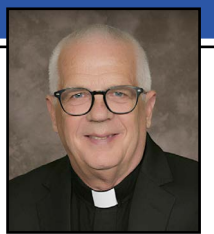




WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

## PASTOR'S COLUMN



**“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”**

~ John 1:1

The story of our Savior begins in a place far removed from the grandeur of heaven. He was born in a humble manger, a stark contrast to the heavenly throne He left behind. This was the first indication of the sacrificial nature of His mission. He willingly gave up the glory of heaven to dwell among us, to experience our struggles, our pain, and our joys. This was not a mission of convenience, but one of necessity, a mission driven by a love so profound that it defies human comprehension.

His birth was not marked by grand celebrations or royal proclamations. Instead, it was announced by angels to shepherds, the lowliest of society. This was a clear message that His mission was not just for the high and mighty, but for everyone, regardless of their social standing. He came for the lost, broken, outcast, and sinner. His love knows no bounds, and His sacrifice is for all.

As He grew, He lived a life of humility and service. He did not seek fame or recognition, but instead, He sought to do the will of His Father. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and comforted the brokenhearted. He showed us what it means to love unconditionally, to give without expecting anything in return. His life was a living testament to His mission, marked by sacrifice and love.

His teachings were not just words; they were actions. He demonstrated the power of love, forgiveness, and humility. He taught us to love our enemies, to forgive those who wrong us, and to humble ourselves before God. His teachings were not meant to burden us, but to free us, to show us the path to true happiness and fulfillment. His teachings are a guide, a beacon of light in a world filled with darkness.

His death on the cross was the ultimate sacrifice. He willingly laid down His life for us, bearing the weight of our sins. He endured unimaginable pain and suffering, not because He had to, but because He chose to. He chose to die so that we might live. His death was not the end, but the beginning, the beginning of a new covenant, a covenant sealed with His blood.

His resurrection was the final act of His sacrificial mission. He conquered death, not for His own benefit, but for ours. He rose from the grave to give us hope, hope in the promise of eternal life. His resurrection is a testament

to His power, His authority, and His love. He is not just a Savior, but a living Savior, a Savior who lives and reigns forevermore.

As we gather this Easter, let us remember the profound love that God has for us: a love so deep, so wide, so high, that He gave His only Son as a sacrifice for our sins. It's a love that's hard to comprehend, but it's a love that we can experience every day. It's in the sunrise that greets us each morning, the breath in our lungs, the laughter of a child, the kindness of a stranger. God's love is all around us, and it's within us.

And it's because of this love that we can face tomorrow with hope. No matter what trials we're going through, no matter what challenges we're facing, we can rest in the knowledge that we are loved by the Creator of the universe. He sees us. He knows us. He cares for us. And He's with us every step of the way.

Let us enter this Easter season with hearts full of gratitude. Gratitude for a Savior who loved us enough to die for us. Gratitude for a God who loves us enough to be with us in every moment. Help us to live in the light of your love, to share it with others, and to trust in it, no matter what.R

### GAME NIGHTS GO MONTHLY!

**April's Game Night**  
**SUN., APRIL 26**  
**4:30 – 6 PM**

BINGO BOARD GAMES TABLE GAMES

*A great time for family & fellowship!*

### ZION Blood Drive Preparation

Thank you for scheduling your blood donation for the **ZION Blood Drive on Mon., April 13.**

Please arrive when called for your appointment time.

**Helpful Tips Before Donating:**

- **Hydrate** – Drink plenty of water in the days before donating.
- **Eat iron-rich foods** – Beef, chicken, seafood, rice, cheese, spinach, + Vitamin C.
- **Get your ZZZs** – A good night's sleep helps your body prepare.
- **Complete questions online** – Morning of April 13 at Community Blood Center.
- **Bring** photo ID, medications & travel history.

Questions? Contact: Ginny Vraney - 715.799.3507

### ZLCW Silent Auction of Baskets

**April 11-19**

**Donated baskets due April 10**

Cellophane will be provided if needed.

