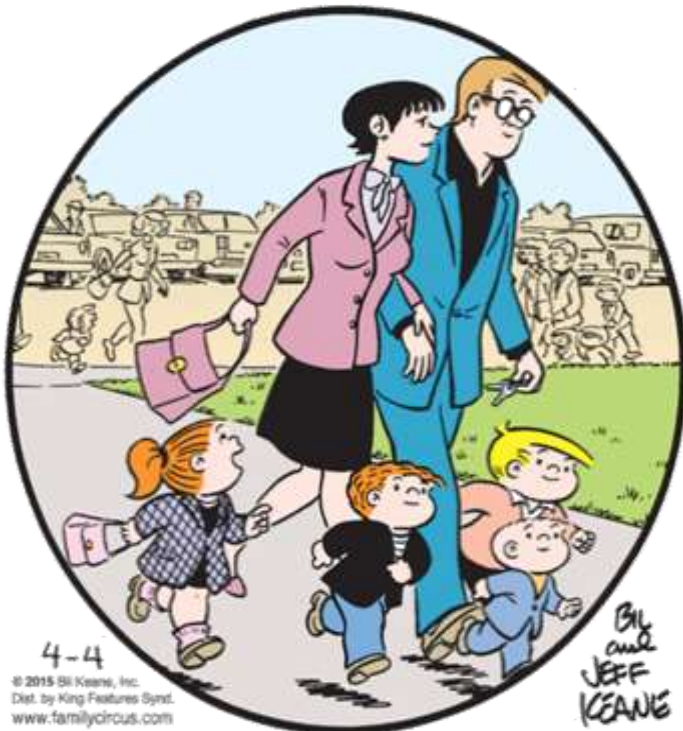
New Business

Annual Meeting Minutes – Council was asked to review the minutes while still fresh in their minds. They will need to be approved by the congregation at the next congregational meeting.

Council Meeting Schedule for 2024: All meetings are at 6pm on Tuesdays. March 19th, April 16th, May 21st, June 25th, July 16th (*if needed*), August 20th, September 17th, October 15th, November 19th & December 17th.

Adjournment- Mary Kay Tisthammer moved to adjourn the meeting. Roberta Seda seconded. Motion carried. Tammy Reigle adjourned the meeting at 7:10pm. Pastor Carolann led the council in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Flanagan
Council Secretary



4-4

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**"I like it when everyone in church
sings about that Ollie Louya guy."**

ATTENTION Graduate *PowerPoint* HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!

We would like to put together a slide show for *Graduate Sunday, May 12th*. Email pictures to the church office at office@zionalbion.org. You may also bring them to the office and we can scan them.

We would like a total of 7 pictures per graduate: 2 senior year; 1 baby; and 4 others of your choice. Please send your pictures **no later than Sunday, April 28th**.

If you would like to help put the PowerPoint together, please let Dorothy or Pastor know.

Thanks for your help!



APRIL



BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Abby Johnston, Hannah Schmitz
- 3 Thane Hardwick, Kade Hudson
- 4 Axton Koch, Stephanie Tunink
- 5 Ron Coakes, Colby Cox, Danielle Koch,
Michelle Neidhardt, Brayden Slaymaker
- 6 Bailey Jo Reigle, *Carroll Rolf**
- 7 Kimberly Christo, Noah Dorie,
Joe Flanagan, Mckenna Schaefer
- 8 Whitney Paulson
- 9 Vivian Eucker
- 10 Fletcher Leetch
- 12 Vanessa Dorie, Stetson Koch,
Taylor Nelson, Ava Tisthammer
- 13 Collin Lindgren, Destiny Umbarger,
Grace Woebbecke
- 14 Jenny Schmitz, Gina Temme
- 16 Kallum Dorie, Becky Olnes
- 19 Tracy Coakes, Deb Mitchell,
Carter Salwei
- 20 Everett Johnston, Theresa Wilke
- 21 Rod Sherburne
- 22 Carter Ahlstedt
- 23 Kolby Pedro, Teresa Tisthammer
- 25 Randy Neidhardt, Vicar Keith Powell
- 26 Sarah Cox, Haydn Rugg, Elle Webster
- 27 Brad Warner, *Dorothy Young**
- 28 Anistyn Koch
- 30 Seth Flanagan, Lisa Lehmann,
Carol Spiegel, Amy Zaruba

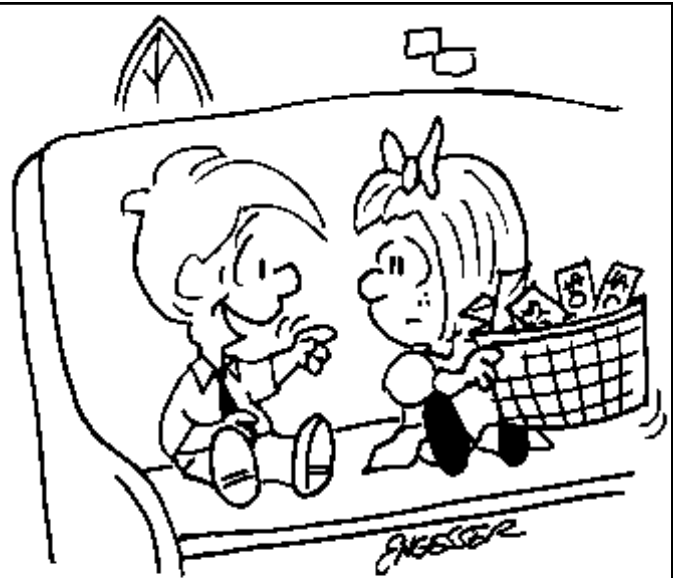
**Denotes 80+ years young*



ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Brian & Teresa Tisthammer
- 8 Lois & Walt Hoefer
- 11 Jeff & Sandy Martin
- 17 *Leroy & Lois Schroeder**
- 25 David & Jolene Roberg
- 27 Chad & Kyla David

**Denotes 50+ years of marriage*



"I put in a jelly bean for pastor."

