

ZION TIDINGS

April 2025



“Serving Christ through Serving Others”

The Cross and Community

The cross is the ultimate symbol of community. The cross of Christ reveals that we were created for relationship. Take a look at the cross. Notice that there is a horizontal beam and a vertical beam. The horizontal beam tells us that we are called to be in relationship with those around us, here on this earth. We are called to enter into relationship with our neighbors, with our friends, with our families. The vertical beam tells us that we are called to enter into relationship with God. More specifically, God seeks to have a relationship with us. Taken together, the entirety of the cross reveals God’s redemption of human and divine relationships. Jesus, the God-man, enters into our world to save us so that we may be in right relationship with our fellow humans and with God.

As we continue through the end of Lent and look forward to the beautiful celebration of Easter, let us reflect on the relationships in our lives, whether at church, at home, or in the wider community. Who has God brought into your life and what is God seeking for your relationship? How is your relationship with God, with your family, with the church? And what is God calling you to do about it? I think our relationships are incredibly important to pray over. As the poet John Donne wrote, “no man is an island.”



Pastor Jaren Summers



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

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR THE MAY “TIDINGS” is Friday, April 25, 2025

April Birthdays

1	Debbie Rudisill Kari Kennard	14	Gary Groth Alex Kauffman Zach Kauffman Lisa Sebastian	24	Linda Sumner
2	John Sebastian			26	Deb Keppel Scot Coppock
3	Katie Kessler Dan Holt Kristy McKibbin Adam Cartwright	15	Carly Breen Mike Patzek	28	Judy Bailey
5	Sharon Knick	18	John LeGros Edwin Witwer	29	Debby Geiman
13	Madison Dorn	22	Jaren Summers		
		23	Randy Turner Henry Rizzotte		



Mission of the Month

A Little Kindness

We will be collecting items for **Little Kindness** during the month of April. 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 eggs from the Easter basket in the narthex. Purchase the item(s) and return them to the mission box by April 30th. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please write it out to Women of Zion.

Any questions contact Deb Keppel.



The **COLORS** of Easter

GREEN is for the palms that they waved at Him as He entered into Jerusalem.

PURPLE is for the wine He poured and blessed before He faced his final test.

RED is for the precious blood He shed from the crown of thorns placed on his head.

BLACK is for the sky as He died on the cross, suffering to redeem our loss.

PINK, YELLOW and **ORANGE** are for the dawn that morn when the tomb was empty and hope was reborn.

WHITE is for the dazzling light that awed all who saw him arisen – the Son of God.

Upcoming Events



Palm Sunday

Saturday, April 12th – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 13th – 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 17th – 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 18th – 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Saturday, April 19th – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 20th – 10:00 a.m.



Palm Sunday Breakfast & Egg Hunt

April 13th After Service



Join us in the Fellowship Hall after Palm Sunday service for a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast. Following, there will be a Bible story, games, crafts, and an egg hunt for kids to enjoy. Please sign up in the fellowship hallway if you plan to attend. We can always use help with this event. You can sign up to assist in the same place.





Bible and Brew

April 15th

5:30 – 6:30

Chaffee's Brewhouse

15 E. Second Street, Tipp



The first two gatherings in February and March have been great. The next meeting is April 15th and will continue **every third Tuesday of the month** at Chaffee's Brewhouse for diverse conversations and theological discussions in a relaxed setting.

These gatherings are **open to everyone!**

Chaffee's offers a selection of craft beers, coffees, a variety of other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and they are now serving food.

Zion Serves Lunch at Kennedy Hall

On Saturday March 8, Zion members made and served lunch at Kennedy Hall in Troy. Kennedy Hall is in the Terrace Ridge neighborhood on McKaig Ave. This neighborhood of apartments is residences for the elderly, handicapped, and developmentally disabled.