**Sign up at the Info Desk**

*You're Invited to Join Us*

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**MAUNDY THURSDAY | 6 PM**  
**GOOD FRIDAY | 11 AM & 6 PM**  
**EASTER SUNDAY | 8 AM & 10:30 AM**  
**ONLINE | WWW.SHAWANOZION.ORG**



**“Drawn to the Word” Community Mural**

Painting begins April 5 and continues throughout the month; the mural will be unveiled on Mother’s Day, May 10. R

**GriefShare Support Group**

Wednesdays from 4:30-6 PM, April 8 through July 1. R

**ZLCW Silent Auction of Baskets**

April 11–19; donated baskets are due by April 10. R

**ZION Blood Drive**

Mon., April 13; arrive at your scheduled appointment time at the Community Blood Center.

**Relay for Life-ZION Walkers**

Sat., April 18, from 9 AM-3 PM at Shawano High School. R

**Summer Worship Schedule**

Begins May 24; services on Saturdays at 5 PM, Sundays at 8 AM at ZION, and Sundays at 9:30 AM at Shawano County Park. R



**IN REMEMBRANCE**

**Marlene Johnson:** Funeral was held at ZION on Sat., March 14.

**Carolyn June Erickson:** Passed away March 7; a graveside service was held on Sat., March 14, at Our Savior Lutheran Cemetery near Lessor. R

**PRAYER LIST**

**Richard Bahr, Alan Barnick, Gerald Bartline, Patricia Beck, Dale Bergsbaken, Bob Burdick, Leslie Buckbee, Lily Cornelius, Marilyn Dahl, Terry Fusek, Nancy Goode, Larry Gueths, Pete Hintz, Joanne Horn, Bob Janicki, Helen Kaurala, Al Marquardt, Mary Martin, Wendy Nead, Ken Spreeman, Jackie Weier, Judy Wendt, Russell Wise, Lavonne Wolf and Jim Yeakey.** Please also pray for our troops and their families: **Drake Herm and Ashton Pitts.** R

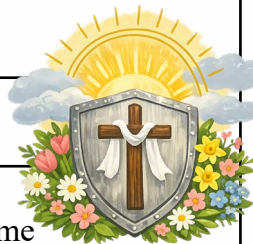
**BAPTISM** **Elsie Mae Hass** was on March 22. Elsie was born on Sept. 19, 2025, to parents Christopher and Megan L. Hass. Her sponsors are Megan M. Hass and Parker Trinko. R

**MEMORIAL DONATIONS SUMMARY**

Received From	Memorial To	Fund
Barb Resop & Bob Little	Keith Rudesill	General
Peter & Mikki Moesch	Pastor Halverson	WEE Care
Mary Ann Rudie	Ted Rudie	Church Van

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Jay & Connie (Prey) Hartleben, Dean & Christine (Hanson) Fellman, and Robyn Berg** R



**MAY LAY MINISTRY**

5 PM Service-MAY	
Greeter	Debra Larson
Ushers	Bob Hass
Lay Reader	Steve Dalke
Communion Assistants	Steve Dalke Joy Dalke Diane Rugalski
Slide Operator	Randy Steffen
8 AM Service-MAY	
Greeters	Lisa Onesti Dawn Brock
Ushers	Randy Steffen Kraig Rosenow Bart DeFere Debbie DeFere
Lay Reader	Judy Laude
Communion Assistants	Judy Laude Tom Laude Dawn Brock
Slide Operator	Julie Effenberger
10:30 AM Service*-May	
Greeters	Noreen Christianson Rhonda Hoernke
Ushers	Noreen Christianson Katie Otto Jason Otto Curt Preston (5/3) Bob Bartelt (5/10)
Lay Reader	Sara Boucher
Communion Assistants	Sara Boucher Tammy Huebner Paul Huebner
Slide Operators	Jenny Tonn (5/3 & 5/17) Randy Steffen (5/10)

\*Youth will cover the 5/17; No service the 5/24 and 5/31 (Lake services start)

