

# ZION TIDINGS

May 2025



*"Serving Christ through Serving Others"*

## There Is Life

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! This Easter, I want to focus on the life we see around us. The resurrection of Christ tells us that God is a life-giving God. When God is present, there is life. Easter affirms that our God is a Living God. A God who is active in our world, in our community, in our lives. When I look around at our family here at Zion, I see God on the move. I see God at work. My friends, there is life! There is life all around us! This congregation has life. Let us affirm it. Let us celebrate it. Let us find joy and peace in the life God has given us.

Now, I can hear you asking, "Pastor, where is this life?" I get it. Sometimes it's hard to see. Allow me to point out only a few of the many experiences of life I see here at Zion. I see life in the way our community cares for one another. For the prayers we share, for the cards we write, for the calls we make. I see life in the way we support our children and youth. We celebrate the fact that they are with us— in worship, in our community, in our activities. They are an incredible part of our community. There is life in our worship, in the ministries we offer to our community. From the occasional Bunco night to a Brat Dinner and beyond, there is life everywhere I look.

I see life in the way we welcome guests and visitors. In the ways we approach them before or after service, welcoming them into our community. This is so important. Life is never meant to be confined to the four walls of a building but is meant to be shared with the world around us, particularly the people we encounter. We have had over 15 people join our congregation since September and when I speak with them, they tell me how they value the authenticity they find in this place. Authenticity that allows them to form relationships with God and with others. I mean, we literally ran out of seats on Christmas Eve as the sanctuary was filled up with 221 people. Let us celebrate this and then let's forget the numbers, because numbers are not ultimately important. Seeing God at work is where our attention should be focused. Numbers are simply one tool among many we use to see where God is at work in the world around us.

The Living God is here and at work. I see this as we plan for our 200th anniversary next year, as we work with other churches in the area, especially St. John's and St. Paul Lutheran churches in Vandalia. There is life as we sit in Chaffee's drinking coffee, tea, and beer, talking about how our faith impacts the way we live in the world. And don't let me forget Gather: Miami Valley, our young adult ministry in partnership with Lutheran churches throughout Dayton.

From quilting on a Tuesday morning to council meetings in the evening. Everywhere I look I see life. I hope that you can see it too. We are not "just a small church" as I have heard some parishioners sigh in conversation. (side note: 80% of churches in the United States have less than 100 people. Small churches aren't small, they're normal.) We are Christ's church. God has called for Zion to be here for a reason. We have a mission to follow and Good News to share throughout Tipp City and beyond. And that mission is to share life. To affirm life. To celebrate life. Let us reflect on this God-life as we remember the Risen Lord this Easter season.



Pastor Jaren Summers



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

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR THE MAY "TIDINGS" is Friday, May 23, 2025**

## May Birthdays

2	Dale Schaefer	11	Ray Phillips Aaliyan Ferryman	23	Matt Sauls Donna Mertz
4	Laurie Helke	17	Michael Hannah (son) Kristen Witwer	26	Nathan Schall
5	Jill Patzek			28	Zachery Johnson
7	Dianne LeGros	15	Carly Breen Mike Patzek	30	Ruth Stollmer Brittany Fouts
8	Ruth White Elijah Johnson	22	Carly Schlater Rowan Masin		



## Upcoming Events



**Women of Zion  
Ladies Night Out  
May 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm**



The Women of Zion will meet at *Dos Lunas Mexican Bar and Grill* on **Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00**. All women of Zion are invited to an evening of good food and fellowship. You are welcome to invite female family and friends. Please bring money for your meal. A very short meeting will take place during the evening.



**Bible and Brew  
May 20<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 – 6:30  
Chaffee's Brewhouse  
15 E. Second Street, Tipp**



The first three gatherings have been great. The next meeting is May 20<sup>th</sup>. Join us 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, and a variety of other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. They do not serve dinner but you can BYO with you.