We are not perfect and sadly, neither is our database. If you know of folks whose names are missing from the birthday or anniversary lists, please let us know. We really would like to include everyone. Thanks!



CONFIRMATION



***Class will be held on
Wednesday, April 3rd,
10th* & 17th****

Dinner is served at 5:30pm.
Class is from 6pm until 7:30pm.

*These are Make up Days
for all unfinished work.

For more information, speak with Pastor.



2nd Year Confirmation Class
will meet on Wednesdays,
April 24th & May 1st at 5:30pm
in the conference room. We will
be planning & preparing for your
confirmation worship service.

FYI: All Points & Sermon Notes must be
turned into Pastor by April 24th!



**Affirmation
Dinner
for Confirmands
& Mentors
Friday, May 3rd
6pm at Zion**

7th Graders, families & mentors will
serve the meal to all 8th graders,
families & mentors.

Mark your calendars!



**Confirmation
Sunday
May 5th**

Twelve of our young people will affirm the
faith proclaimed at their baptisms. On this
day, they will recommit themselves to a
relationship with God and the church. After
this affirmation, the congregation will
recommit ourselves to supporting them in
faith and life, and pray for God's continued
blessings upon them.

On the Friday night before Confirmation,
May 3rd, Luther League and the seventh
graders, families & mentors will host a dinner
for the eighth grade confirmands, mentors,
families, and sponsors. At that time we will
publicly affirm many of the ways we have
seen God active in their lives and name the
unique gifts we believe God has given them.



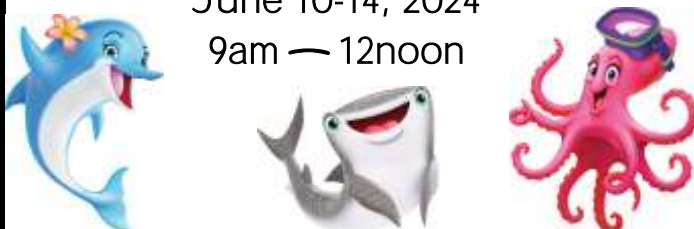
CONFIRMATION
Affirmation of Baptism



Save the Dates!

Vacation Bible School 2024

VBS will be held from
June 10-14, 2024
9am — 12noon





PUZZLE

PLANT, WATER, GROW

Building a faith community takes work. How did the church in Corinth come to be?

Directions: Use the code to fill in the words and complete a teaching of the apostle Paul.

KEY



I _____ the _____, Apollos _____ it,
but _____ has been making it _____.
So neither the _____ who plants nor the
_____ who waters is _____,
but _____, who makes things _____.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7, NIV

SOMETHING
OLD,

Something New

Use scrap paper to fuel
new growth and make a gift
that keeps on giving.

What you need:

- Scrap paper
- Water
- Herb or flower seeds
- Blender
- Strainer
- Cookie sheet
- Towel
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Tear the scrap paper into strips and place in a bowl. Cover the paper with water and let it soak overnight.
2. Pour the mixture into a blender and blend about 10 seconds.
3. Strain and squeeze the paper pulp to remove excess water. Place in a bowl.
4. Sprinkle seeds over the pulp and mix to incorporate them into the pulp.
5. Shape the pulp into a flat layer on the cookie sheet. Use a towel to soak up excess water. Allow the paper to dry completely.
6. Tear paper into shapes or fold into a card. You can plant the paper directly into soil. Water it and then watch your plants grow!



Bible Quiz

What does the newly risen Jesus tell his disciples — twice — when he appears in the locked room where they are hiding?

- A. "Love one another as I have loved you."
- B. "Peace be with you."
- C. "The last shall be first and the first shall be last."
- D. "I am risen!"



Answers are on page 13



LUTHER LEAGUE

for all in grades 9-12

Join us on

**Wednesday Nights during Lent
at 6pm.**

Please mark your calendars and invite your friends! Everyone is welcome at any and all of our Luther League events!

Blessings,
Dorothy Grosch



*Much THANKS
to all who
supported our
Soup Supper on
Ash Wednesday!*

*We raised
\$533*



Luther League Meals

Want to help provide meals for Luther League meetings on Wednesday nights? Go to signup genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c44acac28a1f58-luther> to volunteer! Thanks!



Please join us for
Easter Sunrise
Worship
Easter Sunday,
March 31st
at 7am
All are Welcome!

L. L. Schedule



MARCH

Wed., Mar. 27	6pm	LL Room
Sat., Mar. 30	4pm	Egg Your Yard & Easter Breakfast Prep
Sun., Mar 31	7am	Easter Sunrise
	8am	Easter Breakfast

APRIL

Wed., Apr 3	6pm	LL Room
Wed., Apr 10	6pm	LL Room
Wed., Apr 17	6pm	LL Room
Wed., Apr 24	6pm	LL Room



Easter Sunday, March 31st
after the Sunrise Service
Luther League invites you to an Easter
Breakfast of egg bakes & cinnamon rolls.
A free-will donation will be taken!