GET THE LATEST HAPPENINGS BY JOINING OUR **ZION CALENDAR!**

**2026**

**SUBSCRIBE HERE:**

<https://73847235.view-events.com>

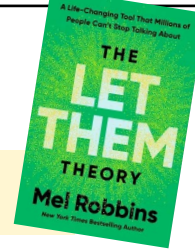
**THANK YOU, ZION FAMILY**

**Marcalene Rosenow** would like to extend her heartfelt thanks to her family and ZION friends for making her **90<sup>th</sup> birthday** such a joyful and memorable celebration. She is deeply grateful for the many kind expressions of love, including the beautiful cards, thoughtful donations, and all who made here birthday special. Your kindness and generosity truly meant so much and were a wonderful reminder of the blessing of church family. R

**NEW LIBRARY BOOK**  
**THE LET THEM THEORY**

by Mel Robbins and Sawyer Robbins

*A Life-Changing Tool That Millions of People Can't Stop Talking About*



If you're struggling to achieve your goals or feel a little happier, the problem isn't you. The problem is the power you give to other people. In this book, you'll learn how two words, -- Let Them -- can set you free. Free from the opinions, drama, and judgment of others. Free from the exhausting cycle of trying to manage everything and everyone around you. There is a better way to live. The Let Them Theory is a proven method that teaches you how to protect your time and energy, and focus on what matters to you. You've spent too long chasing approval, managing other people's happiness, and letting their opinions hold you back. Learn how to stop giving your power away and start creating a life where you come first -- your dreams, your goals, your happiness. Let Them is a simple tool that millions of people around the world can't stop talking about because it works. The fastest way to take control of your life is to stop trying to control other people and focus on what you can control: yourself. R

**ZION WALKERS: WAVE CANCER GOODBYE**

Join **ZION Walkers** and help wave cancer goodbye! The **American Cancer Society Relay for Life** will be held on **Sat., April 18** from **9 AM to 3 PM** at Shawano Community High School. If you are unable to attend



but would still like to support the fight against cancer, donations may be made to the **American Cancer Society**. Checks can be placed in the offering plate or dropped off at the church office. R



**WEE CARE SALE BREAKS RECORD! SUCCESS FOR ZION'S MISSION**

The Wee Care elves were hard at work, baking over 100 dozen delicious maple cookies for this year's sale. Along with the cookies, handmade spring items like adorable fabric rabbits and jar openers were also available for sale, adding a special touch to the event. Thanks to the incredible support of our Congregation and community, the sale was our best ever, raising over \$1,000 to help support Wee Care's mission. This incredible milestone reflects the heart of ZION, where generosity and service come together to care for our neighbors. Every cookie baked and every item purchased helps provide weekend food bags for children who rely on Wee Care. It's more than a sale, it's a shared ministry of love in action. We are so grateful to everyone who baked, volunteered, and purchased items. Your generosity truly makes a difference in the lives of local children and families. Mark your calendars for our next sale on April 25-26, featuring everyone's favorite peanut butter oatmeal chippers. You won't want to miss it! R



**SPRING CLEANUP**

Helping with:

- Landscape
- Lawn
- Mulch

**SAT., APRIL 26 | 8:00 AM**

ZION Lutheran Church Parking Lot

## SPRING RENEWAL: CARING FOR THE BODY GOD GAVE US

Spring is a season of renewal. As the snow melts and the days grow longer, we begin to see signs of new life everywhere with green shoots pushing through the soil, birds returning, and fresh energy in the air. After a long Wisconsin winter, spring reminds us that God is always at work bringing renewal and life. This same sense of renewal can also be true for our own lives, especially as our congregation completes the **40 Days to Health Challenge**. Over the past weeks, many of you have been focusing on healthier habits such as walking more, praying more, reflecting on scripture, and caring for the bodies God has given you.

