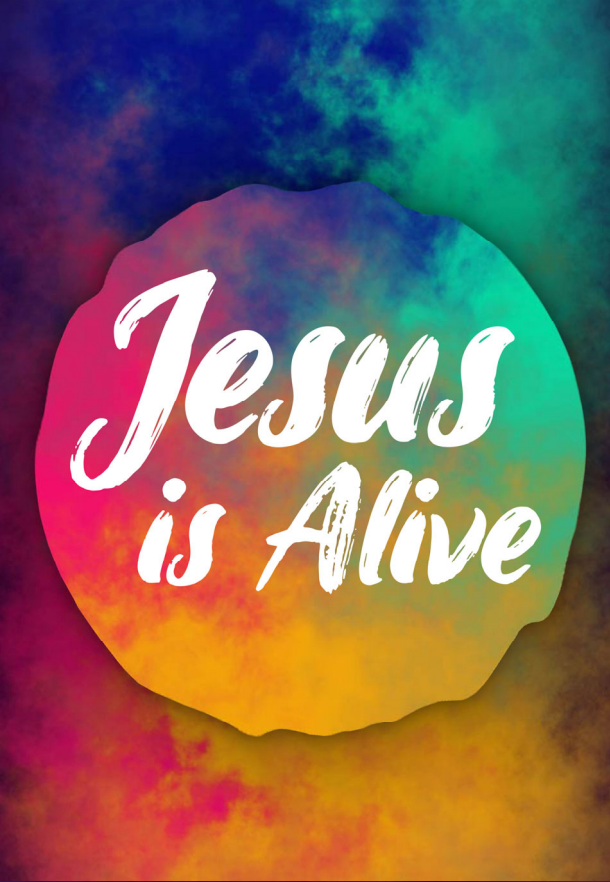


Focus

Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI

April 2022



Jesus
is Alive

Holy Week Schedule

April 14, Maundy Thursday:
Holy Communion 6:00* p.m.

April 15 Good Friday:
Service of Word and Prayer
1:00 p.m. and 6:00* p.m.

April 16, No Saturday evening service!

April 17, Easter Sunday
The Resurrection of our Lord:
Festival Holy Communion
8:00* and 10:30 a.m.

**Service will be live-streamed,
then available online.*



Zion's Health Ministry
challenges you to a
100 Mile Spring Walk!

Starts April 4 ♦ Ends May 20

Each letter on the enclosed "SPRING WALK" insert
represents 10 miles walked. Tally as you go and color
in each 10 miles you complete!

This challenge starts April 4 and ends on May 20. Turn in your
sheets on Sunday, May 22 and join us for a healthy celebration
between services that day! 100-mile Spring Walk forms will
also be at the information desk.

Thank You for joining the HMC on this 100 mile walk.



**Easter Flowers Order deadline:
Monday, April 4.**

To memorialize or to honor someone
with a plant, please fill out an order form found on
the literature stand and on our website!

Attach your check made out to
Zion Lutheran Church, drop it in the
offering plate or at the church office.

\$20 Each...

Easter Lily

Mum Plant

Kalanchoe Plant



Financial Stewardship Update

2022 General Fund
through March.



2022 Annual Budget	\$399,145
General Fund Balance Feb. 28	\$ (10,724)
March Contributions	26,021
March Expenses	(26,009)
General Fund Balance Mar. 31	\$ (10,712)

This report does not include special offerings such as Building Funds, Restricted/Special Funds, memorial gifts, etc.

A Note from the Treasurer: Thank you to all who have given generously to Zion this March. Our contributions covered our expenses, but we are still left with a negative \$10,000. Please prayerfully consider your gifts to Zion as we move into spring.

Thank you Zion members for your continued support!



Be a good steward!

The Parish Records



Deaths:

- † Patricia Tyloch-Hackbarth March 14, 2022
Funeral service held at funeral home March 18.
- † Connie S. Schwietzer March 14, 2022
Funeral service held at funeral home March 18.

Transfer:

- † Brinley L. Kowalkowski
Transfer to Calvary Lutheran, ELCA,
Green Bay.



Happy Birthday



Sharrie Schweitzer... 70 on April 3
315 W Green Bay St, Shawano

Crystal Phalen... 40 on April 22
217 W Wescott Ave., Shawano

Christie Wegner... 45 on April 23
W9399 Cty A, Shawano

Bob Weier... 70 on April 27
340 Wallrich Rd., Shawano

Leonard Heling... 70 on April 28
W6521 Huntington Place., Shawano

Happy birthday to 62 others in April!



YOUTH FUNDRAISER!

