

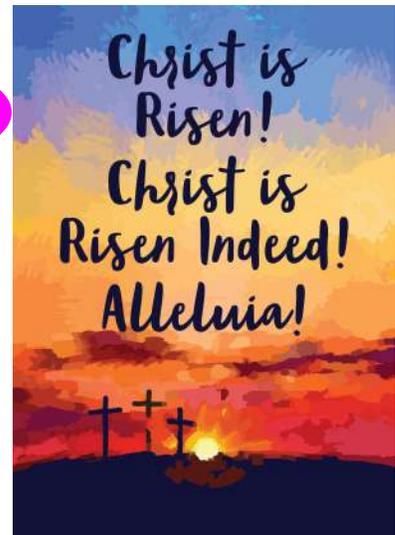
# Zionews

## Easter, Holy Week & April 2021

**WE ARE OPEN AGAIN**

**BUT YOU MUST OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING**

**TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**



**Grace and peace to you from the one who was, and is, and is to come!**

It will be another strange Easter. Even as things are getting better and we strive as a congregation to get back into more normal rhythms, things will still be strange.

We have a host of memorial services and celebrations of life waiting to happen. We have three baptisms waiting to happen. Choir members are chomping at the bit to get singing again. Everyone wants things to return to normal. But we're not quite there yet, so we'll have another strange Easter.

*Continued on next page*

## Holy Week Schedule

### **Palm/Passion Sunday**

March 27th *In person* and online @ 6pm  
(Saturday)

March 28th *In person* and online @ 8am  
(Sunday) *In person*, online, and WLEC @ 10:30am

### **Maundy Thursday**

April 1st Online @ 7pm

### **Good Friday**

April 2nd Online @ Noon  
*In person* and online @ 7pm

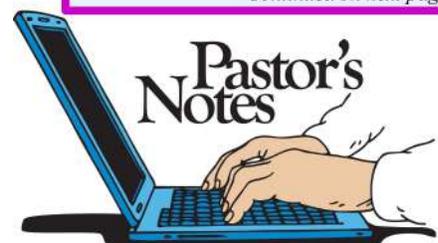
### **Easter Vigil**

April 3rd *In person* and online @ 6pm  
(Saturday)

### **Easter Sunday**

April 4th *In person* and online @ 8am  
*In person*, online and WLEC @ 10:30am  
Drive through distribution @ Noon

At Level 1 and Level 2, Pastor Eric and Deacon Carolyn will be on the Alter. At Level 3, Pastor Eric and Deacon Carolyn will be on the screen.



We are in good company, however, in celebrating a strange Easter. Imagine the first one! Jesus dead, the disciples in hiding, and here comes some women saying Jesus was alive. What? Or those two followers of Jesus who were walking to Emmaus that first Easter evening. Who is this stranger who knows so much about Jesus and scripture?



Imagine the second Easter! The followers of Jesus had been kicked out of the Temple because they were causing too much trouble. The number of Jesus followers growing by leaps and bounds. The Church being persecuted. The Spirit moving and leading. Long discussions about what it means to be a Jesus follower. Do the Gentiles count? Do they have to become Jewish first? What can we eat, and what can't we eat? What do we do when we gather together? Is Jesus coming back soon?

And now remember all of the other Easters that have happened during times of crisis. Wars, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, volcanoes erupting, plague, famine--these things do not stop just because it happens to be Easter. Quite a number of our members can talk directly to what it's like being deployed over Easter, or having to work on Easter.

We are in good company in celebrating a strange Easter this year, just like last year, because this year, just like last year and every day between, the risen Jesus is with us. Jesus is with us in the strange times because of the strange times.

If everything were always going to be fine, there would have been no need for Jesus to be born. If we were always going to do the right thing, there would have been no need for Jesus to be crucified. If every Sunday was always going to be normal, there would have been no need for Jesus to raise from the dead.

This Easter will be another strange Easter, just like all the ones that have come before. And this is why we celebrate Easter. God knows our lives are strange and awkward and unexpected. This is why Jesus gave himself for us -- so we can know our strange awkward and unexpected lives are beautiful in God's sight.

