



# Grace Notes

## IN THIS ISSUE...

**With Sympathy**

[Page 2](#)

**Thank You, Volunteers**

[Page 4](#)

**God's Village**

[Page 6](#)

**Altar Ego**

[Page 8](#)

**From the Bishop**

[Page 9](#)



## Alleluia!

**THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE! LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!**

*PSALM 118:24*

Christ is Risen and through him all Creation has been made new! Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

*Sundaysandseasons.com*



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# Mural Painting Day!



On Saturday March 7th, members of the community, including Gwen A. and Geneva and Pastor Lynn of Martin Luther, gathered at Ascension Lutheran Church to help paint a mural under the direction of community artist Tia Richardson.

The mural will be installed at The Table ( <https://www.alicesgardenmke.com/new-page> ) later this year. The space was filled with a diverse group of all ages, many of whom had not picked up a paint brush in a very long time, to create the base of the mural. A huge thanks to everyone who came to contribute and collaborate! What a joyous day.



The mural will be finished by Tia and her team of volunteers. Stay tuned for more updates, and attendees at Synod Assembly will have a chance to hear from Tia directly about her work.

## With Sympathy

We are saddened by the passing of Joyce Nedset, who died earlier this week. At 96 years old, Joyce was a member of Mt Zion for 40 years, receiving at-home visits and communion for the last few years.

A memorial service will be held  
Saturday, April 18th  
2:00pm  
Wisconsin Memorial.



# April 5 to April 12

<p>Sun April 5</p>	<p><b>Easter Sunday!</b>            9:30am <b>Worship Service</b>            In-Person will begin in the Gathering Space  <u>Zoom ID:</u> 841 6597 2335 <u>Passcode:</u> 12012            10:40am <b>Easter Brunch</b> Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>Mon April 6</p>	<p><b>Church Office Closed</b>            7:00pm <b>NA 12 Step Group</b> Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>Tues April 7</p>	<p><b>Spring Elections</b>            Noon <b>AA 12 Steps Meeting</b> Upper Room            6:30pm <b>Hands of AA 12-Step Meeting</b> Upper Room</p>
<p>Wed April 8</p>	<p>12:00pm <b>Brown Bag Bible Study</b>            1:00pm <b>Prayer Warriors</b>            1:00pm <b>Tosa Cares Donation Drop-Offs</b>            6:00pm <b>Voices of Zion Choir Rehearsal</b>            7:00pm <b>Festival Bells Handbell Rehearsal</b></p>
<p>Thurs April 9</p>	<p>7:00pm <b>Stewardship Meeting</b></p>
<p>Friday April 10</p>	<p>12:00pm <b>Mayfair AA Group</b>            6:00pm <b>ACA 12 Step Group</b> Room 100</p>
<p>Sat April 11</p>	<p>8:30am <b>Tosa Cares Donation Drop Offs</b>            7:00pm <b>Easter Vigil</b></p>
<p>Sun April 12</p>	<p>9:30am <b>Easter Worship Service</b>            10:30am <b>Easter Brunch</b></p>
<p>Next Week</p>	<p><b>Public Theology at Ferch's Craffhouse</b></p>

