

A P R I L 2 0 1 8

# Zion Lutheran Church

## Readers

1<sup>st</sup> – Will Andrews  
8<sup>th</sup> – Luter Family  
15<sup>th</sup> – Zack Rupp  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Michael Houghton  
29<sup>th</sup> – Ray Kukuk

## Ushers

Andrews Family  
Luter Family  
Rupp Family  
Houghton Family  
Ray Kukuk Family

## Acolytes

Andrew Kukuk  
Carson Avery  
Whelan Carson  
Katie Heim  
Ava Heim

**Palm Sunday Service**  
March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday Service**  
March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 p.m.

**Good Friday Service**  
March 28<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 p.m.

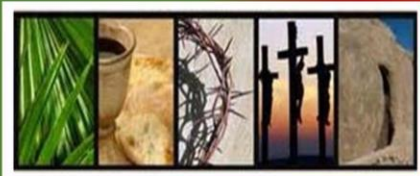
**Easter Vigil**  
March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 p.m.

**Easter Sunrise Service**  
April 1, @ 7:30 a.m.

**Easter Potluck Breakfast**  
9:00 a.m.

**Easter Morning Service**  
11:00 a.m.

All services are at Zion



## **HOLY WEEK**

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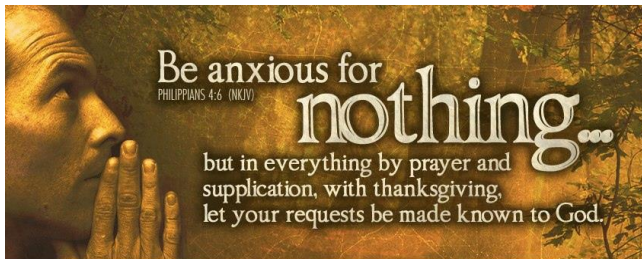
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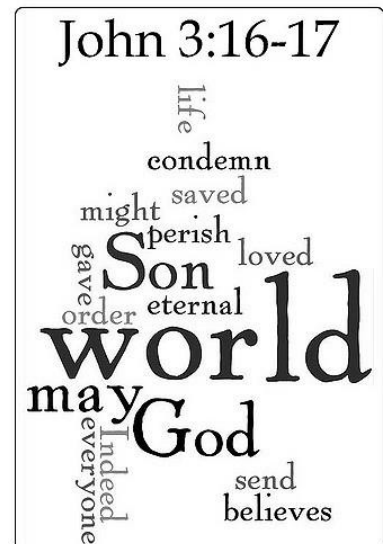
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To encourage others to pray for peace in Jerusalem, LIKE and SHARE this verse  
LIKE ME AT [facebook.com/DrMikeEvans](https://www.facebook.com/DrMikeEvans) FOLLOW US AT: @DrMichaelDEvans

Please keep in your prayers:  
Zelma Rupp, Luke Olson, Pam Waren, Ashley Olson, Allen McClendon, Mande Potter, Jandree Potter, Mike Stodola, Ken Frank, Marvin Beier, Bernice Schieffer, Dava Kukuk, Dennis Schieffer, Dustin Kukuk, Verna Frank, Holly Mitchell, Geraldine Finley, Hattie Hentges, Sandy Little, Valerie Danner, Melody Gale, Kimm Williams, Jane Makovec, Tyler Kukuk, Otto Davidson, Lori Woods, Cory Donovan, Kane Donovan, Colby Mitchell, Zoey Johnson, Liisa Swartz-Bottoms, and our men and women serving their country both here and abroad, our law enforcement officers and all others that need God's tender loving care.



It's been around for a while in many versions, but I still laugh every time I come across the story about a group of four-year-olds who were gathered in a Sunday School class. The teacher looked at the class and asked this question: "Does anyone know what today is?"



A little four-year-old girl held up her hand and said, "Yes, today is Palm Sunday."

The teacher exclaimed, "That's fantastic, that's wonderful. Now, does anyone know what next Sunday is?"

The same little girl held up her hand and said, "Yes, next Sunday is Easter Sunday."

Once again the teacher said, "That's fantastic. Now, does anyone know what makes next Sunday Easter?"

The same little girl responded and said, "Yes, next Sunday is Easter because Jesus rose from the grave," and before the teacher could congratulate her, she kept on talking and said, "but if he sees his shadow...he has to go back in for seven weeks!"

