Holy Week Schedule

April 16, Easter Sunday
The Resurrection of our Lord:
Festival Holy Communion
8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

April 13, Maundy Thursday:
Holy Communion 6:00 p.m.
Serving the Elements of Faith

April 14, Good Friday:
Service of Word and Prayer at 1:00 p.m.;
The Tenebrae of Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.

April 15, No Saturday evening service!

April 13, Maundy Thursday:
Holy Communion 6:00 p.m.
Serving the Elements of Faith

April 14, Good Friday:
Service of Word and Prayer at 1:00 p.m.;
The Tenebrae of Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.

April 15, No Saturday evening service!

RESIDENTIAL
Shredding Event
Saturday, April 22   9:00a.m. until Noon

Bring your documents in paper grocery bags.
Limit 5 bags per vehicle.
Capacity is limited and event will close when truck is full.

Paper shredding only
NO: cell phones, metal clasps,
cardboard binders, hanging file folders,
or computer hardware.

Please Bring – Donations of non-perishable food
items to benefit the area food pantry.

For more information contact
Jennifer at nurse@shawanozion.org or 715-526-2017

ARMS mobile shredding truck
on site.
**February 2017 Financial Update**

General Fund deficit for February was about $4,000, although negative, a slight improvement from January. Giving was $26,489 and expenses were about $30,497. Memorial Funds received about $7,777, including $4,340 to the Sanctuary Renovation Fund.

As we approach the Easter season, we expect contributions will improve significantly.

At the recent Annual Meeting the Congregation approved a 2017 spending plan for the General Fund calling for annual giving of $353,000 or average weekly giving of at least $6,800 through the year.

Thank you, Zion Members. We continue to appreciate your loyal support throughout the year.

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Gordon Holten, Treasurer

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**KOZ (Kids of Zion) After-School Program**

**Grades K-5**  **April 5 & 19**
Will meet the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

**Grades 6-7-8**  **April 12 & 26**
Will meet the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

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**Youth Sponsored Upcoming Events!**

**Lifest 2017 Day Trip**
July 6-9 ... Exact trip day to be determined
Cost $20 per person include event ticket and transportation. Watch for more info soon on the youth bulletin board.

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**Ladies of Zion! Save the Date! Make Plans to Attend!**

**Shawano Conference WELCA Spring Event**
Saturday, April 22

**Held at Our Redeemer L.C., Suring**

Cost: $13 person.  Theme: Mission, Ministry, Music
8:00 am—Registrations / Coffee
8:30 am—12:30 pm Worship, Keynote Speaker, Business Meeting, and Lunch
Event Emphasis: Personal Care Items & Non-perishable Food for Gillett & Mountain area Food Pantries.

➔ Sign up today at the information desk.
April 12 Deadline!

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**Easter Flowers**

*A memorial garden of spring plants will decorate the altar on Easter Sunday.*

To memorialize or to honor someone with a plant, please fill out an order form, attach your check made out to Zion Lutheran Church, then drop it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office.

**Order deadline:  Wednesday, April 5.**

$17 – Easter Lily
$16 – Kalanchoe
$12 – Tulips
$12 – Hyacinths
$17 – Mums
$30 – Hydrangea

Order blanks available on the literature shelves just outside the office door.

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**Wednesday Lenten services continue through April 5**

11:00 am and 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

† Please join us for a light lunch in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 am service.

† Come for a light supper beginning at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall before the evening service.

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**God’s Work, Our Hands**

**Dreams of Green Garden Sign Up**

Monday, April 24
5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Please direct garden questions to the UWEX offices at 715-526-6136.
“See what love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.” 1 John 3:1a

Those of us who are parents know how the identity of our children grows out of their relationship with us. Children especially when they are young love to imitate their parents. They often try to talk and act the same way they see their parents talking and acting. This can be both a humbling and an inspirational experience for us, since our children pick up both our bad and good habits. In 1 John 3:1-7, we learn that the same is true for us as Christians. Our identity says John, is influenced by fixing our lives on Christ. As children of God, we become more Christ-like by following or imitating Christ’s words and actions.

One of the words John uses in these verses to highlight the importance of our identity being rooted in Christ is the word “see.” “See what love the Father has given us” (Vs. 1). Then in verse two he says, “What we do know is this: when he (that is Christ) is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.” And again in verse six he says, “No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.”