## Today's Volunteers

**Brass Musicians:** Steve Downs and Douglas Johnson

**Altar Care:** Lilly Snow and Susan Kenny

**Acolyte:** Francesca and Isabella Riccaboni

**Assisting Minister:** Refilwe Magasa-Bockhorst

**Lector:** Mavis Roesch

**Communion, bread:** Mavis R.

**Communion, wine:** Refilwe M. and Gabby Goll

**Ushers:** Suzy Morgan and Carl and Karen Engelhardt

**Audio/Visual:** Janet McCarthy and Gabby Riccaboni

**Greeters:** James and Angella Riccaboni and Vince Pipia

**Tellers:** Gary Goll, Jim Goetzinger, and Tom Ertel

**Access the Worship Volunteer Schedule at:** [bit.ly/4jEMCPf](https://bit.ly/4jEMCPf)

**Easter Brunch Coordinator—**Mavis Roesch

**Thank you to everyone who baked, bought, and brought items  
for today's brunch:**

Yvonne Kops

Liz Anderson

Brenda Marciniak

Debbie Kleppek

Mary Johnson

Refilwe Magasa-  
Bockhorst

Nancy Kohl

PJ Boylan

Karen Engelhardt

Joe Di Giacinto

Erik Peterson

Shauna Johnson

Ian Koenig

Becky Prusko

Irene McCarthy

Janet McCarthy

Lynn Pearson

Jen Johnston

Mavis Roesch

## PRAYER WARRIORS

*Help lift up our community's concerns and thanksgivings*

<https://bit.ly/4rDbQji>

**Need Prayer?**

**Submit prayer requests:**



[pastor@mtzionlutheran.org](mailto:pastor@mtzionlutheran.org)



414-258-0456



Fill out a prayer  
card in-person

## Tom Ertel Featured in OFH Article

That's trust. That's what happens when faith becomes a relationship.

Over time, their lives became intertwined—not in a way that erased their differences, but in a way that honored them.

Different stories. Different paths. But one shared commitment: to walk together in Christ. And maybe that's the heart of it. Faith was never meant to be lived alone. The body of Christ isn't built on individuals standing strong—it's built on people holding one another up.

**"It goes both ways"**, Thaurra said. There's wisdom in that.

Because real love isn't one-directional. It gives. It receives. It stays. And when churches choose to walk this way—across differences, across neighborhoods, across lived experiences—something sacred takes shape.

Not just a partnership. But transformation. Because when we walk side by side, we begin to see Christ more clearly—in one another.



Read the full devotion "Side by Side" at:

[Outreachforhope.org/lent26#previous-devotions](https://Outreachforhope.org/lent26#previous-devotions)

Mt Zion and Reformation have been ministry partners for more than 30 years. Our partnership is about building community between neighborhoods that are vastly different - in income, in racial composition, in resources, in needs - but united in our common humanity and especially in our identity in Christ. Those who were deeply active in this partnership when it began continue to realize its values today, but many of those first partners are no longer with us, either due to the ebbs of life or the flow of time. We need new partners from Mt Zion to join in prayer, practice, and praise with our siblings at Reformation to maintain and grow the blessings of our partnership in the future. **Might that be your call?** Thaurra and Tom's story show us the richness of what God can do when our two congregations build community together.

## God's Enduring Village

I'm going to take a wild guess and say that if you're reading this, you just might be exhausted. Maybe it's from the state of the world. Maybe you've been grieving. Or maybe, life has felt like a hundred mile hike and a 50 yard dash all at once. You're trying to make Easter exciting, meaningful, and memorable; get yourself through another day at work; connect to your spouse; care for your parents; clean another load of laundry; and hope your money holds out until payday. You want to be left alone for a weekend, a day, or an hour, even though you feel like you've been doing "everything" on your own from day one.

**But you were never meant to do this alone. None of us were.**

We were always meant to do this...be kids, raise kids, celebrate and grieve, be messy, be clumsy, create and revere...exist and survive... in community with one another. We were always meant to have a "village".

Sadly, much of the "village" that once was, has greatly diminished. Generations of suburban sprawl, technological growth, stranger danger, and political divides have affected our ability to connect with and support our friends, neighbors, and strangers in the here and now.

If only we had a place that could act like a village, helping to teach and protect one another's children. To check in on each other's elderly family members. To bring medicine to someone who is sick or share treats to celebrate a beautiful life moment. To love without exception. To excitedly set another place at the table for an unexpected guest.

Hey...wait a minute...

That sounds like the Church Jesus wanted people to build.

