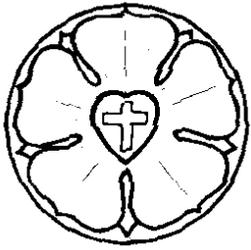


# The Pastor's Ponderings

**Pastor Erik's cell phone—(906) 364-1035 and email address—grayvolde@gmail.com**



Since it is rather difficult for us to gather in any way to do Christian education or formation, I have decided that I will be taking the space for these articles to review and write some small reflections on Luther's Small Cate-

chism. Unless something else comes up that requires a specific article, please follow along over the next months as we review Luther's perspective on the ten commandments. Feel free to dust off your old Catechism if you wish to read ahead or if you have a smartphone, you can download a free version of it both from the ELCA and LCMS publishing houses. You can also find a copy of it within the ELW if you have one at home.

The Ninth Commandment:

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
What is this, or what does this mean?

We are to fear and love God, so that we do not try to trick our neighbors out of their inheritance or property or try to get it for ourselves by claiming to have a legal right to it and the like, but instead be of help and service to them in keeping what is theirs.

While we often speak about good stewardship practices concerning our gifts and material wealth, it is also good to help protect our neighbor's gifts and property. When God entrusts us with physical property, we are called to be good stewards of it. This also means know-

ing the property in and out and protecting it from danger or others causing harm. I know where the broken boards are on my deck or where the dangerous items are located in my house, and I have a responsibility to protect those from harm when they come to visit. When we covet someone else's property, we forget that all property comes with its burdens. We always think the grass is greener on the other side of the fence when the property owner has to work hard to prevent poison ivy from getting into that grass.

Our jealousy over another's properties blinds us to the fact that God gives each of us things not as prizes but rather as gifts. These gifts are to be used responsibly and for the betterment of God's world. Those who own the property will often have a better idea of doing that with their property. Coveting property denies the relationship of trust that God has with our neighbor and gives us a misguided and unhealthy perspective towards our "stuff." If everything we have is a gift entrusted to us by God, it is not ours entirely. Everything we have is given in trust to us to sustain our lives and benefit the world. While your neighbor may share their property with you, we should not desire ownership of it for ourselves. Instead, be thankful and share in our property to better our communities.

Some questions to ponder:

1. When was a time you coveted a neighbor's property? How did you overcome the desire? If you haven't, in what ways can you help turn yourself away from it?
2. How can you be better at sharing your property with your neighbor?

*Pastor Erik*

## Zion's 2021 Council Members

Elder & President.....	Jody Stanley
Elder & Vice-President.....	Mark Prout
Secretary .....	Shay Clamme
Deacon .....	Drew Walker
Trustee.....	Scott Clamme
Treasurer .....	Libby Stroble

## Holy Week at Zion



Pastor Erik Grayvold will have online worship services on Maundy Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>; Good Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>; and also Easter Vigil, on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Easter Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, please join us for in-person

worship at 10:30 a.m. at Zion as we celebrate our Risen Savior and partake in Holy Communion.

## Zion's Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers and if you would like to add to or remove someone from the prayer list please contact the church office.

Rita Ferguson	Carolyn Hughes	Linda Rogers
Nancy Cortright	Carolyn Ingle	Sue Rinker
Max Hile	Elonda Pethtel	Bill Hartley
Glenda Hartley	Betty Rinker	Geoff Witt
Iris Johnson		

Military Personnel:

Tyler Atkinson	Zach Forrester	Peyton Smith
Dakota Willmann		

## April Birthdays

Nyla Hile	4-1
Adrienne McClure	4-2
Harriett Walker	4-9
Carol Kachur	4-10
Ann Willmann	4-16
Tiann Coy	4-17
Fred Walker	4-20
Dean Young	4-20
Tyler Atkinson	4-21
Michelle Walker	4-24
Megan Stroble	4-25
Mark Prout	4-27

## April Lectionary Readings

### Easter Day - April 4th

1st Reading - Acts 10:34-43  
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
 2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
 Gospel - Mark 16:1-8

### 2 Easter - April 11th

1st Reading - Acts 4:32-35  
 Psalm 133  
 2nd Reading - 1 John 1:1—2:2  
 Gospel - John 20:19-31

### 3 Easter - April 18th

1st Reading - Acts 3:12-19  
 Psalm 4  
 2nd Reading - 1 John 3:1-7  
 Gospel - Luke 24:36b-48

### 4 Easter - April 25th

1st Reading - Acts 4:5-12  
 Psalm 23  
 2nd Reading - 1 John 3:16-24  
 Gospel - John 10:11-18

## February Council Minutes



Congregation Council met on February 15, 2021.

