



Zion Lutheran Church

*“Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.” (Psalm 125:1)*

April 18, 2021

Pastoral Letter.....	Page 3
Liturgy: receiving the gifts.....	Page 4
Holy Communion Outdoors, Easter Sermon Series.....	Page 5
Outreach and Mercy, Praying.....	Page 6
Meet Zion’s New Secretary: Jessica Ray.....	Page 7
News & Events.....	Page 8, 9 & 10
Calendar (<i>for the upcoming week</i>).....	Page 11

Remembering

Examples of the faith in April

April 21: Saint Anselm of Canterbury

The life of St. Anselm illustrates how God can work through leaders to nourish His people with the Word and protect the life of His Church. As archbishop of Canterbury, Anselm wrote a book, “Why God Became Man,” in which he expounded the reason for Christ’s birth in our flesh. He also argued for the freedom of the Church to regulate its own clergy,



for which he was exiled from England twice. Eventually restored to his country and church, he served out his duties in humility and ardent dedication.

Pastoral Letter

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. ~ Psalm 46:4



Foundational to our sermon series this Easter is knowing how the City of God forms our Christian identity. Saint Paul reminds us that our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). In Christ we are under a new authority. Certainly the authorities of this passing world deserve honor and respect. However, the ultimate authority of our lives which claims our ultimate allegiance is Christ, the King of kings.

Jesus Christ our Lord, God, and King has made us citizens of the City of God through Baptism, that wonderful flood of forgiveness which washed away our sin. This means we are no longer our own. We are not the center of the universe. We are not the main actors in our own story. We are the ones who have been brought into His City by His grace, swept up into His story, conscripted into His service.

The cities of this world will try and win your allegiance back. There will be tributaries from these cities too, rivers and streams which will when lapped from again and again, will try and persuade you to claim your ultimate allegiance. These streams coming from the various cities of man may look like political factions. These streams may taste sweet to the tongue and melodious to the ear, much like the city of “Vanity Fair” was to Christian in John Bunyan’s allegory, *The Pilgrim’s Progress*.

Remember, brothers and sisters in Christ, there is only one river whose streams make glad the City of God. That stream flows from Christ your Lord, a water of life (Revelation 22:1-2) which makes you into new men and women, giving you a new identity.

In Christ,

Pastor Johnson

Liturgy

receiving the gifts

Holy Communion

Sunday: 9 & 11 AM (sung)
Monday-Friday: 12:15 PM (spoken; 20 minutes long)
Saturday: 5:15 PM (sung)

Vespers

Wednesday: 6:30 PM

Live Radio Broadcast

Sunday, 9 AM + WSAU 550 AM, 99.9 FM, 95.1 FM

Online (Facebook Live-Stream, Website, YouTube)

Morning Devotion: 8:30 AM, Monday-Friday
Compline: 8:30 PM, Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday
Vespers: 6:30 PM, Wednesday

Mercy Days

Zion will hold three days of prayer for God's help and blessing, May 10, 11, and 12, with prayer services each day at 12:15 PM (about 30 minutes long). For centuries the Church has gathered to pray on these days after the Sixth Sunday of Easter. Like the "National Day of Prayer," only bigger, it's a time to pray for our nation, weather, neighborhoods, farmers, families, and common life. If you have specific prayer requests, please contact the church office or a pastor.

The Ascension of Our Lord

Forty days after He rose, our Lord Jesus assumed majesty and power at the right hand of God in heaven. We celebrate this event on Ascension Day. Zion will hold services for Ascension on Wednesday, May 12 at 6:30 PM (Vespers) and Thursday, May 13, at 12:00 noon (Holy Communion).

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday (April 25)

First Lesson: Acts of the Apostles 3: 11-21
Second Lesson: 1 John 3: 1-7
Gospel: John 10: 11-18

Holy Communion *Outdoors*

Holy Communion will continue to be served outdoors at the 9 AM service throughout the month of April (yes, even if it rains, we'll do our best to serve it).

Here's how it will work:

- 1) Come and park your car in the Zion lot or nearby streets for the 9 AM service and listen to the broadcast (WSAU 550 AM/99.9 FM).
- 2) After you hear the Word of Institution ("Take, eat . . . Take, drink . . .), a minister from Zion will come by the **east-side entryway** to the black-topped area in the parking lot between the church and school playground. ***"Watch for the cross."***
- 3) You may come forward at that time, on foot, to receive the Lord's Supper, maintaining a comfortable distance from others as you wish. *Please do not pull up in your car to avoid a traffic jam.*

Easter Sermon Series: "City of God"

"You have come to Mount Zion and the city of the living God" (Heb. 12:22).

