

CONNECTIONS

Website: ZionsLuth.org | zionsluth@gmail.com

Lookin' for Love: Zion's Lenten Worship

Lenten worship began Feb. 22 and continues March 5, 12, 19, and 26 and focuses upon the theme of Looking for Love in all the wrong places.

Each week of the Lenten series, we will feature a kind of love that Jesus exemplifies.

We will explore the places where love and life-giving connection can be found.

Palm Sunday is April 2,
Good Friday is April 7.
Easter Sunday is April 9.

Worship Services

Zion's worship services are at 10 a.m. each Sunday. We worship in the sanctuary at 510 Pine Street.

Bible Study precedes worship and is at 8:30 a.m.

Bulletins and other worship resources are available on the Zion's website at: zionsluth.org.



Easter Tradition

By Jeff Smith

When I was a kid there were two overwhelmingly important holidays for me, Christmas and Easter. Christmas was the more important one for me as it brought TOYS, and, unlike Easter, I didn't have to wake up early, don a new Easter outfit, and go to sunrise service. Still, the candy in the Easter basket made up for it.

But oh, how things have changed, especially the tradition of new clothes and an Easter bonnet for the ladies. While some regions hang on to these traditions, the Easter bonnet has mostly gone the way of the horse and carriage. It probably reached its zenith with the release of the 1948 movie classic with Fred Astaire and Judy Garland, Easter Parade. Many of us remember the lyrics from about Easter bonnets written in 1933 by Irving Berlin, "In your Easter bonnet, with all the frills upon it, you'll be the grandest lady in the Easter Parade."

The tradition of the Easter parade began in the mid 1800s in New York City where high society would wander around Fifth Avenue in their Easter finery at the conclusion of Easter church services.

(continued on page 2)

Serving Zion's

Church Council:

Peggy Gustafson
Norine Hazen
Cherie Holder
Joni Jones
Paula Little
Mike McNeil
Carol Schulzkump
Jeff Smith
Julie Wersal

Staff:

Lisa Rygiel, Vicar
Jo Moss, Assistant to the
Pastor/Vicar

Standing Committees:

5 Loaves/Thanksgiving —
Norine Hazen, lead
Altar Preparation —
Kathy Nicolai, lead
Angels in Aprons/
Birthday Cards — Lynn
Chase, lead
Building & Grounds —
Julie Wersal, oversight
Communications/Social
Media — Lisa Rygiel, lead
Communion Bread —
Cherie Holder
Flower Guild — Lynn
Chase, lead
Prayer List/Warriors —
Carol Smith, coordinator
Safety & Security — Jeff
Smith, lead
Worship & Music — Lisa
Rygiel, lead
Worship Assistants —
JoAnn Karspeck,
Coordinator

*Contact these people via
Zion's email or by
personal email/phone
listed in the church
directory.*

Easter Tradition...cont.

(continued from page 1)

The tradition continues with an annual Easter parade down Fifth Avenue, though the Easter bonnets have evolved (or devolved as taste would dictate). Still, there is something about the tradition that is appealing.

Easter traditions are many and varied. We all know about Easter eggs, baskets, hot-cross buns, the Easter rabbit, Easter lilies, and Sunrise Services; but how did these traditions come about, and what about lesser known traditions like Good Friday Kiting, egg-jarping, or Osterbrunnen?

I decided to research some of the Easter traditions. I found that there are various debates about the origin of some of the traditions. Even the origin of the name EASTER itself has a bit of a foggy background. One interesting theory is that it was named after the pagan goddess of fertility, Easter. Supposedly, Easter found a bird dying from the cold and turned it into a rabbit so its fur would keep it warm. However, this rabbit retained the ability to lay eggs.

German immigrants brought this tradition of the egg-laying hare, named Osterhase, to American in the 1700s. Of course, American ingenuity and the knack for commercialization soon had the bunny grow to giant proportions and give out, in addition to eggs, chocolate rabbits, marshmallow Peeps, and Easter baskets. The baskets themselves started out with children making nests of grass to attract the bunny.