Thanks to the following people for helping to prepare and serve: Donna Slyman, Jill Greer, Matt and Pam Sauls, Beth, Alex, Tanesha, Makenzie, Aaliyah Ferryman, Hannah Kessler, Anna Wooten, and Linda Holt. And a big thanks to all Zion members who donated money, cookies, and hamburger buns.

We hope to do this again in the fall.



Bunco

Another fun night of Bunco took place on March 15th after service. Thirty-nine people, comprised of members and friends, enjoyed pizza and snacks before three rounds of Bunco. Prizes were awarded to the biggest winners and losers. Thanks to the Welcoming Committee and especially Deb Keppel for a great evening of fellowship.



The big winners & losers



Updates to Zion



ALL sign-up sheets for Zion activities are now in the same place. Previously Saturday service helpers and “bring Fred to church” sign up sheets were on the wall by the office work room. The Sunday helper sheets are also posted so, if you see any openings for either service and would like to serve, please write your name in.


The wall outside the workroom is now **ONLY for community/outside events & communications**. There are always plenty of activities in our area or in other churches so, be sure to check out what’s happening there.



Before



After


The bulletin boards in the narthex have been redone. To the left of the sanctuary doors are  NEWSWORTHY items.

Before



After



To the right are items of HUMOR which convey truth and at the bottom are **INSTRUCTIONS** for ushers. 

Ash Wednesday Results



Drive up Ashes was a success for the first time out. Fifteen cars came through between 11:00 and 1:00 and 20 people received ashes and prayer. They were a combination of members, non-members and the curious.

The evening service was very well attended too.



Christian Education - Youth

Children and Youth Sunday School: Sundays 9am

Both Youth and Kids have been challenged to invite friends to our Lent festivities with an invitation to come to church.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

April 13th (Palm Sunday)

Youth, please come and help with the egg hunt and breakfast

April 20th (Easter Sunday)

Annual Breakfast and Egg Hunt – Palm Sunday, April 13th

Palm Sunday Breakfast will start right after worship. There will be a Bible story, games, craft, and egg hunt for kids to enjoy. Please sign up in the hallway to help or if you plan to attend.



Vacation Bible School (VBS)

We are excited to be working with St John's (Vandalia) and St Paul's (Dayton) again for VBS!

Save the dates: **June 10-12** at St John's dinner 5:30pm VBS 6-8:15pm

AND **June 17-19** at Zion dinner 5:30pm VBS 6-8:15pm

Volunteers: If you are able to volunteer, please let Jessica know by April 6.

We are mostly responsible for dinner again, but we are in need of VBS volunteers. Jobs include leading games, up to 5 Group Leaders, station helpers, and youth positions.

If you have Thrivent funds, we would appreciate using those!

Have a Graduate?

We want to celebrate our class of 2025! If you have a student who is graduating this year, please email a picture of the graduate along with a small description showcasing the graduate to chirstianed@ziontippcity.org. This information will be put into a future newsletter so that we can celebrate them.



Adult Sunday School

Continuing through April 6th, Pastor Summers is leading a Bible Study on the book of Luke and its relationship to the other Gospels. Some of the questions that have been discussed are: Why must Jesus die? Why did Jesus say “do not tell anyone who I am”? What are the Keys of Heaven? What are the catholic and apostolic faiths? What is ‘metanoia’? What is pre-destination vs. salvation?

Beginning April 13, we will begin a six-week series titled “The Forgiveness of Jesus.” This Bible study covers six events in Jesus' life that give a fuller understanding of the reason Christ gave his life on the cross.

Please join us at 9:00 on Sunday mornings in the Adult Sunday School room. All are welcome!



Welcome Grant Johnson

Zion welcomes Grant Johnson, our new Saturday evening musician! Grant is a high school student taking College Credit Plus (CCP) classes at Edison Community College. Grant has a wide variety of musical interests and abilities. In addition to the piano, which Grant has played for 11 years, Grant plays drums and guitar. Grant enjoys learning and playing music by Liszt and Chopin and has even learned Bach. One of his favorite pieces is La Campanella by Liszt. What other activities does Grant enjoy? He participates in plays with his brother. He also enjoys skateboarding. Welcome to Zion, Grant!



