



Zion Lutheran Monthly



March 2013

Too Much of a Good Thing

Later this month we will celebrate, in rapid-fire succession, Good Friday and Easter Sunday—the death and resurrection of Jesus. If you ask the mythical creature called the “average Christian” what the death of Jesus did for him or her, they would include forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life in their answer. Then, if you asked the same person what the resurrection of Jesus did for him or her, they would again include forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life. Is the mythical-creature-average-Christian right? Does the death of Jesus do for us what his resurrection also does? Are the benefits they have for us redundant? Or, to put it bluntly, are the final events we celebrate and remember during Holy Week a giant yet indistinguishable pile of too much of a good thing?

When it comes to the death and resurrection of Jesus, both are necessary for our salvation, both are necessary for us to be forgiven, and both are necessary for us to have eternal life.

When Jesus died on the cross, he took our place, suffering for us and paying the penalty our sins deserve. You’ve probably heard that before, but let me explain. The Bible teaches that death is both the natural result of sin and the penalty for sinning. Without sin, there is no death. Without death, there is no sin. We believe that Jesus lived a perfect life—that he was conceived and born without the “sin nature” we inherited from our parents. As such, Jesus would never have had to either pay the penalty for sinning, or experience the consequences of sin in his life. In other words, there was no reason why Jesus had to die. But he did die. And so the question is: why? Or, more accurately, what killed Jesus? Answer: since Jesus had no sin of his own to die for, it must have been someone else’s sin that killed Jesus. Whose? Yours and mine. In something called the “great exchange” Jesus takes our sin upon himself and suffers the consequences in his body on the cross. Consequently, Jesus gives us the benefits of his perfect life, meaning that there is no punishment we have to fear for our sins.

When Jesus rose from the dead, he accomplished something that no human being had ever done before: he conquered death. Oh sure, there have been a smattering of people who came back from the dead as recorded in the Bible, but all of those got old and died (again). Jesus, on the other hand, came back from the dead and has not died again. His resurrection is unique, and it proves that death—while tragic—is not final, nor does it need to be permanent. Jesus found a way to come back from the dead and live forever. And the good news is that he has promised to do for us what he did for himself—overcome death forever.

Between his death and resurrection, Jesus has given us too much of a good thing! From not needing to fear punishment for our sins to the promise that we will live forever, Jesus has done more for us in his death and resurrection than would could have ever asked for or imagined!

God bless you as you remember and celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Pastor Duncan

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Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances

February Income	\$40,480.00
February Expenses	<u>47,291.00</u>
Unfavorable to Income	- \$ 6,811.00



BUDGET REPORT

The unfavorable result above was caused by transferring \$13,660 to both the Kingdom and Trustee funds. As of February 29, 2013, we are estimating \$22,000.00 cash on hand. All bills through January have been paid.

Continue to pray for Zion that we are able to grow our community outreach ministry, support local charities and Christian education for youth and adults. May God guide us in using these gifts and our talents to spread the Good News!

Bob Schmidt
Chairman

NEW MEMBERS!



**David, Penney,
& Opal Miller**

**Derek & Heather
Nicodemus**



**Timothy & Alyssa
Schroeder**



Simon Martin

**Please welcome the newest mem-
bers of the Zion Lutheran Church
Congregation!**

Not pictured: Bill & Nancy Koester

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. I know the children are ready to get outside and play on the new playground!! Hurry up Spring!

Registration continues to go very well. We are just about full! We do still have room in our Stepping Stones class (5 year olds). The Stepping Stones class is for those children who are not quite ready for Kindergarten yet. If you know anyone interested, please have them call me at the Church, I would be happy to give them the details.

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 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.*

And what a great way to lead into Easter... we will finish March celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am looking forward to doing Chapel with the children this month. I will have the children open up an Easter Egg filled with something that helps to recreate the story of the resurrection, and then put all the pieces together. My hope is that the children will be able to re-tell the story to their family and friends (even if it's just a small piece of the story).

Blessings,
Tracey



Coming Soon - New Phone and Voice

Messaging System

We will be installing a new phone and voice messaging system within the next 60 days. The new system will take advantage of some of the latest technologies available.

Bob Schmidt
Chairman



STARS AND STRIPES

Thank you to all who donated items and money for shipping for the Operation: Stars and Stripes collection drive. The process was a success and the Sunday school children had lots of fun assembling the kits! Please visit Zion's website for pictures of the event!



Lenten Service Schedule 2013

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

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

Maundy Thursday service will be held at 7:00 PM on March 28.

Good Friday service will be held at 7:00 PM on March 29.

Easter Sunday services will be held at the normal times (8:00 AM and 10:30 AM). There will be no Bible Class in between services. Instead,

Easter Breakfast will be held at 9:15. Hope to see you there!



Important News for Zion League Bowlers:

The Bowling Banquet has been set for May 17th at Al's Cafe. Your dinner is free and you're welcome to bring a guest, but you will have to pay for their meal. More details to come.



Please make sure that you're up to date with your bowling fees, including start-up fees (if you haven't paid them by now). Remember, we have to pay AMF Mt. Lebanon for the use of the lanes under the terms of our contract, also the start-up fees fund the bowling banquet, so please be sure they're all paid.