2024 Flower Committee

April

Kathy Thorberg

May

Mary Kay Tisthammer

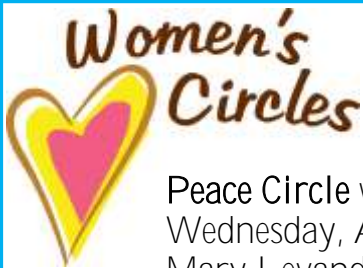


✝ Christian Symbol ✝



VICTOR'S CROSS

Also called the conqueror's cross, the victor's cross is composed of the Greek cross, recognized by its four equal arms, adorned with Greek letters in each quadrant. The top left letters stand for Jesus and the top right letters stand for Christ (the horizontal lines above them indicate that they are abbreviations). The four letters across the bottom spell the Greek word for conqueror.



April 17th
2024

Peace Circle will meet at Zion on Wednesday, April 17st at 9am. Mary Levander will be the leader.

Grace Circle will meet on Wednesday, April 17th at 2pm. The meeting place has yet to be determined. For more information, please speak with Doris Warner.



Nebraska Synod Women

**Spring Gathering
Saturday, April 13th**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Grand Island

All women of Zion are invited to attend the Spring Gathering for the Central Conference on Saturday, April 13th in Grand Island. The theme is Open Our Hearts — Listen, Be Kind, Pray! This will be an informative day of Fellowship, Bible Study, Music, Guest Speakers, and Entertainment!



NewsLetter DEADLine

**The deadline for the
May Messenger
is Sunday, April 21st**



Table Grace

(Spoken)

God, we thank you
for this food,
for rest and home
and all things good;
for wind and rain and sun above,
but most of all for those we love.

Boone County



Food Pantry

1108 W. State Street
Albion, NE 68620

Open EVERY Thursday
2-4pm

Ongoing Needs:

Canned Soup	Crackers
Canned Fruit	Toilet Paper
Cereal	Bar Soap
Kleenex	Toothpaste
Hand Sanitizers	Paper Products
Miscellaneous Personal Hygiene Products	

Donations may be brought to the Pantry on Thursdays between 2-4pm.

For more information, call Nancee Krohn (402) 741-1184 or Lynn Bygland (402) 920-3552



Mission Quilters
will meet on
Fridays,
April 12th & 26th
at 1:30pm.

All are welcome to join us!



Worship Committee

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, April 2nd
at 5:30pm

Mobile Food Pantry ~ Saturday, April 6th

The next Mobile Food Pantry will be held on Saturday, April 6th at 9:00 am at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Due to the Covid-19 virus, this will again be set up as a drive-through only. All patrons will need to enter the fairgrounds from the 11th and Fairview entrance. Vehicles will be taken in order of arrival in a designated line. The first vehicle to arrive is asked to follow the road into the fairgrounds and stop and park directly in front of the cones that will be set out. All other vehicles entering that are there for the mobile pantry need to follow in line and wait until you have been asked to do otherwise.

If anyone is coming to volunteer their time, please park in the west parking lot next to the Casey Building. If you are willing and are able to volunteer, please arrive around 8:15 am.

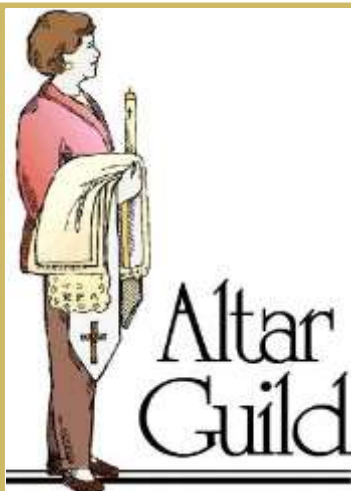
If any volunteers or patrons have any symptoms of illness, please refrain from coming to the mobile pantry this month but feel free to ask someone else to pick up for you.

The Food Bank of the Heartland will provide pre-packaged boxes, along with some other produce and food products. Each patron will be required to take what is already packed in each box.

A specific number of vehicles at a time will be sent down to the distribution area. All people attending must remain in their vehicles unless asked to get out. All cars in the distribution area must remain parked until all of those vehicles are told to move. This is a big change as to how things are generally done so we ask for your patience and cooperation as the volunteers are doing their best.

Everyone is reminded that there is always the possibility that the mobile pantry could be cancelled or postponed due to the current events. Coordinators will do their best to update the information in the newspaper or through the Boone County Nebraska Sheriff's Facebook page.





2024

April:

Nancy & Terry Ahlers
Danielle & Tom Krohn
Brooke Stuhr

May:

Kent & Sheila Carder
Kent & Mary Kay
Tisthammer

Altar
Guild

Beer, Soup & Bible Study

Thursday,
April 18th

6pm at the

Gateway Terrace
Community Room



Everyone is invited to the Gateway Terrace Community Room (11th St) for a casual evening of faith, food, and fellowship. **Please Join us!**



Communion Elements Available

Individually packaged communion elements continue to be available for pick up in the church narthex. Take as many as you need for your household. This will let you take communion with us on Sundays as you watch Facebook live or Vyve Channel 21. If it is easier, or you are more comfortable taking communion in your seat, you may also use these elements to take communion on Sunday mornings.

If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Carolann or Amy Zaruba.