Car Wash Cards!
\$36 for 5-Count



Ultimate Wash cards will be available from youth and in the church office!
Thank you for supporting Zion's youth!

Aluminum Can Collection Bin behind the garage!

The Youth would appreciate your donations—which must be bagged—as a fundraiser.



"Need a Lift program"



is in need of volunteers who would be able to provide rides to doctor, therapy, appointments and church for Zion members and friends. We currently have a parishioner that would like a ride to the 10:30am service here at Zion. If interested in volunteering please contact the Parish Nurse at 715-527-2017 or nurse@shawanozion.org.



Class 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 9

Email the office to register!

Volunteer Needed to be Coordinator of the Dreams of Green Garden.

Call/email the church office if you are interested.



God's Work, Our Hands

Save the Date for VBS: June 6-10



- ✓ Child must have completed 4K-5th grade
- ✓ Registration info coming after Easter
- ✓ Youth & Adult volunteer opportunities



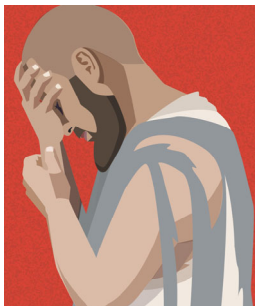


“For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.”

~ Job 19:25

April brings to us a few loose ends that have to be tied up, unanswered questions that disturb us, problems that we ought to solve, several extra pieces in our jigsaw puzzle that don't seem to fit anywhere. On Easter morning we will proclaim, “I know that my Redeemer lives.” But the month of April also puts us knee deep in income taxes, neck deep in politician's promises, and over our heads in the cold hard facts of life.

So, Jesus Christ was here, and so He suffered and He died, and so He rose again. So, He lives, the victory's won. So, He crushed the head of Satan and defeated death. Where is He now? You can hear it all the time – complaints about how meaningless life is, about how meaningless the Christian Gospel is, how insignificant and helpless all this praying and this preaching is amid the complex problems like the problems we have now.



Those who say that we are living in an age of rapid change should know that we have not changed much. Our loose ends and unsolved problems and unanswered questions are the same loose ends and unsolved problems and unanswered questions that the ancient Book of Job wrestled with. Except for this, Job finally got those loose ends tied together. We're still trying. Job affirmed, “I know that my Redeemer lives.” We answer, “Does He really?”

We don't have to wear the shoes of Job to know that life is full of strife. It does us no good either to remind ourselves that things were worse with Job than they could ever be with us. In the flurry of a tornado Job lost 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 donkeys and his servants. He broke out in a terrible disease so bad that his wife couldn't stand the smell of him. Job had friends who pulverized him with their words of counsel and advise. He felt desperately forsaken – by his God and by his wife, and by his brothers, by his servants and even by the children who

were once his friends. If his calamities were not hard enough to bear, the silence of no answer; nothing but the silence, was even harder.

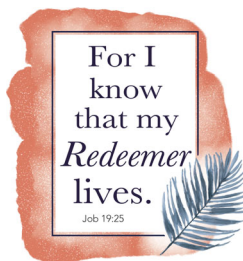
In this season, we parrot pleasant platitudes about the will of God. But just about the time we find a formula that fits, something unpredictable turns up to make our shipshape logic look absurd, to dynamite dogmatic answers to throw us back into a tailspin of confusion.

Easy answers? There are none. In fact, there are no answers whatsoever, not if you believe that your Redeemer lives. Job may not have known what this was all about, but he knew this – that God would vindicate him, God would set him free, God would deliver him, and God would justify him. He had this confidence that even though his body wasted and decayed completely, God would be his witness standing at his side.

From our perspective beyond the resurrection of our Lord, the confidence that Job expressed is loaded with the cross and with the resurrection. I know that my Redeemer lives! That's what the Easter faith is all about. In His death He suffered for my guilt and paid the penalty, and in His resurrection, He affirmed that all the guilt has been atoned for and that God doesn't demand a double payment. He affirms that He has suffered for us, and that He is now alive to suffer with us and to see us through. That's all we need to know. We do not have an answer! We need not know why! We wouldn't understand Him if He told us.

It is enough for us to know that He is Lord – alive and well and ruling – that He has us by the hand and leads us all the way; for we are the children of the heavenly Father who will never let us slip away. The cancer, coronary, war, ecology, -- things present, things to

come – He'll never let them separate us from His love. He died and rose again and lives because He wanted us to trust Him. That's all, and that's enough, for I know that my Redeemer lives!



In God's ministry,
Pastor Ludford

From Your Parish Nurse...

