

ZION TIDINGS

March 2024



“Serving Christ through Serving Others”

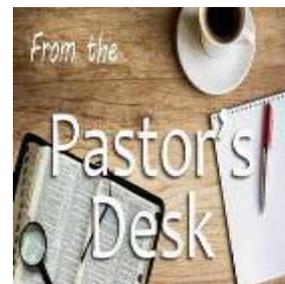
God’s Greatest Desire

Seven times in the Old Testament God shares with us his greatest desire *I will be their God and they will be my children*. That is God’s mission – To be our God and for us to be his people – It is the story of the Bible. From the very beginning God has done everything to try to make that desire into reality. In the garden, He personally walked with Adam and Eve warning them not to eat from the tree of good and evil. When that didn’t work, and humanity became too sinful and sin-filled - God actually covered his creation with a flood – saving only Noah and his family. Losing so many, grieved him terribly and He promised to never do so again, but when that didn’t work... - He sought out Abraham and made a pact with him to be the Father of his people – thinking they just needed an earthly father. Then when that didn’t work - God raised up Moses to rescue His people from slavery in Egypt. He had Moses give His people the Law to help and guide them. Then when that didn’t work, so He sent the prophets to warn his people in the hopes of bringing them back to Him. They didn’t listen, so God allowed Jerusalem to be destroyed – allowed the 12 tribes of Israel to be taken into exile. But God being God forgave them and allowed them to rebuild Jerusalem. The experience was a wakeup call for the people, but after only a couple generations they were right back where they started. Then God sent his own Son, only to see His Son killed as a criminal. But in an amazing act of love God raised Jesus from the dead in the hopes of proving once and for all His dedication and desire to be our God. Each day we get the chance to decide how we will respond. How do we show God we are ready to be his children?

We are in the midst of the season of Lent, a time set apart for us to remember all that God has done for us. I pray we are all finding to remember God’s desire for our lives and the world.

Thank you for all you have done to make me feel welcome.

In Christ,
Pastor Sally



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Zion office - office@ziontippcity.org **Prayer requests** - prayers@ziontippcity.org or office@ziontippcity.org

Jessica Dorn, Christian Education director - christianed@ziontippcity.org

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH “TIDINGS” is Friday, March 22, 2024

Mission of the Month

Little Kindness

We will be collecting items for **Little Kindness** during the month of March. Pam Hale (sister of Terri Darrah) heads up this non-profit which provides Chemotherapy Care Bags through *Pink Ribbon Girls* to local hospitals and churches. Pam's motto is "Never underestimate the power of a kind word or deed." Please take one or two shamrocks from the easel in the narthex. Purchase the item(s) and return them to the mission box by Easter. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please write it out to Women of Zion.



Any questions contact Deb Keppel.

March Birthdays

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



Upcoming Events

Lenten Schedule

Midweek Lenten Service

Wednesday, March 6th - 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, March 28th – 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

Friday, March 29th – 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday – March 24th

Easter Sunday – March 31st



A purple rectangular graphic with a border of colorful Easter eggs (orange, green, yellow, and red with various patterns). In the center is a wooden cross with a small basket of eggs hanging from it. Below the cross, the text is centered and reads: "ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR", "Palm Sunday Brunch and", "Easter Egg Hunt", "SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH", "FOLLOWING THE 10AM WORSHIP", "ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH", "14 W WALNUT ST TIPP CITY, OH 45371", "All profits from donations will go to Zion's Youth Gathering Fund", and "kindly sign up in Zion's hallway or email christianed@ziontippecity.org".

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR

*Palm Sunday Brunch and
Easter Egg Hunt*

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

FOLLOWING THE 10AM WORSHIP

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 W WALNUT ST TIPP CITY, OH 45371

All profits from donations will go to Zion's Youth Gathering Fund

kindly sign up in Zion's hallway or email christianed@ziontippecity.org

Solar Eclipse Block Party

In case you haven't heard, there is going to be a solar eclipse over our area on April 8th. It will be the last total solar eclipse in the contiguous United States for 40 years and we are in the path of "totality". The last total eclipse that was visible in Ohio was 1806 so this is indeed a rare opportunity. The motels in our area are already at capacity for the event.



To celebrate the eclipse, the Tipp City Chamber of Commerce is putting together a Solar Eclipse Block party on Saturday, April 6th to take place in downtown Tipp from 10 am to 10 pm. As an important organization in the heart of Tipp, Council and the Women of Zion have agreed to participate. If they commit, we may join forces with the Global Methodist Church by providing desserts for their lunch. If they don't, we may offer something else. Details and sign-up sheets will be forthcoming.

