



# Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Being the Body of Christ*

April 2018

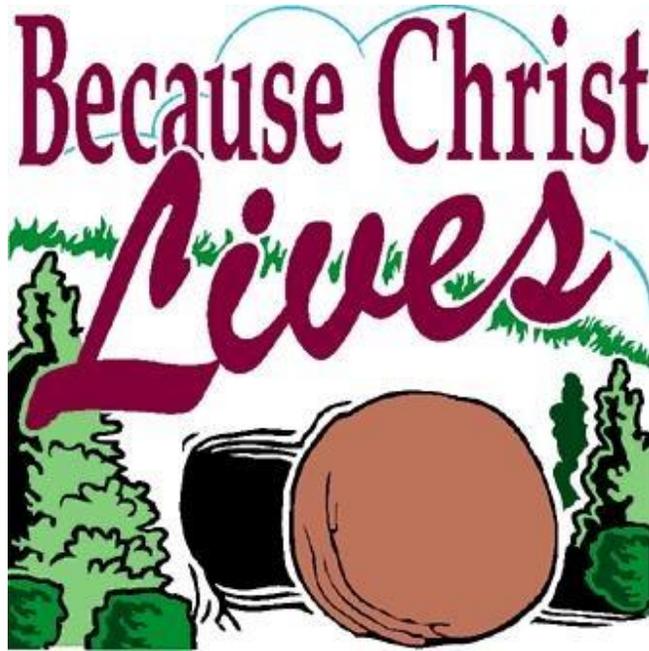
Easter

Vol. 24 No. 4



***“The Lord has given me the tongue of a teacher, so that I might sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.”***

**Isaiah 50:4**



## **OUR VISION STATEMENT**

*At Zion St. John Lutheran Church, we are committed to being the body of Christ until He returns. Led by the Holy Spirit and gathered around God’s Word and Sacraments, we join in worship, fellowship, learning, spiritual nurture, outreach, and service, as we grow in faith and invite others to experience Christ’s presence.*

The truth of this Bible verse was made evident to me this past week. As the Sunday School hour was drawing to a close I needed to speak with Caitlin. She was busy teaching a class in the youth room and so I took the opportunity to walk past all the Sunday School classrooms and see what was going on.

To be honest, I was feeling pretty tired and down. I had a funeral the following day and at that point I didn’t have a clear direction for it. As I gazed into the classrooms, I had to smile: teachers attentive to their students; students who were engaged.

As I made my way back downstairs classes were being dismissed. I spoke to some of the kids as they came out into the hallway. I asked them, “Did you have a good day at Sunday School?” “Oh, yes” or something to that effect was what I heard from everyone I asked. They were genuinely excited about what they had learned. Some showed me what they had been working on.

Their enthusiasm and smiling faces made my day. We are very blessed in this congregation with wonderful, dedicated Sunday School teachers. We are blessed to have so many families who make the effort to bring their children to God’s house on Sunday morning.

I have been pondering and praying a great deal about all the violence in our society, particularly the school shootings. One of the things I have been thinking about is: “Where are kids getting their values today?” The vast majority of parents are doing the best they can with their kids. But the messages they receive by watching media are mixed at best. Most schools are doing their best as well. Some have instituted programs like “Character Counts” or “Dare”. These

programs are needed now even more than when they started.

I am grateful that our Sunday School program is so strong. We are able to positively affect the young lives that pass through these doors with the love of Jesus. Think how many kids in our community could benefit from this ministry. If you know of a child or family in our area that doesn't have a church home, please invite them to come to here or let Caitlin and I know. Share the love of Christ!



Sunday School

God's blessings to you,  
*Pastor Kim*



We are coming up on some very exciting events for the youth of ZSJ! We are in the final weeks of preparation for our trip to Houston for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Our fifth graders and their parents begin preparation for their First Communion. Vacation Bible School plans are started, and we have begun plans for the end of the school year!

Our theme for Vacation Bible School this year is Shipwrecked. This cool curriculum from Group Publishers is centered around our Savior, Jesus. As we know from stories of people who were castaways on islands, a rescuer, a savior, is something that is dreamed of, waited for. In the same way, our students this summer will learn that even when we feel lonely, worried, powerless, have struggles, or do wrong, Jesus is our rescuer.

Our theme for VBS this year comes with great decorations, fun and yummy snacks, songs that can be heard on Christian radio stations, fun animal buddies, and, most importantly, impactful Bible

stories that will shape the way that children understand Jesus as their Savior. Our five Bible stories come from the Gospels. We will learn about Parables of Jesus, Jesus, Mary and Martha, Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, how Jesus washes away our sins, and how Jesus healed.