2022 April is Public Health Week

April 4-10, 2022 is National Public Health Week. The Theme is "Public Health is Where You Are. Where we live impacts our community's health. Public Health promotes and protects the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play. Public Health employees try to prevent people from getting sick or injured. They promote wellness by encouraging healthy behaviors. Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. Public health focuses on keeping communities healthy through child wellness, disease prevention, education, disaster relief, clean water, access to healthcare and much more.

The strength of a public healthy system rests on its capacity to effectively deliver the ten essential public health services. Those services include, assess and monitor population health. Investigate, diagnose and address health hazards and root causes. Communicate effectively to inform and educate. Strengthen, support and mobilize communities and partnerships. Create, champion and implement policies, plans and laws. Utilize legal and regulatory actions. Enable equitable access. Build a diverse and skilled workforce. Improve and innovate through evaluation, research and quality improvement. Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health. The ten essential public health services provide a



framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities.

As the country responds to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the role of public health in ensuring the delivery of health care in rural communities. This is done through sharing science-based information with the public and speaking out for outbreak funding and support. They help people make right choices on COVID-19 vaccinations and support the CDC recommendations to return to masking indoors.

Ways to improve the Public Health in your community for National public Health Week are to start being healthy at work and home. Switching to healthy lunches and snacks. Making healthy choices that improve our health and set an example for our family and friends. Attend events in your community. Volunteer at a local Social Services Organization. Encourage carpooling and the use of Public Transit. More information on events and information go to <https://www.apha.org/covid19> and <https://www.cdcfoundation.org-public-health>.

3 John 1:2 Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.

~ Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

Health Ministry Committee
will meet via ZOOM and in Room 101
on Monday, April 4 at 12:00 pm.
New members are always welcome!



**Join the Zion Walkers
for the
American Cancer Society
Relay for Life
Saturday, April 9
9am—3pm
at Shawano High School**

**Survivor Recognition, Games,
Basket Auction, Food, Music,
Family Fun and More!**

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER!

Join our Zion Walkers and other Relay for Life Teams in raising funds or just drop by to give your support.

You may also donate online
www.relayforlife.org/shawano-menominee
search for team: Zion Walkers or any team individual

*Questions? Call Kathy 715-853-2464 or
Dolly 715-799-4029*

Help Fill Our Cupboard!



**Church in Society is
asking the congregation
to support SAFPARC and
"fill the cupboard."**

The cupboard is located in the Commons.
**Pork & beans, kidney beans, tuna, cereal, tomato
sauce, mac 'n cheese, hearty soups, peanut butter
and a special call for ketchup and mustard.**

Please bring a non-perishable food item to help feed
God's people!

SAFPARC is also in need of *paper* grocery bags.



Zion's Prayer Chain

If you have a telephone prayer chain request, please call Co-Chairs,
Winnie Preston 715-851-9576 or
Eileen Ellertson 715-526-3500.



“God Doesn’t Need Your Good Works, But Your Neighbor Does.”

Stewardship includes all that we are and all that we have; ourselves, our time, and our possessions. It all comes from the Lord as a gift from his hand. The question then becomes: How will we harness these resources for good? How will we put these things to work for blessing? As Luther once said: “God doesn’t need your good works, but your neighbor does.”

I’ve been thinking a lot about my vision the last couple of weeks. While in worship, I had a health issue that hit me like a ton-of-bricks. As an end result, my vision continues to be affected and at times I’m not able to see or focus correctly. Anyone who wears glasses or contacts can relate to this. My normal vision is pretty poor, and I have worn glasses since I was in the second grade. Without my glasses or contacts, I would be unable to see much of anything. And so, glasses and contacts are that correction to faulty vision. Now, I could choose not to wear my glasses, but that would be disastrous not only for me, but for everyone around me. My scope of vision needs that correction, but I have to be willing to put those glasses on and wear them.

Sometimes our scope in life is extremely limited. We often see only what is directly in front of us, but the big picture in life, the really important things, can elude us. We don’t see the forest for the trees. The scope of our vision has to be clarified. In the Gospel of Luke (10:25-37), Jesus is correcting the scope of vision for his disciples about life in the kingdom of God. The scope of kingdom stewardship must of necessity include our neighbor, and as Jesus made clear in his parable of the Good Samaritan, our neighbor is anyone who needs our help.

Thus, our ministries here at Zion are in response to Jesus’ teachings and in walking that path we work at clarifying the scope of our vision both in and outside the walls of our church. Ministries like Wee Care, quilters, Lutheran World Relief outreach, our missionary support in Japan, Relay for Life, Shawano Food Bank, Sam25, Safe Haven, support for outside groups using our facility, and our many benevolence offerings are ways we keep in harmony with Christ’s vision in our community and in the world. Everything we do to maintain our church property, support our staff, worship, teaching/learning opportunities, scholarships, pastoral care, and a host of fellowship offerings throughout the year is likened to using corrective eyewear to keep ministries functioning.