**May 31st**  
**6:00 pm**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**Pizza will be provided**

A freewill offering will be taken to cover the cost

**Please BYO Beverages and  
a Snack to Share**



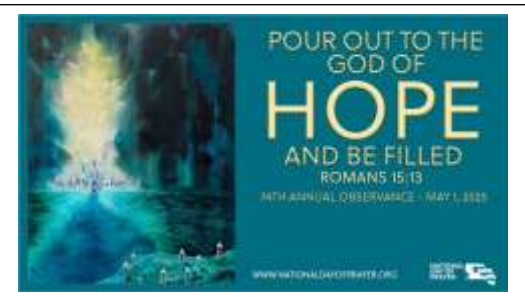
If you don't know how to  
play – no worries – we will  
teach you. It's easy & fun!



**May 1<sup>st</sup>**

There will be a gathering for the  
National Day of Prayer at the  
Roller Mill in Tipp City. The  
event begins at 12:00 pm.

Everyone is invited to attend.



**4th annual St Paul Lutheran Church bike rodeo**  
**FREE BICYCLES, FREE HELMETS,**  
**AND FREE BICYCLE TUNE UPS**  
**St Paul Lutheran Church**  
**7700 Dog Leg Road Dayton**  
**Sat May 24, 2025 12-2pm**



**Get your summer off to a great start by picking up a free bike and free bike helmet.**

Over 50 gently used adult and kid bikes were generously donated by local community members. Helmets were provided by Dayton Children's Hospital and the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. (Note: limit of one bike and one helmet per person.)



Do you already have a bike and just need it tuned up?  
Then bring it with you. Representatives from Mike's Bike  
Park in Dayton will be available to give free tune ups.

For more information, call Pastor Kurt at 937-890-1791



## Zion Night at the Dayton Dragons



Come enjoy an evening at the ballpark, **July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:05 p.m.** The cost is \$15. A sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hallway. We need to have our planned attendance to the Dragons early so **please sign up before JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>**

If we get 50 people, everyone will receive a \$5 voucher to use at the ballpark. We have 80 tickets available.

An envelope for payment is on the table in the workroom. Please indicate if you paid with cash or check, the check number and amount. Make checks payable to *Zion Lutheran Church*.

Carpooling will be available.

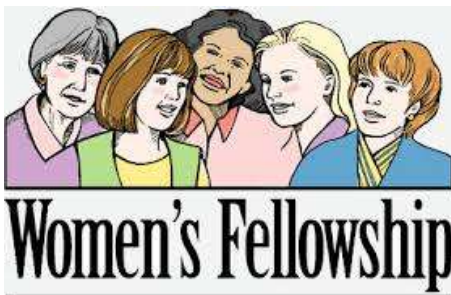
## Helping Kids See

Zion members have donated another 31 pairs of glasses for the Lions Club program that “recycles” glasses for kids in need. Thanks to all who have contributed.



## Women's Daytime Fellowship

Do you want to get to know other women better? Do you have questions about religion or concerns about social issues? Any Zion woman is invited to join an informal fellowship on Wednesday **May 7 at 10:30 a.m.** We will meet in the Fellowship Hall and there will be light snacks available. We'll discuss upcoming plans about topics of discussion and places to meet. If you have any questions, please contact Ginger Schaefer at 419-250-0236.



Beautiful Easter Sanctuary

## Pancake Breakfast & Egg Hunt

The Palm Sunday Breakfast and egg hunt on April 13<sup>th</sup> was a big success. About 80 people were in attendance and \$200 will go to the Youth Gathering Fund, which will be used to take our youth to various events including the ELCA Youth Gathering. Fifteen children participated in the egg hunt, games, craft, and story time while 6 youth and 11 adults served to make this event a success! A big thank you to Ruth White for applying for Thrivent Funds and to all the volunteers!





## Christian Education - Youth

### Children and Youth Sunday School: Sundays 9am

Two classes are available: Children aged K-4<sup>th</sup> and Youth 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Last day of Sunday School will be on **May 18<sup>th</sup>**.

Sunday School will resume September 7.



### 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

**This year's theme is *Magnified – Discovering the bigness of God in the smallest of things***

**Registration deadline is June 1st**

The link to the website is:

[www.stpauldogleg.org/vbs](http://www.stpauldogleg.org/vbs)



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](mailto:chirstianed@ziontippcity.org). This information will be put into a future newsletter so that we can celebrate them.



