
THE ZION HERALD

May 2022

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

The Pastor's Ponderings

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month.

As many of you know, my first profession is in social work – particularly in mental health social work. During my time in that career, I provided mental health therapy and case management to adults with a variety of mental health needs ranging from severe and disabling schizophrenia or bipolar disorder to stress or mild phobias. During my time in the mental health field, I noticed an unsettling pattern: clients who blamed their symptoms or continued mental health challenges on a lack of faith.

"I've prayed and prayed – and I know if I just had more faith, I wouldn't be so sad."

"I know that I shouldn't be afraid – the Bible tells me that God is in control – I'm just always so anxious. I know that must mean my faith isn't strong enough."

"I shouldn't miss [my loved one who died] so much. If I had better faith, I wouldn't be so depressed."

These are just a few examples of what I heard from those who were suffering with real illnesses and challenges. It was heartbreaking to see people who seemed to have a great deal of faith believing that their emotional struggles were somehow the result of a lack of faith. Even more heartbreaking was when clients told me that their faith leaders (pastors, preachers, ministers, etc.) encouraged them to avoid medications or counseling insisting they should just "pray harder."



May Readings

May 1

Third Sunday of Easter

- Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
- Psalm 30
- Revelations 5:11-14
- John 21:1-19

May 8

Fourth Sunday of Easter

- Acts 9:36-43
- Psalm 23
- Revelations 7:9-17
- John 10:22-30

May 15

Fifth Sunday of Easter

- Acts 11:1-18
- Psalm 148
- Revelations 21:1-6
- John 13:31-35

May 22

Sixth Sunday of Easter

- Acts 16:9-15
- Psalm 67
- Revelations 21:10,22-22:5
- John 14:23-29

May 29

Seventh Sunday of Easter

- Acts 16:16-34
- Psalm 97
- Revelations 22:12-14,16-17,20-21
- John 17:20-26



While it can be difficult to say for certain, current estimates are that one in five adults in the United States suffers from some form of mental illness – with severity ranging from mild to severe. While things have improved, there is still a lot of shame and stigma associated with mental health disorders. The sad truth is that sometimes faith communities haven't done the best job talking about these illnesses – the silence has only increased the shame and stigma.

With that in mind, I'll be including special petitions during our Prayers of Intercession for those who are living with mental health disorders during the month of May. I hope you will consider joining me in continuing to hold this prayer concern over the course of the month of May.

In Christian love,
Pastor Sharilyn

May Birthdays

Carolyn Hughes.....	5-1
Teresa Banter.....	5-1
Larry Langdon.....	5-2
Nolan Willmann.....	5-4
Dick Smith.....	5-5
Dorothy Hale.....	5-14
Zackary Monce.....	5-14
Carolyn Smith.....	5-18
Michael Habegger.....	5-20
Chris Walker.....	5-22
Bill Thomas.....	5-23



Sing To The Lord A New Song! Or An Old Song!

During the season of Pentecost (June 19-October 23) everyone's input is needed as we choose our hymns for Sunday Worship. Starting in mid-May, we will have hymn request cards available for you to tell us your favorite hymns or to request a particular hymn. The Worship/Music/Memorial committee will do our best to fit as many of them into our Summer/Fall worship schedule as possible. Start thinking of what you would like to have us sing together!



Summer Camp with LOMIK

Summer camp with Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Indiana-Kentucky (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!

Sharing Our Faith Stories

Join us after worship on May 15 for a potluck meal and conversation about how to share our faith stories! Everyone has a faith story – a time when God acted in your life. One of the best ways to support one another and grow in faith together is to share these times with one another. Sharing our faith stories tends to have two effects: it strengthens our own faith and it inspires the faith of those around us. Plan to join us!



I know that my Redeemer lives

This Easter, many of us will be able to gather in person for glorious celebrations of our Lord's resurrection. But the first Easter was in a cemetery, surrounded by tombstones. The women and then the men disciples came to see what had happened to their Lord. They expected to find a dead body, but instead they found God's defiant answer to death.

As St. Paul writes in Corinthians, "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Oh, death, where is your victory? Oh, death, where is your sting?"

I know now that we're entering the third year of this pandemic, and we see the signs of stress and incivility, even the signs of war and disease in Ethiopia and Sudan, in Europe. It might seem like death still has sway, but we can declare confidently on this Easter and all times what Job said, "I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh, I shall see God."

Centuries ago, the Russian Orthodox developed this beautiful poem, the Kontakion of the Departed. It's often used at gravesites. "Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind, and we are mortal, formed of the earth and to the earth shall we return. For so you did ordain when you created a thing. You are dust and to dust you shall return. All of us go down to the dust. Yet even at the grave we make our song. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

Blessed Easter, dear church.