**Ok, so maybe the little girl didn't get it quite right, but I love her excitement to share the story that she knows. As we enter into the Easter Season, we can join in the joy and excitement of that little girl as we remember that we are the church of the resurrection!**

What does that mean for us? It means that each and every day there is new life in the church. It means **that each day we wake up that we are faced with new opportunities to share God's love and grace with our friends and family! It means that we don't have to prove our worth to God by being "good enough" but instead that we can worry about our neighbors rather than ourselves.**

**Don't be afraid to speak God's love into another person's life—even if you don't get all the details quite right you are still showing the love! Enjoy the gift of life and the freedom to love that God has given you. And while we celebrate this Easter on April Fool's day, I want to leave you with a bit of wisdom. What do you call a mischievous egg? A practical yolker! Ok, so maybe that was a very little bit of wisdom. But now go out there, enjoy creation, and don't mind the shadows!**

Pastor Peter



# REJOICE!

March Birthdays  
 23<sup>rd</sup> – Shirley Beier  
 31<sup>st</sup> – Cindy Rupp

March Anniversaries  
 31<sup>st</sup>- Russell & Reese Voise



April Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup>- Christy Kukuk  
 Will Andrews  
 4<sup>th</sup>-Carson Avery  
 Jessica Potter  
 Russell Voise  
 5<sup>th</sup>-Ava Heim  
 8<sup>th</sup>-Reese Voise  
 9<sup>th</sup>-Angela Andrews  
 Rhett Luter

10<sup>th</sup>-Teague Nelson  
 11<sup>th</sup>-Marvin Beier  
 13<sup>th</sup>-Brant Kukuk  
 16<sup>th</sup>-Whelan Carson  
 17<sup>th</sup>-KT Frank  
 23<sup>rd</sup>-Cheryl Curtis  
 25<sup>th</sup>-Lara Casey

April Anniversaries  
 28<sup>th</sup> - Allen & Tiffany McClendon

Altar Guild: Teresa Kukuk

Circle: Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, @ 6:30 p.m.  
 Hostess-Cindy Rupp  
 Lesson Leader-Jeanie Ivy  
 Roll call-What is your favorite Easter recipe?



## How you can help WELCA.

WELCA for many years has been saving Best Choice Labels as a fund-raising program. Shirley Beier has helped us save and send in these labels for cash for many years. It is such an easy and great way to get some extra dollars for the many projects our Circle does. It is coming from dollars you have already spent.

We would like to ask the whole congregation to help us save the Best Choice Labels from the products that you would normally buy or maybe switch to a Best Choice product in place of your regular brand. Just Save the Bar Code or UPC symbol from any Best Choice product. That can include the bar code from biscuits, tomatoes, cereal, candy, cookies, and canned or frozen vegetables.

For every 1,000 labels we send in we get \$30. That may sound like a lot of labels but WELCA has been doing it for years! How many more could we save if the whole congregation would help!

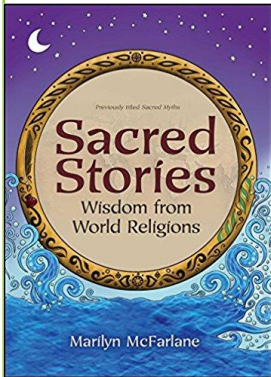
We have set up a table that will explain the process further with pictures of the products and the labels needed. There is also a container to collect the labels.

We would so much appreciate everyone's help with this project and say a big THANK YOU ahead of time.

**Save those 'BEST CHOICE' LABELS!**



## A Study of World Religions with Pastor Peter Starting Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm



You are invited to join us and learn of other religions through their most sacred stories. Our study will begin with Buddhism before traversing Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and more.

We encourage purchasing a copy of the book, “Sacred Stories” by Marilyn McFarlane. They can be purchased for as low as \$13 for a new copy on amazon and far less for a used copy. For those who are interested in eating together first, a potluck will be held at 6:15 pm in the fellowship hall prior to each study session. Contact Pastor Peter if you have any questions!

### MENS BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY.

Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 a.m.

Meet in the kitchen!

We will be looking at Genesis Chapter 2 and shall ponder what Adam and Eve’s story might have to say about how we live in relationship with one another today.



## Mission Kids

### And Confirmation

Mission Kids and Confirmation will start up again April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 for dinner and 7 for classes.

Anyone from 4 years old to 4<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us at Mission Kids as we learn about God and discover new and exciting ways to share God’s love with our neighbors!!

Our Sunday School classes would like to invite all of your kids and grand-kids to join us!

Ages 2-5 are taught by Brittany McKinley.

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades taught by Ashley Olson.  
3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades are taught by Cindy Rupp  
Adult class is taught by Sherry Schieffer.

Join us for fun and fellowship as we explore the Bible together!



# April 2018

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 <b>EASTER!</b> See Holy Week Schedule Happy Birthday Will Andrews Christy Kukuk	2	3	4 6:30 p.m. <b>WELCA</b>  Happy Birthday Jessica Potter Russell Voice Carson Avery	5  Happy Birthday Ava Heim	6	7
8  Happy Birthday Reese Voice	9 7:00 p.m. <b>Bible Study</b> Happy Birthday Angela Andrews Rhett Luter	10  Happy Birthday Teague Nelson	11 6:30 p.m. <b>Church Council</b> 6:15 p.m. <b>Mission Kids</b> Happy Birthday Marvin Beier	12	13  Happy Birthday Brant Kukuk	14  7:30 a.m. <b>Mens Breakfast</b>
15	16 7:00 p.m. <b>Bible Study</b>  Happy Birthday Whelan Carson	17  Happy Birthday KT Frank	18 6:15 p.m. <b>Mission Kids</b>	19	20	21
22	23 7:00 p.m. <b>Bible Study</b>  Happy Birthday Cheryl Curtis	24	25 6:15 p.m. <b>Mission Kids</b>  Happy Birthday Lara Casey	26	27	28  Happy Anniversary Allen & Tiffany McClendon
29	30 7:00 p.m. <b>Bible Study</b>					

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and Service at 11:00 a.m.