*Alleluia!*  
*PE*



### Nickels and Noses for February

*As a reminder, these numbers are two months behind to account for the bookkeeping schedule.*



*February Offerings*

	Monthly	Year to Date
<b>Actual</b>	\$35,033.64	\$57,080.62
<b>Budget</b>	\$35,417.00	\$70,834.00

*February Attendance  
4 Saturdays, 4 Sundays*

	Total	Average
<b>Saturday Reflection</b>	200	50
<b>Sunday Worship</b>	886	221.5
<b>Total</b>	1086	261.5

## Carolyn's Corner. . .

Throughout this past year our Thursday morning Bible study has continued to meet via Zoom. While it's not the same as sitting around the table and sharing our stories, it has been a blessing to at least come together, see each other's faces, and hear the stories of faith that are shared.

These last few months we've studied angels and their role in God's kingdom. The Bible mentions angels about 275 times – enough to make us curious. But who are the angels and what are they doing?

The word angel in both Greek and Hebrew means "messenger". If we look at the verses in the Bible where angels are at work, we will see them in that role. Some familiar appearances include the angel bringing God's message of birth to Mary and to Elizabeth; also, to Mary at Jesus' tomb. What others might you remember?

In Hebrews 12:22 we read, "*but you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to **thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly,***" Too many angels to count! And yet, we only know the names of Michael and Gabriel – and maybe Lucifer. Does that mean the rest don't have names or does it mean we really don't need to know them? One other thing we know is that there are categories of angels: cherubim, seraphim and archangels. I'll leave that up to you and google to explore!

Angels are God's messengers. And so are we. Our role in God's kingdom is to share our faith stories with others. Every time we smile at a stranger or take a plate of warm food to someone who is sick, or kiss a child's owie, we are sharing our faith story. When we invite someone to join us in church or tell them about something God has done in our lives, we are acting as God's messenger. Remember that verse in Hebrews that says, "*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.*" This could very well be you!

If you'd like to join our Thursday morning Bible study, just call the office and ask to be put on the email listing. You will receive a message that will have the details and let you into the conversation.

*Blessings,  
Deacon Carolyn*

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### Important News from the Quilters

After a hiatus of over a year, because of Zion's lock-down due to Covid, the quilters will again be able to resume their work on their quilting projects. We will resume our regular schedule April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Monday nights we will meet from 6:30-8:30 pm. Tuesdays we will meet from 9-11:30 am.

NEW HELPERS! If you can spare a few months to help us complete our started projects, please come and join us. If you have a portable sewing machine, bring it with you. There are also many projects that do not require machine sewing.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT! We will no longer be taking any material donation as we have so much material to work with to complete our projects. However, if you have a new child or infant pattern material, we will take that for the baptism quilts. We will also accept sheets and flannel sheets we can use as inner linings.



Please consider joining us, we need your help! If you have any questions, call Kit David at 419-626-1886

# April 2021



Please check with your ministry team leader to see if you are meeting in person, hybrid, or virtually.  
 All Saturday and Sunday worship will be in person and online unless we are at level 4. See Zionews for more details.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Pastor Eric will be on vacation from April 5-11th. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Deacon Carolyn at 419-901-0000.</p> 				<p>1 9:30 am Priscilla—Virtual</p> <p>7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service (Online only)</p>	<p>2 Noon—Good Friday (online only)</p> <p>7:00 pm Good Friday Service (In Person and Online)</p> <p>3 6:00 pm Vigil of Easter Service In-Person and Online</p>
<p>4 8:00 am Worship 9:30 am COZ—Virtual only 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC Noon - Drive Through Communion Distribution</p>	<p>6:30 pm Quilters</p>	<p>6 9:00 am Quilters</p> <p>6:00 pm Executive Committee—Virtual</p>	<p>7 7:30 am Lectionary Study—Chapel 9:30 am Staff Meeting</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 6:00 pm Worship</p> 
<p>11 8:00 am Worship 9:30 am COZ—Virtual only 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC</p>	<p>12 10:30 am Praying In Color— virtual 6:30 pm Quilters</p> 	<p>13 9:00 am Quilters</p>	<p>14 7:30 am Lectionary Study—Chapel 9:30 am Staff Meeting 2:00 pm Worship &amp; Music Planning Hybrid Mtg. 7:00 pm Council Hybrid Meeting</p>	<p>15 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study—Virtual</p> 	<p>16 6:00 pm Worship</p> 
<p>18 8:00 am Worship 9:30 am COZ—Virtual only 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC</p>	<p>19 6:30 pm Quilters</p>	<p>20 9:00 am Quilters</p>	<p>21 7:30 am Lectionary Study—Chapel 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 6:00 pm Worship</p> 
<p>25 8:00 am Worship 9:30 am COZ—Virtual only 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC</p>	<p>26 10:30 am Praying In Color- virtual 5:00 pm Property and Facilities Hybrid Mtg. 6:30 pm Quilters</p>	<p>27 9:00 am Quilters</p>	<p>28 7:30 am Lectionary Study 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Faith Formation</p>	<p>29</p>	

