

M A Y 2 0 1 7

# Zion Lutheran Church

15976 John Wayne

P.O. Box 169

Perry, OK 73077

Motherhood is one of God's greatest gifts to humanity. A loving, committed mother is an indispensable person in our development. Just imagine a world without mothers. It would be a sterile place indeed. Mothers instill powerful social and nurturing characteristics in each generation. It is principally from their mothers that children learn the virtues of sacrifice, sharing, valuing others, compassion, community and a host of other interpersonal values and skills that enable humans to live together in peace.

Mothers are also designed by God to nurture. There is just no greater nurturing power on the planet than a mother. When the apostle Paul was describing his love for the church at Thessalonica, he used the metaphor of a mother's love to describe how deeply he cared for the Thessalonians. He reminded them that he was like a "gentle" mother who "tenderly cares for her own children" (**1 Thessalonians 2:7**). When God described His love for Israel, He did so with a motherhood metaphor. He told Israel that He would comfort them like a mother comforts her children (**Isaiah 66:13**).

Wishing all mothers a Happy Mother's Day!



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**Sunday School- 10:00 am**

**Sunday Worship-11:00 am**

**FB: zionlutheranperry**



The link attached was taken from the elca.org website. If the link doesn't open when clicked-- copy the link to your browser and read about the challenges facing the church in rural America.

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2017/04/church-rural-america/>



### Men's Community Breakfast

May 20<sup>th</sup> -- 7:30 at Zion

A great opportunity to invite a friend, coworker, neighbor, or family member!

## MINGLE ON MAIN

Perry's Mingle on Main... Upcoming opportunities for our congregation:

- **July 21<sup>st</sup>** is Crazy Days downtown. We may serve a potluck fundraiser that evening. This is depending on interest.
- **August** (no date yet) Meet a Maroon night. We'll have some kind of booth for our church, depending on interest.

(There is a sign up sheet at church)

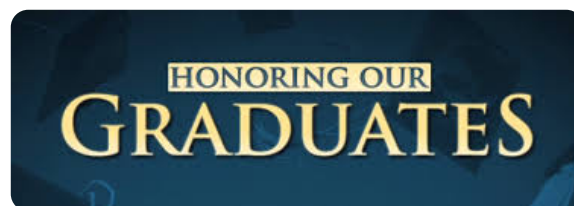


**WELCA: May 3rd**

**Hostess: Cindy Rupp**

**Lesson Leader: Jeanie Ivy**

**Altar Guild: Teresa Snyder**



There will be a Graduates reception after church on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The graduates being honored are: Raegan Luter, Emma Heim, Parker Gottschalk, Kade Gottschalk, Kaylie Houghton, and Cambria Kaltwasser.



In daily life we must see that it is not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy.

### Greeters

7<sup>th</sup>- Kurt & Angela  
9<sup>th</sup>-Jeff & Christy  
21<sup>st</sup>- Steve & Kaylea  
28<sup>th</sup>- James & Cheryl

### Readers

Randy  
Ray  
Teresa S.  
Scott

### Ushers

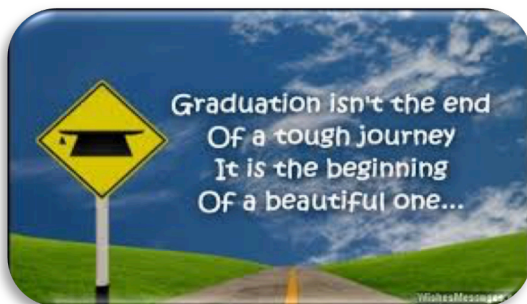
Steve, Tony, Jan, Kurt  
Scott, Ray, Teresa K, Charles  
Scott, James, Steve, Jeff  
Ray, Teresa K, Doug, Parker

## May Birthdays

3<sup>rd</sup>- Kurt Andrews  
16<sup>th</sup>- Lacey Carson  
18<sup>th</sup>- Arlan Houghton  
25<sup>th</sup>- Kade Gottschalk  
27<sup>th</sup>- Asher Kaltwasser  
30<sup>th</sup>- Ray Kukuk  
31<sup>st</sup>- Marjie Voise, Joan Curtis & Alli Kukuk

### Anniversaries

3<sup>rd</sup>- Allen & Lori Coleman  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Ryan & Marcy Luter  
24<sup>th</sup>- Bill & Imogene Rieman



Count down to the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation with “Road to the Reformation.” Follow the Road to the Reformation on Facebook to learn where Luther was day-by-day 500 years ago!