2024 Fellowship Coffee Serving Schedule

April: Sew Happy Mission Quilters
May: Luther League & Confirmation



Sunday, April 21st
5:30pm
Fellowship Hall

All children in grades 2 through 5 are invited to join us for some food, fun and fellowship at Zion Alive!

Please check out the Facebook page for Zion Alive updates.

Please speak with Kim Young (402-843-8562) for more information.

Hope to see you on **April 21st!**



Worship Song Leaders APRIL

7 Jacque & Tom Dickey
14 Kay Flanagan
21 Tiffany Curry
28 Kim Schaefer



*First Holy Communion
will be received
on Maundy Thursday,
March 28th!*

The Following young people will receive their First Holy Communion this year:

*Mia Jane Curry
Lauren Rose Gompert
Lincoln Alexander Hanaway
Colton Ronald Juzenas
Kalynn Elizabeth Koch
Annie Jo Krohn
Spencer Henry Leetch
Tinsley Ray Neidhardt
Vienna Clareen Neidhardt
Paxtyn Lynn O'Connor
Kolby James Pedro
Skylar Grace Porter
Jase James Salwei
Masan David Skillstad
Tucker Maverick Stuhr
Trisha Sue Winter*

May God bless them and strengthen them through this Holy Sacrament. May it continue to be a source of **God's grace and forgiveness** throughout their lives. A reception in their honor will follow worship in the fellowship hall.



Church Musicians

APRIL

7	Tami Texley
14	Tami Texley
21	Tami Texley
28	Sarah Liss



Parish Ed. Committee

Next Meeting:
Thursday,
April 4th
At
6:00pm



Attention: 6th, 7th & 8th Graders

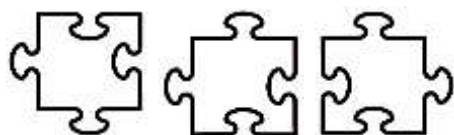
The Elkhorn Valley Cluster is doing Confirmation Camp together at the **Springs** the week of **June 16-21**. Campers sign up online. Families are responsible for the initial deposit and because Zion believes in the power of Camp, our church will pay for the balance of the registration fee.

Camp is a requirement of Zion's Confirmation Program, so please sign up soon! For more information, please speak with Pastor Carolann.

Puzzle Answers

Bible Quiz Answer: B (See John 20:19,21)

Answer:
Planted, seed, watered, God, grow, one,
one, anything, only, God grow





All of Zion's SignUp sheets
can be found online!

All of Zion's signups are now digital through the SignUpGenius website. Simply Google SignUpGenius — find a signup. Enter office@zionalbion.com in the creator search bar to find us.

There are signups for greeters, ushers, acolytes, reader, communion assistants, audio/video, and power point volunteers! Dorothy and Pastor also added signups for hosting Luther League and confirmation class meals.

This is a very easy and convenient way to volunteer for the dates and ways you would like to help. If you need any assistance, please contact the church office. Thanks!

Sunday Bulletins



Sunday bulletins are available in the narthex. They are in the tract rack by the Thursday *Bulletins* before the upcoming Sunday. Feel free to stop by and pick one up.

Faith + SHARING =
EVANGELISM

The Evangelism Committee will meet on Thursday, April 25th at 5:30pm for Cookie Trays!
All are welcome!



Zion Church Council
Will MEET on
Tuesday,
April 16th at 6pm.



The Mission Endowment Committee will meet on
Tuesday, July 30th at 5:30pm.



Next Meeting:
Sunday,
June 9th
at
10:15am



Prayer Chain & Prayer Concerns

If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, please call Sharon Waters (402-741-2358) or the church office (402-35-2043) and they will start the chain. You may also text Pastor Carolann (267-374-7762). If you'd like to add someone to our Sunday prayers, please call the church office (402-395-2043).

Prayer Concerns this Month

Wolf Memorial Home Residents

Liz Hunt LaVonne Mills
Fran Obermire Ruth Pribnow
Muriel Young

Good Samaritan Estates (Assisted Living)

Arletta Francis Donna Kruse
Dorothy Tisthammer

Arbor Care Center (Fullerton)

Ron Weltruski

Primrose Retirement Community (Grand Island)

Joy Haas

Elkridge Assisted Living (Omaha)

Mary Lou Nore

Heritage of Bel-Air (Norfolk)

LaVonne Olnes

Our Homebound

Barb Buckendahl Judy Harder
LaDonna Morris Dale Sheldon
Virginia Storm

In Our Sunday Prayers

Ashleigh Henn, LaVonne Mills, Patty Morgan,
Maren Nelson, Joey Pelster, Tim Peterson,
Phyllis Rasmussen, Bev Rieck, Jolene Roberg,
Debbie Schwartz, Mark Smith, Virginia Storm,
Pat Tobiason, Dennis Tyson, Ron Weltruski,
and the families of
Vikki Buhlmann, Doris Knott,
Sandra Lindgren, Miriam Schaub



Our Congregation

Altar Guild
Worship Leaders
Pastor, Vicar & Church Musicians
Church Secretaries

Other Concerns

Our Military
The people of Gaza, Israel, Palestine & Ukraine
All those affected by war, violence & hatred
Those affected by natural disasters
Other prayer concerns are welcome



**GOOD FRIDAY
CROSSWALK
MARCH 29TH
10AM**

The Boone County Ministerial Association is leading a Crosswalk on Good Friday. We will carry a large cross through town. It begins at 10am at the Fairgrounds. Stops include the hospital, school, courthouse, Library, Nursing Home, and finally, Levander's Funeral Home. We will contemplate one of the seven last words of Christ at each stop, offer a prayer, and end with a question or two to think about as we journey to the next stop.

