

Hi-Lites

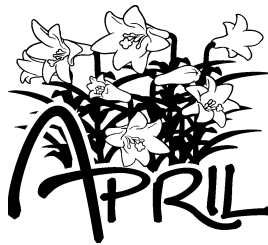
April 2025 LXVI No. 4

The monthly newsletter of
Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
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Easter Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Church School 9:30 a.m.

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...Newsletter April 2025

Matthew 28:7 *“Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him. Now I have told you.’”*

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! And what a beautiful Holy Week and joyous Easter Sunday we will share at Zion. Thank you to the many people who helped make these worship services possible, including our choir, altar guild, and many individuals who pitched in with gifts of time and talent. Together, we celebrate the world-changing events of Christ's death and resurrection

And then, Monday morning rolls around. I don't know about you, but, sometimes, the days after a big holiday can feel like a let down. There was all that preparation, all that excitement and anticipation...and then it's over. But here's the thing: Easter isn't over! Easter is a seven week long season in our church during which we celebrate the Good News that Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! And we hear stories of how Jesus appeared to His disciples following His resurrection, and how the early church grew in response to people's encounters with the risen Christ.

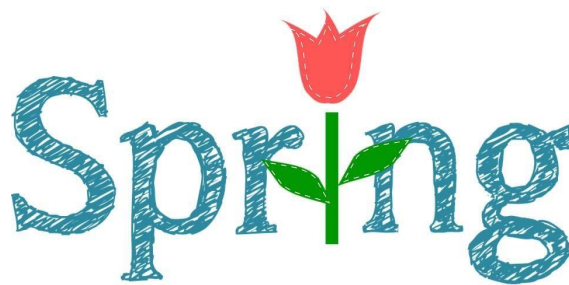
When you and I get discouraged by all the bad news we hear happening in our world, community, and even family, it's easy to be discouraged, disheartened, and disappointed. When all appears dark and hopeless, we return to the Good News of Easter, and find hope in the promise of resurrection and new life brought to us by the empty tomb. We recall and the glorious worship of Easter morning, and are encouraged that death does not have the final answer.

But for our neighbors, family members, and co-workers who aren't part of a faith community, or don't know the Good News of Easter, hope isn't as easy to recall. The darkness can indeed seem overwhelming and all powerful. You and I have an important, grace-and-hope filled message to share with the world: Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! And because He lives, we, too, live, and we live in hope. We are called by God in our baptism to “trust God [and] proclaim Christ through word and deed”. We are gifted and empowered by the Holy Spirit to do this

work, that others may know the hope, joy, and peace we share in Christ.

I invite you to join me this Easter season in looking for places and opportunities to share our faith in Christ with other people, with whom we are already in relationship; often, sharing our faith is an important first step toward inviting another to experience Christian worship. In sharing our story, we don't need to pressure, or lecture; we can simply tell of the difference faith in Christ has made in our life. If that idea terrifies you, then I invite you to spend the Easter season praying intentionally for courage to speak, and wisdom to discern the right opportunity. Christ's life, death, and resurrection has made a difference in our lives; if that wasn't the case, none of us would be a part of this faith community. I hope you will join me in sharing your story this Easter, so that others may experience a similar transformation as they come to know God's unconditional, unmerited, amazing love and grace. Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

In hope, Pastor Tom



Upcoming Events:

April 2025

April 6—Communion Sunday

April 8—Women's Guild Meeting at 1:30

April 9—Choir at 7:00 pm

April 13—Palm Sunday

April 17—Maunday Thursday at 6:00pm

April 18—Good Friday Service at 7:00pm

April 20—Easter Sunday Service at 8:30am and Egg hunt

April 21— Pastor Tom's vacation until April 28

May 2025

May 4— Communion Sunday

May 11—Mother's Day

May 13—Family Night at 6:00pm bring a dish

May 14—Choir at 6:30
Consistory at 7:00pm

May 15—UCCA meeting at 7:00pm at First United Methodist

June 2024

Save the date June 9—Rose Sunday is here again to enjoy.

Breakfast at 9am, program, cutting the rose and rose ceremony.