Elizabeth A. Eaton

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

March Council Minutes

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

Absent: Cindy Knote

A. Opening

1. Call Meeting to Order - Mark Prout at 7:02pm
2. Devotions by Mark Prout

B. Secretary's Report

1. Amend/Approve minutes from last Council meeting
 - a. Motion to approve by Neil, 2nd by Libby, Approved by All
2. Correspondence
 - a. Thank you letter from Wernle for advent giving.
 - b. Vice-President of Synod sent a letter with assembled priorities.
 - c. Call to Synod Assembly June 9-11. We are asked to have 2 individual voting delegates. It is in Muncie at the Convention Center this year. Pastor will ask about needing volunteers to help with check-in, etc.
3. Add Items to Agenda
 - a. none

C. Pastor's Report

1. Meet & Know Members
 - a. Mailing completed to update/clean our membership and mailing lists (Voting Member/Baptized Member/Associate Member/Friend of the Congregation)
 - b. Communion and Pastoral Care Visits: 8
2. Youth Education Program
 - a. Education and Youth meeting being organized
 - i. Confirmation - Enrollment/Plans/Schedules
 - ii. Adult Education needs and plans
3. Outreach Programs
 - a. Read-the-Bible in a Year continues to be successful.
 - b. Laundry Kits - May 1 will be "assembly day"
 - c. In Planning Stages: Summer Worship on the Square
 - d. Goal is to have one 'event' per month
4. Community Partnerships
 - a. Ash Wednesday services with PC(USA)
 - b. Summer Worship on the Square series
5. Other Initiatives
 - a. Midweek Lent continues
 - b. "Tell Your Story" (Spring/Summer 2022)
 - c. Time & Talents (Spring/Summer 2022)

D. Committee Reports

1. Parish Education & Youth - Drew
 - a. Setting up a time to meet
2. Worship/Music/Memorial - Libby
 - a. Setting up a time to meet
3. Mission & Ministry - Pastor
 - a. Setting up a time to meet

E. Council Reports

1. Deacon
 - a. Attendance and Holy Communion Report: Mid 40s
 - b. Assistance Requests: none
2. Elders
 - a. None
3. Trustee
 - a. Tracking down mold report from parsonage.
 - b. Add announcement to bulletin about giving to parsonage project.
 - c. Called Hockendale's about bell.
4. Treasurer
 - a. Everything seems to be keeping up with the budget.
 - b. Report
 - Deacon's Fund Checking 823.88
 - Deacon's Fund Savings 66.20
 - General Fund, Thrivent Invested 87,065.04
 - General Fund, VIA Checking 15,232.33
 - General Fund, VIA Membership 56.24
 - General Fund, VIA Money Market 60,320.81
 - Memorial Fund, VIA Checking 16,776.42
 - Memorial Fund, VIA Money Market 5,366.49
 - Mission Invest., Memorial Fund 7,029.22
 - ZLCW Kitchen Fund Savings 1,722.82
 - ZLCW Kitchen Fund Checking 150.00
 - TOTAL ASSETS 194,609.45

F. Business

1. Pastor Vacation Plans: April 20-27 (will include some continuing education)
Lay Worship Leader for April 24? Neil volunteered.
2. COVID-19 Protocols
Will be looking at how many Blackford residents are in the hospital as a basis and following CDC guidelines/recommendations.
3. Organist Pay
Libby will add Margaret to payroll since she will be our foreseeable organist.

G. Closing

1. Lord's Prayer at 7:42pm
2. Next Meeting: April 18, 2022 at 7:00pm with devotions by Cindy Knotte



May 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship & Communion 10:30am Assemble Laundry Kits	2 Coffee & Jesus at Amazing Glaze 8am	3 Pastor Out of Office for Synod Event	4	5	6	7
8 Worship 10:30am Education & Youth Mtg. Mother's Day	9 Coffee & Jesus at Amazing Glaze 8am	10 Piecemakers 9am	11	12	13	14
15 Worship & Communion 10:30am Sharing Your Faith Event 11:30-1:00	16 Coffee & Jesus at Amazing Glaze 8am Council Mtg 7pm	17	18	19	20	21
22 Worship 10:30am Gideon's International Speaker	23 Coffee & Jesus at Amazing Glaze 8am	24 Piecemakers 9am	25	26	27	28
29 Worship & Communion 10:30am	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31 Worship, Music, and Memorial Mtg 7pm				



308 S Monroe St
Hartford City, IN 47348

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

May 2022

Council Members

President & Elder	Mark Prout
Vice President & Elder	Cindy Knotte
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:
May 1 - Linda Baker
May 8 - Kathy Sharp
May 15 - Linda Baker
May 22 - Paige Walker
May 29 - Cindy Knotte

Acolyte:
May 1 - Clamme Family
May 8 - Walker Family
May 15 - Clamme Family
May 22 - Walker Family
May 29 - Walker Family

Assisting Minister:
May 1 - Michelle Walker
May 15 - Mark Prout
May 29 - Linda Walker