The trolley will follow us to each stop so that those who are unable to walk the whole route may still participate. Rides back to the fairgrounds will also be given to everyone needing to get back to their vehicles.

Please join us for this unique way of remembering Christ's sacrifice for us.

All are welcome to join us!



**Last Day of
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Oh, how time flies!
The Last Day of Sunday School
will be **Sunday, April 28th!**

Forever Ours

Child Loss Grief Support Group



April 8th 7pm

Zion's Youth Room

*Forever Ours is a support group
for parents who have lost children of any age.*

*For additional information,
contact Pastor Carolann Hopcke at
Zion Lutheran Church (402-395-2043) or
Arielle Lindt at AseraCare Hospice
(402-745-1602).*

Prayer Shawls

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Team has been busy making prayer shawls. Please remember that all Prayer Shawls are **FREE!**



If you know of someone in need of prayer, simply take a prayer shawl and give it to that person.

It would be nice to know how many we give away, so we ask that you sign your name and the first name of the person receiving the shawl on the sheet in the narthex.

God Bless You!

Lenten Love Offering

\$40. for Lent

During Lent we offered an envelope to give \$40 for Lent. If you haven't already done so, please return your envelope. As of February 29th, we have received **\$5,195**, which was used toward Phase 1 of our ADA Accessibility Project.

Phase I

\$64,738.85	Total Expense
\$12,182.20	Donated Labor/Materials
\$11,740.50*	Monetary Donations
\$40,816.15	Still to be repaid to Zion's Building Fund

*\$5,195 was from \$40 for Lent



Average Church Attendance

	In person	Online
January	82	97
February	128	79
2024 Averages:	105 In person	88 Online

Faith & Fellowship

**Committee
will meet
at 10:15am**

**on Sunday, June 23rd.
(after church)**

All are welcome to join us!

Thank you

We offer our heartfelt thanks to the following people who have made donations to our

Zion Memorial Scholarship Fund

Bill & Connie Becker in loving memory *Jim Atkinson,*
Bev Larson & Sandra Lindgren
Ardy Choat in loving memory
Duane Choat
Joe & Kay Flanagan in loving memory
Carol Flanagan
Judy Harder in loving memory
Barrett Berger & Bev Larson
Pastor Carolann Hopcke in loving memory
Jim Atkinson,
Barrett Berger, Duane Choat,
Shirley Choat, Mort Grosch,
Ron Krohn, Bev Larson & Sandra Lindgren
Cynthia Kraus & Cheryl Sherburne
Bob & LaVonne Kruse in loving memory
Jim Atkinson
Mary & Ron Levander in loving memory
Sandra Lindgren
Jane Mundschenk in loving memory
Sandra Lindgren & Barry Waid
Chris Nelson in loving memory
Leon & Mary Nelson
Vicar Keith Powell in loving memory
Ron Krohn
Gerald & Jenny Schmitz in loving memory
Duane Choat & Bev Larson

A total of \$2,255 has been received.
As of 3/18/24

Zion Memorial **Scholarship**

Zion Lutheran Church created a memorial scholarship to support a graduating senior from Boone Central High School. The money in this fund is given by members of the congregation in memory of their loved ones.

If you would like to contribute to this scholarship in memory of one of your loved ones, please complete this form and submit it to the church office with your donation.

Name of Sponsor: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

In loving memory of: _____



May Day Cookies Needed!



The Evangelism Committee will again be making May Day Cookie Trays! We are continuing to give these trays to the small businesses in town.

We need donations of cookies to make this happen. Please watch Signup Genius for details.



Our Gifts to The Glory of God Easter 2024

*The **Easter Lily** is a symbol of the Resurrection because of the seeming decay of the bulb and the sudden breaking forth into new life. We live, we die, and through Jesus Christ, we too are given new life.*

*The flowers in the chancel are given to the **Glory of God** by:*

Nancy & Terry Ahlers in loving memory of her parents, **Bill & Virginia Krohn**

Nancy & Terry Ahlers in loving memory of her brother, **Ron Krohn**

Janet Atkinson in loving memory of her husband, **Jim Atkinson**

Bill & Connie Becker in loving memory of her dad, **Howard Mills**, and his parents,
Bill & Lois Becker

Ardys Choat & Alida Kurtenbach in loving memory of their husband & father,
Duane Choat

Chad & Kyla David in loving memory of their **Loved Ones**

Jacque & Tom Dickey in loving memory of his dad, **Warren Dickey** and her parents,
Marvin & Maxine Stahr

Carmen & Vivian Eucker in loving memory of their parents, **Carl & Elaine Eucker** and
Basil & Phyllis Hecht

Joe & Kay Flanagan in loving memory of his parents, **Carol & Mike Flanagan** and her dad,
Jack Kunzman

Anna Hellbusch in loving memory of her husband, **Jerry Hellbusch**, and her son,
Tim Hellbusch

Trina Hellbusch & Doug Stuhr in loving memory of their parents, **Gerald Hellbusch**,
Ellen & Lawrence Stuhr, and brothers, **Tim Hellbusch** and **Randy Stuhr**

Pastor Carolann Hopcke in loving memory of her parents, **Gloria & Henry Hopcke**, and
grandparents, **Frank & Lena Drusback** and **Emma & Henry Hopcke, Sr.**