Women of Zion

March 9, 2025

- March mission of the month was serving lunch at Kennedy Hall on March 8th, in conjunction with St. Patrick Soup Kitchen. We may do this again in the fall.
- The April Mission of the month is gathering items for the Little Kindness program. A giving tree or easel will be placed in the narthex with needed items listed.
- There will be a Lenten Devotional on March 26th. WoZ will provide refreshments.
- The Spring Gathering of the Northwest Conference of WELCA will be April 12th at Galilee Lutheran Church in Russels Point. Contact Deb Keppel if you are interested in attending.
- May mission of the month will be a Ladies Night Out event on May 18th. We will go to Dos Lunas for dinner and conversation. A sign-up sheet will be posted at a later date.

Next Meeting: Sunday, **April 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**



Gather: Miami Valley

The Southern Ohio Synod launched its Cultivate initiative in 2021 to grow our church through experimentation with new forms of church and outreach.

These are our growing edges in a rapidly changing mission field, and what we learn in these ministries can be put to good use in all our congregations as we all learn together the most effective ways to share the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ today.

Gather: Miami Valley is a ministry by and for young adults in the greater Dayton area, currently being "fostered" by Pastor Andrew Thompson (Abiding Christ, Fairborn) and Pastor Benjamin Prill (St. John's, Vandalia) of Lutheran Saints in Ministry.

Starting in November of 2024, young adults from across the greater Dayton-Springfield region began to gather twice a month for fun fellowship, deep conversations, and good food. They join a nationwide network made up of other regional, young adult communities across the broader ELCA, which is now 27 Gather groups strong! Gather communities serve to provide a space, for any and all young adults (age 18 through their 30's) to come together with others in this stage of life, that is full of deep joy, discovery, and transformation. By coming together with others with such deep common ground, all are rejuvenated and as a bonus, can dive back into their respective communities, including church communities, with even greater passion and energy.

They currently meet every second Saturday at 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm for discussions on topics offered up by participants, and every fourth Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 pm for a social event somewhere in the community. For a calendar of upcoming events, go to <https://sites.google.com/abidingchrist.net/gathermiamivalley/home>. This information was extracted from an online article. The entire article can be found on the news bulletin board in the narthex.



Bible & Brew Round 2

The second gathering at Chafee's for Bible & Brew was attended by 13 people. The hour was filled with thoughtful conversations around 5 questions posed to two groups. The discussions were peppered with laughter and fellowship. Join us this month!



Family Abuse Shelter



Family Abuse Shelter
of Miami County

On March 16, Laura Huston from the Family Abuse Shelter in Troy spoke during the 10:00 service about the mission of the Shelter. This is a service that serves homeless and abused men and women in Miami County. If you would like more information about this, their website is www.familyabusesheltermc.org. Their mission is to provide safe shelter to homeless and abused people in times of crisis and to offer life-changing services promoting stability, dignity, and self-reliance. Zion has two ongoing collection bins inside the parking lot door.

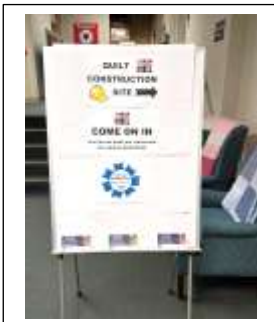
The items needed are:

Pots and pans, cooking utensils, silverware, sippy cups, blankets, new sheets and pillows, towels and washcloths, new small appliances, baby lotion, body wash, shampoo, baby food, diapers sizes 4, 5, and 6, hair brushes, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and tampons. Take home lists are on the "Help" board. Volunteers are also crucial in various capacities.