You belong to a nation beyond all nations, a city greater than all cities, a family of families, a chosen race and a sanctified people (1 Peter 2:9). That *new identity* in Christ is given to us with the promise of a new city, the City of God, of which we are all citizens. That City of God will be our preaching theme this Easter:



- Easter 4** (April 25): Remembering Bethlehem
Easter 5 (May 2): Cleansing Samaria
Easter 6 (May 9): Saving Nineveh
Easter 7 (May 16): Surprising Rome
Pentecost (May 23): Leaving Babel

Outreach and Mercy

sharing and being the gifts

Monthly Mission Emphases:

- **Greater Wausau Christian Services — Goal: \$4,000**

Greater Wausau Christian Services

One ministry of the community of congregations in the Greater Wausau Christian Services (GWCS) is spreading the Word to individuals and families the Marathon County Jail. GWCS offers Bible studies and church services to male and female correctional clients; one-on-



-one mentoring with inmates as needed; and Bible resources to correctional clients (as funding is available). GWCS also leads programs to assist inmates and their families. Breaking Barriers is a Corrective Thinking Program meant to help change behaviors using a known model of change. Kids Kount is a program that provides Christmas gifts to children with a parent held at the Marathon County Jail.

Praying

in our prayers this week

Persecuted Christians in: Syria; Sudan; Saudi Arabia

Sister Congregation: Lehurutshe Parish, South Africa

Missionaries: Elliot & Serena Derricks, Lutheran Bible Translators

Those who need our on-going prayers: Hilmar Baumann, Les Brolliar, Mary Ellen Bureta, Michael Cornell, Sr., Rich Cornell, Abby Dobeck, Ruth Draeger, Carol Edelburg, Barbara Ellen, Dennis Falk, Rita Falk, Ben Fiedler, Avery Kluck, Kathy LaPorte, Debra Mertes, Bill Metter, Terry Miller, Maggie Otto, Tina Parker, Marjorie Raddatz, Barb Ramker, Krista Salas, David Skola, Dave Torkko, Mike Trzebiatowski, Mark Wendorff, Zach Ziebell, Nancy, Jim, Richard, Lenette, Patty, Rachel, Zion's homebound members.

Meet Zion's New Secretary: Jessica Ray

My name is Jessica (or Jess) Ray. I am your new secretary here at Zion! I feel extremely blessed and excited to have given this position to serve God by serving the people of Zion Lutheran Church.

I have been a member of Zion almost since the day my husband Scott and I moved to the Wausau area in the summer of 2011 (from Asheville, NC). Scott and I have two pretty cool children: Eulalia (8) and Martin (6).



I come to this position with various skills developed through a variety of training and experience. I graduated from Grove City College in Pennsylvania in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts in English (Magna Cum Laude!). I then traveled in a van throughout the middle United States for a year with a ministry team assembled and financed by Youth Encounter. Our team was called Captive Free South Central, and we led Christian music “concerts” (complete with a spoken message and puppet shows!) for church youth groups, prisons, nursing homes, regional youth gatherings, summer VBS programs, etc. I primarily was in charge of running the sound board, but I also sang, spoke and played auxiliary percussion and the bass guitar. That experience deepened my Christian faith immensely and removed any shyness I had left!

It was after that (in October 2004) that I moved to North Carolina (NC) where I ended up meeting Scott and going back to school to get a NC public school teaching license. In addition to my love of Jesus, church life, music, history and all things literary (reading, writing, editing), I love people and serving people. Over the past 16 years I have been a waitress/barista (3 years); a middle school/high school English/American History/Drama teacher (3 years); a receptionist with Admitting at Aspirus Wausau Hospital (7 years); and a

Meet Zion's New Secretary (continued)

receptionist/scheduler at Urology Specialists of Wisconsin (3 years).

Zion is an amazing congregation doing wonderful things. I already love singing in the choir, reading lessons as a lector at the 9 am Sunday service, and assisting with Sunday School. Now I hope to help further God's ministry through Zion in any way I can in the church office! I have big shoes to fill and lots to learn, but with God's guidance and your patience and support, I will grow into them and wear them as long as God wills. See you in the office!

News & Events

Death

Charles "Charlie" F. Lewitzke fell asleep in the Lord on April 8 and now awaits the return of Christ and the resurrection of all flesh. May God comfort Charles's family and friends with the promise of resurrection in Christ.

Luther Square

Donations continue to be received for developing Zion's green space into an outdoor venue for ministry and engaging our neighbors. To make your donation, you may use your regular offering envelope (write "Luther Square") or share your offering through the church office. **Matching funds for donations will end on April 30.**

Please make your donation by April 30 to receive these matching funds.