That leads me to ask for your help. Before Covid hit, we started out that fiscal year something like \$37,000 in the red. Covid hit us as we were in the middle of Lent and it changed almost everything we once had experienced here in the church. The biggest surprise might have come from your tremendous financial gifting. By Easter, we made up for the deficit we had been in and up to just recently have been in the black financially.

Currently, we have slipped to about \$10,000 behind in our budget and ask for your help to change that direction. Yes, these are difficult and uncertain times especially when we think about money. I don’t believe that is the reason we are where we are. Partly, earlier in the year we found a mistake in our record keeping that was due to computer input error. Without that error being found, we would be spot-on our budget. But we also, would have to factor in the cost of many of our ministries finding new life and vitality in the last twelve months, rightly challenging the budget. Historically, it’s not uncommon for offerings to drop slightly between Christmas and Easter; we usually experience an increase in giving once we reach Memorial Day Weekend and are back worshipping at the County Park.

Are we in bad shape? No, we are an extremely healthy congregation. Good stewardship these many decades means that we have plenty of reserves earning money through investments. Bills and financial obligations will continue to be met, as well as affording the improvements of the building, like replacing the air conditioners this spring. But without asking for your help and making you aware of our desire to be on the plus side of our budget, it would be likened to not wearing our corrective eyewear; and that would be disastrous for us and others.

In Jesus’ upside-down kingdom, for every sacrifice that is made, there is blessing that comes from the hand of the Lord. In Jesus’ upside-down kingdom these blessings are going to look different. It’s not about privilege, power, or possessions, but realigning the scope of our vision so that it aligns with the Lord’s vision for his kingdom and for our lives.

When we get new glasses, that new prescription for our vision can take a while to adjust to. Initially, it can be challenging; we can even get headaches. But the greater good, the larger purpose, is to strengthen our eyes and the scope of our vision so that we see with greater clarity. And so, it is with the Lord, who is at work in our lives to help us see with greater clarity our calling in life to serve as his stewards of his kingdom.



~ Pastor Ludford



Collecting Personal Care Kits during Lent!



This year during Lent Zion Lutheran Church Women (ZLCW) would like to provide this opportunity for all members of Zion to contribute to Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR).

Personal Care Kits guidelines:

- Give **new items** only.
- Do not donate items that have any religious symbols, messages or Zion's name on any item.
- Do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

The items needed for **each** Kit:

- One (1) light-weight bath-size towel (20"x40" to 52"x27"). Dark color recommended
- Two (2) or three (3) bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping, no mini or hotel size bars
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- One sturdy comb (no picks or fine-toothed combs)
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

A plastic container is under the bulletin board near the elevator for your donated items.

Thank you for your contributions to this worth-while cause.

*Thank
you*

We really appreciate everyone who has already donated items for the Personal Care Kits!

Thank you all!

~ ZLCW



*"Here at the church, I only
use Resurrection Eggs."*

Memorial Gifts March 2022

*Special gifts "in honor of" or
"in memory of" to:*

Church in Society Fund Wee Care

by Ted & Mary Ann Rudie

In honor of Debra Ludford's
birthday

by Ted & Mary Ann Rudie

In honor of Dolly Burdick's
birthday

by Mike & Dorothy Eidahl

In memory of their nephew

by Randy & Kathy Klose

In memory of Ken Wolf

General Fund

by Fred & Kathy Beyer

In memory of Kelvin Olson's
mother, Charmaine Olson

Zion Lutheran Church Women

Given to the Quilters memory of
Dorothy & Mike Eidahl's nephew

by Diance Rugalski

by Karen Childs



Howard Buenting

Nov. 3, 1932 - Jan. 15, 2022

Memorial Service

Saturday, April 2 at Zion

Visitation 12:30-2:00 pm

Service 2:00 pm

Book Club's Current Read...

**On April 13 we
will discuss**



***The Five People
You Meet in
Heaven***

by
Mitch Albom

Club meets the second Wednesday of each month in the commons at 3:30 p.m. Anyone interested in reading and discussing the books, please join us!

Questions? Suggestions? Contact
Joni Shebuski 715-526-6453.

Visit Zion's Library!