Chalk Talk Coming to Zion

Women of Zion are excited to welcome Elva Hurst to our church for a presentation.

April 16th, 2024
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

You are welcome to invite friends and family to this special event. It will be open to the public as well.

Prior to the chalk talk, Women of the ELCA - Northwest Conference of the Southern Ohio Synod, will be having their [12th Annual Spring Gathering here at 5:00 pm](#). Contact Deb Keppel with questions.



Elva Hurst of Lititz, Lancaster County, is a farm girl at heart, with a wealth of experiences gained while growing up as one of eight children on an Old Order Mennonite dairy farm. She's tapped into that background artistically for over 30 years, progressing from simple childhood sketches and paintings to her popular "chalk talks." The talks illustrate scenes from her beloved Lancaster County countryside, which includes the Hursts' 40-acre preserved farm where she and her husband, Ray, have lived since 1995.

Over three decades, Hurst has also authored and illustrated more than 14 books. They include two series of children's books and her autobiography, most of which she has voiced on audiobooks. The recorded audiobooks have led to DVDs, based on her children's books. And, this year, she's made her first movie, with more films possible in the future.

Relay For Life

We will once again have a team in Relay for Life of Miami County. Our team will have our **first meeting** on [Sunday, March 17th at 3:00 pm](#) in the adult Sunday school room. Anyone who is interested in joining the fight against cancer is encourage to join us. There are a variety of ways to participate both before and the day of the event.



Relay For Life is a one-day event to raise money for the American Cancer Society. This year's event will be [June 15th, 10:00 am – 11:00 pm](#) at the **Miami County Fairgrounds**. However, much of the fundraising takes place before the event. Watch future newsletters and bulletins for information about our team's fundraisers.

On the day of the event, we remember loved ones who had cancer, honor cancer survivors and their caregivers, and support those who are battling cancer. Team members take turns walking the track. Whether you can walk one lap or several miles, we can use your help. Those who cannot walk can help in other ways including working in our booth.

If you have had cancer or know someone who has had cancer, we invite you to join us. See Debbie Rudisill, team captain, if you have questions.

Dinner to Benefit LifeWise

The Global Methodist Church is hosting a dinner on [March 6th from 5:00 – 6:30 pm](#) to benefit LifeWise Academy. A meal costs \$5 or \$15 for a family. There will be raffle baskets and a 50/50 raffle.

Farewell Brunch & Confirmands Reception

The fellowship hall was packed with Zion members, family and friends to celebrate the confirmation of Hannah Kessler, Bryce Clum, Madison Dorn and Owen Vonderheide, as well as the farewell to Dale as Interim Pastor. Dale and Ginger received a beautiful quilt & handcrafted toolbox from Zion, along with several gifts from individuals, a Trophy Nut gift card from the confirmands, and many heartfelt thanks and good wishes. Thanks to the team who provided a lovely brunch to the crowd.



February Sock Hop Results

The January "Sock Hop Project" was greatly received by Shoes 4 the Shoeless. Thanks to Thrivent's funding of \$250, there were 178 pairs of socks purchased. Thanks to Zion members, who donated an additional 194 pairs of socks, the grand total was 372 pairs of socks for children. AWESOME JOB!!!!



Women of Zion Meeting Highlights

February 18, 2024

- A request was received from Connections, a community gathering place, for possible financial help. Deb Keppel will get more information.
- A request was received from ELCA World Hunger for donations.
- 372 pairs of socks were donated for the January mission of the month, Shoes for the Shoeless.
- Donations received for Souper Bowl of Caring will be given to the Vandalia Food Pantry.
- The March mission of the month will be Little Kindness. Look for items needed at the back of the church.
- The spring gathering of the Northwest conference of WELCA will be Sunday, April 14th at 5:00 pm at Zion, followed by chalk talk artist, Elva Hurst, at 6:00 pm. The public is invited to the chalk talk event.
- Prayer Shawl Update: 2 men's shawls and 5 baby blankets remain. We are in need of women's shawls. If anyone is able to knit or crochet, please contact Debbie Rudisill.
- Solar Eclipse Block Party is to be held in Tipp on Saturday, April 6th from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm. Discussion was held regarding ways in which Zion may be able to participate. Denise Jacobs is the contact person

WoZ

Next meeting is **Sunday, March 10th at 5:00 pm**

National Quilting Day

National Quilting Day is Saturday, March 16th. Did you know that the "recipe" for a Lutheran World Relief quilt has three layers?

