



Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Being the Body of Christ

April 2024

Vol. 30 No. 4

Easter



Then Jesus took a loaf of bread, and when He had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you". And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Luke 22: 19-20



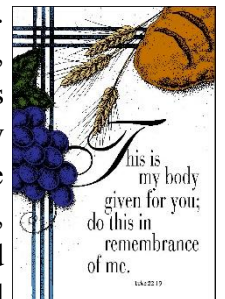
OUR VISION STATEMENT

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.

I was recently asked to explain how different denominations of Christians view Holy Communion. So here is a refresher from Confirmation. We will begin with the Roman Catholic view. Martin Luther was Roman Catholic before he was excommunicated from the Catholic Church so it is a good place to start. During the words of institution, when the priest says, "This is my body, given for you, do this in remembrance of me. The Roman Catholic church teaches that the bread and wine are no longer bread and wine, but the physical body and blood of Jesus. I attended Catholic Mass with my aunt and cousins whenever I visited them. Then, the words were spoken in Latin, "Corpus Christe" (The body of Christ) and a bell would ring signifying Jesus' presence in the sacrament.

Lutheran teaching states that when the pastor says, "This is my body, broken for you", the bread and wine remain bread and wine, but that Jesus is truly present, "in, with and under the bread and wine."

I was raised in the Presbyterian Church. Instead of people coming forward for communion, communion was distributed in the pew. The founders of that church asked this question: "If Jesus is bodily in heaven, how can he be on a thousand altars at the same time?" They believe that when you commune, your soul goes to heaven, communes with Christ and then returns to your body. As a boy of 10, I attended church one Sunday and my grandmother wasn't there, so I sat with an elderly woman I knew. As the ushers started distributing the communion elements she asked me, "Do you take communion." I told her that I never had. "Well", she said, "You are today!" Apparently,



someone sitting behind us, told the pastor and both of us got in trouble, but the lady got the worst of it!

So which church is right? I don't know. It's a mystery. It's one of the questions I'll ask Jesus someday. I am glad that I serve in a church that has open communion. That means anyone who takes communion in another denomination is welcome at our table. Martin Luther taught that we should desire to take communion whenever it is available to us.

God's Blessings to You,
Pastor Kim



This month is going to be very bittersweet. I am excited for all the things coming up both at church and at camp. However, with things picking up, I also know that it means this year of being a YMT is ending. I am so excited to be a Day Camp Director at camp this summer, so I truly look forward to outreach to other churches in Iowa this summer. And after summer, I am currently praying and asking God to lead me where He needs me. I do believe that I am being called to work with an organization called Club Beyond. And if that is where I'm led, I will get to be a Youth Director on a military base, for kids with parents in the military. I am not sure where exactly I'll end up, but I do feel like that is what I am being called to do. I don't think I would have had the discernment and



confidence to understand that calling without everything I have learned here at Zion St John. I'll save the teary goodbyes and thank yous for next month's article. For now, I'm going to soak in all the love and learning and excitement that comes with Spring!

God Bless!
Bre

Thursdays,
Mar 7, 14, 21, 28
2-5 pm
Saturday, Mar 2
10 am-noon

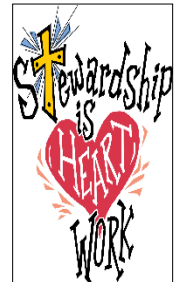


We continue to see increasing numbers of families large and small at the pantry. If you can help, we are very appreciative for all donations of money, personal hygiene items, perishable and non-perishable food items. We are especially in need of cereal and soup. You can place items in the cart in the Narthex or in the drop box on the front of the pantry building @ 106 Gilman.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here is a look at our finances as of February 29, 2024:

Budgeted Income	\$37,245
Offerings Received	\$30,622
Current Deficit	\$ 6,623
Total Expenses	\$37,645
Checking Balance	-\$ 1,527



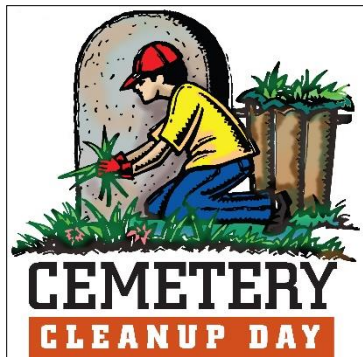
Our expenses were high last month as we had to pay a good portion of our insurance expense for the year up front. The good news is we did not have to borrow from savings as we had enough come in after the report was run to pay all our bills. Thanks for your faithful giving!