So, if you need someone to walk with you while you grieve; desire to engage in a conversation with someone with a different (or surprisingly similar) point of view; or you desperately need five minutes to just go to the bathroom in peace without your kid, we've got you. Welcome to Mt Zion. If you didn't have a village before, you do now!

Church isn't merely something we *should* do because we get some sort of social gold star. It's not something we *have* to do out of a deeply held guilt complex. Church is the community **we get to build**.

It is God's enduring village we can choose to join.

**Jessica Monahan**

# New Member Classes Beginning

Are you a regular guest at Mt Zion?  
Would you be interested in becoming a member?

We are beginning New Member classes this May, meeting twice for about an hour to an hour and a half on Monday, May 4 and Monday, May 11 at 6:00 p.m. (meal included both times!), and then welcome new members in worship on Sunday, May 17.

Why become a member?

The simplest way to understand membership is a commitment between Mt Zion and you. You commit to be an active participant in Mt Zion's community for the foreseeable future, supporting this ministry with your time, talents, and resources as you are able, and Mt Zion commits to caring for and supporting you and your household, being there as a reliable community you can turn to for help, guidance, and fellowship.

**Connect with Us!**



 [youtube.com/mtzionlutheran](https://youtube.com/mtzionlutheran)

 [facebook.com/mtzionlutheran](https://facebook.com/mtzionlutheran)

 [instagram.com/mtzionlutheran](https://instagram.com/mtzionlutheran)

 [www.mtzionlutheran.org](http://www.mtzionlutheran.org)



## Assemble the Squad!

# WHAT'S YOUR ALTAR EGO?

Everyday across America, citizens go to school, work, homes, and the store never suspecting there are...  
superheroes at church!

When **you** take on **Your Altar Ego**, you will join an amazing squad of fellow supers. Together, there's no telling what amazing things can be done for those in need of justice, love, and the Mt Zion way!

The Squad needs YOU!  
Grab a Grow Magazine  
to learn how to join!



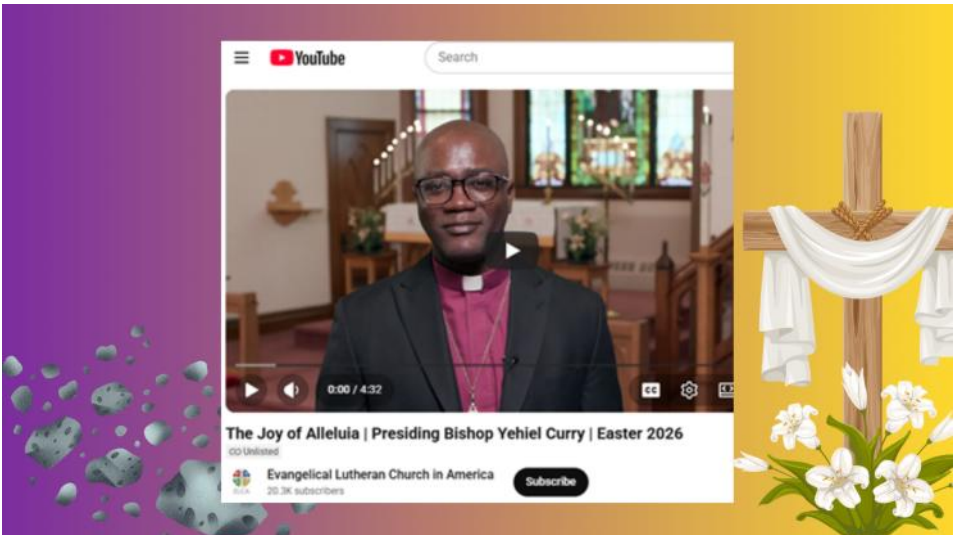
## Bishop Curry's Easter Message

"We are Easter people. Even when the ground below us is shaking, we will not grow weary. We know that Jesus is our foundation. Christ is risen, and that truth strengthens us. It gives us courage to live, to hope, and to proclaim joy."