For John how we Christians “see” Christ is very important. Many biblical scholars believe that one of the groups that were influencing John’s faith community was the Gnostics. They were teaching something very different about Jesus than what John was teaching. The Gnostics believed that the physical human body was not important. What was really important to them was the soul. Therefore, the way one lived in this world really didn’t matter, since the body had no influence on the soul. A person could do whatever they pleased, whether it was good or bad it made no difference. Consequently, for the Gnostics, Jesus really did not come as the Savior to suffer and die on a cross for our sins.

John responds to this Gnostic view by emphasizing that Jesus did come into the world to suffer and die for our sins, and what we do with our physical bodies’ does matter. Therefore, John is instructing his community not to follow the teachings of the Gnostics. Rather, they are to follow the example of what they see Christ himself did and accomplished for them. John says, “You know that he (Christ) was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he (Christ) is righteous” (1 John 3:5-7).

John is not saying that we no longer sin; he is not saying we are no longer sinners. What he is saying is that everyone who is a child of God will be influenced by Christ’s love and grace, by what Christ has done for them. For that reason, by imitating Christ the Holy Spirit changes our hearts, minds, and lives. That influence of Christ changes one’s will to do what is right. Christ makes us aware of the harmfulness and destructiveness of our sin. In gratitude for what Christ has done for us, we are free to do what is right.

We are as long as we live, works’ in progress! The work of the Holy Spirit in us and through us is always ongoing; so we continue to grow in our journey of faith as children of God. As we live in Christ, once we know and see Christ as our loving Savior, then we will not wish to continue to live the same old way without making any changes regarding our sins. With Christ’s love, grace, and influence working in us, we will change and be free to do what is God-pleasing and right.

The first seven verses of 1 John 3 are both a call to repentance and a word of grace and encouragement. It is a call to repentance in that as followers of Christ we obtain an open attitude that is willing to be corrected and change our ways when we make mistakes or engage in sinful, destructive behaviors. It is a word of grace and encouragement because it reminds us of our true identity, dignity, and high status we are afforded as children of God. In so doing, with the Holy Spirit’s help, we are able to live out our true identity by following Christ’s perfect example.

~ Pastor Scott Ludford
Supporting Our Ministries

“Insufficient Funds” is doubtlessly one of the most unwelcomed expressions you can hear. It causes governments to crumble, businesses to go bankrupt and personal lives to fall apart. Is it wrong that money has come to play such an important role in our lives? No not at all. You may be surprised to learn that God’s Word refers more to money and possessions than any other subject.

“Insufficient Funds” can retard the work of the Lord more than law, any government or any person. Beyond a shadow of a doubt that’s why Jesus talked more about money and our attitudes toward it than any other subject, including faith, love, and heaven. Our Lord knew that money stands between more people and their relationship to God than any other thing.

The subject of money is not taboo with God. He has clearly established that money is essential to His work here on earth, and that God expects His people to provide sufficient funds to support the ministries of His church. Money is missions, worship, evangelism, teaching children and adults about God’s love, feeding the hungry, and caring for the sick. It is laying up treasures in heaven. That’s money in the hands of a good steward like you.

Yet these things can be done only when there are sufficient funds. Our church has sufficient funds only when there is sufficient love, concern, and commitment shown by God’s people. Thoroughly read through this newsletter, taking note of all the ministries you are supporting, as well as the current needs for which each area calls. Please consider doing your part to see that there is adequate support to accomplish the Lord’s work through our congregation. We invite you to be as generous in your giving as God has been toward you.

~ Pastor Ludford

The Parish Records

Deaths:
† Clifford L. Elertson February 28, 2017.
   Funeral service held March 4 at Zion.
† Sharleen M. Galland March 20, 2017.
   Funeral service held March 23 at Zion.
   Funeral service held March 27 at funeral home.

Members Released Upon Request:
† Gary E. Trull
   Moved to New Mexico.

Happy Birthday

Donald Schultz... 80 on April 1
W9002 Cty. A, Shawano • 715-526-5571

Sharon Anderson... 70 on April 10
N3002 Cty. K, Shawano • 715-526-6506

Audrey Criscione... 80 on April 23
629 Mills St., Shawano • 715-524-4352
Happy birthday to the 66 other Zion members celebrating birthdays in April!

One year ago I was looking for my next step. A new experience. I learned about the group Youth with a Mission (YWAM) - a global movement of Christians dedicated to serving Jesus throughout the world, who unite in a common purpose to know God and to make Him known. A two-month summer program was offered titled "Summer of Sports" in Lakeside, Montana. The program furthered growth in my faith.