SPAGHETTI SUPPER



The Sheffield Lion's club will be hosting a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, April 21, 11 am-1 pm @ the West Fork HS in Sheffield. A freewill donation will be used to support the Lion's scholarship fund and other activities. Carry out is also available. Stop in and share a delicious meal!

Apr 13, 8:30 am-noon
(Rain Date, Apr 20)
Please bring tools and gloves.
Donuts & coffee provided!



Apr 20, 8:30 am-noon
(Rain Date, Apr 27)
Please bring tools and gloves.
Donuts & coffee provided!

A colorful poster for 'Bingo Night' with a blue background. It features several bingo cards with numbers and 'X' marks, and colorful bingo balls with numbers 7, 19, and 35. The text 'BINGO NIGHT' is prominently displayed in a yellow-bordered box.

BINGO NIGHT

ALL ARE WELCOME TO A NIGHT OF DINNER, BINGO, SILENT AUCTION, PRIZES, AND FUN!

ALL IN SUPPORT OF THE 2024 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING ATTENDEES!!

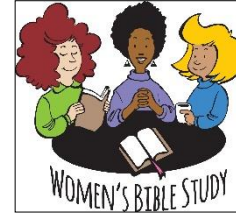
Get ready to eat good food, shout "BINGO!", bid on silent auction items, have so much fun! We will have various prizes for Bingo and an assortment of item to bid on throughout the night!

Bingo cards can be purchased for \$10 per card. Each card will get through 10 rounds of varying Bingos. To purchase cards ahead of time contact Caitlin Tauro at (641)494-6989

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH
DINNER AT 5 PM
BINGO AT 6 PM

ZION ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
422 SHERMAN ST
SHEFFIELD, IA

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Rebekah Circle
Mon, April 8
@ 6 pm
Video upload by
Tues, April 9 @ 10am

CALL TO ORDER: President Alice G called the board meeting to order on Sunday, March 3, 2024, at 10:50 a.m. Those present were: Alice G, Diane W, and Pam M.

MINUTES: Motion by Diane, second by Alice to approve the January meeting minutes, carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Thank yous for monetary donations were received from Wings of Refuge and Lutheran Services in Iowa.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As of February 29, there is a checking balance of \$2,114.59 and savings balance of \$2,736.80, of which \$136.72 are designated funds, and \$568.05 are funeral/ event cash donations. The report was placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ⇒ World Day of Prayer was held at Zion Reformed on March 2. The program was written by Palestinian Christians.
- ⇒ Care Center birthdays: WELCA is responsible for the Care Center birthday treats in April.
- ⇒ Lenten supper: We will be serving a beefburger supper on March 20 before the Lenten service.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ⇒ Cluster will be held at Zion Lutheran (Jubilee) at LaPorte City on April 13 from 8-11.
- ⇒ Gathering will be June 15 at Redeemer Lutheran in Waverly.
- ⇒ Graduation will be May 19. There are 9 seniors this year.
- ⇒ Alice adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

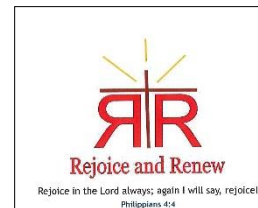
Secretary,
Pam M

THREE RIVER CLUSTER GATHERING

The Three River cluster will be meeting on Saturday, April 13, 8:30-10:30 am @ Zion (Jubilee) Lutheran Church in La Porte City. The program is entitled "Piece by Piece." It is always a morning full of fun and fellowship!