Be sure to look in the conference room, before you go up the steps to attend worship that weekend. See the "Quilt Construction" site!



Zion Lutheran Church is turning 200 in 2026

March 3, 1826 was the date that our church was planted in Tipp City. The Bicentennial of Zion is a major milestone and we want to celebrate accordingly. The Council wants to put together a planning committee of approximately six people to plan multiple celebrations. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please leave your name with Annette (Office Admin) or Denise Jacobs (Council President).



Zion History Part 1

It has been noted that many of you are not familiar with the history of Zion. There are books of our history available in the narthex, if you wish to learn more. In honor of our upcoming anniversary, I will be putting history information into Tidings as space allows.

In consideration of our beginnings, it is well to envision the conditions prevalent in 1826, the year of our founding. The village of Tippecanoe would not be in existence for another 16 years. The nearest village was the now defunct Cowlesville. Even the village of Hyattsville, later to be absorbed by Tippecanoe, was 7 years from its founding. Only some forty years had passed since General Anthony Wayne cleared the remnants of Shawnees from what is now Miami County. Though little in number, the pioneer settlers were from all the old states of the Union. Those from New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia were most dominant. Included was a sprinkling of families from New York and Delaware.

The land was rich and well-timbered with large walnut, ash and cherry trees. The numerous streams ran clear and pure and wild game, including deer, elk, wild turkeys and buffalo were in abundance. Hogs were fattened in the woods and corn was raised only for human food by hoeing and digging around stumps. A man going to the mill with two bushels of corn was considered a prosperous farmer. Eggs sold for three cents a dozen, chickens at fifty cents a dozen and whiskey went for twelve cents a gallon.

Life was hard and quite often short. The average life expectancy in 1826 was a mere twenty-seven years on the frontier, due mainly to the deaths of children caught in the terrible rounds of diseases prevalent at the time. One in four children died before age five.

It was in this time and place our church was born. Several families belonging to the German Reformed and Lutheran faiths decided to construct a building for the purpose of a meeting house and school. A burying ground was to be included. To this end, Jacob Worman, a local farmer of substance, on January 21, 1826, deeded a small tract of land on what is now South Hyatt Street to the trustees of the German Reformed and Lutheran Church, namely John Ritter, Jacob Favorite and George Gump.

Our first church was a small simple structure constructed of logs probably cut from the building site and the nearby hardwood forest. The floor was planked and rough-hewn benches were installed. There was no organ or piano. A congregational fiddle player probably provided music, and hymns were sung with the aid of a song leader beating time on the church floor with a "rhythm staff". A good memory for words and melody was a firm prerequisite for this position. However crudely presented, music was of prime importance in the Lutheran service then, as it is to this day.

Lost & Found

There is a new lost and found box located in the Walnut Street entrance hallway on top of the coat rack. If you have found something or lost it, please check that box.



Super Bowl Watch Party & Chili Cook Off

The inaugural Super Bowl Watch Party/Chili Cook Off was attended by 29 people and a good time was had by all. The grand champion of the cook off was Erma Swanson. Matt Dorn brought in second place and Andrew Weprin won third place. The technology team plans to have it again next year so save the date for Super Bowl 2025.



Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Time begins on **Sunday, March 10th**. Remember to move your clocks **forward** one hour.



Communications / Welcoming Committee Report

The committee welcomed Pastor Sally and our newest member and liaison to church council, Jaque Mitchell, at our February 13 meeting. Once a month, Zion's pastors, Bob and Deb Keppel, Babs Wesbecher and Carol Phillips have been bringing communion to homebound members. Pastor Sally and Kristen Zimmann will be joining this outreach mission soon.

We plan to make up a few photo directories for anyone who does not have one and would like one. Looking ahead, we hope to plan a few fellowship events - a pizza and bowling lunch at Tipp City Pizza, BUNCO Night and Zion Night at a Dragons game - to name a few ideas.

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, March 12 at 5:00.**

Council Meeting Report

February 13, 2024

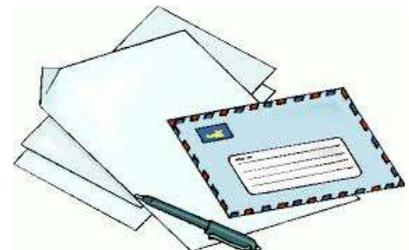
1. Approved minutes for January 9th meeting.
2. Approval of the December 2023 financial reports.
3. Upcoming Dates for the Calendar:
 - Ash Wednesday - February 14 - 7pm
 - Devotional service - Wednesday, March 6 - 6pm
 - Solar Eclipse Blook Party for Tipp City 10 AM until 10 PM
 - March 24th – Easter Egg Hunt 11 AM
 - Maundy Thursday - March 28 - 7pm
 - Good Friday - March 29 - 7pm
4. 2026 is Zion Lutheran's 200th Anniversary. The Council will be looking to convene a committee to start the planning process for this celebration for the church.
5. The Property Committee will be overseeing the Railing Project which should be starting sometime in March.