The tradition of eggs associated with the resurrection of Christ began in the first century when Christians translated the original pagan beliefs into a new Christian tradition. The analogy is, like Christ when he was buried and came to life again, an egg lies dormant and then "awakes".

(continued on page 3)



Jeff Smith's Family at Easter

Special Food, Fellowship & Devotion During Lent

Another Easter tradition returns to Zion's this Lenten season, as we resume Wednesday Soup Suppers in the Fellowship Hall. Beginning at 6 p.m. each Wednesday of Lent we will serve soup and side dishes. The suppers will be a time of fellowship and Lenten devotion, and, as always, all are welcome.

Special thanks to Norine Hazen who is coordinating this event and to our volunteer cooks: Joni Jones & Peggy Gustafson who provided food on Ash Wednesday, as well as Jo Moss, Tea Moss Compton & Erin Ogletree, March 1; Ann Rasmussen & Ruthie Culpepper, March 8; Cherie Holder & Carol Smith, March 15; Julie Wersal & Carol Schulzkump, March 22; and Melodie Lanosga & JoAnn Karspeck, March 29.



If you have questions, contact Norine.

Easter Tradition...cont.

(continued from page 2)

Also, during medieval times, eggs were prohibited by the Catholic Church from being eaten during Lent. Eating eggs marked the end of Lent.

Coloring eggs has several possible origins. One is that Osterhase (remember him) was so grateful to Eostre that he decorated some of his eggs and gave them as a gift. Another is that when Mary attended Christ's crucifixion, some of Christ's blood fell on some eggs she happened to have with her, turning them red.

As for dressing up for Easter with new clothes, this tradition goes back to at least AD 300 when the Christian Emperor Constantine decreed that all of his men were to wear their newest and nicest clothes on Easter and to eliminate clothing that had been worn during Lent. Also, there was a superstition that failing to wear your newest and best on Easter would result in getting an "anointment" from a bird. While I don't know the veracity of this superstition as it applies to Easter, I do know that one Christmas Eve service we attended years ago, just as we were stepping into the sanctuary, a bird left a decal on the shoulder of my

wife Carol's not-so-new coat.

Easter lilies as decorations on Easter Sunday derive both from the color white signifying the purity of Christ, their growth from dormant bulbs to flowers symbolizing rebirth, and the trumpet shape announcing that Christ has risen.

Sunrise services recreating the time of Christ's resurrection began in Germany in 1732 and spread to America in 1773, first being held in Winston-Salem North Carolina.

The first written record of Hot-Cross Buns was from an issue of *Poor Robin's Almanac* in the 1730s that says, "Good Friday comes this month, the old woman runs, With one or two a Penny, hot cross buns".

As for the lesser-known traditions of Good Friday Kiting, egg-jarping, and Osterbrunnen, I will leave that up to the reader to discover the origins themselves.

Happy Easter to All
He is Risen!



ELCA Update

Lutheran Disaster Response Aids Türkiye & Syria

On Feb. 6 two powerful earthquakes hit Türkiye and significantly impacted neighboring Syria. The first was a magnitude 7.8 earthquake in south central Türkiye, followed hours later by a magnitude 7.5 quake in the southeastern part of the country. The two quakes as well as numerous aftershocks devastated Türkiye and Syria, killing thousands, collapsing buildings and damaging infrastructure.



The epicenter of one earthquake was near Turkish provinces that host hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees, which only exacerbated the refugee crisis in the region.