WELCA GATHERING



Our Annual SWO Gathering will be on Saturday, June 15 @ Redeemer Lutheran in Waverly, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm. Our theme is *Rejoice and Renew*. Registration forms are available @ www.neiasynod.org/women-of-the-elca or in the church office. Along with normal business there will be interest sessions and always fellowship and worship. If you are interested in serving on the SWO board, nominating committee or as a Triennial Voting member, you can also find those forms on the website as well. And lastly, there are educational scholarships available for women wanting to improve their employment status.



The March 10, 2024 meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.m. by Council President, Jim B. Pastor Kim led the council in prayer. Members in attendance: Vickie B, Scott S, John L, Gene S, Judy S, Nancy R, and Pastor Wills. Members absent: Al N and Daren M.

Pastor's Report

- ⇒ Transfer request of Austin N to Zion Reformed Church. Motion to grant request, John L; second, Gene S; carried.
- ⇒ Discussion held surrounding Lenten Temple Talks. Many organizations would not return Pastor's phone calls and Diane has had to find videos online to show during the Temple Talk. Pastor recommended that if this occurs next year, that we find different organizations to support with our Lenten worship offerings. Council concurred.
- ⇒ Gene S will attend the Three River Conference Assembly with Pastor on Tuesday, 3/19.
- ⇒ Pastor thanked Fred R for his assistance with the funeral on Friday.

Secretary's Report

- ⇒ One change to the February Minutes include: Council Lenten Supper was held on Wednesday, March 6th, not March 5th as printed in the minutes.
- ⇒ Motion to approve as amended, John L; second, Gene S; carried.

Treasurer's Report

- ⇒ Clarifications from February Report: The charges from Murphy's were for the stools in the basement bathrooms and a few miscellaneous items.
- ⇒ The charges from Metronet are in the Utilities budget.
- ⇒ Pastor's mileage is in the Office Expense budget.
- ⇒ Current balance in the checking account is \$1,300.
- ⇒ Kari will notify council if there is not enough money to pay the bills at the end of March.
- ⇒ Pastor will include detail for credit card bill if balance is more than \$1,500.

Committee Reports

Parish Education –will meet when Al returns from medical leave.

Property Nothing to report

Stewardship Nothing to report

Technology Trialing new camera

Worship & Evangelism – Judy (April), Vickie (May), Daren (June)

Youth and Family

- ⇒ Starting to organize Easter Breakfast
- ⇒ Continue to work with youth attending National Youth Gathering
- ⇒ 10 youth attended the Jump Park/Lock In on Saturday, 3/9. The window in the door was accidentally broken. No one was injured. Pastor will investigate getting it repaired.

150th Anniversary Updated on planned events

- ◆ February 2 – Kick Off, Mission Sunday with catered lunch
- ◆ May 4 – Concert
- ◆ August 3 – Worship in the park with potluck, ice cream social, and games
- ◆ November 2 – Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Jones scheduled to preach.
- ◆ A hymn commissioned for the celebration.

Old Business

- ⇒ Stools for visitation – 3 upholstered stools with foot rest and backs were purchased for less than \$100.
- ⇒ Funeral Table – Pastor is working with Fred R and Gary N to either build or buy a table suitable to hold an urn during a funeral.
- ⇒ Decorations for remodeled bathrooms – WELCA will take care of this. Gene S offered some pictures that he is storing that might be able to be used for this.
- ⇒ Landscape Plaque – Pastor reminded Paul Tauro about this.
- ⇒ Lenten Supper Proceeds - \$194. Motion to use that money towards the 150th Anniversary, Vickie Bushkofsky; second, Judy Siems; carried.