## Adult Sunday School



**Sunday Morning  
Adult Study**

The adults will finish the year with lessons from The Forgiveness of Jesus. Topics will be: Two Aspects of Healing, Spiritual Sight, A Second Chance, and Released to Forgive.

If you haven't joined us yet, please check us out! We meet every Sunday morning at 9:00 in the Adult Sunday School Room. Stay tuned for exciting plans for fall 2025!

## Women of Zion

April 13, 2025

- April mission of the month is donating to Little Kindness.
- The May event will be Women's Night Out at Dos Lunas at 6:00 pm on May 18. A sign-up sheet is posted.
- The missions/events for the remainder of the year were discussed:

June – volunteer for Lunch on Us

July – donate to Partners in Hope or  
The Abuse Shelter

August – LWR School Kits

September – social event to be name later

October - help at Kennedy Hall/St Pat Soup  
Kitchen/Operation Christmas Child

November – Adopt a family

December – Women's Christmas Gathering  
& ELCA Good Gifts

There will be more discussion on these at future meetings.

- Prayer Shawl Update: 5 men's, 4 women's, 3 baby blankets

Next Meeting: Sunday, **May 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**  
at Dos Lunas

## Property Committee Report

April 7, 2025

- A leak in the radiator in the sacristy storage room was repaired by Butler HVAC.
- The parking lot needs some repair and sealing completed.
- A Zion landscape clean-up day will be scheduled in May.
- The monthly work list was completed.

Next meeting is Monday, **May 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**



## Council Meeting Report

**April 8, 2025**

1. March 11th Council Meeting minutes approved.
2. Approved Treasurer's reports for the month of February 2025. Also, Sue is in the process of obtaining quotes for Church Insurance for the Council to review to see if we have adequate coverage at a competitive price.
3. The Ohio Synod Assembly will be convened on June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The council will be confirming with the 2 representatives identified from the church their ability to attend this Synod function.
4. The Choir Sunday Festival has been scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> and is our time to celebrate the joy and unity found in choral music. On this day, the choir's voices will be intertwined in harmony to uplift the spirit of our community, transforming the sanctuary into glorious harmonies. Our choir members come from all walks of life and come together, blending diverse styles and traditions into powerful performances that resonate with the soul. Choir Sunday reminds everyone of the powers of collective voices to inspire and connect us all.
5. Noted and discussed the upcoming events for the Zion Calendar:
  - Palm Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup> – (Saturday Service April 12<sup>th</sup>)
  - Easter Egg -April 13<sup>th</sup> After Service
  - Maundy Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM
  - Good Friday Service April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM
  - Easter Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup> – (Saturday Service April 19<sup>th</sup>)
  - Bunco Night – May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 PM
  - Women's Night Out – May 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Vacation Bible School June 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>
  - Zion's Dayton Dragon's Game July 19<sup>th</sup>
  - How Can We Pray for You? – Week of September 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Blessing of the Pets – Date TBD



Next Meeting: Tuesday, **May 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**

## Thank You

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$828.00 to ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCS) through ELCA Good Gifts.



As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God's full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone, grace upon grace.

Your Good Gift is a very good gift indeed! Through resources such as seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you equip God's people – around the world and around the corner – with what they need to live abundant lives.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. You make God's love real.

With gratitude, Rachel Wind, Executive for Development





## By the Numbers

Instead of printing attendance and giving weekly in the bulletins, we are putting offerings and average monthly attendance for the previous month in Tidings. This is April through 4/20.

Average Attendance— Saturday: 37 Sunday: 100

Maundy Thursday Service – 41

Good Friday Service - 48

Average Sunday School Attendance – Adult: 10 Youth: 5 Kids: 0

*There was no youth SS on Palm Sunday and no Sunday School on Easter*

Total Giving: \$15,970

## Prayer Requests

**Prayers of Thanksgiving:** HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

**Prayers for those grieving:** The family of friends of Lisa Parker, friends of Pam Sauls.

**More prayer requests:** Julia Paizshal (sister of Jeff Johnson) is in ICU after a motorcycle accident in Washington state. Keep in prayer Debbie Turner, Garry Yunker and Ruth White, Ginger Schaefer, and Greg Watkins. Fourteen-year-old Luke Dunmire (nephew of Pam Sauls) has made amazing progress recovering from a stroke. Pray for Peggy McCoy at Randall Residence in West Milton. Pray for Christine Copeland who has congestive heart failure. Pray for Sharon, Jack, and Amy Byrd. 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](mailto:prayers@ziontippcity.org). You can also access this through Zion's website [www.ziontippcity.org](http://www.ziontippcity.org) or call the church office at (937) 667-3110. Thank you.