Lutheran Disaster Response supports ACT Alliance and other partners in responding to these earthquakes. Mere hours after the earthquakes hit, ACT Alliance member organizations began distributing emergency supplies, including medicines, bedding, and other relief items. The response will evolve and increase as the impact becomes clearer. For each disaster response, LDR collaborates with other response organizations and religious entities worldwide. This enables the greatest stewardship of resources and maximum impact of response. And, LDR is a welcomed partner because it respects the perspectives and strengths of others. As such, LDR welcomes monetary gifts designated for "Middle East Crisis", which LDR will use entirely (100%) to provide long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by this disasters. *Use the QR Code at right to donate now.*

ELCA World Hunger Launches 40 Days of Giving

These 40 days are a season to reflect and remember, to look forward and ahead. During Lent we journey with the Hebrews in the exodus, through the temptations Jesus faced in the wilderness and to the foot of the cross on Good Friday. We remember our dependence on God and one another and reflect on the many ways we have fallen short of what God calls us to be.

These are not easy times for many of us. We know the challenges our world faces. Yet the season of Lent reminds us that God is not yet through with us or our world. Amid our own dependence on God, we know by faith that God is even now at work, drawing us toward the resurrection and restoration of the world.



ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving invites us to be part of that work and to bear witness to it with partners, companions, friends and neighbors. Working community by community in the United States and more than 60 other countries, ELCA World Hunger offers solutions that get at the root causes of hunger.

To donate now, use the QR Code at left. Also watch the Zion's website for regular updates about ELCA World Hunger 40 Days of Giving.

March 4, Art & Wine Event Returns to Zion's

On March 4, Paula Little will reprise the popular Art & Wine event that provides participants with an opportunity to enjoy fellowship and try their hand at creating artwork unique to each person. The event will be similar to Paula's original session last October, and will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 4, in the Fellowship Hall. Please note that this is the corrected time from previous announcements.

Paula has placed a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall and both members and guests are welcome to attend. This Art & Wine event, is an abstract painting workshop that does not require any art ability, just a yearning to be creative. As an advocate of the arts, Paula encourages the creative abilities of people around her, no matter whether they have confidence in their artistic skills.

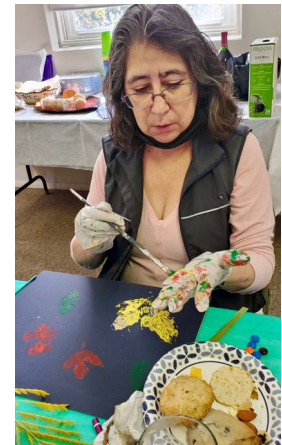
"There is a camaraderie and a joy that happens when we are all busy creating. The last time, the group broke out into spontaneous song, which was quite delightful," Paula explains. She notes that since participants will paint a couple of projects using acrylic paint and collage, they may want to wear old clothes or an apron.



Scenes from 2022 Art & Wine Event at Zion's: Elaine Trujillo, and the art group.

There is no charge for the event, but a freewill offering will be accepted to help offset the cost of supplies. Beyond the cost of the supplies, the remainder of donations again will go to Diane Hagen's Mission Outreach in Panama. At the last Art & Wine session, participants donated \$500, all of which went to the mission.

Event organizers will provide wines, coffees, and other beverages. Participants are welcome to bring a snack to share.



Changes in Store for Online "Zoom" at Zion's

After almost three years of regular broadcast, Zion's will be discontinuing regular Zoom service effective March 1. Dwindling numbers of people using the service, as well as difficulty recruiting regular volunteers, resulted in the Church Council making this decision at its April 19 meeting. Bible study Zooms will continue.

Zoom services began during Covid-19 as a way to ensure that Zion's could continue to provide worship opportunities even during quarantine and limited attendance times. The congregation owes a debt of gratitude to **Ernie Parker** and **Sharon Sorenson** for their coordination of this service since 2020, and to the volunteers who have supported them in this process, particularly **Kathy Broman** and **Mike McNeil**.

Rest assured that during inclement weather or other extenuating circumstances that affect the ability of worshipers to attend church in person, a Zoom link will be available.



