

**Christ's Center  
for Excellence**



**In Discipleship  
and Outreach**

## **March 14-16, 2020**

Zion Lutheran Church, 510 W. Ivy, Bay City, Michigan 48706; 989-894-2611

**Worship: Saturday 5:00pm; Sunday 9:30am; Monday 7:00pm**

Steve Schilke, Intentional Interim Pastor (pastorsteve@zionbaycity.org)

Julie Glumm, Principal (principal@zionbaycity.org)

Website: [www.zionbaycity.org](http://www.zionbaycity.org) (Church and School)

Church Office: [secretary@zionbaycity.org](mailto:secretary@zionbaycity.org) (Church)

School Office: [schoolsecretary@zionbaycity.org](mailto:schoolsecretary@zionbaycity.org) (School)

**LENT MID-WEEK** service continues Wednesday, March 18 at 7 p.m. This week, Pastor Steve will share the message "Who Will Raise You Up" as part of the theme "Return to the Lord!"

Our Lent suppers continue next Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Ministry Room A with the PTL as our hosts. PTL's menu will include a baked potato bar. Following the supper, please join Bobbie Jo in the Sanctuary for a 15-minute pre-service hymn sing. These are wonderful opportunities for all to come together to enjoy the blessings of faith, fellowship, and food.

### **Holy Week and Easter Services**



*Come Worship With Us!*

#### **Palm Sunday Worship:**

**Saturday, April 4, 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.**

**Monday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.**

**Maundy Thursday, April 9, 7:00 p.m. – Communion**

**Good Friday, April 10, 7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 11, 5:00 p.m. – Celebration Communion**

#### **Easter Sunday, April 12:**

7:00 a.m. – Sunrise Festival Communion (Traditional)

9:00 a.m. – Festival Communion (Traditional)

11:00 a.m. – Festival Communion (Blended)

**Monday, April 13 – NO Monday evening service**

## **WEEKLY UPDATE FROM YOUR CALL COMMITTEE CHAIR:**

Hi Everyone! First, to let you know, we conducted our final two interviews this week...one on Sunday, one on Thursday evening. These Skype interviews have been very helpful to get a feel for personalities and philosophies of the candidates. The call process does not require interviews, but we all feel like these interviews were very helpful to better understand the information that we simply read in the binder. The Call Committee will be meeting again to discuss our thoughts and prayers, and we plan to be able to convey to the congregation what we feel is the Holy Spirit's direction in calling a pastor. A town hall meeting is being planned for Sunday, April 19 (the week after Easter) to share our thoughts and discuss inquiries with all members. That, we feel, will give members a chance to digest what they heard and be ready to gather for a special voter's meeting the following week, April 26, to vote on the pastor to whom we'll extend a call. Again, please pray for the committee and all pastors on this list to feel the Holy Spirit's presence and direction in this process.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER...**

**BOE** will meet **Tuesday, March 24**, at 6 p.m. in Pastor's office.

**EASTER FLOWERS** order with payment deadline is Tuesday, March 24.

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB for Friday, March 20, is canceled.** If you have any questions, call Ilene Dietlein (684.4095).

**LWML QUILTING** will meet **Monday, March 16, at 2 p.m.** in Ministry Room A. Everyone is welcome! Come check us out!

LWML quilters are in need of gently used sheets or blankets. No comforters or thick blankets please. You can leave them in or near the LWML container in the hallway across from the church office.

**YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS** will be held **Tuesday, March 17**, in Ministry Room A at 6:30 p.m. Questions, contact Pastor John at 239-6818.

**CHAIR YOGA** will be held on **Tuesday, March 17, at 1:15 p.m.** in Ministry Room A. Please contact Amanda Behrens at 989.714.4429 or [abehrens@msn.com](mailto:abehrens@msn.com) before attending or for more information.



As spring fever sets in and you begin your annual spring cleaning, please think of our upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Trash to Treasure" sale. Consider donating what you no longer need (non-clothing items) to this fundraiser to help eliminate our General Fund deficit. There will be more

information to come about where these items will be stored at Zion. For more information, please contact Kathy Pisarski at 989.327.4744.

### **SCRIP NEWS...**

We have a new restaurant Scrip card available in the Scrip store. Golden Corral cards are available for \$25 and give a rebate of 9%! As always your Scrip orders and money need to be in the church office by 3 p.m. on Mondays.

### **FOR SALE...**

Zion's 1700 Raymond St. property is now listed for sale. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact George Walker at 686.1799.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY...**

Just like the marines, Zion is looking for a few good folks (guys or gals) to join our mowing crew. Volunteers work one day a month from mid-April through October. Anyone interested in joining the crew, please contact Carl Krueger at 684.2990 or 326.0366. It's rewarding seeing Zion's property looking good!

### **LOCAL HAPPENINGS...**

**Fish Fry** – Trinity-St. James (Munger) – Friday, March 27, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Adults \$12 / Children \$6 (6-12) / take-outs available.

**Ladies of Zion** Save the Date for a Women's Event called Aspire.

Its 1 night, 3 hours full of laughter, learning, stories and music on April 24, at St Martin Lutheran Church in Birch Run!!

Watch for more information to come and look for flyers at the Welcome Center, any questions contact Kay Arnold, 751-0855.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, GIFTS, AND MEMORIALS...**

In honor of their 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (March 13), from Leslie & Loretta Kohn...\$67 to the General Fund.

Goodwill offering received from the soup/supper on February 26...\$105.26 to the General Fund.

Goodwill offering received from the soup/supper on March 4...\$108 to the School Special Fund.

Goodwill offering received from the soup/supper on March 11...\$40 to the LWML and \$40 to the General Fund.

