

Hi-Lites

March 2025 LXVI No. 3

The monthly newsletter of
Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
259 S. Main Street

Chambersburg, PA 17201

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Office phone: 717-264-2854

Church Email: Zion1778@comcast.net

Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

Church School 9:30 a.m.

Contact information:

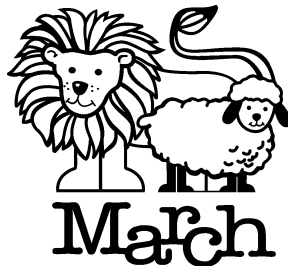
Minister: Pastor Tom Dunkle

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Music/choir Director: Jeremias Johnson



1st Corinthians 15: 20 “*But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.*”

I write on the Monday prior to the 3rd Sunday in Lent, March 3, 2024. During lent there are many terms that are used that are not always common and used often. One of those terms is Triduum. I discovered that triduum denotes a three-day period of prayer, usually in preparation for an important feast or in celebration of that feast. Triduum also recalls the three days that Christ spent in the tomb, from Good Friday until Easter Sunday.

Of course, the best-known triduum is the Paschal or Easter Triduum, which begins with the service of the Lord's Supper on the evening of Maundy Thursday and continues until the start of second vespers (evening prayer) on Easter Sunday. Triduum is also known as (when capitalized) Paschal Triduum, Holy Triduum, or Easter Triduum. If I were to ask you the question, “How will you be spending the Triduum?” Your response would probably be, “The what?” And on a good day my response would be, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter?”

Maundy Thursday, the first day of the Triduum, is described by the World Council of Churches BEM Document as follows:

” The last meal celebrated by Jesus was a liturgical meal employing symbolic words and actions. Consequently, the Eucharist is a sacramental meal which by visible signs

communicates to us God's love in Jesus Christ, the love by which Jesus loved his own "to the end" (John 13:1). It has acquired many names: for example, the Lord's Supper, the breaking of bread, the Holy Communion, the Divine Liturgy, the mass. Its celebration continues as the central act of the church's worship." Inherent and also quite explicit in the three days of the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter is this succinct yet powerfully spiritual affirmation of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Especially as Zion seeks to reach our ministry dreams, I hope you will gather on the three most consequential days of the church calendar and pray for the church. Please consider joining us in our Maundy Thursday meal/Service and finally join us on the Triduum.

God Bless, Pastor Tom



SUNDAY, MARCH 2— Fastnacht (donut) Social at 9:30am; No Communion

Wednesday March 5—Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm, Communion;

SUNDAY, MARCH 9—First Sunday in Lent; Daylight Savings Time begins—Spring forward 1 hour; One Great Hour of Sharing

SUNDAY, March 16— Second Sunday in Lent

SUNDAY, March 23—third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 30—fourth Sunday in Lent

SUNDAY April 6 —Fifth Sunday in Lent and Communion

SUNDAY April 13—Palm Sunday

THURSDAY, April 17—Maunday Thursday Service 6:00pm

FRIDAY, April 18— Good Friday Service at 7:00pm

SUNDAY, April 20—Easter Service—9:00am (only 1 service)



Holy Communion schedule

March 5—Ash Wednesday and Communion
April 6— Communion

Consistory will meet on Wednesday , March 12, 7 p.m. in the Sunday School Room in the church. Choir will meet at 6:30pm

Wednesday Lenten Bible Study

Join us in the Parish House each Wednesday, 10 a.m. for our midweek Bible study. Bring a Bible. New members and friends are welcome. This is a great time for learning and fellowship. And remember if the School District delays or cancels school, Bible Study will not meet.



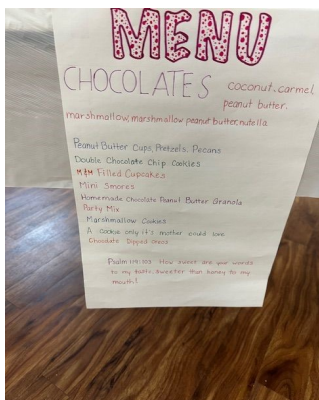
Rose Sunday (early notice)

Yes, it is still winter. The Roses have not begin to emerge. But many of you like to plan ahead so as not to miss Rose Rent Sunday. It is Sunday, June 8th this year. The day will begin with a fellowship breakfast at 9 am. followed by a program at 10 am. and at 10:45 we begin the Rose Rent Service Mark your Calendars!

