



ZION/NOIZ

May, 2017

Zion is a gathering of God's people dedicated to Learning, Sharing & Spreading the Love and Word of God.

From the Pastor....

Sometimes you need a closer look. Now that the weather is warmer, my family has been spending a lot of time outside. The usually springtime activities are what you might expect for a family with small children, riding bikes and running, walks and plenty of sidewalk chalk. But one of my daughters has taken to picking flowers. She will gather the tiny purple and white flowers that grow in our yard and ask me to tie them into bouquets for her. She will give these bouquets to the other members of our family as gifts. Groups of tiny flowers sprouting in the grass are gathered together into a wonderful gift. These tiny flowers have become something special. They are not only something beautiful to notice, but easily become a source of joy to be collected and shared.

Easter is more than one morning or one day, it is a season of fifty days for us to joyfully celebrate the resurrection. Throughout this month, and up to the celebration of Pentecost in June, the church dwells on the joyful news of Easter: Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia! This is the heart of our Christian faith, the resurrection of Jesus Christ and it is worth a closer and longer look. It is worth taking the time to dwell on and share joyfully. This is a miracle, new life after a real and physical death. We can't fully understand the mystery, but we can cherish it and cling to it in faith, trusting in the beautiful promises of God. Death and sin are defeated. God's love for you is so strong that it lets nothing stand in its way. Jesus Christ conquered the grave for you. We can celebrate the new life we have through Jesus Christ by using our voices to sing and give praise to God and by using our minds

To help us slow down and take a closer look, we will be reading for six straight weeks from the First Epistle of Peter. This short New Testament book is only 5 chapters and 105 verses, and we will be hearing more than half of the book read in April and May. It is short letter, full of faithful encouragement and instruction in how to live in the light of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is worth our consideration, as the church focuses especially during this time on the centrality of Jesus death and resurrection and what this means for our life as Christians. Peter points us always back to Jesus Christ, who "by his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." (1 Peter 1:3) Easter is about the new life God has given us through Jesus Christ. A life which is different than our old one. Our old life is bound by time, the changing seasons of life and death. This new life that we have from Jesus begins now and exists forever, the new life that we have because Jesus rose from the dead is not a life that can be ended by death. But like all life, it can grow, change and deepen. Peter encourages all Christians, to mature and deepen their faith and understanding of the gospel. As Peter says "Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good." (1 Peter 2:2) Easter is the first taste of God's goodness and the truth of his promises and we should always be hungry for more. I encourage you to come to church this Easter season hungry for more, ready to taste and see that the Lord is good as we hear the promises of his word and gather to feast around the Lord's table.

-Pastor Phil

ZION/NOIZ is published monthly by Zion Lutheran Church,
45 Falconer St., PO Box 543, Frewsburg, NY 14738

(716) 569-5495

email address: zionfrewsburg@yahoo.com

website: zionfrewsburg.com

Pastor Phil's email address:

pastorphil@zionfrewsburg.com

Worship service 10:00 am / Sunday school 11:15

Preschool Monday-Thursday / 9:00-11:15 am

The Rev. Phillip Roushey – (585) 490-4236 cell
(716) 922-4098 home

Wendy Norrod – Office Secretary

Dan Carlson – Treasurer

Dennis Petzold – Organist & Choir Director

Nicole Garland – Preschool Director / 569-9200

Congregational Council:

Larry Gauger	Shelby Surrena	Narda Gatgen
Michelle Pitts	Gary Wells	Mark Nelson
Dennis Williams	Dennis Trostle	Troy Pitts

Pentecost

Sunday, June 4th, is Pentecost – when the Holy Spirit came to the church. Once again we will celebrate this day by bringing red geraniums to plant and by wearing red to remind us of the Spirit's fire in our hearts. Please just leave your geraniums outside by the entrance that you come in that day.



The geraniums will be planted the next day in our flowerbeds to enjoy throughout the summer.

Faithful Living, Faithful Giving

(Jesus said) " For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matthew 6:21. Treasure is not necessarily money. Our treasure is whatever we value - our money in many cases, but also our time and our possessions and our families and our physical bodies. Whatever we do with our treasures affects our hearts - it determines who we are inside. It determines what sort of people we become.