While my intentions for the fall were to go back to the University of Minnesota, those plans were changed while in Montana. I applied for the fall Discipleship Training School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which had a specific focus on using basketball as a platform to share the Gospel and to build strong relationships with people. We spent three months in Pittsburgh for the lecture phase, and two months in El Salvador and Belize for the outreach phase.

God has been working in my life. My next step is going back to Montana. I have accepted a position as co-leader of the Summer of Sports program for this upcoming summer. I am thrilled about the opportunity to not only continue growing in my faith, but to also have the privilege of reaching out to others and helping them grow in their faith.

I am looking forward to April 22 & 23 when I will be at Zion to share more about my experiences and how I have been a witness to God doing amazing things in and through our team.

God Bless,
Connor Neumann Sleeper
From Your Parish Nurse...

How the first Earth Day came about! “We only have one earth, so we need to take care of her”. That’s what Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin believed. He was disturbed that an issue as important as our environment was not addressed in politics or by the media, so he created the first Earth Day, on April 22, 1970. An estimated 20 million people nationwide attended festivities that day. This lead eventually to a national legislation such as the Clean Water Act, and Earth day became the first opportunity for people to send messages to public officials to protect our planet.

Things that we can do to help our earth are simple and effective. First we can pay attention to how we use our water. Every time we turn off the water while brushing our teeth we are saving water. Drinking tap water instead of bottled water saves on all that packaging. Second, driving less, leaving the car at home can reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Combining errands all in one trip when having to use the car also helps and will save you gas and time. Walk or ride your bike to work, school and anywhere you can reduce greenhouse gases and will burn those extra calories and improve your health. Maintain your car. Underinflated tires decreases fuel economy by up to 3% and leads to increase pollution.

Turning off lights when you’re not in the room and unplug appliances when you’re not using them saves energy and money. Changing light bulbs to compact and florescent light bulbs last 10 times longer than the standard bulb and uses 2/3 less energy. For more ideas go to http://science.howstuffworks.com.

Recycle can help reduce pollution just by putting that soda can in a different bin. The Youth at Zion have an Aluminum Can Collection Bin behind the garage and would appreciate your donation.

Earth Day Activities parents can do with their children can be fun and be a reminder to slow down and appreciate the bounty of the earth. Take the family on a nature hike and feed the birds. Plant a tree in your yard. Attend a farmers’ market. Visit a Zoo. Make a rain barrel. Clean out your closet and donate to a charity. Read stories about the earth and pray. For more earth day ideas go to www.crs.org/stories.

The Health Ministry Committee at Zion is hosting a Shredding Event for the Community. On April 22 from 9:00am - 12noon in our parking lot. Please bring your documents in a paper grocery bag - up to 5 bags. Paper shredding only - please no cell phones, cardboard, binders, hanging file folders, metal clasps or computer hardware. Please bring donations of non-perishable food items to benefit the area food pantry. Volunteers needed and if interested in helping with this fun event call Jennifer at 715-526-2017 or sign up on the signup sheet at Informational Desk. HAPPY EARTH DAY!

ISAIAH 42:5 “God, the Lord, created the heavens and stretched them out. He gives breath to everyone, life to everyone who walks the earth.”

~ Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

Health Ministry Dates At A Glance...

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| Tuesdays & Thursdays: Evening Exercise Class  
4:00-5:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall. Newcomers Welcome!  
No need to pre-register. No class 4/18, 4/20, 4/25. |
| Thursday, April 6:  Healing Touch Ministry  
4:00-7:00 p.m. By appointment… 715-584-7080. | Provided by Joanne Bartz in the Nursery. |
| Monday, April 3: Health Ministry Committee  
1:00 p.m. | Room 101. New members welcome! |
| Blood Pressure Checks: Saturday, Apr. 22 after service  
and Sunday, Apr. 23 from 9:00—10:30 a.m. | Free screening! Everyone welcome! |

MOVIE NIGHT AT ZION

sponsored by Health Ministry

Mom’s Night Out

Thursday, May 11

6:00pm in the Sanctuary

The movie is a “laugh out-loud funny, faith-filled comedy for the whole family to enjoy.”  
Rated PG.

Free movie, popcorn, and soda.

Bring your friends and neighbors.