Chocolate Lovers Luncheon







Paint Night



Family Page

March Birthdays

March 3, Polly Oyler	March 5, Danielle Barnhart
March 6, Dan Smith	March 8, Sonya Frey
March 10 Sue Burke	March 11, Sally Magalski
March 12, Bob Sleighter	March 13, Nancy Gonder
March 15, Esther Wagner	March 19, Karen Sleighter
March 20, Charlotte Wagner	March 21, Nancy Houser
March 28, Jen Barnhart	March 28, Patty Dunkle

March 11, 2025—Women's Guild at 1:30 in Parish House

March 12, 2025—Consistory at 7:00pm

March 12, 2025—Choir at 6:30pm

March 20, 2025 UCC Meeting at 7:00pm at the Salvation Army

April 21, Pastor Tom's vacation

Don't forget the food pantry. The blessing box is always in need of food.



March is One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is the most important mission offering of the year.

It is easy to feel overwhelmed when we look at all the areas of need in God's world: there is hunger, sickness, and injustice in so many communities. It is easy to feel there is nothing we can do to help. We can feel trapped by hopelessness and fear that what little we can do – won't have an impact.

But there is hope! Better yet: we are that hope!

As the Apostle Paul writes, "by the power at work within us," God is able to "accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine." (Ephesians 3:20). "We are the agents of transformation that God uses to transfigure this world" (Archbishop Desmond Tutu).

Wishing and dreaming of a better world means nothing if we don't realize that God gives us community to practice love and compassion. We cannot only care for ourselves, but we must also care about those around us, both near and far.

Our gifts become part of a loving legacy in ways we can't foresee. Our gifts become blessings to people we don't know and blessings in ways we can't imagine. We can make a difference beyond what we can imagine.

You will find included with your newsletter a special envelope to use. Our target date is Sunday, March 30, but you can make your gift anytime during the month. Every year this is our largest special offering, so let's have everyone participate this year. Envelopes are also available in the church pews. Please include your name or envelope number if you wish your gift included on your financial statement.



God's Will

When Jesus prayed in the garden,
His heart was filled with grief.
He knew there was a cross for Him,
He'd die just like a thief.
Why must it be, what can I do
This cup must pass away.
The agony caused sweat like blood.
As prayer went up that day.
Please let it pass, don't make Me go,
Oh, not Your will, but Mine
But then He saw God's higher plan,
Yes, "Not My will, but Thine".
We always tend to want all things,
The way we think is best.
But we should seek God's plan for us,
And He'll provide the rest.
So put your life in God's great hand,
And let Him guide your way.
And yield to Him not just your will,
But all your life —today.

Walter Greenwood, Jr.



Lenten Dollar Folders distributed

Each household may pickup your Lenten folder at the church on Sunday . You are encouraged to use the folder during the days of Lent and return it during Easter week. Your gifts provide funding for various national and international mission projects of Zion. You may mail it to the church, drop it off at the office, or place it in the special collection baskets that will be placed at the rear of the sanctuary during Easter. Please write your name and offering number on the folder

April HiLites deadline is March 16.

Daylight Saving Time begins March 9

Please remember to reset your clocks on Saturday evening. March 08, yes you will gain an hour of sleep.

**Easter Flowers**

On Easter Sunday our sanctuary will be decorated with lilies and white mums placed in memory and honor of loved ones. You may purchase your own flower directly or order through the church. A listing of memorial flowers will be included with the Easter bulletin. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will find a form to return to participate. Cost is \$12 each. Please note the deadline for orders is Sunday, March 23. If you are purchasing and bringing your own flower to the church, we still need you to complete the form so we have the memorial name information.



Easter Flowers Order Form

Yes, I wish to place a flower in the church

_____ I will place my own order and see that the flower is delivered on Saturday, April 5 2025
(Please be sure your name is on the flower,)

_____ Please order for me (Payment of \$12 per flower must
Accompany this order.) **Please make checks payable to Zion.**

_____ Lily

_____ Mum (A lily will be substituted if mums
Are unavailable)

Please print clearly

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Presented by _____

Please return to the church office or place in the offering plate by March 23, 2025.