Spotlight On:**Zion's, Where Everyone Makes a Difference**

Zion's has many ministry and outreach programs. It takes the efforts of many people to prepare worship, education, and outreach as well as to maintain our buildings and grounds. Here is a list of committees, teams, and individuals who made make that happen in 2022:

Clergy

- ❖ The Rev. Dr. Andrea Doeden
- ❖ The Rev. Kathryn Schlechter
- ❖ Vicar Lisa Schatzman Rygiel

Church Council

- ❖ Peggy Gustafson
- ❖ Norine Hazen
- ❖ Joni Jones
- ❖ Paula Little (part year)
- ❖ Mike McNeil (part year)
- ❖ Mark Nelson (part year)
- ❖ Vicki Rienks
- ❖ Lisa Rygiel (part year)
- ❖ Carol Schulzkump
- ❖ Jeff Smith
- ❖ Julie Wersal

Board of Trustees

- ❖ Jeff Smith, chairman
- ❖ Steve Karspeck
- ❖ Mike McNeil
- ❖ Julie Wersal

5 Loaves Oversight

- ❖ Peggy Gustafson, co-coordinator
- ❖ Norine Hazen, co-coordinator

Angels in Aprons

- ❖ Lynn Chase (lead)
- ❖ The Rev Dr Andrea Doeden
- ❖ Peggy Gustafson
- ❖ Connie Hass
- ❖ Cherie Holder
- ❖ JoAnn Karspeck
- ❖ Paula Little
- ❖ Mary McKenna
- ❖ Pamela Nelson-Serafini
- ❖ Kathy Nicolai

- ❖ Carol Schulzkump

- ❖ Carol Smith
- ❖ Sharon Sorenson
- ❖ Julie Wersal

Altar, Candles & Banners

- ❖ Kathy Nicolai

Art & Wine Event

- ❖ Paula Little

Building & Grounds

- ❖ Julie Wersal (oversight)
- ❖ John Rygiel
- ❖ Dick Rasmussen

Communications Coordination

- ❖ Lynn Chase
- ❖ Jo Moss
- ❖ Lisa Rygiel
- ❖ Sharon Sorenson
- ❖ Tracy Wahl

Communion Bread

- ❖ Cherie Holder

Flower Guild

- ❖ Lynn Chase, coordinator
- ❖ Cherie Holder
- ❖ Paula Little
- ❖ Mary McKenna
- ❖ The Rev. Dr. Becky McNeil

Garage Sale**Coordination**

- ❖ Julie Wersal

Grief Group**Coordination**

- ❖ The Rev. Kathryn Schlechter
- ❖ Pamela Nelson-Serafini

Musicians

- ❖ Melodie Lanosga

- ❖ Connie Pallone
- ❖ Sharon Sorenson

Newsletter

- ❖ Lynn Chase
- ❖ Jo Moss (editor)

Pet Blessing Service

- ❖ The Rev. Kathryn Schlechter
- ❖ Jo Moss

Prayer List/Prayer Warrior Oversight

- ❖ Carol Smith

Safety & Security

- ❖ Mary McKenna
- ❖ Jo Moss
- ❖ Mark Moss
- ❖ Jeff Smith

Transition Team

- ❖ Dr. Kathy Broman
- ❖ Lynn Chase
- ❖ Cherie Holder
- ❖ JoAnn Karspeck
- ❖ The Rev. Dr. Becky McNeil (part year)
- ❖ Erin Ogletree
- ❖ Arthur Pierce

Worship Assistants Oversight

- ❖ JoAnn Karspeck

Worship Committee

- ❖ Connie Pallone
- ❖ Vicar Lisa Rygiel
- ❖ Sharon Sorenson
- ❖ The Rev. Dr. Becky McNeil (part year)
- ❖ Jo Moss (part year)