## A Wealth of Generosity

*We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. —2 Corinthians 8:1-2*

Thank-you.

I want you to know, brothers and sisters, how grateful I am for your generosity. According to our 2016 Congregational Reports, 56% of our congregations in the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod had an average worship attendance of under 50 people a Sunday. **On the one hand, some would say that means our congregations are not “viable.”** And yet, I know from the time I have spent with you, that ministry in the name of Jesus Christ continues in powerful ways among you! **On the other hand, at the recent Conference of Bishops’ meeting, it was reported that the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod was above the ELCA average in the percentage of our tithes and offerings we share beyond our local congregations.** In spite of our many local struggles to make ends meet, we continue to be generous. Like the small, **scrappy Macedonian church in Paul’s time, our abundant joy and our (seeming) extreme poverty** continue to overflow in a wealth of generosity on our part. For that, I am extremely grateful.

Not only are we a synod made up of small congregations, the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod, is also one of the smallest synods in the ELCA. With around 7500 baptized members in 54 congregations and ministries we are the sixty-second largest synod in the ELCA (the Alaska Synod, the Caribbean Synod, and Slovak Zion Synod are smaller.) Like many small congregations, as a synod every day we strive to do the best ministry we can with the resources at hand. **It’s a challenge, but we have creative and resourceful leaders and synod staff. Your congregation’s mission support is the bedrock of the work we do as synod, but we are always looking for ways to supplement and extend those dollars so that we can serve the broadest number of people possible in Jesus’ name.**

**But what, exactly does a “synod” do?** (Or more specifically, the synod staff.) I get asked that question a lot. The truth is much of what we do happens in the background of the mission and ministry that goes on in the foreground of congregational life. **We’re like faithful custodians... you don’t notice their work until they stop doing it and the** bathrooms get gross and the garbage cans begin to overflow. Your synod staff spends a lot of our time answering questions, connecting people and congregations to resources, helping congregations sort out problems and mediating conflicts. We provide guidance and direction to councils, deacons and pastors, worship leaders and office managers, members, visitors and newcomers. We gather and share information, ideas and news about what is happening around the synod and the ELCA in phone calls, text messages, the Weekly News, emails and social media. We work with congregations in transition, advising call processes, helping congregations find supply and interim ministers, sort through financial challenges and building issues, and do mission planning. We also (my favorite part) worship with congregations, lead workshops, teach classes and bible studies, participate in congregation programs and activities. Finally, we represent the synod on boards and councils of various types and connect the synod to the wider church, ecumenical partners and others in addressing social issues, crises, concerns and disasters. **I’m sure I’m forgetting something!**

All this costs money. You know that. But, did you know, for example, a visit to a congregation can cost the synod between \$300-\$700? That covers travel expenses (mileage, food, lodging), and salary to cover the preparation time, travel time and the time spent in the congregation. A call process can cost several thousand dollars, depending on how long the process lasts, the number of visits made and how much time it takes to identify and vet candidates. All that is covered by mission support and the generous gifts of individual donors!

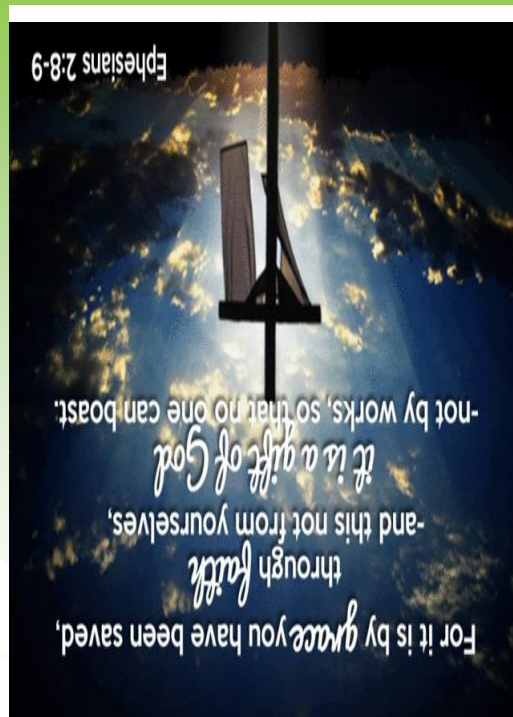
It is amazing the amount of ministry our small synod supports and accomplishes by combining our gifts and working together as a synod! **That’s why I am so grateful** for your partnership, your prayers and your financial support. Together we steward one another so that when one congregation needs support, others step up, and when others need support that one, in turn, responds. By doing that, the mission of Jesus Christ continues across our three states!

Again, thank-you... **and please keep your mission support coming!**

Peace,

Bishop Mike

**Have you visited our synod website? Always good information about what our synod is doing.  
Go to: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org) and see what we’re all about.**



## Zion Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 169  
Perry, OK 73077

Christ  
is  
Risen!