

## 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 14, 2024**

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## Remembering

*Examples of the faith in April*

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### **April 9: St. Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

St. Dietrich was a German Lutheran pastor and theologian who worked to keep the Church free of Nazi influence. As part of that work, he helped organize a seminary for training pastors, and he wrote several volumes that are now famous, including *The Cost of Discipleship*. He is remembered for an ardent devotion to the Word of God. A member of the German resistance, he worked to maintain contacts with the Allies,



and ultimately conspired to assassinate Adolf Hitler. He was consequently imprisoned, found guilty, and hanged on April 9, his feast day.

## Pastoral Letter

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*“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ~ John 9:5*

Beloved Saints,

A crowd gathers outside in the chilly spring air and lights a fire. From this fire, a large candle is lit— “May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds,” says the minister — and then the large candle is carried into a darkened church, dispelling its gloom. So it happens at every Easter Vigil; so it happened at Zion.

Called the *Paschal Candle* (from *pascha* = passover, for Christ is the true passover Lamb), it stands at the front of Zion for the 50 days of Easter, right in front of the altar where it was placed during the Vigil. It represents the presence of the risen Lord Jesus within His Church, pictured with great mystery and color in Revelation (the seven lampstands = the Church, and the son of man = Jesus):

*Turning, I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. (Rev. 1:12f)*

He is the light in which we see all other lights, eclipsing even the sun in our hearts. In the light of Christ, we finally see creation, our neighbors, our sin, ourselves, our futures, and God Himself for who they really are. He reveals the truth, beauty, and goodness of all things.

How fitting that the Paschal Candle which represents this Light should stand where we hear the Scriptures and receive the Lord in His Supper! He is with us always, to the end of the age! “Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord” (Isaiah 2:5).

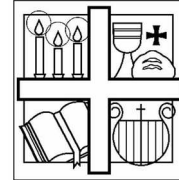
Peace!  
Pastor Gjerde

## Liturgy

*receiving the gifts*

### Holy Communion

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



### 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-Thursday  
Compline: 8:30 PM, Monday-Thursday

### Upcoming Feasts of the Lord

May 6 (Mon.): **Mercy Day** (Rogation Day—Day of Prayer)  
12:15 PM

May 7 (Tues.): **Mercy Day** (Rogation Day—Day of Prayer)  
12:15 PM

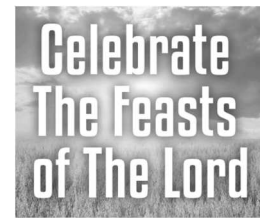
May 8 (Wed.): **Mercy Day** (Rogation Day—Day of Prayer)  
12:15 PM

May 8 (Wed.): **Ascension of Our Lord (Eve)**  
Vespers, 6:30 PM

May 9 (Thurs.): **Ascension of Our Lord (Day)**  
Communion, 12:15 PM

May 19 (Sunday): **Pentecost Sunday**  
Saturday: 5:15 PM // Sunday: 9 and 11 AM

May 26 (Sunday): **Feast of the Holy Trinity**  
Saturday: 5:15 PM // Sunday: 9 and 11 AM



### Scripture Readings for Next Sunday (April 21)

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:25-31  
Epistle: 1 Peter 2:11-20  
Gospel: John 16:16-22



## What Time Is It?

*each day in the Spirit*

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*The world a second can't spare;  
the Church has ages to share.*

### **Making Disciples the Easter Way**

The risen Lord revealed the power of His resurrection in the great commission He gave His apostles:

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. ~ *Matthew 28:19-20*

The risen Lord exerts His power through 1) Baptism, 2) teaching, and 3) His bodily presence within His Church. The Easter season is dedicated to “unpacking” this resurrection-power.

It starts with Easter Vigil, a service dedicated to celebrating and affirming our baptisms. The Sunday Gospels aim at teaching who Jesus is (risen Lord, Good Shepherd), what His resurrection means, and how we share in it through His Word and sacraments. First Communion is often celebrated during Easter also, as it will be this year for some of Zion’s young people.

The process of teaching Holy Baptism, Word, and Holy Communion during the Easter season is sometimes called *mystagogy*, to “lead one into the mysteries.” As the earth experiences the mystery of its springtime renewal, the Church experiences the springtime of her soul in an even greater renewal, the renewal of resurrection and faith.