Pastor Carolann Hopcke in loving memory of **Jim Atkinson**, **Barrett Berger**, **Shirley Choat**,
Ron Krohn, **Sandra Lindgren**, and **Barry Waid**

Nancy & Mike Jeratowski in loving memory of their **Loved Ones**

Cynthia Kraus in loving memory of her husband, **Frank Kraus**

Charlie & Cheryl Krohn in loving memory of their **Loved Ones**

Jim & Patti Meyer in loving memory of their parents, **Murena & Wayne Meyer** and
Alice & Marvin Mumm

Barbara Michael and Deb Borchers in loving memory of their husbands, **Dick Michael** and
Orin Borchers and *their parents*

Connie & Rick Nelson in loving memory of their *Family Members*

Gerry & Jenny Schmitz & Family in loving memory of her dad, *Jim Atkinson*
and his parents, *Addie & Ray Schmitz*

Mike & Roberta Seda in loving memory of their *Loved Ones*

Cheryl & Rod Sherburne in loving memory of their *Loved Ones*

Donna & Gayle Short in loving memory of their parents, *Arlene & Harold Thorberg* and
Irma & Roy Short

Jim & Mary Staub in loving memory of their parents, *Arthur & Elinor Boettcher* and
Elsie & Ernest Staub

Tami Texley in loving memory of her husband, *Darrell Texley*, father-in-law, *Adrian Texley*,
and brother-in-law, *Thomas Kronen*

Allen & Kathy Thorberg in loving memory of his parents, *Arlene & Harold Thorberg*

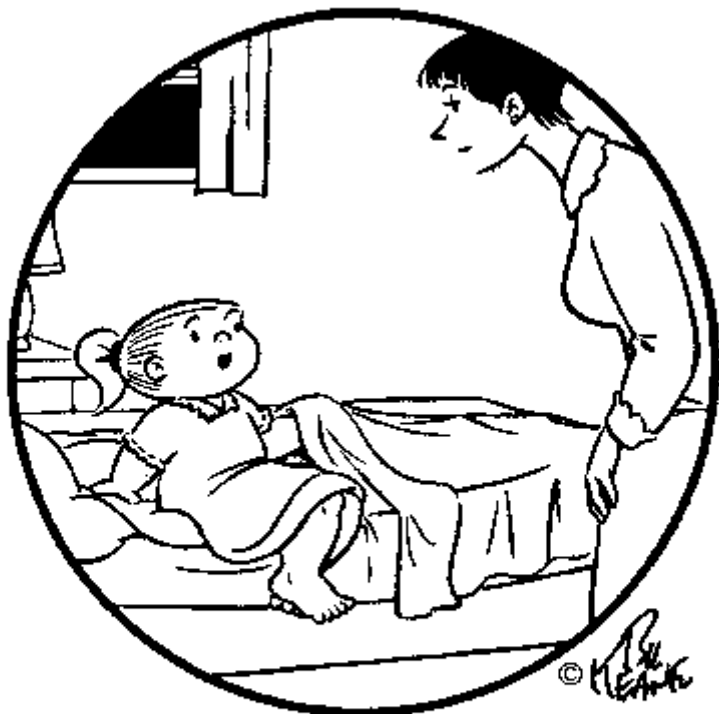
Barb & Jerry Tisthammer in loving memory of their *Loved Ones*

Kent & Mary Kay Tisthammer in loving memory of their parents,
Janice & John Tisthammer and *Mary Ann & Wayne Millburn*

Jeremy & Kim Young in loving memory of their *Loved Ones*



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



**"What I like best about Easter Sunday is the
candy, and Jesus not bein' dead anymore."**

THANK YOU to those
who made the
Questioned for Christ
Midweek Lenten Worship
so meaningful!



Each week figures from the passion story were questioned concerning their relationship to Jesus.

Sincere thanks to our Good Cop, Bill Curry, our Bad Cop, Jon Porter, and all of our witnesses: Madison Gompert, Tom Dickey, Mary Staub, Skylar Porter, Bentley Stuhr, and Luke Curry.

Thanks also to those who served as lectors for these midweek services: Lisa Thayer, Skylar Porter, Kolby Pedro, and Tate Porter.

We are blessed by the willingness of these volunteers to share their faith in this special way! Thanks!



Holy Humor Sunday

Sunday, April 7th
9am Worship

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection with joy and laughter on **Sunday, April 7th!** Holy Humor Sunday gives us an opportunity to continue the spirit of rejoicing as we come to an even deeper understanding of the risen Lord through our encounter with humor in worship!

This is a NO EXCUSE Sunday because:

- ☺ Pillows will be placed in the pews for those who say "Sunday is my only day to sleep in."
- ☺ We will have hard hats for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church!"
- ☺ We'll have blankets for those who say it's too cold and fans for those who say it's too hot.
- ☺ Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday.
- ☺ We'll open the windows for those who like to seek God in nature.
- ☺ There will be TV dinners for those who can't go to church and cook dinner, too.
- ☺ Golf clubs will be available for practice swings for those who like to golf on Sunday.
- ☺ Finally, we'll try to find a Christmas poinsettia or an Easter lily for those who have never seen the church without them.

Bring your sense of humor and join us for a celebration of God's love shown in the miracle of the resurrection. This is the time to express our joy and share our laughter, for as Mother Teresa said: "Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. The best way to show my gratitude to God is to accept everything, even my problems, with joy. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget for one moment the joy of



2pm on April 18th at Wolf Home
Volunteers & Prizes needed!