Zoom Worship

- ❖ Sharon Sorenson
- ❖ Kathy Broman
- ❖ Mike McNeil
- ❖ Ernie Parker

Reviewing Flowers, Greenery, and Other Updates

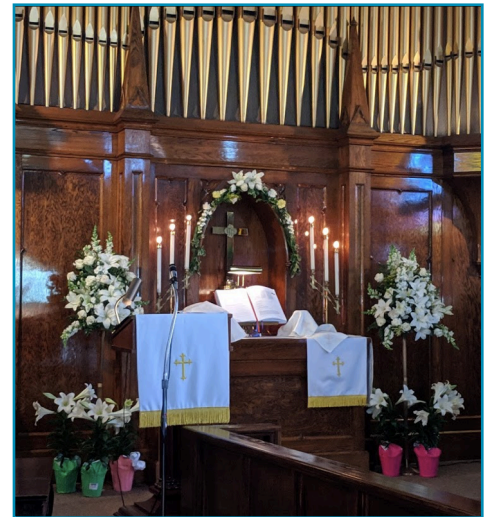
As has been Zion's practice for several years, during Lent the sanctuary will be adorned with greenery only.

Traditionally, our congregation enjoys the beauty of flowers during the Easter celebration of our risen Lord. Already, the flower team is planning for this important Sunday.

Greenery is placed in the interim as it is symbolic of the growth of Christian Faith. Many churches in opting not to have flowers on the altar during the Lenten season do so as a reminder that Lent is a season of austerity and simple reflection. Likewise, the absence of flowers during Lent helps to amplify the resurrection message of the Easter flowers when they arrive.

Anyone wanting to donate flowers during the Lenten season is encouraged to add their name to the flower book (we will add a special page for Easter donations). Please include your name and commemoration so that it can be listed in the Easter bulletin.

There are many days still available in 2023 to donate flowers, so consider those as well. Remember, the Flower Book is located in the back of the sanctuary. Sign up and use the envelopes in the book for your flower donation, which can be placed in the offering plate. The recommended minimum donation is \$35. If you have questions, contact any member of the Flower Guild (their names are listed on page 5 of this newsletter).



Easter Flowers at Zion's in 2019

Church Council Bits & Pieces from February Meeting

(Check the Feb. 22 E-Formation for the full council report)

The first order of business during Zion's church council meeting Feb. 19 was election of officers as outlined in Chapter 11 of our constitution.

Those elected were **Julie Wersal**, president; **Norine Hazen**, vice-president; **Paula Little**, secretary; **Carol Schulzkump**, treasurer; **Joni Jones**, financial secretary; and **Jeff Smith**, trust fund officer. **Mike McNeil**, **Cherie Holder** and **Peggy Gustafson** serve as members-at-large.

Vicar Lisa listed 5 people who would like to become members of Zion's Lutheran on Easter Sunday. Chapter 8 in our constitution says that the church council needs to give their approval, which Julie Wersal reported, "We are happy to unanimously welcome them all to Zion's as official members!"

Jeff Smith, **Sharon Sorenson** and **Ernie Parker** are working to set up a smoke detector that syncs with the Ring system for the sanctuary. Also, the furnace is not working in the fellowship hall. **Dick Rasmussen** worked with AI's Gas and repairs were completed (in time for Ash Wednesday Soup Supper). There is a water leak from the shower in the bathroom near the kitchen. **John Rygiel** discovered that there is a problem with the drain. **Julie Wersal** is seeking bids for repair. The Council may plan a spring-cleaning workday prior to Easter, details will be in the bulletin and E-formation. Also, the council agreed that it is time to discontinue regular Zoom worship (see page 5 for Zoom details).

What's Happening in Zion's Lutheran Family?

★ The church council is seeking input as to whether we should have a garage sale this summer. Please share your suggestions with any of the council members.

★ If you are interested in becoming a new member at Zion's, please contact **Vicar Lisa** ASAP.

★ Last May, we gathered at Trinidad State Park for a campout. Some people camped over-night, others joined for the day. If you are interested in a similar event this spring, let **Jeff Smith** or **Jo Moss** know. We are also looking for someone to help coordinate the event too. We would like to schedule a late May event.

★ **John Rygiel** did a nice job creating Scrabble letters for Lenten worship. We appreciate his time and talents.

★ We send thanks to **Dick Rasmussen** for overseeing furnace repair and gutter cleaning in the fellowship hall.