*“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? Therefore, honor God with your bodies.”*  
~ 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

These words remind us that caring for our physical health is not just about fitness or appearance. It is about stewardship of the life and body God has given us. Our bodies allow us to live, serve, and love others. They help us care for our families, support our church, and be present in the work God calls us to do. When we care for our health, we are better able to enjoy these blessings and continue serving others. The 40 Days to Health Challenge reminded us improving our health often begins with small, consistent steps like taking a walk, drinking more water, spending time in prayer, or simply slowing down and being mindful of our well-being. As the challenge comes to an end, the journey toward healthier living does not have to stop. This season of spring is a wonderful time to continue the habits that support a healthy body, mind, and spirit. Growth often begins quietly, just like the seeds that begin to emerge in spring. In the same way, the small steps taken during the 40 Days to Health Challenge can grow into lasting habits that strengthen our lives. As we celebrate this season of renewal and the hope of Easter, may we continue caring for the bodies God has given us so we can live fully, serve faithfully, and share God's love with others. R

## THANK YOU FOR DOING THE 40 DAYS TO HEALTH CHALLENGE

As our 40 Days to Health Challenge ends, I want to give a heartfelt thanks to all who participated. More than 100 individuals joined this challenge during Lent from ZION and our community, and from several states. It was inspiring to see so many people commit to caring for their body, mind, and spirit together. Thank you for showing up. Thank you for trying. Thank you for taking small, faithful steps toward healthier living. Lent was never about perfection. It was about intention, making space for God and recognizing that even small choices can

lead to meaningful change. Over these forty days, many of you practiced gratitude, prayer, movement, rest, and hope. Those choices matter, and they help shape the habits of a healthier life. As we celebrate Easter, we are reminded that this is not the end of the journey. The steps you began during Lent can continue to grow in the days ahead. Moving forward, consider: What habit brought you life? What practice helped you feel closer to God? What small step are you proud of? Thank you for being part of this challenge. May you continue forward encouraged, renewed, and confident that God walks with you every step of the way. R ~ *With gratitude for each of you, Nancy*

## GRIEFSHARE: A JOURNEY FROM MOURNING TO JOY 13-Week Support Group Will Be Starting April 8

Grieving the death of a loved one is never easy. Whether the loss was recent or long ago, the pain of grief can be overwhelming and isolating. **GriefShare** is a Christ-centered, 13-week support group designed to help people navigate the deep heartache of loss and discover hope and healing along the way. **What is GriefShare?** GriefShare is a national, biblically based grief recovery program that brings together those who are grieving in a safe, welcoming environment. Each weekly session includes a video seminar featuring top Christian experts on grief and recovery, small group discussion, and a personal workbook for reflection and spiritual growth. **Who Should Attend?** Anyone grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, close friend, or any significant loss is welcome. Whether your loss was recent or years ago, GriefShare can offer support and tools for moving forward with peace. **What to Expect:** A supportive, nonjudgmental environment where you can feel safe and encouraged, along with practical guidance for managing emotions and rebuilding life. You'll gain meaningful insights from others who understand what you're going through, and experience God's comfort and healing through Scripture and prayer.

### GRIEFSHARE

Wed., April 8, 2026 • 4:30-6 PM • ZION Lutheran

Duration: 13 weeks

Facilitators: Nancy Schultz, Health and Wellness

Coordinator and Rhonda Strebler

There is \$20 cost for the workbook.

All are welcome – ZION members and community members alike.

*“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”*  
~ Matthew 5:4

If you or someone you know is struggling with grief, GriefShare may be the first step toward healing. To register, contact Nancy Schultz, ZION Health and Wellness Coordinator, at 715.390.4540. R



## SERVICE PROJECT: FEBRUARY 2026

Each month, the **Kids of the Kingdom** students work on a **Service Project** where they do something that will let their light shine through good works. For the February project, the Kids along with the Youth had a great time using fabric markers and stencils to decorate new pillowcases. Notes were attached saying they were from ZION and reminding the recipient they are special. Some pillowcases were donated to SAM 25 to be provided to visitors there and the rest were given to Kristin WhiteHorse and Nancy Schultz to be used in their ministries. R



## HS YOUTH SERVE DINNER AT SAM25

On **April 15 at 6:15 PM**, our high school youth group will be serving dinner at SAM25. We are excited to put our leftover spaghetti dinner donations to good use by preparing a meal for those in need. Students will help with food preparation, serving, and clean-up. All high school students are encouraged to join us for this hands-on way to serve others and build community. R