We will be hosting Bingo at Wolf Home on the 3rd Thursday of each month. We need at least 2 volunteers each month. We are looking for donations of Large Print puzzle books, coloring books for adults, beanie babies, nice costume jewelry (clip on earrings), etc. Donation are being collected in the marked box in the narthex.

For more information, please speak with Pat Neidhardt (402-395-2802).



FLAT SHEETS NEEDED!

Our quilters are in need of FLAT cotton sheets — they need to be full size or larger and they can be any color you like. We CANNOT use microfiber sheets because they are not durable and they don't breathe as well as the cotton. These flat sheets are used for the backs of the quilters' beautiful quilts.

For more information please speak with Marcia Seier 402-395-6163.





Roberta Seda

PEOPLE SPOTS

Roberta Kay Seda was born on December 1, 1958, in Schuyler, NE to Frank and Ann Maire Vrba. Roberta grew up on the family farm North of Schuyler with her two siblings, Victoria and Frank. Roberta attended grade school at District 28 School North of Schuyler. She later attended Schuyler High School and graduated with the class of 1977. While growing up Roberta attended church at First Presbyterian Church in Schuyler; she was baptized and confirmed at that church.

After high school Roberta attended college at Platte College, now known as Central Community College Columbus, majoring in secretarial science and accounting. After graduation Roberta worked as the secretary for the community education department at Platte College. She assisted in forming the first community learning center, which was located in Albion. The community learning center was a place where people could go locally to earn college credits. Roberta later went to work for Production Credit Association and then in the superintendent's office at Albion Public Schools. After working for Albion Public Schools Roberta took some time off to raise her family. Returning to the work force, Roberta became the part-time bookkeeper and secretary for the Albion Country Club; she worked there for twenty-two years before retiring.

While attending classes at Platte College, Roberta met the love of her life, Mike Seda. On December 1, 1984, Roberta and Mike were united in marriage. They were blessed with three wonderful children: Tyler, Kristen, and Britany. Tyler is married to Sarah and they have 3 children: Julia (6), Tessa (5), and Lucas (1). Kristen is married to John and they have 2 children: Claire (4) and Owen (2). Britany is married to Dan and they recently welcomed Emmett (6 months) into their family. Mike and Roberta adore being grandparents to these six amazing grandchildren and try to spend as much time as they can with them.

When Roberta is not spending time with her family, you may find her quilting or playing pickleball. If the weather is nice, you may find her out golfing. Roberta also enjoys playing bridge and spending time traveling. One of Roberta's favorite places to visit is Estes Park, Colorado.

Roberta joined Zion Lutheran Church in 2003. Since joining Zion Lutheran Church, Roberta has been part of the Mission Quilters and WELCA. Roberta has also served on the Altar Guild and as co-chair of the Serving Groups. Roberta currently serves on church council and serves as the council liaison to the Sew Happy Mission Quilters. We are thrilled to have her as a new member of Zions church council and we are certainly blessed to count her as a sister in Christ at Zion!

Written & submitted by
Vicar Keith Powell



The following people
made donations to
Zion's Memorial Fund
in loving memory of
Jim Atkinson:



Bill & Connie Becker (Scholarship Fund)
Kim & Scott Kruse
Mary & Ron Levander
Jane Mundschenk
Mary Lou Nore
Marilyn Ramm
Bonnie & Mark Wagner

IN LOVING



memory



Memorial Gifts

The following people made a
donation to Zion's Memorial
Fund in loving memory of
Barrett Cole Berger



Judy Harder (Scholarship Fund)



The following
people
made donations to
**Zion's Memorial
Fund** in loving memory of
Barry Waid



Barbara Bode
Nancy Fisher
Daniel Morris & Melodee Bock
Jane Mundschenk
Brent & Janice Stehlik



Memorial Gifts



The following people
made donations to **Zion's Memorial Fund**
in loving memory of
Sandra Lindgren

Bill & Connie Becker (Scholarship Fund)
Rev. Carolann Hopcke (Scholarship Fund)
Mary & Ron Levander (Scholarship Fund)
Jane Mundschenk
Barbara & Jerry Tisthammer



Dining Hall

The Fair Dining Hall Committee will
meet in the conference room on
Tuesday, April 9th
at 7pm.

We will be talking about the remainder
of the proceeds from the Dining Hall.

All are welcome!

Coffee
and
CONVERSATION

April 4th

9:30am at



the Dotted Daisy

The Faith & Fellowship Committee is invit-
ing everyone for Coffee & Conversation at the
Dotted Daisy on the first Thursday of each
month at 9:30am.

Please join us & invite friends!

Jesus Loves Me Easter Tells Me So

Jesus loves me, this I know;
The Easter story tells me so.
He died for me to bear my sin;
He opened heaven to let me in.

Yes, Jesus loves me;
Yes Jesus loves me;
Yes Jesus loves me;
Easter tells me so.

Jesus loved me when He died,
Loved me enough to be crucified.
But His death didn't last very long,
Because His power is so strong.
(Refrain)

Jesus came back from the dead
I know because the Bible said.
Jesus is my Lord and King;
Love and praise to Him I bring.
(Refrain)

When I die, I'll rise up, too.
We'll all be in heaven, me and you.
We'll see Jesus face to face.
Up in heaven, that happy place.
(Refrain)

The Easter story brings much joy
To us all, each girl and boy.
Jesus is my Savior now;
Heaven and earth to Him must
bow.
(Refrain)

Written by Joanna Fuchs

**Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed!**



Don't forget
to turn in
your
Lenten
Bible
Challenge
Reading
sheets!

