

# ZION TIDINGS

*“Serving Christ through Serving Others”*

*March 2023*

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Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church 14 West Walnut St., Tipp City, Ohio 45371- Phone: 1(937) 667-3110

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**Jessica Dorn, Christian Education director** - [christianed@ziontippcity.org](mailto:christianed@ziontippcity.org)

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR THE APRIL “TIDINGS” on Friday, March 21, 2023.**

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So in the church year, we are entering the “Season of Lent”. A season is usually a specific time or length of time when something has changed from a previous season. Our church year begins with the season of Advent, then the season of Christmas, then the season of Epiphany, and now the season of Lent. As we begin the season, please let me make kind of a silly, but helpful suggestion; “Press the Pause button on the remote of Life”. In other words, let’s step back, temporarily put the world swirling around us on pause, and look again at why we have a season of Lent.

By the time you read this, we will have celebrated Transfiguration Sunday which is that Divine direction given by God for Jesus to begin his journey to the cross. Then for the next six weeks we are invited to travel with Jesus to the cross, of course culminating with the glorious Easter resurrection.

So as we hit the pause button:

- The ashen cross (Ash Wednesday) drawn upon our foreheads reminds us, and tells others we are serious about the Lenten journey with Jesus.
- Step back and give thanks for where you are and what you have,
- Examine your heart.
- Kneel down to repent and ask for forgiveness.
- Rise to mindful contemplation, prayer, and study as we journey together.
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I am honored to make this journey again this year with the Christ followers of Zion Lutheran Church.

God Bless You!

**A Mid-Week Lenten Service** will be held on Wednesday, March 8 at 6:00 PM. Light refreshment will be served. Please join us.

# Adult Sunday School

During Lent, the Adult Sunday School Class is studying “Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross” by Susan Robb. She is the Senior Associate Minister at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas. The six sessions are titled:

- Father, Forgive Them
- Today Will You Be with Me in Paradise
- My God, My God
- Woman, Here is Your Son
- I am Thirsty
- Into Your Hands

Each session looks at the words from Christ on the cross from a biblical and historical perspective. The series brings a hopeful and contemplative take on the cross during the weeks of Lent.



The Call Committee began interviewing candidates for Zion’s pastor in July 2022. Since that time, we have interviewed 5 candidates. The first interview is through the Zoom format. If we decide we want a 2<sup>nd</sup> interview, we bring the candidate to meet in person. We have had three in-person interviews. Of the five candidates, we released two, meaning we did not feel the person was a good fit for Zion. Two of the candidates turned us down, citing that they did not feel the Holy Spirit calling them to Zion. One candidate accepted a position as the Assistant to the Bishop in another synod.

This process is not an easy or quick one. It involves reviewing candidates, waiting, praying, questioning, praying, waiting, excitement, praying, waiting, disappointment, and praying. We believe that God will find the right match for both Zion and our new pastor. Your prayers during this process are needed and appreciated.

Linda Holt, Call Committee Chair

Bob Keppel, Council Representative

Bill DeVenzio, Carla Frame, Jennifer Johnson, Tim Rambeau

Madelyn Lopez, Youth Representative with Jessica Lopez attending



**Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center** has existed as a safe haven for youth for more than 140 years in Richmond, Indiana. Please take a green shamrock from the display in our church narthex. Certain items are needed to help the kids at Wernle.

Deadline: March 26, 2023

Thank you for your generosity. Any questions contact Kathy Groth at 1(937) 216-2071.



#### RELAY FOR LIFE MIAMI COUNTY

**One wish, two wish**

**I wish, you wish**

**For a cancer-free world**

That is the theme for this year's Relay For Life of Miami County. It will be June 17, 10 am – 11 pm at the Miami County Fairgrounds. Our team, Holy Walkamolies For the Cure, is now forming and making plans. New members are always welcome. You do not have to be a member of Zion to join our team.

On the day of the event, we will need people who can take a turn walking laps, work in our booth, or help in the survivor building (checking people in, serving the meal, etc.)

In the months before the event, we will be collection donations, selling luminarias, and having fundraisers. Watch the bulletins and newsletters for more information about these.

Last year, our team raised over \$6,600. All of the money goes to the American Cancer Society to fund research, provide free lodging near treatment centers, provide patients with rides to treatment, and operate a 24/7/365 helpline.

If you wish for a cancer-free world, please consider joining our team. Watch the bulletins for the time of our next meeting. If you have questions, contact Debbie Rudisill.