### **UPDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

	<b>January 2020</b>	<b>2020 YTD</b>
Income	\$ 64,478.74	\$ 64,478.74
Expenses	\$ 86,384.85	\$ 86,384.85
District Missions	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Local Missions	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Net	\$ (21,906.11)	\$ (21,906.11)

### **DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®...**

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars® have until **March 31, 2020**, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Zion Lutheran Church. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Last Weekend: Saturday (75), Sunday (52), Monday (23)  
 March 11th Lent Service (34)

**This Sunday's hymns:** 918, 809, 744, Blessed Assurance, 729

**This Weekend – March 14-16**

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Setting 3  
 Readings: Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-8; John 4:5-42

**Next Weekend – March 21-23:**

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Setting 1  
 Readings: Isaiah 42:14-21; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

**AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER:**

March calendar of events  
 "Our Daily Bread" devotionals for March-May  
 Portals of Prayer devotionals for January-March  
 2020 LHM Lenten devotional, "Deliver Us: Jesus Sets Us Free"  
 2019 Year End Giving Statements

**SCHOOL NEWS...**

Zion School is offering 2 new music programs: The first is for students, ages 3-6, called "Music for Little Mozarts". The cost is \$75 per student for a 10 week session including materials.

The second is for group piano lessons, ages 7-12. The cost is \$10 per student, per 45 min. lesson. Private lessons are also available for people of all ages at \$15 per 1/2 hr. lesson.

If you are interested in enrolling a student, including home-schooled students, (they do not have to be enrolled at Zion), or if you would be willing to sponsor a student, please contact Zion's Music Administrator Bobbie Jo Upton at [bupton@zionbaycity.org](mailto:bupton@zionbaycity.org) or contact the church or school office. Thank you in advance for making a difference in a child's life that keeps on giving & supporting our future musicians, worship leaders, & pastors.

Please see the Cougar Newsletter, available at the Welcome Center on the slat wall, for school news.

**A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT...**

Our Christian life is one of being a steward of all of God's Gifts.

"So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, 'Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?' " (John 4:28-29)



Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, 12 p.m. (written, faxed or e-mailed)  
 The office reserves the right to edit submitted announcements.



**Zion's Weekly  
Prayer Concerns  
March 14-20, 2020**

**Those ill, hospitalized (or recently hospitalized), seeking medical treatment or with long term needs...**

Elaine Irmen

Gary Jankens

Leslie Kohn

Beth Todd

Gabe VanOchten

Those with struggles who suffer silently

**For those celebrating Anniversaries...**

**For those celebrating Birthdays...**

Wilma Essex-3/14

Renee Gradowski-3/14

Richard Nagel-3/14

Doug Nuffer-3/14

Ken Corrion-3/15

David Staudacher-3/15

Julie Glumm-3/16

Arlen Ruthruff-3/16

Katie Johnson-3/17

David Powers-3/18

Rochelle Monville-3/19

Nicholas Morse-3/19

Joel Pommerenke Jr.-3/19

Donna Scheurs-3/20

Use this list as a daily reminder for your personal prayer time.

If you would like a prayer noted in upcoming weeks, please call the church office at 989.894.2611 or you may email the church secretary at [secretary@zionbaycity.org](mailto:secretary@zionbaycity.org). Requests may be made for you, a family member, or a friend.

Those noted on the ill, hospitalized, seeking medical treatment or long-term list will remain on the insert for three weekends; after that, they or a family member may call to have them remain listed for an additional period of time.

## Passionate People of Zion!

I am sure that you have just like I have been inundated with news, Facebook posts and a lot of conflicting information on the coronavirus. I am always reluctant to jump on any news that seems to be sensationalized, which honestly is almost all the news we get. Whether it's the virus itself or the responses to it we are beginning to see the effects across our communities. So regardless if what we are seeing is a panicked overreaction or whether all this concern is warranted, we as Christians should and need to react the same way that we always do in times of crisis, as a people not given to worry but strengthened by God's grace.

Worry accomplishes nothing except weakness of hearts and heads. Worrying about this virus or anything else will only increase trouble. Rather than worrying about the coronavirus Jesus calls on us to respond with prayer and faith in Him. We really do not need to worry at all because ultimately, we are in the hands and in the care of the One who has defeated sin and death.

SO PRAY! Prayer leads to peace, where worry only leads to unease and panic. Let us be strengthened, encouraged and comforted as we pray, hear God's Holy Word and receive His Blessed Sacrament. If we are thus equipped, we can in confidence continue to live out our lives in compassionate care and selflessness.

While we ultimately trust in our Lord and His plan for us that does not mean we don't take common-sense precautions to help prevent the spread of this or any

disease. So, we will be implementing the following at Zion in light of the CDC's recommendations:

- We will suspend the "Greeting of Peace" from the service. However, if you need to make peace with a brother or sister this does not mean that you can neglect to do so until it becomes a part of the service again. It is very important that you make peace before coming to the Lord's Table.
- Greeters, still greet one another in love but do so without personal contact.
- Hand Sanitizer is located in the Narthex use it liberally we will buy more as needed.
- Increased sanitation. We are and will continue to wipe down and disinfect common surfaces each and every day that our custodian is here.

We all will face death eventually, but thanks be to God that in Christ Jesus no matter when that day will come, we can face it with confidence and peace. St. Paul reminds us "that to live is Christ, but to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21). We truly have nothing to fear in this life not from the coronavirus or anything else. We will stay the course that our Lord has given to us as people of Hope, praying for the sick, loving and caring for one another, being strengthened through Word and Sacrament to serve in confidence not hiding in fear.

Yours In Christ,  
Pastor Steve