[www.facebook.com/RoadtotheReformation](http://www.facebook.com/RoadtotheReformation)

### Foremothers in the faith--

We all hold biological DNA in our cells, along with DNA from ancestors who lived thousands, and perhaps millions of years ago—for in our very beings we harbor bits and pieces of all those to whom we are related, whether they lived in Africa or crossed the Bering Strait or existed primarily in northern Europe.

But we also hold spiritual DNA in ourselves, from our mothers and our biblical foremothers alike. Ruth, Naomi, Susannah, Judith, Bathsheba, Elizabeth, Anna and all the rest—they're in our family tree, all part of our spiritual DNA. Unlike invisible chromosomes, however, the record of Bible women and their contributions to our spiritual history are in full view on the pages of the Bible.

## He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!!

Amidst the fullness of Holy Week and the joys of Easter, Ashley and I have begun the process of house hunting in Perry. We've looked at houses from the almost the town square of Perry to Sumner and beyond. We've looked at small houses with big yards and we've looked at big houses with small yards. We've looked at houses that were constructed less than ten years ago and we've looked at houses built over a hundred years ago. We've viewed dozens of houses online, driven past tens of houses, and have toured several.

In our searching for just the right place at just the right cost, I've noticed something about the process for us. Nearly every house has something that we appreciate--whether it's room for the kids, good office space, a great kitchen, a good-sized yard, architectural charm, we find something that we like. On the flip side of that coin, every house has something that we would want to change. Maybe the walls in every room are bright purple or emerald green. Maybe the yard needs some major work or perhaps some fencing is needed for the dog. Or maybe... just maybe everything looks just fine, and yet we want to come in and change it anyway—just to make it ours.

Ownership of a house, a car, or anything else breeds excitement. When a person has ownership, generally they want to be involved with that which they own—they want to be able to make decisions, improve the value if possible, and bring out the full potential of that which is owned. As seriously as we take ownership of different “things” in life, so too I think we should take our faith just as seriously if not more so. Faith, like real estate, takes a great deal of attention and needs to be nourished. There is a variety of different ways to take care of our faith.

- **Going to Sunday Church** is like mowing the lawn. It's good general maintenance and is encouraged. At times, you may be able to take care of a few of the other yard issues of life while you're at it. Hear a good word that helps you pull a few weeds.
- **Bible Study** is the repainting and kitchen updating of our faith lives. While going to church is very important (as is any good general maintenance), stretching and growing one's faith happens most often in conversation with others—and Bible Study or other faith-based groups are a great place for that to take place.
- **Mission Work and Prayer** are the re-wiring and re-plumbing of our faith lives. Through regular prayer we encounter a stronger connection and reliance on God. And through mission work we encounter that which God has called us to.

There are many other ways to nourish one's faith, and this is just a different way of thinking about it. But whatever tool is helpful for you, I urge you to take the time and nourish your faith in fellowship with others. Take ownership of the greatest gift of hope and new life that can be given and receive the full potential of these blessings not just in death, but in life as well. God's peace to you.

