

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ZION NEWS

MARCH — APRIL 2023

PASTOR'S CORNER — FROM PASTOR RICK

I said on Ash Wednesday that the 40-day Lenten journey takes us to a beautiful destination – resurrection morning! To arrive prepared for the that morning requires that we maintain a discipline that involves self-examination and prayer, repentance and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love. In other words, the Lenten journey is following Jesus or by another name discipleship.

We are offering a way to sacrificially give and do works of love! Zion has entered into a “friendly competition” with Salem Lutheran. The challenge is to collect more dish soap/detergent, dish sponges, laundry detergent, and disinfectant spray or wipes than Salem does. Everything we collect will be given to D.I.G, a non-profit organization who assists families who have experienced fire or flood or homelessness. The church that collects the most will be hosted by the church that collects the least and a representative from D.I.G. will be the speaker at the event. Sacrificial giving

can be fun!

We are also studying discipleship at Soup and Study events each Wednesday. Soup’s on at 6:15 p.m. and the study begins at 7 p.m. Our guide is a book which speaks of five keys to discipleship gleaned from the story in John’s gospel about Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well. I hope you will join us. You can hop on board any week even if it’s the last week!

Looking at dictionary definitions of disciple or discipleship falls short of what Christian discipleship means. Here’s one example: “A disciple has been shown to be someone who follows the teachings, life, and aim of another until the person becomes like the master.” The author attempts to clarify: “Discipleship in the Christian sense is the process of making someone become like Christ. The disciple of Christ is to become like Christ in everything.”

I’ll give credit to the author for making an at-

tempt at a definition. However, the goal of discipleship is to become what C.S. Lewis called “little Christs.” In my mind Jesus Christ is a one-of-a-kind, human-divine being. We are called to use our God-given gifts to follow Christ’s example of loving God and neighbor as best we can.

That said, here’s a thought from Karoline Lewis, author of *Belonging*: “When we cast discipleship as being one whom Jesus loves, it changes the focus of the conversation. Discipleship becomes less about what we have to do. Instead, it flows from our state of belonging. Discipleship emanates from being found.” I like that a lot. Join us to learn more!

The final leg of our journey through Lent will be on Thursday and Friday of Holy Week. Both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will begin at 7 p.m.

Pastor Rick

MISSION STATEMENT

We, a community of the people of God, worship faithfully, provide opportunities of Christian learning for people of all ages, and serve others in the love and name of Christ our Lord.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MARCH 2023

5 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Confirmation Class
No Sunday School

12 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Sunday School

19 – 4th Sunday in Lent

10:00 am Holy Communion
11:00 am Congregation Mtg
9:00 Sunday School

29 – 5th Sunday in Lent

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Sunday School

APRIL 2023

2 – Palm/Passion Sunday

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Sunday School

6 – Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm Holy Communion

7 – Good Friday

7:00 pm

9 – Easter Sunday

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Sunday School

16 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Sunday School

23 – 3rd Sunday of Easter

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Sunday School

30 – 4th Sunday of Easter

10:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 Sunday School

FINANCIAL REPORT — JANUARY 2023

Current Fund*		Memorial Fund	
January Income	\$18,239.00	January Income	\$130.00
January Expenses	\$15,931.25	January Expenses	\$0.00
Year to Date Income	\$18,239.00	Year to Date Income	\$3,095.59
Year to Date Expenses	\$15,931.25	Year to Date Expenses	\$12,229.37
Year to Date Balance	\$2,307.75	Year to Date Balance	(\$9,133.78)
Balance as of 1/31/23	\$50,768.75	Balance as of 1/31/23	\$9,162.19
Future Projects Fund			
January Income	\$901.00	Checking Balance	\$50,768.75
January Expenses	\$0.00	Current CD Balance	\$41,081.72
Year to Date Income	\$901.00	Organ Fund Balance	\$10,954.36
Year to Date Expenses	\$0.00	Helping Hand Fund	\$1,632.50
Year to Date Balance	\$908.11	Sawdust Ministry	\$3,012.84
Balance as of 1/31/23	\$42,820.98	OZY Fund Balance	\$7,568.75

*The former Building Fund is now part of the Current Fund.

FROM BISHOP CRAIG MILLER

Recently, Nancy and I joined several bishops and their spouses on a trip to the Holy Land hosted by United Lutheran Seminary. I have visited this remarkable place three times prior, but this time I experienced the land as I had never before.

The last time I toured the Holy Land was in 1998, before the state of Israel erected the separation wall through Palestinian territories in the West Bank. Never on those previous trips had I encountered checkpoints between Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

I looked at the towering walls that surround Palestinian villages and felt their oppressive weight, wondering how it must be to live beneath them. We listened as leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land told us about their struggle to proclaim good news during occupation, even as they sometimes wonder how to raise their own children in an environment that dehumanizes them. I was moved by the evidence of hope in a situation that seems designed to bring despair; but it was a hope unfamiliar to me for its depth. There is a hope best expressed in lament that tenaciously clings to God's promises.

We can learn from our sisters and brothers in the ELCJHL. This church that continues from the first disciples knows better than ever we may what life was like for those disciples. In the same way that the Jews were subjugated by Roman forces, our Palestinian friends now find themselves prisoners in their own land. And still, hope springs forth from the same source. Jesus.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN

In the instance of bad weather, please tune to **WKOK, Big Country, Channel 16, or Facebook** to find out if church services or other activities are canceled. On Sundays, the decision will be made by 6:00 am by the president of the council, the pastor, and the chair of the Property Committee. Please stay safe during bad weather this season!