Watch for a sign-up sheet in May.
Memorial Gifts

March 1 - 26, 2017

Special gifts “in honor of” or “in memory of” to:

Building Fund: Sanctuary Renovation Project
By: Marcalene Rosenow
  In memory of Joyce Souba
By: Larry & Linda Trevarthen
  In memory of Joyce Souba
By: Dawn Gueths
  In memory of Gerald Cornelius
By: Carol Schoenhofen
  In memory of Donna Davis’ Mother

Endowment Fund
By: Sharon Erickson
  In memory of Phil Erickson

Music Fund
By: Ted & Yvonne Wolf, Ken & Bonnie Wolf, Marilyn Richards
  In memory of Donna Davis’ Mother

In Memory of Sharleen Galland:
• Building Fund: Sanctuary Renovation Project by
  Mike & Dorothy Eidahl
  Ken & Bonnie Wolf
  Ted & Mary Ann Rudie

In Memory of Cliff Elertson:
• Building Fund: Sanctuary Renovation Project by
  Mary Fandrey, Mary Kreitzer
  June Peters, Bernadine Wendt
  Ken & Bonnie Wolf, Dawn Gueths
  Ted & Mary Ann Rudie, Larry & Linda Trevarthen, Pauline Sohr
  Jim & Barb Ash, Diane Rugalski
  Joy Christianson, Woody & Donna Davis, Carey & Brian Grieves
  Bill & Jill Grosskreutz, Robert & Carole Krukiewicz, Robert & Bonnie Little, Len & Sally Prahl
  Marcalene Rosenow, Ginny & Dick Vraney, Family & Friends
• Church in Society Fund by
  Jerry & Donna Milbauer
• Endowment Fund by
  Kathie Schutt
• Health Ministry Fund by
  Bob Voss
• Music Fund by
  Ted & Yvonne Wolf, Chuck & Kathy Bruhn, Maralyn Steffen
  Sharon Erickson, Joni Shebuski
  Dennis & Nancy Schultz
  Anita Hartman
  Theda Care Medical Center
• Park Audio System by
  Darrin & Ronda Peters
  Mike & Dorothy Eidahl
• Youth Fund by
  Lon & Ellen Swedberg
  Delores Paulson, Marian Popelka

Have a special event or anniversary, or would you like to honor someone’s memory?

Chancel flowers

are a wonderful way to share your celebration with our congregation!
A sign-up flower calendar is posted near the office.

Sponsor a worship bulletin in honor or in memory of someone!

The $20 sponsorship fee goes into the General Fund to offset the bulletin cost.
Contact the office to reserve your sponsor date!

Thank you!

Dear Confirmation Kids at Zion,
Thank you very much for your recent donation of dinner for our Thursday night group. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

~ Safe Haven Staff

Dear Members of Zion,
My heart is overwhelmed with gratitude and love! Thanks for your comforting words, cards, prayers and hugs—the many, many ways you’ve shared your love with our family. Thank you Zion ladies for preparing and serving the delicious meal at Cliff’s funeral service. The Prayer shawl is a warm comfort—a reminder of God’s great love. Thank you! Special thanks to Pastor Ludford and Debra for sharing Christ’s love through visits and prayers. We have received blessings to numerous to mention! Thank you!

~ The Cliff Elertson Family

Church in Society needs your Zion recipes!

Church in Society will be creating a Zion cookbook as a fundraiser for Wee Care and we need your recipes.

Recipe Sheets available on the literature stand by the office!
**Peder Eide Youth Fest**  
**Coming to Zion May 13 & 14**

Peder shares the gospel of Jesus Christ to students through music, audience participation, and by example. He challenges them to make a commitment that strengthens their faith and gives them the confidence to keep on living a Christ-centered life.

“Peder Eide's Music shines as a living witness of his faith and the power of Jesus Christ. In His hands contemporary music becomes a “means of Grace” engaging young men and women with the gospel.”

Dr. Roland Martinson  
Youth and Family Ministry, Luther Seminary

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The Zion Health Ministry Committee purchased 6 smoke/carbon-monoxide detectors with the help of a Thrivent Action Team card. This detectors will be installed throughout Zion Lutheran Church.

Pictured above are Jennifer Greiert, Scott Pederson, Kathie Schutt, Ginny Vraney, Dolly Burdick and Joni Shebuski.

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**Sanctuary Renovation Project**

*We are on our way to the $150,000 needed for the entire project....*

As of March 26, 2017  
$41,268 has been donated!

To donate to this project, make your check payable to: Zion Lutheran Church. Write “Building Fund - Sanctuary Renovation” on the Memo.

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**Basket Silent Auction**  
**April 22—30**

Church in Society Committee is once again sponsoring this fund raiser and is looking for baskets donations from other committees.

Watch the weekly Zion News for more details!