



# Zion Lutheran Monthly



APRIL 2013 

## TOO MANY QUESTIONS

Is there an answer for everything? Is there one response sufficient for the questions we have, the problems we face, and even the good things we have been given (or worked hard to get)? I'm not talking about questions like the firing order on the LT1 engine of the new Corvette Stingray, or why the weather has yet to do a convincing imitation of anything close to resembling spring; I'm talking about questions of importance. May I suggest that there is one answer to questions of ontological and eschatological importance, theodicy, personal struggles, temptations and sin, how we should live our lives, and what there is to life after death: the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The resurrection of Jesus shows us what we have to look forward to when he returns; we will be raised like he was raised. He was not raised like Lazarus, the widow from Nain's son, or the many other people who were brought back to life (resuscitated) in the Bible; he was raised to a life that cannot experience death again, and that is free from the effects of the fallen, sinful world. This is what will happen to us at the day and time known only by the Father, the day our Lord Jesus returns in glory.

The resurrection of Jesus teaches us that bad things happen to good people. Jesus did no wrong, yet he suffered immeasurable pain and torment when he was mocked and flogged, beaten and hung on a cross. When we suffer unjustly, we are imperfectly following in the footsteps of our perfect Savior. He knows what we go through; his resurrection means it will not last forever and that better things are in store for us.

The resurrection of Jesus is God's answer to sin and temptation. Nailed to the cross with Jesus, our sins have been put to death and, just as death no longer has mastery over Jesus, our sins no longer control or have mastery over us. We have been set free from sins and have been made the property of righteousness through Jesus Christ. As long as we are in the flesh we will be tempted to sin, but the one who conquered sin (and death) has provided a way out for us, the Holy Spirit who teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly desires, as we wait for his coming and our resurrection to eternal life.

The resurrection of Jesus teaches us how to live. It teaches us the power of God over sin and death, allowing us to live a life where anxiety and fear take a back seat to joy and hope.

God bless you all as you prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Him,  
Pastor Duncan McLellan



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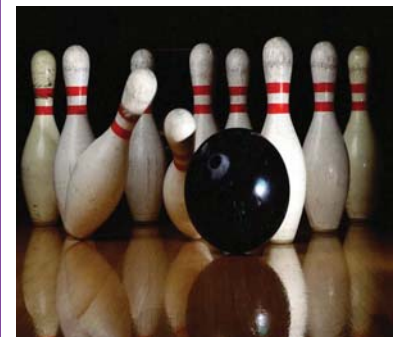
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## Bowling Schedule

Week 16: Friday, April 4

Week 17: We will not bowl on Friday, April 18 (Good Friday) please roll off prior to this date

All games are played at 6:30pm at  
AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes



## Music Ministry @ Zion

We ask for your prayers as we seek the Lord's will as to how to grow, expand and improve our music ministry here at Zion. The Lord has blessed us with a love for worship and appreciation for music. If you have suggestions for how we can improve the overall music ministry at Zion (or if you have a musical gift that you would like to use at church), please contact Pastor Duncan.



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## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS!

April Unit: EASTER: PEOPLE

In the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book of John, the story of Jesus' Resurrection is told. Mary Magdalene first discovers the empty tomb and tells Peter and another disciple. Mary then sees the risen Christ and speaks with him. Later that day Christ appears to the other disciples. Thomas, however, is not there and does not believe his friends when they tell him Christ is risen. A week later Jesus appears to Thomas and gives him physical proof of his death and Resurrection. John ends the chapter by stating his purpose in writing his Gospel: to tell all people that Jesus is the Son of God so they too can believe.

*Consider leading a Sunday school station in May and/or June!! Contact Katie Gielarowski for more information or to volunteer.*

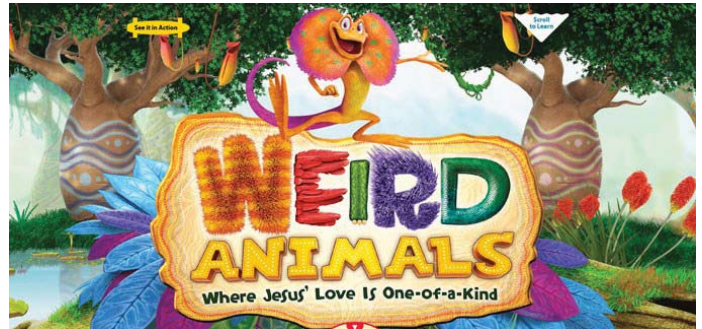


# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS!