Christmas Bells by Jennifer Chiaverini. In 1860, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Henry Wadsworth Longfellow family celebrates Christmas at home, but although Longfellow is surrounded by his beloved wife, Fanny, their five adored children, and many dear friends, the country's grave political unrest weighs heavily on his mind. In present-day Boston, Sophia, a dedicated public-school teacher, is stunned by somber holiday tidings as her music program is sacrificed to budget cuts, her students to the realities of the inner city, and herself to impending unemployment. The two stories become entwined when, inspired to honor a local artist, Sophia chooses a card set to a poem Longfellow wrote on Christmas Day long ago – a profound affirmation of faith and hope born of the poet's deeply personal grief. Chiaverini's resonant and heartfelt novel for the season reminds us why we must continue to hear glad tidings even as we are tested by strife.

Strands of Truth by Colleen Coble Harper. Taylor is used to being alone – after all, she grew up in one foster home after another. Oliver Jackson finally took her under his wing when she was a runaway teenager, and now Harper pours her marine biology knowledge into Oliver's pen shell research. But she's never stopped wishing for a family of her own. So when a DNA test reveals a half-sister living just two hours away, Harper is both hopeful and nervous. Over warm cinnamon rolls, Harper and Annabelle find striking similarities in their stories. Is it just a coincidence that both their mothers died tragically, without revealing Harper and Annabelle's father's name? Oliver's son, Ridge, still sees Harper as a troubled teen even all these years later. But when Oliver is attached, Ridge and Harper find themselves working together to uncover dangerous secrets that threaten to destroy them all. They must unravel her past before they can have any hope for the future.

In the Shadow of Croft Towers by Abigail Wilson. When Sybil Delafield's coach to Croft Towers was robbed by highwaymen, she should have realized that her new position as companion to old Mrs. Chaleroft would be no ordinary job. Upon Sybil's arrival, Mrs. Chaleroft sneaks into her room in the dark of night, imploring her to relay messages to town that are to stay hidden from the rest of the family. Who exactly is Sybil working for and what do the messages mean? When fellow passengers of the robbed coach are later murdered, Sybil's hunt for the truth takes on a new urgency. The only person she can rely on is Mr. Sinclair, Mrs. Chaleroft's godson, but under all his charms he, too, leads a double life. Sybil must decide if he is the one honest voice she can trust, or if he is simply using her for his own advances. With murderers, smugglers, and spies on the loose, nothing – and no one – in Regency England is what they claim. Can Sybil even trust what she knows about herself?

**Open during business hours
weekdays, before & after
Saturday evening service
and Sunday mornings.**



**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 has been 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!

Our Goggle calendar is available via our website. You can always stay up-to-date!



www.shawanozion.org



Gifts & Memorials

At Zion you may donate a gift or memorial—or honor someone—by contributing to any of the following funds!

General Fund
Building Fund
Sound/Video Project Fund
Camp Scholarship Fund
Church in Society Fund
Computer Fund
Health Ministry Fund
Library Fund
Music Fund
Park Sound System Fund
Education Fund
Worship Appointments Fund
Undesignated Fund
Youth Fund
Endowment Fund

**Make checks payable to
Zion Lutheran Church.**

*Questions?
Contact the church office.*

Cross in the Chapel

Hello God's People!

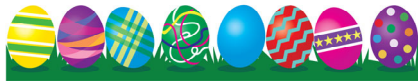
The cross hanging on Zion's chapel wall came from the now-dissolved Faith Lutheran Church in Clintonville. It is made from two separate pieces of wood. The large back piece was hand-made by Rev. Ray Claussen, who served Faith for three years.



The top piece was a gift to Faith from Rev. Judy Deckert's congregation, Grace in Appleton. The word "Faith" was hand-carved out of a single piece of wood by a Grace member. The two pieces were put together and welcomed people into Faith's sanctuary.

I am very grateful that Zion has given our cross a good home. Thank you.

~ Debbie Bernard, former President of Faith Lutheran Church



Zion Lutheran Church
1254 S. Union St., Shawano WI 54166-3461

Rev. Scott Ludford, Senior Pastor
Debbie Bernard, Administrative Assistant
Jill Sousek, Organist and Music Director
Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

Phone: 715-526-2017

Email: zion@shawanozion.org

Website: www.shawanozion.org



Email address:

Pastor Scott..... sludford@msn.com

Debbie / Office zion@shawanozion.org

Jennifer Greiert..... nurse@shawanozion.org



To connect with our youth visit
[www.facebook.com/
ZionYouthShawano](http://www.facebook.com/ZionYouthShawano)



Office Closed
Easter Monday
April 18



No Sunday School
on
Easter Sunday!

Answer: The stone was rolled away from the door.
An angel said to them, "He is not here; he has risen!"
(See Luke 24:1-8.)