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
March 10, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President, Martha Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Rev. Bodenstab, Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt, Andrew Castello, Faye Gast, Darlene Lowery, Carla Mitchell, Sheree' Miller, Roslyn Orticari, Martha Thompson, Jarrod Todi, Kevin Yontz, and Recording Secretary, Lori Wobser. Absent and Excused: Savannah Castello, Nancy Stewart, Tom Kinsel.

**OPENING DEVOTION & PRAYER:**

Pastor Eric opened with a devotional and prayer.

**AGENDA:**

Amended agenda accepted and reflected in New Business.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

An email from Marjorie Burton was read concerning re-opening of the church.  
Thank you letter from the ELCA Disaster Response was shared with council members.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes for the February 10, 2021 Council meeting stand as submitted.

**CLERGY REPORTS:**

Pastor Eric – Written report submitted. Report filed as submitted.  
Deacon Carolyn – Written report submitted. Report filed as submitted.

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

- Martha Thompson, President – No written report submitted. Erie County-Opoly was approved by Zion Foundation; \$500 will go to support United Way through this fund raiser.
- Vice President – No report submitted.
- Secretary/Treasurer, Tom Kinsel – Carla Mitchell shared a verbal report in Tom's absence as discussed with Tom.
  - A motion was made to allow the Office Administrator to administer bill pay according to EFT/credit card/check to ensure bills are paid efficiently and in a timely manner. Motion carried. A part-time secretary position is being investigated as the Office Administrator takes on more responsibilities.
  - Clarification needed on Capital Campaign donations/expenses to see where we stand now.

**MINISTRY TEAMS REPORTS:**

- Worship & Music – Discussion regarding using the parking lot for Easter service as well as presentation by Pastor Eric for half hour services at 8:30, 10:30, 1:00 pm in person on Easter. Nothing was decided. Ushers needed for services. It was decided that for March, whoever was helping with singing could help out with ushering. Services Hymns selected. Next hybrid meeting is scheduled for April 14th.
- Faith Formation – Jarrod Todi – Verbal report. At the last meeting, Sunday School lessons were planned out. It was decided to plan an Easter skit with the children which Deacon Carolyn is working on. VBS is planned for August 2-6, 2021.
- Stewardship & Administration –Roslyn Orticari– Nothing to report.
- Youth & Young Adult – Andrew Castello and Savannah Castello – Phone calls were made and notes were sent.

**Ready for a weekend  
away?**

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio  
(LOMO) & Camp Luther will be hosting  
their annual Servant Weekends  
May 7-9, 14-16, 21-23, & October 8-10  
At Conneaut, Ohio

For families, individuals, couples  
Meals provided  
Housing in cabins with indoor plumbing  
Everyone must register online at least  
two weeks before attending  
For more info or to register go to  
guestrelationsmanager@lomocamps.org  
Everyone must register online

This is a free event. Free Will Donation to Camp  
Luther; Helps cover food, insurance and servant  
project supplies.