Watch out! Weird Animals are coming our way!

June 23 – 27, 2014

Our first VBS Leaders meeting is April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm.



2. Tom Richards
3. Bella Bechtold
4. David Hutula
5. Samantha Walsh
6. Barbara Fisher
6. Michelle Hunsberger
6. Alyssa Mance
6. Millie Thielet - Happy 90th!!!
7. John Endler
7. Sandra Quinlan
8. Rae Murphy
8. Richard Quinlan
11. Eric Geary

11. Rachel Klemash
13. Simon Kern
13. Jeffrey Larson
13. Joshua Walleck
14. Ryan Albert
15. Josiah Ackerman
16. Jay Anderson
16. Sara Vallelunga
18. Joseph DePalma
18. Lauren Liberatore
18. Ava Pasquini
18. Louis Schrecker
21. Harry Jones
22. Joan Cisco
23. Kim Anderson
24. Pamela Larson
24. Robert Morgan
26. Felicity Neill

27. Norman Erbecht Sr.
27. Heidi Holler
27. Andrew Weldon
28. Bob Schmidt
28. Bethany Schrag
29. Ryan Harris



7. Timothy & Carrie Albert
8. Jeffrey & Pamela Larson
12. Frank & Elaine Ivanca
13. Charles & Debra LaJeunesse
18. Dale & Alice Miller
21. William & Melanie Becker
24. Jim & Patricia Neill
26. Carl & Karen Bauer
29. Jay & Kim Anderson

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## **Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances**

<i>February</i> Income	\$46,658.00
<i>February</i> Expenses	<u>46,162.00</u>
Favorable to Income	\$ 496.00

As of March 31, 2014, we are estimating \$18,942.00 cash on hand. All bills through March have been paid.

May God continue to guide Zion in using our financial gifts and our talents to spread the Good News!

Bob Schmidt  
Chairman

# SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

## April

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
April 6	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Brent & Marianne Miller, Millie Thielet Rose Steranko	Nathan Morgan Josiah Ackerman
April 13	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bill & Melanie Becker Dick & Carolyn Wible	Chris Yellig Lara Luedeman
April 17 Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM		TBA
April 18 Good Friday	7:00 PM		Joshua Gielarowski
April 20 Easter	8:00 AM  10:30 AM	Peter & Barbara Fisher  Bill & Susie Bishop & family	Josia Ackerman, Chris Yellig  Crucifer: Rob Oelschlager  Sydney Harris, Jennifer Fitzgerald  Crucifer: Joshua Gielarowski
April 27	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	George, Jane & Michael Kozak Janet & Marian Oelschlager	TBA Augie Bishop
May 4	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Shane & Sandy Bryant Vince & Ginny Kimberlnd	Nathan Morgan Lara Luedeman
May 11	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Joyce Wood Elsie DallaPiazza	Augie Bishop Sydney Harris

<b>ELDERS</b>	Rob Oelschlager David Hutula
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Debra LaJeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich, Carolyn Wible
<b>USHERS</b> <b>@ 8:00 am</b>	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag, Janet Zreliaak, Larry Zreliaak
<b>USHERS</b> <b>@ 10:30 am</b>	Sam Dragan, Dan Harris, Simon Martin, Richard Quinlan

## May

<b>ELDERS</b>	Ken Wuerthele Jim Neill
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Barbara Oechslein Megan Pasquini Diane Schmidt
<b>USHERS</b> <b>@ 8:00 am</b>	Bill Becker, Shane Bryant, Barb & Wayne Oechslein
<b>USHERS</b> <b>@ 10:30 am</b>	Steve Gauer, Josh Gielarowski, Dan Harris, Richard Quinlan

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the church office (412) 221-4776 or [secretary@zlc.org](mailto:secretary@zlc.org) of the change.

# Youth Group

This month the youth are going to the movies! Please join us Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> as we go to watch the new hit movie Noah. Noah is one of the most popular Bible stories every told. The youth will watch Hollywood's version of the story and then discuss God's version of the story. Please bring a friend and enjoy fun and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you there! Talk to Vicar at church and find out what time we are meeting to go to the movie.



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## Men's Retreat!

It's coming up fast...

If you haven't heard, the men of the congregation are going to Camp Pioneer from April 10-13 for a weekend of spiritual and physical refreshment and rejuvenation. Focusing on the gospel and our calling as husbands, fathers, workers, students, athletes, leaders, and providers, we will grow in our faith and fellowship.

The cost is \$50 per night or \$120 for all three days.