New Business

- ⇒ LED Lighting in Pastor's Office – Motion to look into replacing the fluorescent lights in Pastor's office with LED, Gene S; second, John L; carried.
- ⇒ Ash Trees – Jim will treat in May
- ⇒ Spring Clean Up Dates
 - Church clean up – Saturday, April 13th, 8:30 a.m.
 - Cemetery clean up– Saturday, April 20th, 8:30 a.m. There are a couple of trees that have fallen that will need to be cleaned up
 - Inclement Weather Dates will be April 20th and 27th.
- ⇒ Vickie B asked about the email that Diane sent out regarding the ELCA. Pastor explained that the ELCA currently consists of 3 levels: Churchwide, Synod, and Congregation. The ELCA is considering restructuring this and looking for input.
- ⇒ Money Counters- April, John L & Al N; May, Daren M & Nancy R
- ⇒ Next Meeting, Sunday, April 14th
- ⇒ Motion to adjourn at 11:20 am, John L; second, Scott S; carried.
Nancy R, secretary

150 YEARS: WALKING WITH CHRIST

Our theme verse is Hebrews 13:8, *Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, today and tomorrow.*

Celebrations:

- ⇒ February 2, Missionfest, celebrating our Hands of Service.
- ⇒ May 4, a concert, celebrating the Harmonies of the years
- ⇒ August 3, outdoor worship and picnic, celebrating our Homes
- ⇒ November 2, Finale All-Saints Worship, celebrating our Hearts

Other ideas: a Rally Sunday history scavenger hunt, a history pamphlet for all members, and a hymn commissioned based on our church.

Also needed:

- ◆ Share a devotional <https://forms.gle/xQQnPjdDSc6KmcxAA>
- ◆ Written or verbal family stories
- ◆ Offer suggestions for events using the idea box in the Narthex
- ◆ St John Confirmation pictures from 1909, 1910, 1912, 1914, 1916, & 1941

- ◆ Zion Confirmation picture from 1915

Our next committee meeting will be Sunday April 21 @ 10:30 am.



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|------------|--|
| Apr 13 | Church clean up day/ Cluster Gathering |
| Apr 20 | Cemetery clean up day/ NYG Bingo Fundraiser |
| Apr 21 | Lion's Dinner/ 1st Communion Class |
| Apr 24 | Confirmation Trip |
| Apr 28 | 1st Communion Class |
| May 1 | Last day of Confirmation |
| May 5 | Scholarship Deadline |
| May 7 | Bre's Last Day |
| May 12 | Last Day of SS |
| May 19 | Graduation Worship& Reception
Pentecost-Wear RED! |
| June 1 | C3 Synod Event |
| June 15 | Women's Gathering |
| July 17-20 | NYG |
| July 22-25 | VBS |

- 1 Mariellen V, Gordon G, Grady P
- 3 Adam S, Zach O
- 5 Seth B, Eli T
- 7 Jeff S, Elizabeth S
- 8 Mia T, Shaunda C
- 9 Amy M, Sara J, Kennedy O
- 10 Marcia E, Jim T
- 11 Zac C
- 12 Vicki T
- 15 Dale B, Katy L
- 16 Darin N
- 17 Joe M, Makenzii R
- 18 Greg R, Brinlee H
- 20 Emma M, Gary N
- 21 Curt C
- 23 Jan L
- 24 Sean C, Roger L, Kelix W
- 25 Vickie B, Jayden F
- 28 Madisyn H, Sarah R
- 29 Lisa H, Dawn G
- 30 Lonnie B, Adam T, Rachael H
Alberta C, Christin M, Elizabeth W
Remi O



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. You call him directly @ 641-425-9453. Family members are also welcome to call.

Cindy R	Sarah P	Maddie P
Ray R	Steve H	Doris E
Christy M	Louise K	Pat H
Patty B	Carolyn R	Jon S
Marcy M	Keely S	Sue K
Doris M	Katlyn B	Crystal B
Steve K	Ron E	Carol L

◆ The family of Gary Schoning

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



9:00 am Worship
(Livestream @ www.zionstjohn.org,
Livestream)
10:15 am Sunday School & Fellowship

STAFF OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

G Kim Wills, Pastor	641-425-9453 pastor@zionstjohn.org 9am-3pm, T-F
Church Office	641-892-4010 mail@zionstjohn.org 9am-12pm, M-F
Bre Hilton, DYFM	515-520-0559 bre@riversidelbc.org 10am-3 pm, T-W