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### **Current Season: Easter**

Theme: Alleluia: Christ is Risen!  
Starts: Easter Vigil  
Ends: Sundown on Pentecost Sunday (May 19 this year)  
Colors: White (Christ’s righteousness), Gold (His majesty)



## Outreach and Mercy

*sharing and being the gifts*

### Monthly Mission Emphases:

- **Lutheran Bible Translators, The Plugers — Goal: \$2,000**
- **Institute of Lutheran Theology— Goal: \$3,000**

### Featured this Week: Institute of Lutheran Theology:

The Institute of Lutheran Theology (ILT), based in Brookings, South Dakota, welcomes students of all backgrounds and denominations. Their mission is to “preserve, promote and propagate the classical Christian tradition from a Lutheran perspective, ...[so that] rooted in the classical Christian tradition, [students] will understand the contemporary cultural horizon and think critically in the proclamation and advancement of the Gospel.” Thus, as a fully-accredited college with undergraduate, graduate and seminary programs, their focus is on learning, critical thinking and assisting students in fulfilling their God-given callings. ILT’s Christ School of Theology provides graduate students with top-tier education taught by world-class faculty. ILT’s Christ College offers undergraduate students a Christian community that will assist them in discerning God’s calling in their lives.



## Praying

*in our prayers this week*

**Persecuted Christians in:** Turkmenistan, Nicaragua, Tunisia

**Missionaries:** Chris & Janine Pluger, Lutheran Bible Translators

### Comfort, Healing, Recovery:

Lillian Engebrecht

Cathy Evans

### Those who need our on-going prayers:

Zion’s Homebound Members

Avery Kluck

Barb Ramker

Dave Roeder

Joyce Zeinemann



## Catechumenate

*learning the gifts*

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### Youth Education

Sundays: **Sunday School, 10:00 AM** (Pre-K through Grade 6)  
Children gather first in the organ loft for music  
They then proceed to class:  
Pre-K to Grade 4 in the Fellowship Hall  
Grades 5-6 in the Conference Room.  
Instruction will end promptly at 10:50 AM.



Wednesdays: **Confirmation** (Grade 7 and Older)  
*Please contact a pastor to enroll.*

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### In-Person Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)

Tuesdays: **Bible Study, 9 AM \*NEW STUDY\***  
"Resurrection in the Bible"  
*Current Focus: The Resurrection in the Gospels*

Thursdays: **Men's Bible Study, 8 AM**  
"Ecclesiastes"  
*Learning the Wisdom of God's Way*



Sundays: **Bible Study, 10:15 AM \*NEW STUDY\***  
"Justification"  
*God makes us all He wants us to be—as a gift!*  
*Studying the Joy of Being Made Righteous*

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### Online and In-Home Study

Wednesdays: **Word at the Middle of the Week, 8:30 AM**  
*Live-Streamed and Posted to Website*

Monthly: **"The Shepherd's Voice"**  
*Included the start of each month in this newsletter.*



## Lenten Soup Report

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THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU to everyone who helped make soup, serve soup in the morning and evenings, deliver to shut ins. The success of the soup dinners could not be possible without everyone's help. We had donations after expenses totaling \$2,278.08. \$227.80 (10%) will be given to Missions and the remaining \$2,050.28 will go toward unexpected church boiler repairs.

It has been a joy to coordinate the soup schedule the last couple of years. I will be stepping down from this task. Please contact the church office to volunteer for next year. I will be available to assist the new coordinator. Thank you all once again for your help and support of this fellowship opportunity. — Lori Weber

## Spring Salad Buffet

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The Women of Zion are thrilled to bring back the Spring Salad Buffet event on **Tuesday, May 7th at 6:00 pm** in the Zion Church Hall. Enjoy a bountiful spread of delectable salads, complete with dinner rolls and beverages. Following the meal, we'll welcome a truly inspiring speaker, Dr. Anna Brown. Dr. Brown will take us on a captivating visual journey through rainforests and mountainsides, sharing the triumphs and challenges of establishing healthcare initiatives in developing countries. Gather your friends and family for this delightful evening of fellowship, food, and an inspiring speaker! Tickets will be on sale later in April.

### Volunteers Needed!

Is there a salad you're famous for? A secret family recipe that always disappears at potlucks? We need **YOU** to share your amazing creation at our Spring Salad Buffet. Sign up in the Church Office to let us know what you are bringing.

We also need helpers to lend a hand with:

- Setting up the buffet
- Keeping things tidy during the event
- Cleaning up after the fun
- Being a dishwasher hero!



Sign up to help on the Volunteer sign-up sheet in the Church Office.

**Have questions or want to call in your contribution?**

Call Janet (715-359-4859) or Shelly (715-493-1797) or email [shellymurvine@icloud.com](mailto:shellymurvine@icloud.com).



## **Festival of Christian Arts/Culture “Wrap-Up”**

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Supporting Christians who create story, art, and music fosters a more thickly Christian culture, shaping minds and behavior in the love and holiness of Christ. Zion contributed to this good work at its second annual Festival of Christian Arts and Culture, April 5-7.

