
THE ZION HERALD

April 2022

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

The Pastor's Ponderings

Holy Week Traditions and "Why We Do What We Do"

In the year 318, Emperor Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, which officially made Christianity a "tolerated" religion in the Roman Empire. Ten years later, he made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. Christianity continues to be a majority religion in most of the Western World and beyond – and when our traditions are simply "the way it's always been done" for us, we sometimes miss out on deeper meanings of our observances and traditions. When did we start singing "All Glory Laud and Honor" on Palm Sunday? This year, consider ways to be mindful of the reasons why we do some of the things that we do. Perhaps you'll be surprised by how it changes your outlook.

- 1) Tradition holds that Bishop Theodulph of Orleans wrote the words (originally in Latin) for the hymn "All Glory Laud and Honor" in 821. He was imprisoned after being accused of attempting to overthrow Emperor Louis I and wrote the poem while viewing the procession from his cell on Palm Sunday. Imagine being able to write so triumphant a poem in the midst of your own imprisonment!
- 2) "Maundy" from Maundy Thursday is from the Latin word for "command" named for the New Commandment Jesus gave the disciples that night.
I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. (John 13:34-35 NRSV)
- 3) In the Middle Ages the rite of confession and forgiveness on Maundy Thursday took on even greater importance. Those who were shunned or ostracized by the Christian community (behavior/actions that were bad enough to make people shun others, but not bad enough for excommunication) were kept out of most of the observances of Lent. On Maundy Thursday, however, all were permitted to return into the Christian fold and go through the preparation leading to the great Feast on Easter Sunday. Now, some traditions encourage individual confession and absolution or the laying on of hands on Maundy Thursday.

April Readings

April 3

Fifth Sunday of Lent

- Isaiah 43:16-21
- Psalm 126
- Philippians 3:4b-14
- John 12:1-8

April 10

Palm Sunday

- Isaiah 50:4-9a
- Psalm 31:9-16
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Luke 22:14-23:56

April 14

Maundy Thursday

- Exodus 12:1-14
- Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
- 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
- John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 15

Good Friday

- Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- Psalm 22
- Hebrews 10:16-25
- John 18:1-19:42

April 17

Easter Day

- Acts 10:34-43
- Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
- 1 Corinthians 15:19-25
- John 18:1-19:42

April 24

Second Sunday of Easter

- Acts 5:27-32
- Psalm 118:14-29
- Revelations 1:4-8
- John 20:19-31

4) The tradition of stripping the altar on Maundy Thursday seems to have started in the Middle Ages. Originally just a matter of practicality in having the altar items cleaned and washed once a year, this became an elaborate ritual of removing the items from the altar reminiscent of Christ being stripped for crucifixion.

5) The “Solemn Reproaches” are a traditional part of the worship service on Good Friday. In each, we are reminded of God’s wonderful gifts and how by extension we take part of building the cross that Jesus died on for us. “... and you have prepared a cross for your savior.”

6) It is common on Good Friday to have a way to venerate the cross in some way. Sometimes there is a procession down the center aisle while people imagine the walk that Jesus took carrying the cross through Jerusalem to Golgotha. In some gatherings, the faithful walk by in procession not unlike what happens with a funeral as people pay last respects to the deceased. In a diary from near the year 400 AD, what was thought to be the “true cross” (whether it was or not is up for debate) of Jesus was excavated. People would approach, kiss this piece of wood, and move aside for the next faithful in line. There is a story that one person took a bite out of it (!) and after that time it was very heavily guarded by a bishop and a number of deacons.

Part of what is beautiful about Christianity as a faith is that it is both tied to the past but continually looks to the future. As we celebrate Holy Week this year, I encourage you to think about the traditions that so many of us have come to love and the deep connection these have to our past. Our traditions have meaning – and rather than it simply being “the way we’ve always done it” lets celebrate the why we do the things we do.

Laundry Supplies Needed

In the past, many of Zion Lutheran Church have enjoyed the God's Work Our Hands event offering laundry services in our community. However, with COVID-19 we have not participated in this for the last two years. We are hoping to start this again in September 2022, but until that time, the need is still there.

Zion Lutheran Church will be assembling laundry kits that will be distributed by Community & Family Services. Included will be a roll of quarters, some laundry detergent, and fabric softener sheets. If you would like to donate for the project, you can do so by indicating "Laundry" on your gift. We will also be collecting detergent and dryer sheets.