Next Meeting: **March 12th, 2024**



New Address for Jason

Jason Weprin is now in the Southeastern Correctional Institution for 6 months. His new address is: Jason Weprin #A825332, Southeastern Correctional Institution, 5900 Bis Road, Lancaster, OH 43130. There are guidelines and restrictions for mailing, such as no multi-fold cards, glitter, pop up cards etc. A full list is available on the table in the narthex.



Christian Education

Children/Youth Sunday School

- 3/3 9am Daniel and The Lions
- 3/10 9am Jonah
- 3/17 9am Jesus Walks on Water
- 3/19 9:30am Help Stuff the Easter goodie bags
- 3/24 No Kids/Youth Sunday School,
Instead join us for Palm Sunday Brunch and Egg Hunt after Worship
- 3/31 No Sunday School due to Easter



Save the Date for Vacation Bible School (VBS)

VBS will be held on Friday **July 25 5pm-8pm** and **Saturday July 26 3pm-7pm**.
More details to come!

March 19 9:30- Easter Goodie Bags Stuffing

Join me on Tuesday **March 19 at 9:30am** at Zion to stuff the Easter goodie bags!

Confirmation Jan 28, 2024

Congratulations to Bryce C, Madison D, Hannah K, and Owen V on their confirmation!

A Special Thanks to Pastor Dale

Pastor Dale has been working with the confirmands for the past 2 years preparing them for decision to devote their lives to God. Thank you to him for all of the time and energy he put into these young men and ladies.

Parents of the Graduating Class of 2024

We'd like to conGRADulate the graduates of Zion!
Please email a picture and a brief paragraph telling us from where your student is graduating along with their future plans to christianed@ziontippcity.org by **April 1st** so that we can all celebrate with them in our May Tidings!

We don't want to forget our prior high school graduates. Please make sure we have their current address so that we can stay in touch.



Property Committee Meeting Report

February 5, 2024

- Music Metalworks of Troy has been awarded the contract for installing the new ramp railing and for replacing the railing on the front steps.
- Butler Heating and AC replaced the heat exchanger on Furnace #4 which supplies heat to the office areas.
- The monthly work list was completed.



The next meeting will be Monday, [March 4, 2024](#) at 6:00 p.m.

Prayer Requests

Pray for our homebound member: Patsy Furrow

Prayer requests for this week: Prayers are offered for Sue and Tim Rambeau. Sue is recovering from throat surgery and Tim is recovering from open heart surgery. Pray for the family of Troy Kennedy's friend who was murdered. Darlene Lee (Bill Jones' sister) had emergency surgery. Pray for Sue Von Aschen who recovering from eye surgery. Pray for Carol Cook who is in Springmeade's rehab facility. Keep Shirley Delaplane and John LeGros in your prayers. Pray for Barb Kruse and Bob Lenehan. Prayers of thanksgiving for Greg Watkins who is doing well. Continue prayers Brian Watkins and Debbie Turner. Pray for Dave Cook, Chalmer Mader, Christine Copeland, Pat Cowan, Miriam Comer, Fred Staie, Debbie Weprin, Andrew Weprin, Jason Weprin, Cindy Moore, Larry and Lil Nichols, Carol Phillips, Lilo Myers, Shirley Rawlins and AnnaMarie Stover.

Zion's Prayer Chain is sent out weekly through email. It lists prayers needed for those in our community and world. If you have signed up to receive the prayer chain and have not received it recently, please let the office or Linda Holt know. If you have never been a part of the prayer chain and would like to receive it, let us know that, as well. To request prayers, or take an individual off the prayer chain, email them to prayers@ziontippcity.org. also access this through Zion's website www.ziontippcity.org. office at (937) 667-3110. Thank you.



Souper Bowl of Caring Results

Through your generous support, \$381.77 was collected and Women of Zion matched it with \$300, bringing the total to \$681.77. The recipient of our donation is the Vandalia Butler Food Pantry. Thanks to all who contributed!



