



Zion Lutheran Monthly

March 2012



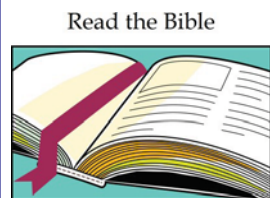
READING THE BIBLE

For 2012, many of the members of Zion Lutheran Church (and a good number of people outside of our church family), have taken the challenge of reading the Bible in a year. As of the writing of this article, we've read through the books of Mark, Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus and are in the middle of the book of Numbers. By the time we get to Easter, we'll have finished Numbers, Deuteronomy, Luke, Romans and most of 1 Corinthians. Now, you might have noticed that there has not been a "theme" for this year's season of Lent. The reason for this is simple: in focusing on reading the Bible in a Year, the historical themes of Lent (repentance, confession and the obedience and suffering of Christ) will make themselves abundantly clear.

In Numbers and Deuteronomy, we will read stories of God's faithfulness and the rebelliousness of His people. Reflecting on this, we see the love of God for us in the sacrifice of Christ for us. Unfortunately, we also see our tendency to grumble against God and fill our lives with things that are not God or of God.

In the Gospel of Luke, we will see the love of God for people in the person and work of Jesus Christ. We will witness the miraculous healings, the calling of the low and the shaming of the high, and the only sacrifice that can reconcile sinners to God: the death of the Son of God. And as we reflect on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we will once more come to a recognition that, in the word of Paul, "while we were sinners, Christ died for us."

And speaking of Paul, as we read his letter to the churches at Rome and Corinth, we will have the Gospel and Christ taught to us by one whose life was suddenly and supernaturally changed by the same. We will be forced to wrestle with the doctrines of sin and judgment, grace and eternal life. And as we begin 1 Corinthians, we will see the grace of God in Christ Jesus extended to a church, like ours, full of sinners whose only hope lies outside of themselves in the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth.



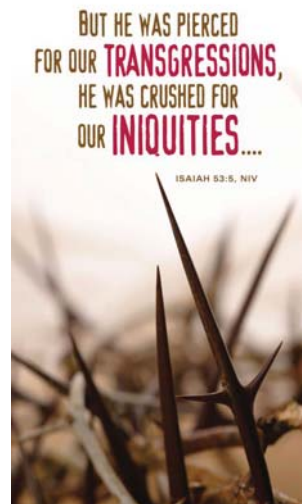
In immersing ourselves with Scripture during this season of Lent, we will have the Word of God accomplish the focus of Lent in our lives: leading us to despair of our sins and trusting in the sufficiency of the sacrifice of Christ for life now and in the age to come.

God bless you as you encounter your Lord Jesus Christ in the pages of Scripture during this Lenten season.

All the best,
In Christ,
Pastor Duncan

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Mid-week Services

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm during the season of Lent.

Following the services, there will be desserts and coffee in the church basement.

Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances

The detailed financial data is not available this month because Kim Luedeman was busy giving birth to Londyn. We thank the Lord that Londyn has returned home from the hospital. From an overall financial prospective, we are running favorable to budget for the month.



- Bob Schmidt, Chairman

Thrivent Members - Charitable Outreach Fund

Zion recently registered with Thrivent Choice's charity giving program in an effort to replace the church/school playground equipment. By registering in this program, Zion becomes eligible to receive Choice Dollars from Thrivent. Our current playground equipment is outdated and is not age appropriate. The new equipment will be designed to help develop preschool children's large motor skills, to improve safety, and to provide an endless amount of fun.

Last year, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans provided more than \$100 million to help congregations, communities, and individuals in need. These programs make an important impact in people's lives. Members who own Thrivent Financial products help make this support possible. The Thrivent Choice program offers members the opportunity to recommend to whom Thrivent Financial distributes its charitable outreach funds (\$1 million).

If you would like additional information about Thrivent or this particular program you can contact Mark Kiefer at 412-771-6605 or mark.kiefer@thrivent.com.

- Bob Schmidt, Chairman

Would you like to order Easter flowers to decorate the church for Easter Sunday?

You may do so in honor or in memory of your loved ones. Simply fill out the form on the Narthex table and slip it with your payment into the Flower Order Box.

Your flowers will beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday morning and you can take them home with you after the 10:30 service. Deadline to place your flower order is Sunday, March 25th.



Notes From the Preschool

Happy March! I'm afraid to say it, but I think Spring is right around the corner....shhh....don't let winter know that. So far we have been able to escape our normal nasty winter months...no delays or cancellations, just lots of fun school days.