## BIRTHDAYS:

4	Ava Coppock	21	Billie Fischer
6	Matthew Hannah	23	Dale Rudisill
7	Patsy Furrow, Jen Kauffmann	24	Michael Hannah (father), Kervyn Mach
14	Janice Mach, Susan Smith		
15	Bill DeVenzio, Lynette McKibbin, Nicholas McKibbin	25	Heidi Coppock
		27	Kelly Smith
17	Bob Lenehan	28	Bob Keppel, Lori Sebastian
19	Hannah Kessler	31	Christine Copeland, Debbie Fetters
20	Ash Johnson, Karen Smeal		

**THANK YOU!**  
*thank you!*

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$2,000.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and across the globe. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future.

Jesus was born to realign in us forever. Now you are inviting countless others into his gracious kingdom. Thank you. In Christ, Amanda White (Director, Congregational Generosity)

Dear Friends of Wittenberg University:

Thank you so very much for investing in Wittenberg University through the Scholarship for Ohio Lutherans. Because of your support, students can take advantage of every aspect of our life-changing education. Your gift will open doors and minds, and I cannot thank you enough.

Sincerely,

Kristina Devine

Assistant Vice President for Advancement



**Pray for homebound members:** Patsy Furrow & Herb Johnson

**Families who have lost loved ones:** Family and friends of Lois Kauffmann who passed away Jan. 25. Brad Kennedy and his family on the passing of his mother on Jan. 29.

**Pray for healing, comfort and recovery for the following members:**

Jan Aller, Jane Athey, Marianne Barnhart, Gloria Bilbay, Miriam Comer, Dave & Sue Cook, John & Dianne LeGros, Cindy Moore, Lilo Myers, Larry & Lil Nichols, Carolyn Oaks, Carol Phillips, Trapper Phillips, Shirley Rawlins, Tom & Alice Replogle, Debbie & Randy Turner, Fred Staie, Bob Stollmer, Anna Marie Stover, Kyle Watkins, Debbie Weprin, Jason Weprin, Sheryl Young. God in heaven, hear our prayers.

***We would appreciate updates on those individuals placed on the prayer chain so that it can be kept up to date. If you need to take someone off or add someone, a call to the church office would be appreciated.***

***1 (937)667-3110 or e-mail: [prayers@ziontippcity.org](mailto:prayers@ziontippcity.org). Thank you.***



## **COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

### **PROPERTY COMMITTEE – February 6, 2023**

Butler Heating and Cooling has completed the boiler and air conditioning installations in the 1894 building. Zion will receive a rebate from the gas supplier for putting in the new system. In addition, Zion will save money with 95% efficiency, which will reduce gas consumption. H & S Plumbing installed the new garbage disposal in the kitchen. D & T Electric completed installation of emergency lighting and exit lights throughout the building. James Sebastian continues to replace the old fluorescent bulbs with LED bulbs which eliminates ballasts, uses fewer bulbs and saves on energy costs. Thanks, James! Mega City replaced the control head for fire suppression in the range hood in the kitchen. The monthly work list was completed. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

## **WOMEN OF ZION**

**NEXT MEETING:** Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 P.M. All Women are welcome

## **COMMUNICATIONS/WELCOMING**

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 PM



## **Christian Education March 2023 Tidings**

### **Upcoming Christian Ed dates for kids, youth, and families**

3/5 Jesus Calms the Storm, Signups for donations will be up for Pancake breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt  
3/12 Jesus enters Jerusalem  
3/19 The Last Supper

3/26 Jesus and the cross, after church please join us to stuff eggs  
4/8 9am pancake breakfast, 10am Easter egg hunt  
4/9 No Sunday School

Our Sunday School lessons center around Holy Moly videos which can be found on Right Now Media. (For more information on how to get your free account see below.) We discuss the videos, pray, and do an activity or craft. If you know that your child is unable to attend Sunday School, we are happy to provide them with a craft/activity to take home to accompany the video. We can also provide you with some questions and answers to discuss with your child. For more information please contact Jessica Dorn.

### **Family Fun Nights- Cancelled**

Family Fun nights have been cancelled for the remainder of the year at this time. There has not been enough attendance to continue. Thank you to the people who have helped. The money that was donated to help pay for pizza will go to the

## **URGENT Help Needed**

Teachers are needed to help with Sunday School for the kids. If you would like to know more please contact Jessica Dorn. The sign up is located on the wall for those who have already signed up and had their background check completed.

**Right Now Media** is a free resource that has over 20,000 Christian education videos that can be used online or on a smart TV by downloading the app. As of 2/10/23, 24 people have signed up for Right Now Media. Please feel free to share this with anyone and everyone! To sign up please use the QR code listed below or the link:

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/ziontipcity>



**March 12<sup>th</sup>** Daylight Savings time begins. Set your clocks ahead 1 hour during the evening of March 11<sup>th</sup> so you aren't late for 10:00 AM Worship on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup>!



**A big thank you** to the great crew that turned out to spruce up and deep clean our wonderful kitchen. We worked and felt fellowship (it's a good feeling!)