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Regular Youth Group meetings will resume on **April 8**. You can find the full schedule for our high school youth on [shawanozion.org/youth](http://shawanozion.org/youth). These meetings are a consistent way for our students to connect and grow together. R

## KIDS OF THE KINGDOM INTERGENERATIONAL EVENTS

Kids of the Kingdom is hosting monthly **intergenerational events** during the education hour between services, and the entire congregation is invited. These events are open to all ages — children, parents, grandparents, and friends. April's event will focus on cooking and baking to serve our neighbors at SAM25, with a specific date to be determined soon. Come learn, serve, and grow together as one church family. R

## SUMMER AT CROSSWAYS CAMPS

Give your child an unforgettable summer experience at Crossways Camps! In a Christ-centered environment, campers will grow in their faith, make lifelong friends, and participate in outdoor adventures like hiking, swimming, and campfires. Spots fill up quickly, so visit [www.crosswayscamps.org/youth](http://www.crosswayscamps.org/youth) to register today. R

## DAILY DEVOTIONS AVAILABLE

Pick up your April-June copies of **Christ in Our Home**, now available in the Narthex. R



Ushers  
Altar Guild  
Tree trimmers  
Candle cleaners  
Nativity placers  
Jill, Deb's Music  
Zion choir, bells  
Communion servers  
Sanctuary trimmers  
Ollie's poinsettias

John, Ann, cord setters  
Zion Confirmation class,  
Sunday School program  
Teachers and youngsters  
Tree set up and placers  
Festival of Trees participants  
Pastor Scott's Christmas message  
Projection and recording operators  
Zion Office  
Printing  
Luminary placers

Thank You to all participating members and guests to celebrate Jesus' birth.

SMALL ACTS.  
BIG IMPACT.

**“DRAWN TO THE WORD” COMMUNITY MURAL TO TAKE PLACE THIS APRIL 2**

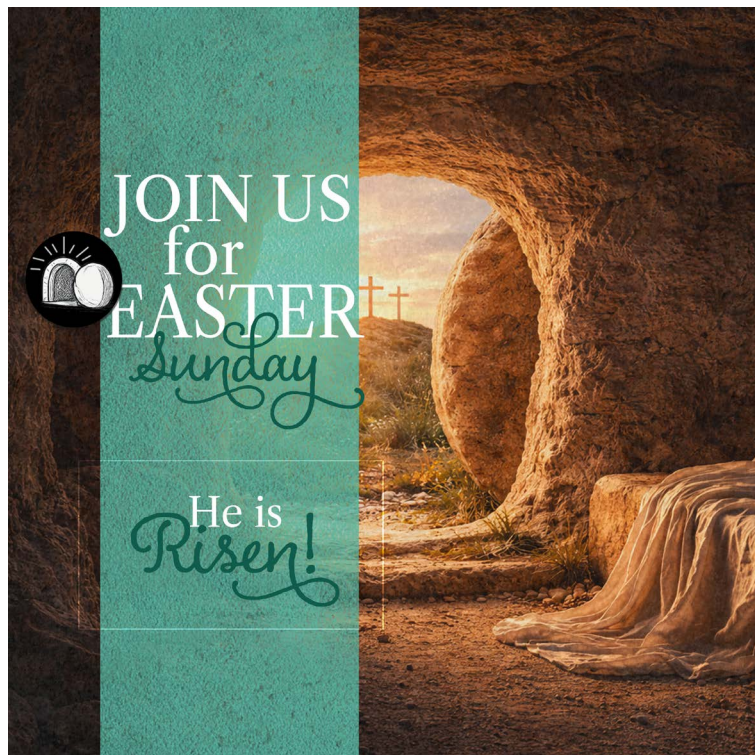
You are invited to take part in a special **“Drawn to the Word” Community Mural** experience this April at ZION Lutheran. This spring, our congregation and community will paint a mural titled “Behold I Make All Things New,” based on artwork by **Christian artist Paul Oman**. We have purchased his design and will use it as the framework for this community painting experience. **Painting begins after Easter and will continue throughout April, with the completed mural unveiled during worship on Mother’s Day, May 10.** Stay tuned for further details to come.