- Property & Facilities – Faye Gast – Kevin Yontz to extend the height of the plexiglass partition by 3 ½”. Upon review of the church landscape, it was decided that the primary focus at this time should be the removal of rocks and debris from the yards, filling in with dirt where needed, and seed and treat the lawn. Kevin to price equipment to rent for yard prep. Seek volunteers to help with the clean up and prep of the lawn. A motion was made to not accept the \$16,000 Barnes Nursery proposal. Motion carried. The new railings have been installed.
- Parish Life – Darlene Lowery – Finalizing bench plans. Pastor Eric is still waiting to hear from the Catholic Parishes regarding funding for the bench.
- Mission & Outreach – Nancy Stewart – No written report submitted.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Plexiglass for altar and pulpit. Kevin Yontz did a masterful job in creating the framing and implementing the plexiglass partitions. The council extends its gratitude to Kevin for all of his efforts.
- Bill Pay: Addressed under Treasurers Report.
- Zoom verses Google: A motion was made to continue with Zoom for virtual meetings. Motion carried.
- OHgo: Lori Wobser has continued to work with OHgo to establish Zion as a food distribution location. Once we are listed on OHgo insurance under Hold Harmless Agreement, we can proceed. We are looking at May as the possible start of distribution.
- Insurance for Sign: Lori Wobser reported that the revised endorsement for coverage on the sign came in today and reflects the \$52,000 coverage at an additional yearly cost of \$516.00.
- Congregational Meeting: A motion was made to amend the date of the Congregational meeting to April 18th; the meeting will be hybrid to include in-person and Zoom participants. Motion carried.
- Covid Policy for Staff: A motion was made to accept the Covid policy presented and add it to the church policies and procedures. Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Check Signer from Council: In addition to Executive officers, there must be a fourth signer as elected by council. It was proposed that Faye Gast continue as a signer. Faye accepted. A motion was made to retain Faye Gast as a check signer. Motion carried. Office Administrator to prepare letter for PNC Bank which Martha will sign to get changes in place.
- Letter of Transfer: A motion was made to accept for membership, Mary Zuck, through letter of transfer from St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sandusky. Motion carried.
- Tech Help for Services: At this time no one has stepped forward to assist with the technical portion of the service for the recording, editing, and production of weekly services as well as live stream. Council members to look to reach out to members that may have some experience.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church Sale: If the sale for St. Paul goes forward, council would like to inquire into the possible use of some of their fixtures/equipment/etc. Larry Reidy to be contacted for information.
- Chairpersons for In-Person Worship and Drive Through Communion Distribution: Sheree Miller is contacting worship leaders and ushers to cover the in-person services.
- Barnes Wendling Statement: Discussion regarding PPP loan preparation charges. Discussion tabled.
- Barnes Wendling Contract: Discussion tabled.
- Executive Committee and Council Meeting Times: It was decided to change the Executive Committee meeting to the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm. The Council will continue to meet on the second Wednesday at 7:00 pm.
- Easter Worship: Options were presented and discussed. There will be investigation into the use of Strobel Field parking lot for a drive-in service on Saturday at 6:00 pm. Motion was made if we are at level 3 and if we receive permission, to use Strobel Field parking lot for a 6:00 pm drive in, outside service on the eve of Easter and on Easter Sunday we will hold an 8:30 am half hour worship service in person at Zion. If level 1 or 2 it will be a full hour service on Saturday at 6:00 pm at Zion and a full hour on Easter Sunday at 10:30 am at Zion. Motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Closing prayer by Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Wobser, Recording Secretary

**ZION EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

503 Columbus Avenue  
Sandusky, OH 44870

Phone: 419-625-2112  
Fax: 419-625-7849  
E-mail: zionelc@zionsandusky.org

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**Easter, Holy Week &  
April 2021**



Rev. Dr. Eric. L. Bodenstab, Pastor  
Carolyn Steinfeldt, ELCA Deacon

Follow us on Facebook @ *ZionELCSandusky*  
Or on YouTube @ *Hill of Zion*



Our 10:30 a.m. service is broadcast each Sunday on WLEC 1450 AM & 93.5FM