**Thanks** to the cooks who furnished our lunch together in the fellowship hall.

If you have not volunteered for a kitchen "serving others event", come on in (we won't tell anyone that you spent time "goofing off": at our coffee time table as well!!! *In Christian love, The Kitchen Committee*

**Thanks** to the property committee for our new garbage disposal (man cave guys also happy for this) and our new kitchen lighting.



**by Lori Sebastian**

At this past summer's Lutheran Church Musician's conference, one musician's work featured was Susan Palo Cherwien. I had heard the name Cherwien before (her husband David is an organist), but what I hadn't realized is the impact her poetry has on the Lutheran Church. Did you know that Susan Cherwien has 7 different hymn texts in *Evangelical*

*Lutheran Worship* and 8 different hymn texts in *All Creation Sings*? Cherwien is a native Ohioan, born in Ashtabula. Attending Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS), she was baptized and confirmed there and sang in the children's and chancel choir. It was this love of music that led her to pursue of Bachelor of Music (Voice and Church Music) at Wittenberg (Ohio), from which she graduated in 1975. She spent 2 different periods of time in Berlin, Germany for additional education. She studied at Mundelein College in Chicago, IL, where she obtained her Master's Degree. It was here during a class called "The Fate of the Earth" that she wrote a hymn text sensitive to God's creation: *In Sacred Manner* (ACS 1071) One unique verse speaks to animal lovers:

5. In sacred manner may we live among the wise and loving ones, sit humbly, as at sages' feet, by four legged, finned, and feathered ones. The animals will teach. The animals will teach.

The choir recently sang one of her hymn texts during Epiphany: Holy Woman, Graceful Giver (ACS 1001). The first verse follows and is a single sentence!

Holy woman, graceful giver, prophet, servant, and believer, woman with the ointment jar, rose up near the time appointed, broke the seal, Christ's head anointed for the coming fatal hour, for the coming fatal hour.

We will be singing a Susan Cherwien hymn during Lent: ELW 447 *O Blessed Spring*. I selected 3 verses from the hymn to share.

4. As winter comes, as winters must, we breathe our last, return to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take wing and trust the promise of the spring.

1. O blessed spring, where word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine: here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life giving Tree.

5. Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery: that word and water thus revive and join us to your Tree of Life.

Susan Cherwien has 3 books of hymn poetry published (with new and veteran hymn tunes) by Augsburg Fortress, 3 hymn festival reflections published by Morning Star Publishers, and a variety of other arrangements composed based on her lyrics. She served on the ELCA Language Consultation which helped set guidelines before the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal was developed. She was diagnosed with cancer shortly after Easter 2021 and passed away just after Christmas 2021. I imagine she continues to pen new and illustrative poetry in heaven.

## MARCH HAPPENINGS / F.Y.I.

Wednesday, March 1

Saturday, March 4	5:00 PM	Worship
Sunday, March 5	9:00 AM	Sunday School / Adults & Kids
		Confirmation / Youth
	10:00 AM	Worship / Communion
Monday, March 6	11:00 AM	Quilting
	6:00 PM	Property Committee Mtg.
Tuesday, March 7	10:00 AM	Quilting
	8:00 PM	AA meets in the basement
Wednesday, March 8	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Mid Week Lenten Service</b>
	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Saturday, March 11	5:00 PM	Worship / Dinner at Dos Lunas

### ***Daylight Savings Time – Set clocks ahead 1 hour***

Sunday, March 12	9:00 AM	Sunday School
		Confirmation
	10:00 AM	Worship / Communion
Monday, March 13	11:00 AM	Quilting
Tuesday, March 14	10:00 AM	Quilting
	5:00 PM	Communications Meeting



	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
	8:00 PM	AA
Wednesday, March 15	11:30 AM	<b>Red Cross Blood Drive</b>
	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Saturday, March 18	5:00 PM	Worship
Sunday, March 19	9:00 AM	Sunday School
		Confirmation
	10:00 AM	Worship / Communion
Tuesday, March 21	8:00 PM	AA
Thursday, March 23	7:00 PM	Compassionate Friends Mtg.
Saturday, March 25	5:00 PM	Worship / Communion
Sunday, March 26	9:00 AM	Sunday School
		Confirmation
	10:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	1:00 PM	Randall House Outreach
Wednesday, March 29		No Choir



The April Newsletter

Deadline is: **Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** .

#### **REMINDERS: HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

1. Sunday, April 2 / Palm Sunday - 10:00 AM Worship
2. Thursday, April 6 / Maundy Thursday - 7:00 PM Worship
3. Friday, April 7 / Good Friday - 7:00 PM Worship
4. Saturday, April 8 / Easter Vigil - 5 PM Worship
5. Sunday, April 9 / Easter Day - 8 AM & 10 AM Worship