When you bring in a donation at the first of the month for Needy Baskets, please consider dropping off a couple of items for the Abuse Shelter. If you have more questions, see Linda Holt.

Quilt Display

If you missed it, our quilters had a great display on March 15 & 16th.



m&m
EASTER POEM

These tiny candies tell a big story.
Just look closely and you'll see.
The "M" becomes a "W"
and the "3" becomes an "E."

- m** "E" for Easter Sunday, the celebration that Jesus lives.
- m** "M" stands for miracles and the mercy that he gives.
- 3** "3" reminds us that He rose on the third day.
- W** "W" tells us to worship, and it's in His name we pray.

Worship & Music Committee Report

On Wednesday, March 19, 2025, the Worship and Music Committee met. Attending were: Carla Frame, Susie Gray, Bill Jones, Deb Keppel, Lori Sebastian, and Pastor Summers. Pastor began the meeting in prayer.

Lori thanked the following individuals: Annette for all her work with the bulletins, especially for getting all the music in for the Sunday Lenten services, those who helped with Joyce Zimmann's retirement reception, and Grant Johnson – our new Saturday night musician.

Here are the upcoming dates for our worship services:

- a. Devotional Service – Wednesday, March 26 – 6pm
- b. Palm Sunday – April 12/ April 13
- c. Maundy Thursday – April 16 – 7pm (Choir and communion)
- d. Good Friday – April 17 – 7pm
- e. Easter Vigil – April 19 – 5pm
- f. Easter Sunday – April 20 – 10am
- g. Choir Sunday – May 18 – 10am
- h. Pentecost - June 7 / June 8
- i. Holy Trinity – June 14 / June 15

Bill stated that he and Susie have selected music for the remainder of the year. We are still puzzled by a couple missing anthems. For Easter, 2 pieces are planned. Lori stated the bell choir will ring on Sunday April 27 and will ring again sometime in June.

Carla stated that the Altar Committee is running smoothly. Communion – at the rail – was done Ash Wednesday and will be done Maundy Thursday, and traffic flow went more smoothly. The palms are ordered for Palm Sunday. We will order 6 dozen carnations from Always Blooming for Mothers' Day. Pastor will be starting Confirmation in the fall, so we will not have a Spring Confirmation service.

For Lent, we returned to Setting 3 – specifically restoring the Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy) and the chanting. We will add back in *This is the Feast*, *Alleluia Verse*, and *Thankful Hearts* for Easter, and omit the chanting. We discussed the summer liturgy, and the consensus was to do something simple. Then, we could move back into a liturgical setting in the fall. Lastly, Saturday night service started using All Creation Sings.

For the video team, the camera has some connectivity issues (faulty plug/cable). According to Pastor Summers, once the property committee and A/V team install additional wiring, we can add microphones and speakers for use in the congregation and taking video can be done upstairs.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **May 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**



Council Meeting Report

March 11, 2025

March 11th
Council Meeting
Highlights

1. February 11th Council Meeting minutes were approved.
2. Approved Treasurer's reports for the month of January 2025.
3. A musician, Grant Johnson, has agreed to provide musical accompaniment for the Saturday night worship service. Grant is 16 years old and a homeschool student. We are excited to welcome this young man as he serves our Church Community.
4. The council approved proposed Holiday Hours for the Church office.
5. The Ohio Synod Assembly is being convened on June 6th and 7th. Zion Lutheran will be sending 2 representatives from the church to attend this Synod function.
6. Noted upcoming dates for the Calendar:
 - Bunco Night – March 15th @ 6:00 PM
 - VBS will take place at St. Johns in Vandalia on 6/10-12 & Zion 6/17-19

Next Meeting: Tuesday, **April 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**

Property Committee Report

March 3, 2025



- The committee approved the contract for Hieatt Lawn and Landscape to mow the cemetery lawn.
- The mowers have been serviced and are ready for the mowing season at church.
- The sign-up chart is up for those who can volunteer to mow.
- Estimates for painting the Fellowship Hall, offices and Sunday School rooms will be obtained.
- The timer for the parking lot lights has been reset for Daylight Savings Time.
- The monthly work list was completed.