Powder and liquid detergents and softeners can be messy – so instead we will be using only "pods" or "sheet" detergent and only dryer sheets for fabric softener. After church on May 1, 2022 we will be assembling the kits to take to Community & Family Services. Join us!

Summer Camp with LOMIK

Summer camp with Lutheran Outdoor Ministries (LOMIK) is a great way to spend a week in God's creation – growing in faith, hope, and independence. There are three camps in our synod and run for eight weeks from June 5-July 29. Camp is available for children entering grades 1 through 12. Scholarships are available. Contact Pr. Sharilyn for details!

Volunteers Needed

Please let Pastor Sharilyn know if you are open to serving your congregation in any of these ways!

MINISTRY TEAMS

The teams at Zion are all welcoming new members! Please prayerfully consider of God can use your time, gifts, and skills with our ministry teams.

- *Worship/Music/Memorial*: Decides on hymns, worship settings, and discuss previous and current worship events. They are also stewards of memorial funds.
- *Ministry & Outreach*: Plans and organizes ministry outside of our walls including events such as God's Work, Our Hands or Adopt-A-Family. A number of exciting possibilities are coming up and can use more voices and ideas!
- *Education & Youth*: Help guide our education offerings and build the programs that nurture the faith and discipleship of our young members.
- *Soul Care/Parish Life*: Be a part of the team that focuses on serving our members. Be a friendly visitor to members of the congregation who are unable to attend and help organize congregational social events.

ONLINE LIVESTREAM

We have a need for volunteers to assist with our online Livestream for Sunday morning worship. While it may seem daunting at first, if you can use the basic functions on your cell phone, you will be able to do this.

Retirement Blessings

Nyla Hile has shared her musical gift with us as Zion Lutheran's Organist for more than four decades. After years of faithful service, Nyla has decided it is time to retire from her position as our organist. Please take a moment to thank Nyla for her ministry to Zion and wish her well.

Thank you, Nyla!



April Birthdays

Nyla Hile.....	4-1
Adrienne McClure.....	4-2
Harriet 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

February Council Minutes

Present: Mark Prout, Drew Walker, Neil Stroble, Libby Stroble, Pastor Sharilyn, Paige Walker

Absent: Cindy Knotte

A. Opening

1. Call Meeting to Order - Mark Prout at 7:01pm
2. Devotions by Drew Walker

B. Secretary's Report

1. Amend/Approve minutes from last Council meeting
 - a. Motion to approve by Neil, 2nd by Drew, Approved by All
2. Correspondence
 - a. Letter from Synod about Bishop nominations.
 - b. Blackford County 4-H Scholarship. Recommendation of \$150. Motion to approve by Libby, 2nd by Drew, Approved by All.
3. Add Items to Agenda
 - a. none

C. Pastor's Report

1. Meet & Know Members
 - a. Mailing going out to get updated information from those on our mailing list I haven't been able to reach/meet to get updated information. They will be offered an opportunity to address their membership category (Voting/Baptized/Associate/Seasonal/Friend of the Congregation)
 - b. Communion and Pastoral Care Visits: 7
2. Youth Education Program
 - a. We have information on camp through Lutheran Outdoor Ministries that I will forward to parents.
 - b. I am looking into the possibility of a confirmation camp or confirmation class retreat to "jumpstart" confirmation education before we begin.
3. Outreach Programs
 - a. Read-the-Bible in a Year continues to be successful.
 - b. Laundry Kits project in progress. Would like to use this for a Lenten ministry.
4. Community Partnerships
 - a. Ash Wednesday services to be shared with PC(USA) this year.
5. Other Initiatives
 - a. We will be having noon mid-week services for Lent focusing on faith foundations from the Small Catechism (Lord's Prayer, Creed, Ten Commandments, Baptism, Eucharist).
 - b. Hoping to develop a "Parish Life" group and/or committee.

D. Committee Reports

1. Parish Education & Youth - Drew
 - a. Nothing to report at this time due to COVID.
2. Worship/Music/Memorial - Pastor
 - a. Met late last week. Music chosen through Lent and beginning of Easter.
3. Mission & Ministry - Pastor
 - a. Hoping to speak with them about Laundry Kits and ask Family and Community Services to help.
 - b. Dr Jennifer Clamme is putting together a grant for some mental health programs within the community. Hoping to help with peer health.