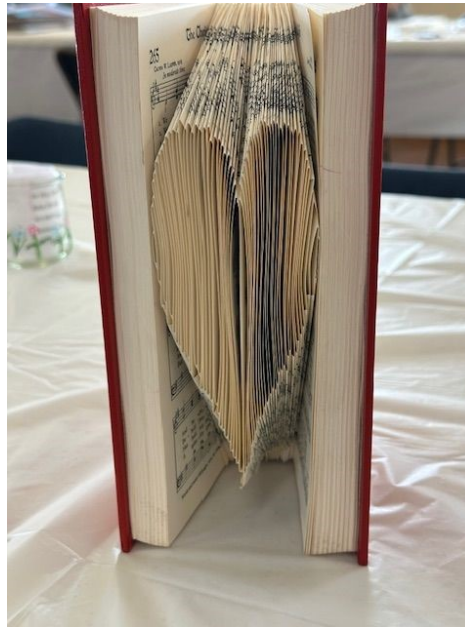


FAUSTNAUT SOCIAL

(decorating cards for shut ins etc.)



CRAFT DAY







March was One Great Hour of Sharing

Our special offering for disaster and development work throughout the world and throughout the year was received in March. If you missed the opportunity, you may still give. Just be sure to designate “OGHS” in the memo or with a note.



The Legend of the Pussy Willow

According to an old Polish legend, many spring times ago a mother cat was crying at the bank of the river in which her kittens were drowning. The willows at the river's edge longed to help her, so they swept their long graceful branches into the waters to rescue the tiny kittens who had fallen into the river while chasing butterflies. The kittens gripped on tightly to their branches and were safely brought to shore. Each springtime since, goes the legend, the willow branches sprout tiny fur-like buds at their tips where the tiny kittens once clung

Zion Women's Guild

Next meeting is April 8th at 1:30



Family Night will be held on May 13th at 6pm. The Guild will provide chicken, beverage and rolls. Please sign up and list the number attending and covered dish you are bringing to share.

Thank you to all who attended and made a donation for the Chocolate Lover's Lunch! Next year we are hoping to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a "Luck of the Irish Lunch".

Family Page

April Birthdays:

April 4 —Happy Birthday Craig Wagner

April 11—Happy Birthday Taylor Arrowood

April 25—Happy Birthday Laura Frey

Prayers for: Amber Pogue, Lois Picking, Denise Foreman

Ten Commandments for Seniors

- 1/ Talk to yourself. There are times when you need expert advice.**
- 2/ “In style” are the clothes that still fit.**
- 3/ You don’t need anger management. You need people to stop irritating you.**
- 4/ Your people skills are just fine. It’s your tolerance for idiots That needs work.**
- 5/ The biggest lie you tell yourself is: “I don’t need to write that down. I’ll remember it”.**
- 6/ “On time” is when you get there.**
- 7/ You’ve noticed people your age are much older than-you.**
- 8/ Ageing has slowed you down, but it hasn’t shut you up.**
- 9/ You still haven’t learned to act your age and I hope you never will.**
- 10/ “One for the road” means peeing before you leave The House.**

March/April

The sun is nervous
As a kite
That can't quite keep
Its own string tight.

Some days are fair,
And some are raw;
The timid earth
Decides to thaw.

Shy budlets peep
From twigs on trees,
And robins join
The chickadees.

Pale crocuses
Poke through the ground,
Like noses come
To sniff around.

The mud smells happy
On our shoes.
We still wear mittens,
Which we lose.

By John Updike



He is Risen

The morning sun was shining bright,
And filled the air with lots of light
But hearts were heavy, filled with fear,
The Lord was dead, no longer here
The women came to see the tomb,
And mourn the Lord who died so soon.

When they arrived, to their surprise,
The tomb was bare, it stunned their eyes.
An angel sat where Christ had been,
And asked them, why do you seek Him?
He is alive, He is not here,
Just as He said, so have good cheer.

We serve a Lord who lives today,
And reigns on high with God to stay.
He died for you and died for me,
And paid the price for all to see.
Just let Him in and join the fold
He'll fill your life with joy untold.

Walter Greenwood, Jr.