Meaning of Lent Altar Paraments

During Lent, perhaps we have noticed that some things during worship change. Musically, we don't sing Alleluias during Lent and instead focus on repentance. Some examples of more penitential canticles include: "Return to the Lord Your God", "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O Lord" (Psalm 51), or "Lamb of God, You Take Away the Sin of the World". Much of the music played during Lent is more reflective such as "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" or "Will You Come and Follow Me?"

The altar paraments have changed to purple. I was recently looking at the altar paraments in more detail, and found some Greek symbols that I wanted to learn more about. On one side of the altar, the parament contains the symbols for Alpha and Omega, which are the first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet. It is found twice in the Scripture in Revelation:

1:8 - "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

22:13 - "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

Scholars believe this refers to the eternal nature of God. Also, the Alpha and Omega references both God and Christ.



The other altar parament contains an X and a P. I researched this symbol and learned this was "Chi Rho". In Greek, Christ's name is written ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ. So in the early church, the name Christ was abbreviated XP. (Another aside – if you have ever seen the symbol or term IHS, this is an abbreviated form of Jesus – ΙΗΣΟΥΣ – Iota, Eta, and Sigma, which when turned to Latin becomes IHSOUS.) Some sources give Emperor Constantine credit for the labarum, or a military standard containing the Christian emblem Chi-Rho. Sometimes, as occurs with the prior altar parament, the Chi Rho also contains the Alpha and

Omega symbols, which means Christ is the beginning and the end.

As we reflect on our sins during the Lenten season, listen to the differences in music and watch the changes in the altar area as we move from the penitential Lenten to the joyous Easter season.

By Lori Sebastian

Help, Help, Help

"Serving Christ Through Serving Others" - we are needed to do just that. Patients of Hospice of Miami County are in need of neck pillows, clothing protectors and catheter (foley) bags. See the "Caring Creations" table in the hall for examples.

Patterns are in the cabinet beside it and all materials to make them will be provided.

If you are a sewer or know of one, help is needed. For information, see Kathy Groth or Ruth White.



With Heartfelt Thanks!

I hardly know where to begin with a "Thank You" for the wonderful Farewell Brunch and gifts that you blessed both Ginger and myself with on Sunday, January 28th! The whole weekend was just delightful. To the many folks who planned and put together the delicious brunch, Thank You! For the multitude of cards and gifts received, Thank You! To the church for the **beautiful quilt** that will be a constant reminder of our time at Zion; for the **handcrafted wooden tool box** that will find a special place for special tools; and for the **lovely flower arrangement**, Ginger and I send our heartfelt Thank You!



And finally, to all of you who have made the last two years such a great journey of faith, please know that it has been a high privilege to serve as your interim pastor.

God Bless You!
Pastor Dale

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen,

Thank you so much for the wonderful dinners that you have served for my mom's funeral and my dad's. Dad's passing was a shock, he had just been to the doc a few days before. And thank you to the pastor for listening to me at the funeral home. You were all so kind.

God Bless,
Molly Stephens
Bill & Irene Miller's daughter

Choir News

Last fall, Felicia had a great idea to collect funds in honor of Mike Werts and purchase music for the choir to sing in his memory. We raised over \$100 and I purchased two pieces of music from Augsburg Fortress. The first piece, titled "Love Consecrates the Humblest Act" will be sung on Palm Sunday. The second piece, titled "I Know That My Redeemer Lives: Shout On" will be sung on Easter morning. The choir will also be singing on Maundy Thursday for Holy week. We have a full schedule in March, with 3 additional pieces planned, including one of my favorites, "Blessed Be Your Name", arranged by Mary McDonald.



For those considering joining the choir, please keep in mind that we do skip some rehearsals and Sunday performances throughout the year. Just check the bulletin for choir rehearsal schedules.

Bill Jones

March 2024

Calendar of Events at Zion

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Property Mtg. 6 Boy Scouts 6:30	Quilts 10 AA 8-9 pm	Lent Service 6pm Choir Rehearse			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS WoZ Mtg 5 pm	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Boy Scouts 6:30	Quilts 10 Comm Mtg 5:00 Council 7p AA 8-9 pm	Blood Drive Choir Rehearse			Communion Saturday
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Relay for Life Mtg. 3:00 pm  HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Boy Scouts 6:30	Quilts 10 AA 8-9 pm 	Choir Rehearse	Compassionate Friends 7:00		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
 Palm Sunday Easter Brunch & Egg Hunt 9 am - 2 pm	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Boy Scouts 6:30	Quilts 10 AA 8-9 pm	Worship/Music Mtg. 6:00 pm Choir Rehearse	Maundy Thurs Service 7:00 pm	Good Friday Service 7:00 pm	
31						
 Easter Randall Residence						