## Choir Notes

As the church choir season draws to a close, our hearts are filled with gratitude and joy for the beautiful moments we've shared. This season has been a wonderful journey of harmony, where voices have united in powerful anthems and gentle hymns, bringing our community closer together. From practice sessions filled with laughter to the uplifting performances that resonated with the congregation, each note sang has been a testament to our collective faith and spirit. As we look forward to the next season, we cherish the friendships and memories made along the way, knowing that the music will continue to inspire us all.

Mark your calendars for Choir Sunday on May 18th! We'll be belting out two anthems from the past season.

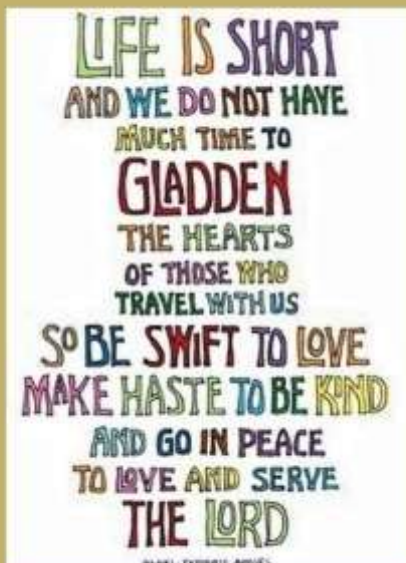
Choir members,

Susie and I are incredibly grateful for your dedication and hard work throughout the season. Your passion and commitment have truly brought joy to our community. We hope you enjoyed the experience as much as we did. We would love to have you back next year in September for another fun-filled season of singing and camaraderie. Thank you once again for your outstanding contribution!

*Hey there choir hopefuls for this coming fall season,*

*Just a heads up that we do skip a few rehearsals and Sunday performances each year. But don't worry, you can always check the bulletin for the latest rehearsal schedules.*

Bill Jones



### Judas ate too

Hours before the death of Jesus, **Judas ate too.**

Jesus fed Judas too.

Jesus washed Judas' feet too.

I struggle to fathom what kind of love this is.

A love that would feed the mouth that deceived you.

A love that would wash the feet of a traitor.

A love that could forgive even the vilest of betrayals.

Honestly, I struggle to comprehend it.

And then, suddenly, **I realize that I'm Judas too!**

And in that moment, I'm so thankful and altogether overwhelmed that Judas ate too.



The true test of Christianity is not about loving Jesus, **but loving Judas!**

Showing love to someone like Jesus is so easy, but loving someone hard to love, a sinner like Judas, is difficult.

**That's what following Jesus is all about.**

# May 2025

## Calendar of Events at Zion

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 National Day of Prayer	2 Communion Saturday	3
4	5 Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Property Mg. 6 Scouts 6:30	6 Mens Bkfst 9:30 Quilts 10 Pastor Relat. 7 AA 8-9 pm	7 Music & Worship 6:00 Choir Rehearse 7	8	9	10 Dos Lunas
11 	12 Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Scouts 6:30	13 Mens Bkfst 9:30 Quilts 10 Comm Mtg 5p Council 7p AA 8-9 pm	14 Choir Rehearse 7	15 Blood Drive	16	17 Communion Saturday
18 Last Sunday School Choir Sunday WoZ 6:00 Dos Lunas	19 Quilts 10:30 TOPS 3:30 - 5 Scouts 6:30	20 Mens Bkfst 9:30 Quilts 10 Bible & Brew 5:30 - Chafee's AA 8-9 pm	21	22 Compassionate Friends 7:00	23	24
25 Randall Residence Outreach	26 Office Closed 	27 Men's Bkfst Bob Evans 9:30 Quilts 10 AA 8-9 pm	28	29	30	31 Bunco 6:00