If you can paint within the lines, you can create art with us. The mural will be painted using acrylic latex paints, and no artistic experience is necessary. All ages are welcome. On Mother’s Day, the **Life & Growth Committee will unveil the finished mural during worship at ZION.** Invite your relatives, friends, and neighbors to this special moment at ZION. Learn more about Paul Oman’s art, visit [www.paulomanfineart.com](http://www.paulomanfineart.com). Come be part of this beautiful creation.

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A lot can happen in *seven days.*



**GriefShare**  
**Grief Support Group**  
*Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one*  
 At a GriefShare group, you'll find understanding, guidance, relief, and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief. Come join us!  
 Wednesdays 4:30 -6 pm.  
 April 8 - July 1, 2026  
 Zion Lutheran Church  
 1254 S Union Street, Shawano WI 54166  
[health@shawanozion.org](mailto:health@shawanozion.org)  
 715-390-4540  
[griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org)

**THIS IS MOTHERHOOD**

**Motherhood is complicated. Mom friends help.**

**ZION Lutheran Church**  
**10-11:30am**  
 KidCo Available  
 Supportive Community, Great Conversations, Devotionals and Crafts  
 Mom's Nights Out

**Spring 2026**  
 April 16th  
 April 30th  
 May 7th  
 May 21st

**JOIN US**

**For More Information: visit our website**  
[www.shawanozion.org/momco](http://www.shawanozion.org/momco)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 8:00am Worship Service (ZION Choir) 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Kids of the Kingdom 10:30am Worship Service (Joyful Ringers)	30 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting	31 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting 6:00pm Girl Scout Leaders Meeting	1 8:30am Strong Bodies	2 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:30am Strong Bodies 6:00pm Worship Service	3 <b>Good Friday</b> 11:00am Worship Service 6:00pm Worship Service	4 
5 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Sunday School - NO CLASS 10:30am Worship Service 10:30am ZION Choir sings	6 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Health Ministry Committee Meeting 5:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting	7 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting	8 8:30am Strong Bodies 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm High School Youth Group	9 7:30am Strong Bodies 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 4717	10 <b>Deadline for ZLCW Silent Auction Basket</b>	11 <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 5:00pm Worship Service
12 <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Kids of the Kingdom 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Youth Committee Meeting 12:00pm Stephen Ministry- Continuing Education	13 <b>Community Blood Drive 1-5:30 PM</b> <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Girl Scout Troop 4723 Meeting 5:00pm Education Committee Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scout Leaders Meeting	14 <b>FOCUS Deadline</b> <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting 10:30am Finance Committee Meeting 11:30am ZLCW Board Meeting 6:00pm Property Committee Meeting	15 <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 8:30am Strong Bodies 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm High School - serve at SAM25	16 <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 7:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am MomCo/KidCo 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 4139	17 <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b>	18 <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 5:00pm Worship Service
19 <b>ZLCW Silent Auction</b> 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Sunday School- Sing @ 10:30 Service 10:30am Worship Service (Kids of the Kingdom sing & LOUD offering)	20 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting 3:30pm Women's Evening Bible Study	21 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting 5:00pm Friendly Visitors Meeting 6:00pm Council Meeting	22 <b>Administrative Day</b> <b>Earth Day</b> 8:30am Strong Bodies 5:00pm Joyful Ringers Rehearsal 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:15pm HS Youth serve @ SAM25 6:30pm High School Youth Group	23 7:30am Strong Bodies 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 4717	24 	25 <b>Wee Care Cookie Sale</b> <b>8:00am Spring Cleanup</b> 5:00pm Worship Service 
26 <b>Wee Care Cookie Sale</b> 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Sunday School- Service Project Day 10:30am Worship Service 4:30pm Family Game Night	27 8:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Girl Scout Troop 4723	28 7:30am Strong Bodies 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am LWR Mission Quilting	29 8:30am Strong Bodies 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm High School Bible Study	30 7:30am Strong Bodies 10:00am MomCo/KidCo 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 4139	1 8:30am Strong Bodies 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm High School Bible Study	2 5:00pm Worship Service