~Pastor Peter





## PRAYER CONCERNS

### We Remember our Friends & Family

Kenny Frank, Kim Williams, Mark Rupp, Wade Voise, Sonny Rupp, Pastor Olson, Melvin Williams, Dennis Schieffer, Lyndee Strader, Dorothy Voise, Bernice Schieffer, Verna Frank, Geraldine Finley, Marvin Beier, Dava Kukuk, Dustin Kukuk, Jandree Potter, Mande Potter, Loretta Longan, Sandy Little, Valerie Danner, Caleb Pierce, Jana Benningfield, Leta Faye Baetz, Melody Gale, Tyler Kukuk, Jane Makovec, Otto Davidson, Joey Hamilton, Jason & Randy Shiever. Chris Nance, Kevin Voise, Staci Matthesen, Molly Tucker, Hattie Hentges, Cindy VanMeter- (Christy Kukuk's mother), Doc Miller, Pastor Geishien, Lori Woods, Cory Donovan, & Zoey Johnson.

We also pray for our men and women serving our country-

(Blake Avery & Brent McClendon), our Police (Josh Carson) and Firemen and all others that need God's tender loving care.



## Acolyte Ministry

Carson Avery  
Whelan Carson  
Katie Heim  
Andrew Kukuk

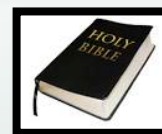


Zion's Outreach project for May will be *shampoo, conditioner, and hygiene products*. Search your heart and always strive to be mindful of others. Thank you for being a part of Zion's Church Family!

Come join the Monday night Bible Study for May entitled "God Talks." The meal begins at 6:30 at Zion.

These talks will not discuss a particular part of Scripture, but rather God. Come and join Pastor Peter as he leads us into some interesting conversations!

**Talking  
of God**



Pastor  
Dan's  
Bible  
Study

May 14<sup>th</sup>-10:00 am  
The Book of **Hebrews**  
Please join us!

# Luther and Lutheranism

Martin Luther (1483-1546)



Martin Luther was eight years old when Christopher Columbus set sail from Europe and landed in the Western Hemisphere. Luther was a young monk and priest when Michaelangelo was painting the Sistine Chapel in Rome. A few years later, he was a junior faculty member at a new university in small-town Germany, intently studying the Scriptures, “captivated with an extraordinary ardor for understanding Paul in the Epistle to the Romans.”

In these days Luther was tormented by the demand for righteousness before God. “I did not love, yes, I hated the righteous God who punishes sinners, and secretly, if not blasphemously, certainly murmuring greatly, I was angry with God.” Then, in the midst of that struggle with God, the message of the Scriptures became clear, like a long-shut door opening wide. When he realized that a “merciful God justifies us by faith ... I felt that I was altogether born again and had entered paradise itself through open gates.”

What Luther discovered is the freedom of Christians trusting God’s mercy in Christ. As he later wrote, “Faith is God’s work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God. This faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing. It is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that believers would stake their lives on it a thousand times.”

This discovery set Luther’s life on a new course —both his own life and his public service as a preacher and teacher. When a church-endorsed sales team came to the Wittenberg area in October 1517, Luther was concerned that the promotion and sale of indulgences undermined the promise of God’s unreserved mercy in Jesus and the faith that trusts that promise. His 95 Theses or Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences became the first of a life-long stream of books, sermons, letters, essays, even hymns in which he expressed his confidence in this life-giving promise from God, the Gospel, and its liberating implications for all of life in church and society.

--elca.org



# May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 God Talks 6:30	2	3 WELCA 6:30	4 National Day of Prayer	5 Synod Assembly	6 Synod Assembly
7 Communion Graduation Reception Synod Assembly	8 God Talks 6:30	9	10 Church Council 6:30	11	12	13
14 Bible Study 10:00 am Mother's Day	15 God Talks 6:30	16	17	18	19	20 Men's Community Breakfast 7:30 at Zion
21	22 God Talks 6:30	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day Observed	30	31			

It's been a privilege creating the church newsletter this past year; however, it is time for me to step down. I want to encourage all the many talented individuals at Zion to consider taking on this amazing project. You will have two Pastors supporting your efforts--along with many people in the congregation contributing articles to be published. Maybe it can be a team effort—think about it! Many thanks to everyone who's helped make this newsletter possible. With gratitude...Dee

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2017



# Come Join Us!

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