Finally, please remember that you must roll off by April 30th for the Friday night that was canceled back in January.

Roll off details at www.zlcb.org/bowling. Questions, contact Marianne Miller at 412-221-2377.



- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Evelyn Binder | 15 Braeden Boyle |
| 4 Lori Gauger | 16 Clair Shrag |
| 5 Jared Fitzgerald | 18 Joseph Gielarowski |
| 5 Deborah Sterba | 22 Nathan Smidt II |
| 7 Robert James | 23 Mia Case |
| 8 Mark Oelschlager | 23 Peter Fisher |
| 11 Michael Sterba | 23 Mark Killinger |
| 12 Emma Gardner | 24 Bonnie Lewis |
| 12 Jonathan Vogel | 25 Ruth Miller |
| 14 Susan Bishop | 26 Kathryn Gielarowski |
| | 26 Nancy Spotti |
| | 27 Christian Vogel |



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

Service Participants

MARCH

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
March 3	8:00 AM	Larry & Janet Zreliak	Anthony Vallelunga
	10:30 AM	Jay & Kim Anderson	Jennifer Fitzgerald
March 6 Lent Service	7:00 PM		Elder
March 10	8:00 AM	Gene & Sharon Koop	Missy Radovich
	10:30 AM	Neil Ackerman	Ryan Harris
March 13 Lent Service	7:00 PM		Elder
March 17	8:00 AM	Joan Kovach	Joshua Gielarowski
	10:30 AM	Ted & Marian Siek	Mitchell Fitzgerald
March 20 Lent Service	7:00 PM		Elder
March 24	8:00 AM	Bob & Nancy Spotti	Grant Geregach
	10:30 AM	Peter & Barbara Fisher	Josiah Ackerman
March 27 Lent Service	7:00 PM		Elder
March 28 Maundy Thurs.	7:00 PM		Missy Radovich
March 29 Good Friday	7:00 PM		TBA
March 31 Easter Sunday	8:00 AM	Wayne & Barb Oechslein	Grant Geregach, Anthony Vallelunga Crucifer: Frank Vallelunga
	10:30 AM	Chuck & Debra LaJeunesse	Ryan Harris, Sydney Harris Crucifer: Rob Oelschlager
April 7	8:00 AM	Wayne & Kathleen Conn	Missy Radovich
	10:30 AM	Bill & Susie Bishop & family	Jennifer Fitzgerald
April 14	8:00 AM	Carl & Karen Bauer	Grant Geregach
	10:30 AM	Mark & Laurie Coleman	Josiah Ackerman

ELDERS	Jim Neill, Brian Pasquini
ALTAR GUILD	Janet Oelschlager, Marian Oelschlager, Molly Oelschlager
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Bill Becker, Brent Miller, Barb Oechslein, Wayne Oechslein
USHERS @ 10:30 am	Ross Chilcott, Steve Kovach, Vince Kimberland, Richard Quinlan

APRIL

ELDERS	Rob Oelschlager, Paul Klemash
ALTAR GUILD	Debra LaJeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich, Carolyn Wible
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier, Jack Oelschlager
USHERS @ 10:30 am	Steve Gauer, 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@zlc.org of the change.

Zion Lutheran Church

3197 Washington Pike
Bridgeville, PA 15017
Phone: 412-221-4776



Visit **ZLCB.ORG**

For updated information throughout the month.

The Rev. Duncan McLellan

Youth News

On July 8, 2013, Zion Lutheran Church is ready to take a stand... at Kingdom Rock VBS, where kids stand strong for God! To have the best adventure possible, we need lots of volunteers who can give their time, energy, and love to the kids who attend. Leaders and assistants are needed who enjoy: telling and/or acting out Bible stories, running fun experiments, playing high-energy games, learning music, and making and serving snacks.

Our format no longer utilizes the traditional classroom! Kids will rotate from station to station with their "Kingdom" crew. No preparation necessary! So we also need: Kingdom crew leaders and Kingdom crew assistants. Still don't see anything that interests you? We'd also love to have you join: registration team, decorating team, or photography team.

We believe that God will use this program to reach many children with the Gospel, so please prayerfully consider your role in VBS. To volunteer, simply fill out a form and place in the box labeled Kingdom Rock VBS located in the Narthex. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact Katie Gielarowski by email (zionlutherankids@yahoo.com), phone (724 713 6523), or in person



ANNOUNCEMENTS



FOOD BANK

Collection for this month's Bridgeville Area Food Bank is **Sunday March 10**. The "item of the month" is Fruit (canned and dried). 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.

Men's Bible Breakfasts have been moved to Saturday at 8am. Hope to see you there--come hungry!

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST

BIRTH

ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Matt and Megan Solomon, and new big sister Ella, on the birth of their new baby, Alexander Solomon. Alexander was born on February 16.

Mark your calendar for March 6th and plan to attend the 7:00pm Lenten Service!

We will be treated to a musical performance by the Lutheran High School of Indianapolis' Choir before and during the service. 45 high school students (and their adult chaperones) will be in attendance.

Also, if you would like to host a couple (or more) students at your home the night of the 6th, please contact the church or Pastor Duncan ASAP!

CHOIR

PERFORMANCE