Registration continues to go very well; so well that we've decided to open a third preschool class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. So far, we have 40 preschool aged children (3yrs) registered. Our other classes are also filling up nicely. Our plans are to turn the "Romper Room" into the third classroom, which will also be used as the Stepping Stones class in the afternoon. We will be looking for some furniture to place in the new classroom; we can't have our children and teachers sitting on the floor (at least not all of the time!). Right now we are looking for a desk. If you have a desk or any other ap-

propriate furniture that you would like to get rid of, please let us know, we will be happy to take it off your hands.

We will be celebrating Lutheran Schools Week in March. Teachers are making preparations for "Dads and Donuts", Pajama Day, and Funny Friday. So if you happen to visit our school that week, don't be surprised if you see our staff running around in their PJ's and fuzzy slippers, (this would be their attire of choice every day!) it's all part of our celebration.

March is also the month that we focus on the color green...may all of the green remind us that Spring is coming! We also talk about St. Patrick's Day. We explain that the shamrock, a plant with three parts to its leaf like a 3 leaf clover, is like the Trinity. Even though the leaf has three parts, it is still one leaf, as the Father, Son and Holy



Zion Lutheran Church

Early Childhood Center

Spirit are three in one God.

*Just like the leaves on each
Shamrock I see,
There are three parts to the
Holy Trinity.
First is God the Father, then
Jesus, His only Son,
And the Holy Spirit together
as ONE.*

Guess what? The school is winning the soap collection contest so far. They are determined to win. You might want to go and get some soap for the Lutheran World Relief campaign...keep the contest close!

Blessings,
Tracey Harris



Londyn Irene Luedeman was born at 1:49 a.m. on Monday, February 6th and weighed in at 8 pounds 1 ounces and is 21 inches long.

She is the daughter of Loren and Kim Luedeman.

Baptized in the Triune God



Riley Elizabeth Becker, born on January 18, 2012, was welcomed into our congregation through infant baptism on Sunday, February 12th.

Stephen Ministry

Have you ever seen someone going through a hard time and wanted to help, but didn't know what to say or do? Do you have a desire to walk with people through the difficult seasons of life and bring Jesus to them in their time of need?

What a
Friend
we have
in **Jesus**

Zion Lutheran Church is going to become a Stephen Ministry Congregation. Stephen Ministry provides Christ-centered care-giving to people who have experienced loss, are going through hard times, or simply need a caring, compassionate Christian to talk to.

If you're interested in learning more, contact the church office or Pastor Duncan!

40 DAYS FOR LIFE



This coming Lenten Season, from **February 22nd to April 1st**, our community will be one of more than 200 cities in North America – and beyond – that will join together for the largest and longest coordinated pro-life mobilization in history -- the *40 Days for Life* campaign.

40 Days for Life is a focused pro-life effort that consists of:

- 40 days of prayer & fasting
- 40 days of peaceful vigil
- 40 days of community outreach

We are praying that, with God's help, this groundbreaking effort will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our city -- and throughout America.

To get more information visit their website at www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh/. To volunteer to help, please contact Nikki Bruni at 412-926-9413 or nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com.

Dear Members of Zion,

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the members of Zion who prayed for the recovery of our newly born daughter Londyn during her hospital stay. We thank everyone for their help, gifts, overwhelming kindness, and prayers. A special Thanks to Pastor McClellan for Baptizing Londyn in the Hospital at a time of uncertainty.

It was very also very comforting to us during that trying time to know our other children were being taking care of and meals were being provided. God's love was truly surrounding us and He was in control.

Prayers have been answered as Londyn is home and doing well.

God Bless you all and thank you.



In Christ,
Loren, Kim, and the Luedeman family.

Service Participants

MARCH

Greeters & Acolytes

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
March 4	8:00 am	Joan Kovach	Joshua Gielarowski
	10:30 am	Harris Family	Ryan Harris
March 7	7:00 pm		Sydney Harris
March 11	8:00 am	B & M Miller, Millie Thielet	Grant Geregach
	10:30 am	Neil Ackerman	Josiah Ackerman
March 14	7:00 pm		Anthony Vallelunga
March 18	8:00 am	Clara Hayes	Joshua Gielarowski
	10:30 am	Mark & Laurie Coleman	Mitchell Fitzgerald
March 21	7:00 pm		Jennifer Fitzgerald
March 25	8:00 am	Wayne & Barb Oechslein	Anthony Vallelunga
	10:30 am	Gauger Family	Ryan Harris
March 28	7:00 pm		Sydney Harris
April 1	8:00 am	Bob & Bernice DeBoe	Missy Radovich
	10:30 am	Sam Dragan	Josiah Ackerman
April 5	7:00 pm		Grant Geregach
April 6	7:00 pm		TBA
April 8	8:00 am	Bill & Carole Schrag	TBA
	10:30 am	Vogel Family	TBA