E. Council Reports

1. Deacon
 - a. Attendance and Holy Communion Report - none due to COVID
 - b. No requests for assistance.
2. Elders
 - a. None
3. Trustee
 - a. Parsonage Remodel - Josh Jacobs looked things over. He thinks it looks doable. Gave proposal to Neil. Estimate between \$7000-\$8000. Start date would be sometime in April. Recommendation to take to congregation.
 - b. Garage door opener at Parsonage was beyond repair so that has been replaced.

4. Treasurer

- a. Had to transfer some money in February due to not having church but expect to bounce back once we are back in church regularly.

- b. Report

- Deacon's Fund Checking 759.58
 - Deacon's Fund Savings 66.20
 - General Fund, Thrivent Invested 87,065.04
 - General Fund, VIA Checking 3,547.87
 - General Fund, VIA Membership 56.24
 - General Fund, VIA Money Market 65,308.62
 - Memorial Fund, VIA Checking 16,776.42
 - Memorial Fund, VIA Money Market 5,423.46
 - Mission Invest., Memorial Fund 7,023.55
 - ZLCW Kitchen Fund Savings 1,722.82
 - ZLCW Kitchen Fund Checking 150.00
 - TOTAL ASSETS 187,899.80

- 5. Motion to approve reports by Neil, 2nd by Drew, Approved by All.

F. Business

- 1. Long-term Church Musician Plans

- Nyla has expressed that she is not sure she can continue. Margaret has expressed that she is willing to continue for the time being. Pastor will check with Taylor, Ball State, Arts Center, Blackford High School. Bring up at annual meeting to see if anyone has contact for longer term.

- 2. Lenten and Easter Offerings

- Last year was Helping Hands and Grace Village. Will keep the same this year.

- 3. COVID-19 Protocols (check-in)

- Planned to be discussed at annual meeting. CDC recommendations are changing so we need to look at those.

- 4. Committee Involvement

- Pastor would like a council representative at all committee meetings. Libby volunteered for Worship/Music/Memorial. Council thought Cindy would be good for Mission and Ministry. Pastor will contact her to discuss.

- 5. Eliminate "Soul Team" and add "Parish Life" Team

- After speaking with Soul Team members, Pastor was thinking she would like to re-start. She will be working on recruiting members.

- 6. "Stewardship Campaign" - a time and talents (not financial) campaign in the Fall

- Had something in call process that might give Pastor a good starting point.

- 7. Annual Meeting Review

- Reviewed agenda items and recommendations.

G. Closing

- 1. Lord's Prayer at 7:46pm

- 2. Next Meeting: March 21, 2022 at 7:00pm with devotions by Mark Prout



April 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship & Communion 10:30am	4 Coffee & Jesus at Amazing Glaze 8:00am	5 Piecemakers 9:00am	6 Lenten Service in Fellowship Hall at Noon	7	8	9
10 Palm Sunday Worship & Communion 10:30am	11 Coffee & Jesus at Amazing Glaze 8:00am	12	13	14 Maundy Thursday Service with Communion 7:00pm	15 Good Friday Service 7:00pm	16
17 Easter Worship & Communion 10:30am	18 Coffee & Jesus at Amazing Glaze 8:00am Council Mtg 7:00pm	19 Piecemakers 9:00am	20	21	22	23
24 Worship 10:30am	25	26	27	28	29	30
Pastor Sharilyn Out of Office				Pastor Sharilyn Out of Office		



**308 S Monroe St
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**Sharilyn Wendt, Pastor
Church Office: 765-348-3157
zionluth.hc@gmail.com
www.zionhc.org**

**Youth Sunday School at 9:30am
Worship at 10:30am**

April 2022

Council Members:

President & Elder	Mark Prout
Vice President & Elder	Cindy Knot
Secretary	Paige Walker
Treasurer	Libby Stroble
Deacon	Drew Walker
Trustee	Neil Stroble

Pastor Sharilyn's Information:

Cell Phone: 812-272-2936
Email: sharilyn.wendt@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9am-Noon
Other Times by Appointment
Please call first to be sure she is in!

Sunday Servants:

Lector:

Apr 3 - Libby Stroble
Apr 10 - Kathy, Libby, Neil, Paige
Apr 17 - Sandy Langdon
Apr 24 - Michelle Walker

Acolyte:

Apr 3 - Walker Family
Apr 10 - Clamme Family
Apr 17 - Walker Family
Apr 24 - Clamme Family

Assisting Minister:

Apr 3 - Linda Walker
Apr 10 -
Apr 17 - Jody Stanley