Next meeting is Monday, **April 7 at 6:00 p.m.**

Thank You

Women of Zion Lutheran Church,

Your 6 years of consecutive support and faithful compassion saves and empowers lives. No matter the distance, YOUR LOVE surrounds our neighbors most in need. Thank you for walking in faith and being a steward of Christ's Love.

Rev. Lisa Kipp

Thank You for such incredible and consistent giving over the years.

You all matter and are making a difference.

Grace & Peace, Tim Kirk



To my dear friends at Zion,

Thank you so very much for your caring ways & support for me as I recover from another fall! The cards and calls & soup are very much appreciated! I will try to not fall again unless I am covered in bubble wrap. Again, your kindness is appreciated so much!

God Bless, Ginger Schaefer



By the Numbers

Instead of printing attendance and giving weekly in the bulletins, we will be putting offerings and average monthly attendance for the previous month in Tidings. Because this Tidings needed to be out by the last weekend, March only includes 4 weekends:

Average Attendance – Saturday: 43 Sunday: 65

Ash Wednesday Service – 56

Lenten Service - 29

Average Sunday School Attendance – Adult: 15 Youth: 3 Kids: 3

Total Giving: \$27,875

Prayer Requests

Prayers for those who are grieving: Long time Zion member Dave Cook passed away. Funeral will be Tuesday April 1 at 10:30 at Zion with a luncheon following. Please pray for Dave's family. Pray for Judy and Rick Bailey on the loss of Randy Claar, their nephew.

More prayer requests: Garry Yunker is now in Hospice care at home. Pray for Ruth White and Garry as they go through this journey. Ginger Schaefer broke her wrist. Greg Watkins may be able to reduce dialysis treatments. Fourteen-year-old Luke Dunmire (nephew of Pam Sauls) has made amazing progress recovering from a stroke. He is eating, walking with assistance, and beginning to speak. Pray for Peggy McCoy at Randall Residence in West Milton. Pray for Christine Copeland who has congestive heart failure. Pray for Amy Byrd and her parents Jack and Sharon. Amy is doing well physically at Troy Rehab and will hopefully return home in April. Prayers are needed for Gwen Miller (grandmother of Susie Gray) and Colonel Troy Cramer.





Continue to pray for: James Oaks, Brian Watkins, Chalmer Mader, Fred Staie, the Weprin family, Cindy Moore, Carol Phillips, Lilo Myers and Shirley Rawlins.

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. You can also access this through Zion's website www.ziontippcity.org or call the church office at (937) 667-3110. Thank you.



April 2025

Calendar of Events at Zion

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		Mens Bkfst 9:30 Quilts 10 Website Mtg. 7:00 AA 8-9 pm	Choir Rehearse 7			Communion Saturday
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Property Mg. 6 Scouts 6:30	Quilts 10 Bell Rehearsal 1:00 Comm Mtg 5p Council 7p AA Dinner 6-9	Choir Rehearse 7			Dos Lunas
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
 Pancake Bkfst & Egg Hunt after service WoZ 5:00	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Scouts 6:30	Mens Bkfst 9:30 Quilts 10 Bible & Brew 5:30 - Chafee's AA 8-9 pm	Choir Rehearse 7	 Maundy Thursday Svc. 7:00	 Good Friday Service 7:00	Communion Saturday
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Scouts 6:30	Mens Bkfst 9:30 Quilts 10 Bell Rehearsal 1:00 AA 8-9 pm	NO Choir Rehearsal	Compassionate Friends 7:00		
27	28	29	30			
Randall Residence Outreach	Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Scouts 6:30	Men's Bkfst Bob Evans 9:30 Quilts 10 AA 8-9 pm	Choir Rehearse 7			