**The Rev. Yehiel Curry**  
**Presiding Bishop**  
**The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

Listen the Bishop's full Easter message at the link below.  
The video ends with the upbeat hymn "Be Not Afraid" and some refreshingly joyous laughter.

[https://youtu.be/Cpw7B04qrgY?si=1WVzXg0k\\_37gLo7n](https://youtu.be/Cpw7B04qrgY?si=1WVzXg0k_37gLo7n)



# Transgender Day of Visibility

God of joy, creativity, and abundant life,



We give you thanks for our transgender siblings—  
for the love they embody, the courage they carry,  
and the truth they reveal about the vastness of your creation.

In the life of ReconcilingWorks,  
and within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,  
we celebrate transgender people as a profound gift—  
not at the margins, but at the heart of who we are striving to become.

For the ways they lead with wisdom,  
speak truth with clarity, create beauty with their lives,  
and call the church deeper into justice and love—  
we give you thanks.

Transgender Day of  
Visibility was cele-  
brated March 31.  
Learn why it matters  
and how Reconciling  
Works is helping.  
[Reconcilingworks.org](https://Reconcilingworks.org)



Their joy is a witness.  
Their lives are a testimony.  
Their presence expands our understanding of your  
grace.

God, where the world has tried to diminish them, we name their sacred worth.  
Where systems have tried to silence them, we celebrate their voice.  
Where fear has tried to take root, we proclaim love that cannot be shaken.

May the Lutheran church put in the work to be a place  
where transgender people are not only welcomed,  
but uplifted, centered, celebrated, and belong.

May the ELCA continue to grow—  
to listen more deeply, to act more boldly,  
and to reflect more fully the inclusive, liberating love of Christ.

Let us be a church that rejoices—  
not just in words, but in action—  
for the gift that transgender people are to our communities,  
our ministries, and our shared future.

With gratitude, with celebration, and with deep love, we pray.  
Amen.

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Birthdays

Kathryn K. 4/1  
 Michael F. 4/2  
 Andy J. 4/2  
 Siena K. 4/2  
 Clara M. 4/3  
 Rick P. 4/3  
 Amy R. 4/3  
 Lisa K. 4/6  
 Jessica M. 4/6

Samantha K. 4/7  
 Erik P. 4/10  
 Rondi R. 4/13  
 Sue S. 4/16  
 Griffin S. 4/18  
 Liv J. 4/19  
 Lora M. 4/19  
 Matt C. 4/20  
 Kara P. 4/20  
 Nancy S. 4/20

Steve D. 4/21  
 Jennifer V. 4/23  
 Ryan F. 4/23  
 Anna K. 4/25  
 Gloria C. 4/26  
 Mary J. 4/28  
 Sheree H. 4/28  
 Wayne S. 4/29  
 Janet M. 4/30

## Anniversaries

Kevin & DeAnn B. 4/1  
 Natasha P & Michael F. 4/15  
 Erik and Jessica P. 4.21

# Another Anniversary



At Mt Zion we are  
Joyfully growing disciples in Christ  
so that  
Everyone we meet comes to know themselves as a reflection of  
God's image, worthy of life and love  
by prioritizing  
Faith Community  
Hospitality Justice

## Mt Zion Staff

**Pastor**  
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**Parish Administrator**  
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**Director of Traditional Music**  
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Janet McCarthy (volunteer)  
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**Sunday School Superintendent**  
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**Social Media**  
Douglas Johnson (volunteer)  
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**Website**  
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## Leadership Board

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Kevin Burke, Vice President  
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Joe Di Giacinto, Treasurer  
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Chasity Brimeyer  
Andy Johnston

Dave Nelson

Linda Havlicek  
Bob Young



**Church Office  
Hours**

Monday — Friday 10:00am — 3:00pm

Stop by in-person, call 414-258-0456,  
or email [parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org](mailto:parishadmin@mtzionlutheran.org)

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