Registration for VBS begins on May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will again have online registration, and I will release the link on that day. We are hoping to have as large a group of kids as we did last year! Please remember, while VBS is "for the kids," kids of ALL AGES can learn too! That's why we would love to have adult volunteers. If you can come one or two nights, or all five, we can put you to work. Maybe you want to help with the kids directly, or you would rather do something behind the scenes. Whatever you want, we will find a place for you, because Jesus rescued you too.



Grace and Peace,  
*Caitlin*



A lot has happened since my last update that I'm excited to share with you. I've recently passed the halfway point for my year of service and days are going by faster, much to my dismay. YAGM volunteers around the world have begun their plans for returning home and their lives post-YAGM. It's a period of mixed emotions. I'm feeling joy for the remaining time in my country placement, but

sadness because the end of my time here is growing closer.

As I've mentioned before, I'm volunteering with secondary English classes at the school. My role in the classroom has progressively increased throughout the year and I'm excited to spend time with the students. I've been able to build relationships with not only the students that I work with, but within the entire school. The love that I feel from my school community overflows into my life outside of school. Beit Sahour is a small town and I see many of my students and their families around town. Sometimes the parents of students will stop me to talk without their children!

We just had our mid-year retreat in Jordan. The theme of the retreat was baptism. With all of the discussion about vocation at my recent retreat, I would like to share a little bit about my plans for once I return from the Holy Land. **I'm excited to announce that it is my intention to attend seminary beginning in the summer of 2019.** I am planning on discerning where I will attend seminary once I return home from my year of service.

Thank you everyone for supporting me throughout this year and my entire life. I wouldn't be where I am today without your help and guidance. Feel free to ask me any clarifying questions that you might have about my year here, as well as, my future plans.

Peace, *Lars*

## MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

ZSJ is the host site for the Mobile Food Pantry in Franklin County. This mobile pantry is through the Food Bank of Iowa and will be held the 3rd Thursday of every month. Hours will be from 4-6 pm. Set up time is from 3-4 pm and we always welcome volunteers! For more information, please contact the church office @ 641-892-4010 or secretary@zionstjohn.org. We are still working on a more permanent solution and would welcome any suggestions!

Next date is  
Thursday, April 19, 4-6 pm



## EASTER DAY EVENTS

- 6:30 am Easter Sunrise Worship with Holy Communion, & Choirs
- 7:30 am Easter Breakfast prepared by our amazing youth
- 9:00 am Easter Festival Worship with Holy Communion

Easter is April 1! Come and share in the joy of the resurrection!

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here is a look at our finances as of February 28, 2018

<b>Budgeted Income</b>	<b>\$36,362</b>
<b>Offerings Received</b>	<b>\$25,652</b>
<b>Current Deficit</b>	<b>\$10,710</b>
<b>Expenses Year to Date</b>	<b>\$35,607</b>
<b>Checking Account</b>	<b>\$ 7,482</b>



The month of February saw our budget deficit grow by over \$4,000 and our checking account balance decrease by over \$5,000. Let's work together to reverse the trend we've seen at the beginning of 2018. Thank you for your faithful giving!

## FIRST COMMUNION

First communion classes for fifth grade students **and** parents will be Sunday, April 15 & 22, @ 10:15 am. We will be using the Fed and Forgiveness curriculum. Contact Pastor Kim or Caitlin with questions.



## NEW MEMBER CLASS

Pastor Kim will be offering new member classes on April 22 & 29. Other times may also be arranged on an as needed basis. If you or someone you know who would like to join our congregation, please notify Pastor Kim or leave a message with our Office Staff.



## RELAY FOR LIFE

Shop for a cure @ the Relay for Life event on Saturday, April 14, 9 am-2 pm @ Block 10. There will be door prizes every 15 minutes and box lunches from Block 10 available. And the best part, lots and lots of vendors and crafters! Stop by and help us find a cure for cancer!

## ALL MEMBERS OF ZSJ : ANNOUNCING OUR BAKELESS BAKE SALE

A bit of news we have today.  
A bakeless bake sale is on the way.  
In these busy days, who wants to bake,  
A pie or cookies or even a cake?

You'd be surprised if you counted the cost  
Of ingredients, heat,  
and the time you've lost.  
Baking for sales is extra work,  
Yet nobody really wants to shirk.

So we've thought of a plan



that's really grand,  
And feel quite sure that you'll understand.  
In an envelope, if you like,  
please include the price  
Of a pie or cake or anything nice.



Without fuss or bother  
you've done your part.  
We hope you'll give with a willing heart.  
This is the end of our little tale,  
Wishing success for our  
**BAKELESS BAKE SALE!**

This fundraiser is for Bible camp scholarships (We pay up to \$150 towards each campership), shut-in gifts, Christmas gifts, stewardship project needs such as batting for quilts, fellowship programs and for other special needs. Checks payable to: **ZSJ WELCA** and send to

**Diane Wills**  
**1399 Beeds Lake Drive**  
**Hampton, Iowa 50441**

Or drop off at the church office by **June 1, 2018**, Thank you for your contributions!