★ We have had schedule conflicts with use of the Fellowship Hall. Until we have a formal system in place please check the calendar in the Fellowship Hall or talk to **Julie Wersal** before making plans.

★ Do you have updates for the 2023 Church Directory or want to be included. **Julie Wersal** is putting finishing touches on the directory, so let her know as soon as possible.

★ Special thanks to our new worship assistants who will help lead worship on a rotating basis. They are: **Peggy Gustafson, Mike McNeil, Carol Smith, and Julie Wersal.**

WANTED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A Clean Team: We are looking for people willing to help clean the Fellowship Hall, Kitchens, Sanctuary and/or Grounds. Supplies provided. Daily, weekly & monthly help needed.

Audit Committee Members: Annual audits require limited time for three lay people yet provide a vital service to Zion's. Bookkeeping experience is not required. Julie Wersal has more details, so talk to her.

If you can help with either of these contact Julie Wersal or Vicar Lisa, or email ZionsLuth@gmail.com.










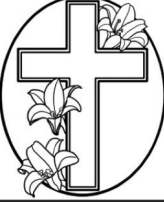
CAN YOU HELP?

ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

March

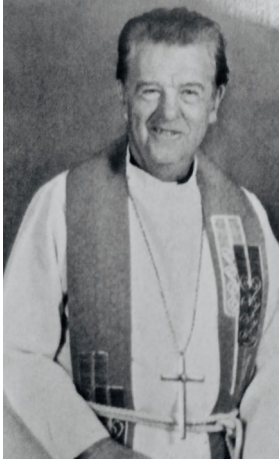
2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Ushers: 5 — Dick & Ann Rasmussen 12 — David & Pamela Nelson Serafini 19 — Kathy Broman & Doris Blalock 26 — Jeff & Carol Smith			1 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper 	2	3	4 1 pm Art & Wine Event 
5 8:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship	6 11:30 am PEO 5:30 pm AA	7	8 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper 	9	10	11
12 8:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship 11:30 am Church Council	13 5:30 pm AA	14	15 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper 	16	17 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 	18 Newsletter Deadline 
19 8:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship	20 11:30 am PEO 5:30 pm AA	21	22 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper 	23	24 5 Loaves Preparations 	25 5 Loaves Deliveries 
26 8:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship	27 5:30 pm AA	28	29	30	31 	
Lectors: 5 — Joni Jones 12 — Mary McKenna 19 — Julie Wersal 26 — Jeff Smith		Birthday: 7 — Ed Blount 9 — Lynn Chase 11 — Cherie Holder 16 — Norine Hazen		23 — JoAnn Karspeck 24 — Matthew Hass 24 — Kathy Broman 26 — Janet Nesbitt		Daylight Saving Time Starts on March 12!

From Our History Books:**Zion's Diamond Jubilee Featured Year-Long Celebration**

(This is the eighth in a series recounting the life of Zion's Lutheran, which has looked at church history through our diamond jubilee in 1963.)



In May 1961 the Rev. Albert Shandrick became pastor at Zion's, replacing Pastor Kugler, who left in September 1960. For the next 24 years, Pastor Shandrick served the congregation until his untimely death from cancer in March 1985. His almost quarter century of service to Zion's, is the longest pastorate in Zion's history.

One of the high points of his tenure was celebration of Zion's 75th anniversary in 1963. Five special events were part of the year-long celebration. In March, Mrs. Shandrick wrote and narrated a pageant about Zion's women's organizations, specifically Frauen Verein. The pageant also included a traditional German dinner. In July, the church's annual picnic was patterned after Zion's first picnic in July 1888. In September, another pageant focused on Zion's overall history. A Reformation rally was next as part of October activities.

The 75th year celebration culminated in November with a Diamond Jubilee Tea with Rocky Mountain Synod president Leeland Soker serving as the guest of honor.

Now we prepare for our 135th Anniversary Celebration, so watch the bulletins, E-formation, newsletter and website for more information.

Zion's Lutheran Church
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