Update regarding April 10 & April 11 Bulletins

The bulletins on April 10th and April 11th were sponsored by Karen Hamerly **in honor of her Aunt Gerri Loy's birthday on April 20th.**

Phone Numbers

The Elder Team has been busy calling all of Zion's members. They are finding a lot of disconnected phone numbers. If you are using a new phone number and have discontinued your land-line, please let the church office know so we can update your information.

News & Events

Open 2021 Sponsorship Dates for Bulletins

The following dates are still available for those wishing to sponsor the weekly worship bulletins in honor of a loved one or special event. If you wish to sponsor a weekly bulletin, please call the church office at 715-848-7286. A bulletin sponsorship costs \$25.

- Next Sunday: April 25
- May 2, 9, 23, 30
- June 6, 13, 20, 27
- July 11, 18, 25
- August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
- September 5, 19, 26
- October 3, 10, 17, 24
- All Saint's Day: Nov. 7
- November 14, 21, 28
- Thanksgiving Day: Nov. 25
- December 5, 12, 19, 26
- Christmas Eve (8pm)
- Christmas Eve (11pm)
- Christmas Day

Of Special Note: Hospital Visitation

If you find yourself or a loved one admitted to a local hospital, please alert the hospital staff that you would like your or your loved one's name placed on Zion's list. The following hospitals have such a list that we call and check daily for parishioners who may need pastoral care:

- Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Wausau
- Marshfield Medical Center, Weston
- Aspirus Langlade Hospital, Antigo
- Marshfield Medical Center, Marshfield

Lately, due perhaps to COVID-19 restrictions and the bustle of caring for patients, it has appeared that hospital staff may have overlooked asking if patients would like church visitation. You are also always welcome to call the church office directly at 715-848-7286 to let the pastoral staff know about a hospital admission.

Homeless Mats Project

People are working diligently at their homes to make the homeless mats; over 50 mats have been made by the Zion volunteers! Stop by

News & Events

the church office to see an example of the finished product. **To ensure we can make even more, please continue to donate clean plastic bags** from grocery stores, big box stores, and department stores. Dry-cleaning bags are not suitable for this project. Bring your bags to the church office and/or the conference room. If you are interested in volunteering to crochet the plastic “yarn” or for more information, call Lori: 715-216-3441.

E-Cycle Your Laptops for Free

The Good News Project will recycle your laptops at not cost this year. Whether the laptops are for personal use, schools, or business, you can help raise money to fund their Capital Campaign building upgrades. Stop and drop anytime using their secure laptop drop box, located at 1106 N. Fifth St., Wausau (4 blocks northeast of Zion). Otherwise, electronics are accepted (.45 cents per pound), every Friday, from 9 am to 4 pm. For more information, call 715-843-5985 or visit their website: www.goodnewswi.com.

HELP: Health Equipment Lending Program

The Good News Project is your connection to donate or borrow used medical equipment. They accept donated equipment, which they sanitize and lend to those in need. Items generally available:

Hospital beds and mattresses; wheelchairs; commodes; toilet seat risers, rollators; walkers, bath benches; shower seats; canes and crutches; bed assist handles. Items occasionally available: Hoyer lifts/sit-to-stands; bariatric equipment; over bed tables. The following may be available for monthly rental: knee scooters, motorized scooters, and power wheelchairs. Last year, about 2,000 families were assisted, an average of 167 people per month! Good News Project is located at 1106 N. Fifth St., Wausau (4 blocks northeast of Zion). For more information, call 715-843-5985 or visit their website: www.goodnewswi.com.



Calendar

for the upcoming week

Sunday • April 25 (Easter 4)

9:00 AM Holy Communion; Live Radio Broadcast,
WSAU 550 AM
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Bible Study, Facebook
11:00 AM Holy Communion

Monday • April 26

8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
12:15 PM Holy Communion
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Tuesday • April 27

8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
9:00 AM Bible Study
10:30 AM Staff Meeting
12:15 PM Holy Communion
7:00 PM Voters Meeting
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Wednesday • April 28

8:30 AM Word at the Middle of the Week, Facebook
12:00 PM Music at Midday, Facebook
12:15 PM Holy Communion
6:30 PM Vespers
6:30 PM Confirmation

Thursday • April 29

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
12:15 PM Holy Communion
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Friday • April 30

8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
12:15 PM Holy Communion
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Saturday • May 1

5:15 PM Communion



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
709 N SIXTH STREET
WAUSAU WI 54403-4791

NON-PROFIT ORGN
U.S.POSTAGE PAID
WAUSAU, WI
PERMIT NO. 66

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Where you can reach us:

Church — 715-848-7286

Fax — 715-848-7286

Email — zion@zionlutheranwausau.com

Web: zionlutheranwausau.com

A member of Lutheran CORE