## ACCESS TO OUR CHURCH BUILDING

For many years, one of the ministries of Dean and Pauline Peter has been unlocking the church building early each morning. With Pauline's passing, Dean has asked that we find someone else to take over this ministry. We thank Dean and Pauline for so faithfully carrying out the duties of this ministry for so many years, in all kinds of weather.

As it stands now, Roger and Shirley Madsen are unlocking the church on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings (if there is communion the next day), Pastor Kim or Diane are unlocking the church when they arrive on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday



mornings.

Please be aware that the church will not be unlocked as early in the morning as it was previously. If you would be interested in assuming the ministry of unlocking the church in the morning, please see Pastor Kim.



## CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, April 21

9:00 am



**Call to Order:** Doug Dohman called meeting to order at 10:30 am, Sunday, March 11, 2018; Present, Brigid C, Pastor Kim, Doug D, Scott C, Lisa P, Jim B, Vickie B; Pastor led devotions

### Pastor's Report

- ◇ Baptism Performed - Feb 11, 2018 Hayden E, daughter of Jonathan and Cara E
- ◇ Wedding scheduled - Oct 6, 2018 - Cassidy K and Brady R
- ◇ Funerals performed - Feb 10, 2018 - Pauline P at ZSJ
- ◇ Inurnment performed - Feb 24, 2018 - Pauline P at Hillside Cemetery
- ◇ New Member class - April 29, 2018
- ◇ 1st Communion Class on April 15 & 22 with First Communion on May 6th.
- ◇ Updates on Mobile Food Pantry
- ◇ Discussion on updates on accordion door leading into the sanctuary and carpeting under the piano.
- ◇ Boiler repair updates

- ◇ Family of Pauline P gave memorial gift of \$1,500 to Legacy Fund. They also gave \$500 to the quilters.
- ◇ Will work on setting up Direct Deposit
- ◇ Church clean up date set for April 21st at 9am with a rain date for April 28th.
- ◇ Women have asked Property Committee to find bids for window replacement.

**Correspondence:** none

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to approve, Scott; Lisa, second; approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report filed for audit. Reviewed detailed report for parsonage teardown. \$20,565.14 is the remaining money in the account. Discussed possible uses for this money

### Committee Reports

**Parish Education:** updates on VBS, Sunday School and Riverside Camp Sunday

#### Property Management:

- ◇ Update on rugs. Motion to approve ordering new rugs, Brigid; Jim, second, approved.
- ◇ Pastor will talk with Darwin about ceiling issues in the sacristy.

**Stewardship:** no report

#### Technology:

- ◇ Discussed live video stream to Sheffield Care Center. A memorial was donated for this purpose. Scott will contact the Care Center and will continue to work on this.
- ◇ Will change to higher speed network for cheaper price.

**Worship & Evangelism:** no new report

#### Youth & Family:

- ◇ Two lock-ins this week.
- ◇ New fundraisers for national Youth Gathering. \$5,800 is left to be raised.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:**

- ◇ Sanctuary furnaces quote - Discussed quotes. Will place on hold for now.
- ◇ Adjusted money counters for the year: March, Jim & Lisa; April, Vickie & Scott; May, Tracy & Tony; June, Brigid & Doug; July, Brigid & Cindy; August, Brigid & Jim; Sept, Lisa & Vickie; Oct, Scott & Tracy; Nov, Tony & Doug; Dec., Cindy & Jim

**Adjourn**

Submitted by  
Brigid C, secretary

*Women of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Alice G called the meeting to order on Sunday, March 11, 2018, at 10:15 a.m. Following devotions, the Statement of Purpose was read. Those present were: Alice G, Arliss G, Helga B, Maxine H, Diane W, and Marcia E.

**MINUTES:** Maxine moved that the minutes be approved as corrected with the addition of a piglet also purchased with the Pennies for Poverty money; carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Diane reported a checking balance of \$1,203.63 and savings balance of \$1,455.34 of which \$646.72 are designated funds. Report placed on file.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- ◆ Correspondence was read from LSI and Wings of Refuge.
- ◆ Thank you from Marshall County HS for a teddy bear.
- ◆ YSS Francis Lauer requests household items for the boys' new

“home” in the expanded Adolescent Residential Addiction Treatment Program to North Iowa. These items may be purchased through the website registry at <http://bit.ly/YSSRTwishlist>.