ELDERS	Jim Neill & Vic Herschaft
ALTAR GUILD	Janet, Marian, & Molly Oelschlager
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag, Janet & Larry Zreliak
USHERS @ 10:30 am	Joe Gielarowski, Rachel Klemash, Steve Kovach, & Andy Weldon

APRIL

ELDERS	Robert Oelschlager & Paul Klemash
ALTAR GUILD	Debra LaJeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich, & Carolyn Wible
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Bill Becker, Brent Miller, Barb & Wayne Oechslein
USHERS @ 10:30 am	Steve Gauger, Dan Harris, Loren Luedeman, & Jim Oelschlager

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the church office (412) 221-4776 or secretary@zxcb.org of the change.

MARCH

4	Bill & Carol Schrag	1972
5	Richard & Carolyn Wible	1966
12	Jay & Paula Gardner	1995
26	Tim & Rita Sheldon	1960
29	Brian & Megan Pasquini	2003



1 Evelyn Binder	17 Robert James
4 Lori Gauger	18 Joseph Gielarowski
5 Jared Fitzgerald	22 Nathan Smidt
5 Deborah Sterba	23 Mia Case
8 Mark Oelschlager	24 Bonnie Lewis
11 Mike Sterba	25 Ruth Miller
12 Jonathan Vogel	26 Katie Gielarowski
14 Susan Bishop	26 Nancy Spotti
15 Braeden Boyle	27 Christian Vogel
16 Claire Schrag	

Zion Lutheran Church

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Bridgeville, PA 15017
Phone: 412-221-4776



Visit **ZLCB.ORG**

For updated information
throughout the month.

The Rev. Duncan McLellan

Youth News



SUMMER MISSION TRIP!

It's not too soon to make plans to go on this summer's Mission Trip (SUMMIT) to Camp Cilca in central Illinois. We'll leave Zion Lutheran on the 22nd of July and return on the 28th. While at Camp Cilca (which is an LCMS camp) we will have the opportunity to serve Christ by providing manual labor for work projects around the camp. We'll also have the opportunity to serve Christ by assisting a group of handicapped children who will be coming to the camp to hear about Jesus.

There's something for everyone on this Mission Trip (especially when you throw in a day in Chicago and a day at Cedar Point following our time at the camp); all ages, interests, skills and abilities.

If you're interested in coming to the SUMMIT (SUMMER MISSION TRIP), we have two interest meetings in March: after the 10:30 service on the 18th in the Conference Room at Church, and at 6:45pm on the 19th in the Conference Room at Church.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Pastor Duncan.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



FOOD BANK

Collection for this month's Bridgeville Area Food Bank is **Sunday, March 11th**. The "item of the month" is canned or dried fruit. You are also welcome to help at the Food Bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 and 12:00 at Bethany Presbyterian Church.

We are collecting **SOAP for Lutheran World Relief** throughout the months of February and March. Please help us reach our goal by placing your donations in either the church narthex or greenhouse areas.

Soap Donations

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Center has opened up registration to the general public for the next school year. Registration packets are available in the office. If you know of anyone who might be interested in sending their children to the preschool, please inform the office of their name and address so that we can mail them an information packet. Registration forms are also available online at www.zlcb.org.

As Zion League Bowlers may recall, week 11 of our season was canceled due to a Winter Weather Advisory. Bowlers may also recall that it never even snowed (during bowling hours) after the National Weather Service predicted, and I quote: "freezing rain, sleet and snow, with a quarter inch of ice and 1 to 4 inches of snow." Therefore, we've scheduled a make up date for Friday March 23 at 6:30 p.m. If you can't make it, no problem, you may "roll off" anytime between now and then ... just call for lane availability before arriving. Make sure you stop at the front desk and tell them you want to "Roll off for Zion Lutheran Church's Friday March 23rd make up night."

If you have any additional questions, just write to League Secretary Marianne Miller: marianne@millersquared.com.

BOWLING MAKE-UP Date