EVERYONE who participates
will receive a **sweet treat** and
then be entered into the grand
prize drawings. The Grand
Prize for youth is a filled
gumball machine. The Grand
Prizes for adults are
Gumball-shaped containers
filled with Lindt chocolates!
We hope this time of Bible
reading has **deepened the faith**
of all those who participated!

**Sheets are due on or before
Holy Humor Sunday, April 7th.
Good luck everyone!**





**Sunday
April 7th
1pm**

Let's Go Bowling



All Confirmation Students and Mentors are invited to go bowling in Newman Grove on Sunday, April 7th!

We will meet at the church at 1pm to carpool to the bowling alley. We'll begin bowling around 1:30pm.

Please let us know if you are able to join us so we know for whom we are waiting.



Mark your calendars!



May 12th a 9am

**caring for
GOD'S
earth**

Earth Day: April 22, 2024!



Proceeds Disbursed:

Due to the work of so many, the proceeds from hosting the Fair Dining Hall for the past 3 years has benefitted many...

Tithe Benevolence:

St. Edward Public Schools Milk Fund

Riverside Public School Lunch Fund

Boone Central Milk Fund

Boone County Toys for Tots

Inhouse Expenses:

Confirmation Bibles

Sunday School Music Room Rug

Kitchen Ove Gloves

Carillon Bell Upgrade

Main Floor Hallway Ceilings & New Lights



A BIG thank you to the Zion Alive members who counted and put away school kit and personal care kit supplies! You all helped me know what we need for this Fall's kits. Looking forward to your help packing the kits in October!!!

Cheryl Sherburne



Marked
with the
cross of
Christ at
birth or
under
hospice
care
a promise
bookends
our lives

God's love and faithfulness mark foreheads
before we find voice and when words fail
the symbol of Christ's crucifixion, sacrifice

a cross
conscripts
our lives
protects me
forgives me
blesses me
defines me
assures me
guards me
guides me
provides
pathways
to
his
shining
face

Vivian Eucker
11/1/23
Concrete poem



On **Sunday, April 21st**, we will celebrate the gift of God's grace as **Cal Olsen Rasmussen** will be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Cal is the son of **Amanda & Philip Rasmussen** and the little brother of **Collins, Baker & Grant**.

Welcome to God's family, Cal!

Dear Grace Circle
c/o Doris Warner,



Thank you for your donation of \$210.00 to Eben Ezer Lutheran Church. It is because of your generosity that we are able to continue to reach out in Christ's ministry to our members and the community. We are blessed to have your support and are faithful stewards of Christ's gifts.

Peace be with you
and many thanks,
Jennifer Kirby
Treasurer

***Children of the Creator.
Followers of Jesus.
Servants of the Spirit.***

EBEN EZER LUTHERAN CHURCH
OAKS, OKLAHOMA



Wednesday, April 24th

We are blessed with the best church secretaries! Let's thank Cynthia Kraus & Cheryl Sherburne for all they do (especially putting up with me! We really appreciate you both!!!

Pastor Carolann

Worship with us from HOME

Zion Sunday Services
are broadcast LIVE on
Eagle Cable Channel 21
and repeated on
Wednesdays at
8am, 10:30am, 12pm,
4pm, 7pm, 8pm & 9pm
and Saturdays at
8am and 12pm.

You may also join us each Sunday morning at 9am
on Facebook Live!



You may worship with us live,
or watch the service by clicking the link
on our Facebook page
at www.facebook.com/zionalbion

Zion continues to worship in
person, but please do what
makes you feel safe and
comfortable. Feel free to
social distance or wear a
mask as desired.



Please DO NOT COME if you are not
feeling well, or have flu like symptoms.
We certainly want to see everyone, but we
also need everyone to be safe.



The youth of our church are invited
to help lead this delightful worship
service at 9am on April 7th! If you'd
like to help, please talk to Pastor
Carolann.



Zion Messenger is a monthly publication of
Zion Lutheran Church
319 S 5th St., Albion, NE 68620
Worship Services - Sunday 9:00am

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 4pm

Friday Office Closed

Phone 402-395-2043

Pastoral Care Concerns after hours:
Pastor Carolann Hopcke, 267-374-7762

Email: office@zionalbion.org

Website: www.zionalbion.org

Zion's Staff

Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Senior Pastor

PCA@zionalbion.org

Vicar Keith Powell, Seminarian

vicarkeith@zionalbion.org

Office Administrators

Cynthia Kraus & Cheryl Sherburne

office@zionalbion.org

High School Youth Coordinator

Dorothy Grosch

youthcoordinator@zionalbion.org

Nancy Ahlers, Treasurer:

treasurer@zionalbion.org



Can You Tie A Knot?



Zion's Sew Happy Mission Quilters are
always looking for people to help them
quilt! You are welcome to join them on
the 2nd & 4th Fridays to help tie & pin
quilts. If you like to sew, they always
need help to sew quilt blocks together.
The blocks and strips are already cut and
put together in a bag ready to be sewn
together. For more information, contact
Barb Michael (402-395-6377) or Marcia
Seier (H: 402-395-6163; C: 402-741-1837)
Please Join us!