More than 150 people made their way to Zion for the festival’s various events. After opening Vespers, Mr. Jonathan Schkade described the process and value of developing children’s literature that shares Scripture and strengthens faith. (Earlier that day, Zion sponsored Mr. Schkade’s three separate talks with the children at Trinity Lutheran School, too.)



*“Zion, City of Our God”  
Psalm 48:1*

On Saturday, two groups of people took tours of Zion, learning how its art and architecture confess the Christian faith. The final group attended a reception later that afternoon at which Ms. Traci Schnell, whose expertise helped secure Zion’s place on the State Historic Registry, shared insight into Zion’s house of worship from the perspective of an architectural historian.

Sunday afternoon saw Dr. Janette Fishell present an excellent all-Bach concert at Zion. Far from being “another taste in music,” J. S. Bach was a Lutheran kantor, composing his sacred music in the midst of a serving congregations. Dr. Fishell helped attendees appreciate the spiritual and evangelical focus of his work.

Thanks be to God for the opportunity to share the Gospel in a way often overlooked but essential to Christian community, and many thanks to the numerous volunteers and attendees who enriched and enjoyed the experience.

### ***\*Announcement\* Cookbook Project***

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A call to any who submitted e-mail recipes for the cookbook project. An incorrect email address may have been issued for those to submit recipes digitally.

*If you sent recipes in the couple of weeks prior to Easter, please re-send* using this address:

**slmjem1403@gmail.com**. I will acknowledge that I have received them. Thank you, Sheryl Morris



## News & Events

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### Rides to Church?

If you are able to pick up fellow members of Zion as you come to worship on Sunday morning, please contact the Church Office. For those who cannot drive but would like to come to service, this would be an invaluable service. Thank you!



### Rummage Sale

There will be a Rummage Sale in Zion's school gym on Saturday, June 8 from 9AM to 1PM. Drop-off for the sale will be Friday, June 7 from 9AM to 4PM (please no exercise equipment or computer items). Karla Westcott is looking for volunteers to help both days (lunch will be served on Friday)! Please call her at 715-212-1270 with questions or to volunteer.



### Zion's Gardens

Would anyone like to share their green thumb this year? There are two sets of outdoor planters at Zion—two larger ones by the South entrance (Grant St.) and two smaller pillar planters at the parking lot entrance on Franklin St.. You can express your artistic colors and design! You can choose to do all four or just a set of two. There would be no cost to you, as you can purchase plants with money from Zion's Garden Fund. It would be your job to buy, plant and care for the planters throughout the growing season. Contact the Church Office or Sue Wolslegel at 715-842-3836 for more information or to sign up.



### Homeless Mats Project

The Homeless Mats volunteers are looking for people to join their team who are able to crochet. They will train you on how to turn "plarn" (plastic yarn) into the finished mat that can be used by homeless people as a bed. They meet on Wednesdays from 1PM—3PM, but you are also welcome to work from home! Call Lori Torkko at 715-216-3441 for details.



### Save the Date: Women of Zion Meeting

The next Women of Zion meeting will be on Monday, May 20 at 10AM in the Church Hall. We will be wrapping up the Salad Buffet and discussing plans for the Rummage Sale on June 8. All are welcome!



## Calendar

*for the upcoming week*

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### **Sunday • April 21 (Easter 4)**

9:00 AM Holy Communion; Live Radio Broadcast,  
WSAU 550 AM  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
10:15 AM Bible Study  
10:15 AM Fellowship in the Church Hall  
11:00 AM Holy Communion

### **Monday • April 22**

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

### **Tuesday • April 23**

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

### **Wednesday • April 24 (St. Johann Walter)**

8:30 AM Word at the Middle of the Week, Facebook  
12:00 PM Music at Midday  
12:15 PM Holy Communion  
1:00 PM Homeless Mats (*see pg. 10*)  
6:30 PM Vespers  
6:30 PM Confirmation  
6:30 PM First Communion Class  
7:10 PM Handbells  
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

### **Thursday • April 25 (St. Mark)**

8:00 AM Men's Bible Study  
8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook  
10:00 AM Pastors Group  
12:15 PM Holy Communion  
6:30 PM Kantorei  
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

### **Friday • April 26**

12:15 PM Holy Communion

### **Saturday • April 27**

5:15 PM Holy Communion





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

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**WAUSAU, WI**  
**PERMIT NO. 66**

**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Where you can reach us:*

**Church: 715-848-7286**

**Fax: 715-848-7286**

**Email: [zion@zionlutheranwausau.com](mailto:zion@zionlutheranwausau.com)**

**Web: [zionlutheranwausau.com](http://zionlutheranwausau.com)**

**A member of Lutheran CORE**