Members present were Pastor Erik Grayvold, Mark Prout, Shay Clamme, Libby Stroble, Drew Walker and Scott Clamme.

Absent: Jody Stanley is stuck in the snow and will not make it in.

Council vice president Mark Prout called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with everyone meeting on Zoom.

We did not have devotions due to Jody being absent.

Secretary's Report: Amend/Approve minutes of the last Council meeting – approved

Correspondence: Wernle Youth and Family Treatment Center - Help Our Youth by Creating an Easter Egg Tree! We decided not to do an Easter Egg tree since we will not have many in person services before that. It would not be beneficial to them.

Pastor's Report: Ash Wednesday has been figured out. He will be doing evening prayer and ash Wednesday from his home through lent.

Picked up a wedding from a non-member (his mother). Wedding will be in his back yard on 4/22/21.

Committee Reports: There were no Parish Education or Worship/Music/Memorial reports.

Mission and Ministry: Scott said nothing to report- no meetings have been taking place at this time.

Council Reports: Elders had nothing to report.

Trustees: Scott had a text from Neil Stroble. The insurance company wanted to come in to look at the church and take pictures. He was going to meet with them on Friday, February 12 at 11am. Adjuster took lots of pictures, but we haven't heard anything about the audit yet.

Treasurer's Report: Libby Stroble gave the January

treasurer's report.

Checking Balance- \$22,027.66, Deacon's Checking- \$916.68, Current Envelope- \$7,948.00, Current Expenses - \$5,594.05, Benevolence Envelope- \$575.00

Mark- There was a question about the money market account and what is the best way to keep our funds safe? Libby said the amount is larger right now only because we don't have a pastor. But we could move funds if we feel there is too much in there. Libby will talk with Michelle to see what the thought is on if we should move the funds for now or not.

Old Business: Ongoing COVID conversation- Many of the people in the congregation might have all of their shots very soon. Many churches are already meeting in town. Blackford county is still in the orange. Thinking about March 7- being the first day back in church for worship and Easter would be the first day for communion.

What should we do about Holy Week if we start back for in person service at church? We discussed not having any Holy Week services in person. These would all be online. Easter would be all we have in person.

New Business: Zion's Prayer List - Do any of you know who John Brown or Rebecca Slater are? They can both be taken off. The others can all stay.

Monthly devotions: March –Scott; April – Drew; May – Mark; June –Libby; July – Mark; August – Jody; September – Scott; October – Jody; November – Libby; December - Drew

Mark closed the meeting asking everyone to pray the Lord's Prayer.

The next council meeting will be March 15, 2021— Still in zoom. Scott Clamme will have the devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shay Clamme*, Recording Secretary

# April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Maundy Thursday 7:30 p.m. service <a href="#">online</a>	2 Good Friday 7:30 p.m. service <a href="#">online</a>	3 Easter Vigil 7:30 p.m. service <a href="#">online</a>
4 Easter Day 10:30 a.m. In-person Worship with Holy Communion	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 2 Easter 10:30 a.m. In-person Worship	12	13 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers	14	15	16	17
18 3 Easter 10:30 a.m. In-person Worship	19 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting via Zoom	20	21	22	23	24
25 4 Easter 10:30 a.m. In-person Worship	26	27 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers	28	29	30	

# The Zion Herald

## April 2021

*"Happy are those whose strength is in God, in whose heart are the highways to Zion." (Psalm 84:5)*

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
308 S. Monroe Street  
Hartford City, IN 47348



✠ Serving the Lord in Gladness ✠

**Erik Grayvold, Interim Pastor**  
Church Office: 765-348-3157  
zionluth.hc@gmail.com  
www.zionhc.org



**April 4, 2021      Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

## April 2021 Lay Ministry Servers

### Worship Leaders

April 4    Pastor Erik Grayvold  
April 11    Mark Prout  
April 18    Pastor Erik Grayvold  
April 25    Linda Walker

### Ushers

April 4    Drew Walker  
April 11    Drew Walker  
April 18    Drew Walker  
April 25    Drew Walker

### Lectors

April 4    Kathy Sharp  
April 11    Neil Stroble  
April 18    Linda Walker  
April 25    Cindy Knot