- ◆ An invitation to the Sacrificial Breakfast at the Methodist Church on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. was read.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- ◆ Mission Action co-chairman Maxine reported the Spring LWR Ingathering will be @ Fredsville Lutheran Church, rural Cedar Falls, Saturday, April 14, 8-11:30 am. It is open to anyone who would like to go. There will be a speaker and lunch as well as the gathering of our LWR projects.
- ◆ Wednesday morning quilting will continue through April.
- ◆ There was no Mission & Growth report, but Alice said the World Day of Prayer program was well attended, including a nice write up on the front page of the Sheffield Press and the WDP offering was \$264. Special thank you to Vickie Bushkofsky for organizing this event!

**OLD BUSINESS:** Circles will serve the Lenten supper on March 21.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- ◆ Maxine moved we have a Bakeless Bake Sale for a fundraiser starting April 1 to June 1; carried.
- ◆ The NE Iowa WELCA gathering is Saturday, June 16, at Wartburg College. Alice and Marcia will be voting members. All are welcome to attend.
- ◆ The next board meeting will be April 15th instead of April 8th.

Alice adjourned the meeting at 11:15.

Secretary, Marcia E



**Rebekah Circle**

Monday, April 2, 7 pm

Hostess: Marcia E

Bible Study: Diane W

**Dorcas Circle**

Tuesday, April 3 @ 9 am

Bible Study: Helga B

Hostess: Mavis S

**PRAYER LIST**

In order to keep Pastor Kim informed and our prayer list accurate, please let the church office or Pastor know if you are in the hospital or are anticipating hospitalization.

- |          |          |           |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| Cindy R  | Sue N    | Sarah P   |
| Lorri H  | Sawyer A | Finley O  |
| Pam B    | Jim H    | Judy N    |
| Landon T | Cliff C  | Vicki M   |
| Gary S   | Dick H   | Christy M |
| Bev F    | Kay R    | Laura M   |
| Louise C | Kira N   | Chuck N   |
| Beth J   |          |           |



- ◆ The family of Connie C
- ◆ The family of Don O



- |            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| April 1st  | Gordon G                       |
| April 2nd  | Ethan M                        |
| April 3rd  | Adam S, Zach O                 |
| April 5th  | Seth B                         |
|            | Eli T                          |
| April 6th  | Aaron R                        |
| April 7th  | Matt R, Jeffery S, Elizabeth S |
| April 9th  | Amy M, Reese H, Kennedi O      |
| April 10th | Marcia E, Jim T, Marilyn S     |
| April 11th | Kylie B, Zac C                 |
| April 12th | Vicki T                        |
| April 14th | Chuck N                        |
| April 15th | Dale B, Katy L                 |
| April 16th | Darin N                        |
| April 17th | Delaney C, Joe M, Makenzii R   |
| April 18th | Greg R                         |
| April 20th | Emma M, Gary N                 |
| April 21st | Curt C                         |
| April 23rd | Jan L                          |
| April 24th | Sean C, Roger L                |
| April 25th | Vickie B, Jayden F             |
| April 27th | Tyler H                        |
| April 28th | Madisyn H, Sarah R             |
| April 29th | Lisa H, Dawn G                 |
| April 30th | Lonnie B, Rachael H, Alberta C |
|            | Christin M, Elizabeth W        |

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Head Usher: Jim B

Ushers: Guritz family

Altar Guild: Marlene S  
Carla N

Lector:  
Dacia S

Greeters:  
1 Dohlmans (6:30 am)

8 Diane & Cinnamon  
15 Abby & Dacia S  
22 Sarah R and Giulia M  
29

Acolyte:  
1 Alex S (6:30 am)  
Delaney C(9am)  
8 Nate H  
15 Taylor K

Crucifer:  
1 Jake S (6:30 am)  
Hayden S(9 am)  
8 Trevor G  
15 Cole M

Offering Counters:  
Vickie B, Scott C

Fellowship Time Servers:  
1 Easter Breakfast  
8  
15  
22  
29 Greimanns

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship

10:15 am Fellowship & Sunday School

G Kim Wills, Pastor 641-425-9453  
[pastor@zionstjohn.org](mailto:pastor@zionstjohn.org) 9:00am-3:00pm, T-F

Caitlin Retz, Director of Youth/Family Ministries 641-494-6989  
[youth@zionstjohn.org](mailto:youth@zionstjohn.org) 9:00am-4:00pm, S-M-T-Th  
9am-noon Wed.

Church Office 641-892-4010  
[mail@zionstjohn.org](mailto:mail@zionstjohn.org) 9:00am-12:00pm, M-F

## APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> IS EASTER SUNDAY

**6:30 am Sunrise Easter Service  
with Holy Communion,  
HB & Chancel Choirs**

**7:30 am Easter Breakfast hosted  
by ZSJ Youth**

**9:00 am Easter Festival Worship  
with Holy Communion**