Contact the church office or Pastor Duncan if you want to go and have not yet signed-up. (We have to give you the what-to-bring list!)

For men 18 and up. If you're under 18 and want to go, have your parents talk to Pastor.

Hope you can make it!



## Organist Resigns

Long-time organist and choir director, Paula Gardner resigned her position at Zion effective March 24<sup>th</sup>. We thank Paula for her years of service and wish her well as she begins a new chapter of her life.

## Air Conditioning!

Now that we have moved back into our nicely improved sanctuary, our attention turns to the Air Conditioning Project. Long story short, it will cost in the neighborhood of \$40,000 to install an air conditioning system that can handle the cooling needs of our sanctuary. The congregation voted to approve an air conditioning project last year. If you would like to contribute to the Air Conditioning Project, please print "Air Conditioning" in the memo line of your check. As you did with the Sanctuary Improvement Project, please keep our Air Conditioning Project in your prayers as we seek to improve the worship experience and environment at Zion!



## Friendship Sunday

On May 11<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day), Zion is going to have a Friendship Sunday. We will have a time of fellowship in between the services, familiar hymns, a worship service that is easy to understand and a back-to-basics sermon. Please pray for the Lord to give you discernment, wisdom and boldness to invite those you know who would benefit from coming with you to church.

Who are you inviting?

# NOTES FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Happy April! I think Spring is finally here... just take a look in our classrooms and you will be convinced too. The children have been very busy learning all about the changes that Spring brings...budding trees, new growth in the ground, how a caterpillar can turn into a butterfly and of course the death and resurrection of Jesus.

April continues to be exciting and busy. On April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be hosting our annual Dads and Donuts breakfast. This is a time when dads can come to school with their child and enjoy donuts, fruit and beverages and lots of fellowship time with the teachers and other dads and children. We decorate with a "Black and Gold" theme and everybody wears their favorite Pittsburgh teams' apparel. Its great fun and such a blessing to see how excited the dads are to participate in their child's school activity, and how they continue to support our school.

We also spent a lot of time learning about the Easter story. I have the pleasure of teaching the chapel lesson this month, and honestly, it is my favorite lesson to teach. I use a set of plastic Easter eggs, each filled with an item that helps tell the story. The children are so excited to see what is in each egg, but will not understand why the last egg is empty, at least, not at first. "Mrs. Tracey....did you forget to put something in the last egg?" This is what I usually hear when I open the last empty egg. I then explain that the last egg represents the empty tomb on Easter morning...Jesus is alive!! Each child will go home with an empty egg including a small piece of paper that says "The empty egg reminds us of the empty tomb. Jesus is Alive!" I encourage the children to show their egg to friends and family, and tell them what they learned.

Registration continues to go very well. We currently have 102 students enrolled for the next school year. We have opened classes in the afternoon to accommodate more children. With the addition of these new classes, we may have the need for additional staff. If this sounds interesting to you, please let me know. I would love to have more members be a part of our wonderful school.

How awesome it is to have the opportunity to teach so many children about the good news of Jesus!

Have a wonderful Easter!

Blessings,  
Tracey Harris





## SANCTUARY UPGRADE UPDATE: PHASE 1 NEARLY COMPLETE

The sanctuary renovations are now nearly completed with only the window tinting left unfinished. Once the spring weather has arrived for good, we will move forward with the tinting of all the windows around the chancel including the lower atrium windows at the front entrance to the sanctuary.

Our fund raising efforts were largely successful; however, we are short of the total budgeted project costs. In addition, we incurred several thousand dollars of unbudgeted expenses including painting registers, fees for dumpsters and additional floor preparation before installation. Zion's Council has approved the rollover of the unfunded costs into the Phase 2 air conditioning installation.

Phase 2 fundraising efforts will commence in early April with estimated installation completed before the summer heat begins. Including the additional Phase 1 costs, we are targeting \$50,000 in total funds in order to initiate the air conditioning installation.

This is a very exciting time for Zion and we look forward to everyone pulling together to make this project a reality. May God bless us in our collective efforts as the Body of Christ at Zion Lutheran Church Bridgeville!

Christ's Blessings to You,

The Sanctuary Upgrade Committee:

Jay & Kim Anderson  
Bill & Susie Bishop  
Gene & Sharon Koop  
Duncan & Alyssa McLellan

Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday, April 13. The "item of the month" is rice, noodles and beans. You are also welcome to help at the food bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 and 12:00 at Bethany Presbyterian Church

FOOD BANK  
FOOD BANK