SHUT-INS AND BIRTHDAYS

We have members who for a variety of reasons are unable to join us for worship each Sunday. We listed them below and invite you to mail a card to them.

The date of their birth is also included!

Kenneth Kline, c/o Connie Clark, P.O. Box 41, Selinsgrove, PA 17870, Birthday: August 19

Marian Ritter, The Manor at Penn Village, 51 Route 204, Selinsgrove, PA 17870, May 1

Barry Knouse, 1682 Mile Hill Road, Sunbury, PA 17801, April 16

Jean Long, The Manor at Penn Village, 51 Route 204, Selinsgrove, PA 17870, November 22

Donald Saurers, Watsontown Nursing and Rehab, 245 East 8th Street, Watsontown, PA 17777, July 10

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

JANUARY

Council President Dawne Long welcomed new council members: Mike Klinger, Janice Ritter, Roy Ulrich, and returning council member Donna Kay Haas. Officers for 2023 will be: Dawne Long, President, Steve Keifer, Vice-President, and Mike Hess, Council Secretary.

fire alarm monitoring and possibilities for modernizing the front

doors. We are still waiting for the remaining components of our new audio/visual system from Gelnett and Associates. Plans for Lenten services were also reviewed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Hess, Council Secretary

FEBRUARY

Council discussed options for



LENTEN SOUP AND STUDY: Everyone is invited to join your brothers and sisters in a time of fellowship and learning on Wednesday evenings during Lent. This year we will study discipleship through the lens of the Samaritan women at the well. The book, *Belonging – Five Keys to Unlock Your Potential as a Disciple* by Karoline Lewis, will be our guide. Pastor Rick will purchase copies, or you may purchase your own. It’s available on Amazon and other online publishers. The soup will be ready to eat at 6:00 p.m. with the study beginning at 7 p.m.

LENTEN CHALLENGE – Zion Lutheran, Kratzerville and Salem Lutheran have together entered into a Lenten challenge. Which congregation will collect the most dish soap, dish sponges, laundry detergent, and disinfection spray/wipes? That’s the friendly competition that will supply DIG, a non-profit organization that supplies furniture, cleaning and hospitality supplies, and household items to families in our area that have experienced fires, floods, and homelessness.

EASTER EGGS – Arbogast Church Peanut Butter and Coconut crème Easter Eggs are for sale now. There is an order form on the bulletin board. Eggs will be ready for pick up starting on Sunday, March 5th. Prices are as follows: \$14/ dozen and \$7 for ½ dozen. Please contact Brenda Krouse (570-716-2983) or Shawn Frantz (570-490-0961) with any questions.

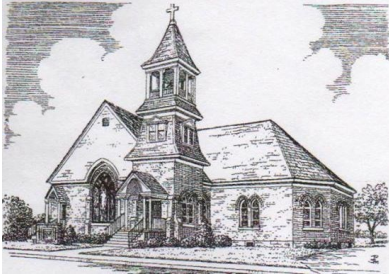
WANTED: We are in need of sponsors for Altar Flowers. If you would like to have flowers placed in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special event or person, please check out the altar flower sign-up chart located on the wall in the hallway near the front doors. The current cost is \$50 and is not due until the date that you select. Either sign the chart or call Aggie Hufnagle.

THANK YOU

- **THANK YOU** for the cards, visits, prayers, and phone calls. By *Linda & Bob Ritter*.
- **THANK YOU** for the delicious fruit basket. We sure enjoyed it. Thanks for the cards and prayers. By *Barry & Pat Knouse*.
- I would like to sincerely thank everyone involved with making and serving a delicious and super meal for us. It surely was a memorable day. We are so blessed to have many people who helped and cared for us. May God bless you all. I am so grateful. *Love, Nancy Hollenbach*

PASTORAL CARE

If you or a loved one or friend needs pastoral care of any type, if someone is in or is going into the hospital or a nursing home, if someone needs a visit at home, or would like to receive communion, please call the church office at 570-374-8755. In the event of an emergency, please call Pastor Rick on his cell phone at 570-847-3113. Please leave a message if he doesn’t answer!



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

4298 Route 204
Selinsgrove, PA 17870

Phone: 570-374-8755
Email:
kratzervilleltrchrch@gmail.com

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

ZIONKRATZERVILLE.WORDPRESS.COM

PRAYER LIST

Donald Sauers
Dakota Gearhart
Earl Frantz
Don Neidig
Ken Kline
Jean Long
Marian Ritter
Janet Reichenbach
Paul Hollenbach
Lovetta Gross
Michele
Bob Ritter
Sherry Herr
Craig Ritter
Barry & Pat Knouse
Carl Berge Jr.
Ray & Jenna Sassaman

Jane Dunkelberger
Clair Rhoads
Charlie Knouse
Brantley Herman
Becky Bollinger
Donna Simonetti
Norman & Susan Straub
Vern Sherwood
Brenda Reinard
Darlene Hoffmaster
Debbie Brosius
Jake Hane
Terry Sassaman
Sherry Beaver
Malysa Lenig
Walt Sprenkle
Kathy Spangler

Jimmy Schreffler
John Jones
Joyce Kratzer
Jerris Cutchall
Bill Buck
Linda Sassaman
Joan
Logan Roush
Dale Strassner
Leevi
Kenneth Berge
George Contrestan
Kay Kline
Cameron Sholvin
Terry Sassaman
Sue
David & Helen Hannah

Rocky Railway VBS

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!!

Sunday, July 9th—Thursday, July 13th

Registration forms to come. Spread the word. CD's are available with the songs for \$7 each. Contact Laurie Hockenbrock with any questions or to purchase a CD.