The Bible promises that giving - especially financial giving - will be rewarded by God. Paul writes, " The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully ... you will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God " (2 Corinthians 9:6,11).

It doesn't matter whether we are talking about the widow with her penny or Zacchaeus giving away half of his fortune: people who renounce their treasure as a spiritual sacrifice to God discover that they are transformed within, drawn closer to God in a manner that helps them to become more spiritual people. Simply put: stewardship is the biblical path to spirituality.

* Based on content from " Giving to God " by Mark Allan Powell

Gary Wells, Chair
Stewardship Committee

Graduation

Information Needed

It is that time of year again – and we need your help. If you, or a member of your family, will be graduating from college or high school this year, we need to know!! Please contact the church office (569-5495) with the information (and any known future plans) so it can be published in the NOIZ.



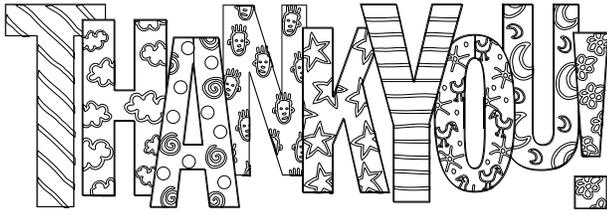
Nursery Schedule

We love seeing our children in worship. However, if needed, nursery care is provided throughout the service for children of non-school age.

Nursery staff for May:

May 7 – Jennifer Tuller
14 – Tammy Nelson
21 – Lydia Sadowski
28 – Craig Rodgers III





Thank you for your recent gift of \$184.23 to support the mission and ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through ELCA Good Gifts.

Because of donors like you, these good gifts and the good news of Jesus Christ will touch the lives of many. Your gift helps us care for our neighbors here at home and around the world by providing basic necessity items, tools for education skills and instruments for meal preparation and self-care, resources for new congregations and their leaders – and much more. Your gift provides tangible witness through our actions, encouraging hope, healing and reconciliation in congregations and communities.

Thank you for responding to God's call to walk with our brothers and sisters in Christ's name.

In God's Grace,
Christina Jackson-Skelton
Executive Director, Mission Advancement

Thank you so much for the Valentines box. It was much appreciated. I look forward to it every year!
Love,
Emily Hair

St. Susan Center has served over 2 million meals since we opened our doors in 1984. Serving our guests seven days a week continues to be a challenge; however, I am pleased to say that because of your generosity we are meeting the growing demand.

Our mission *In response to the Gospel, we freely offer meals, fellowship, dignity and respect to all who come through our doors* continues to be fulfilled through the hard work of our wonderful community.

On behalf of the board of Directors, staff and guests of St. Susan Center, please accept our sincere thanks for the generous donation of \$337.50. These donations are truly making a difference in the meals that we serve each day.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Smith
Executive Director

A very special thank you for all the thoughts and prayers from all. It means a lot to know of all the prayers and concern for me. I know God helped me through a very bad time and I'm mending a little every day. Thank you

Lou Nordland

Youth – May/June Events



All of our May activities will benefit The Relay for Life, which will be held at Frewsburg High School Track on Friday, June 2nd from 6:00 PM - 12:00 AM.

The Dime War

Starting now through May 31st. It is time for another friendly competition – this time to help in the fight against cancer. Located in the narthex are Debbie (ladies) and Dave (men) Dimer. Please consider placing your dimes in one of these containers. “Hmm, I wonder who will collect more dimes, Debbie or Dave?”

May Coffee Bar

On Sunday, May 21st the youth will sponsor the monthly Coffee Bar to raise funds for the Relay for Life. During the Coffee Bar, you can participate in helping them by...

*Sponsoring a Luminaire bag – Each bag is a \$5 donation. During the final lap of the Relay the field lights are turned off, and all who remain at the relay walk one lap in complete silence, guided only by the light of the luminaires. They walk

- in remembrance of a loved one who fought the battle and lost
- in honor and support of someone who is fighting the battle now
- in celebration for those who have fought and survived.

*For a \$2 donation, you can purchase a chance to win a \$100 gas card.

Thank you for your support as Zion's Youth do their part in the fight against cancer – an illness that in some way touches the lives of many.

Steward of the Month

For May, 2017 the Stewardship Committee selects a faithful Steward of the Month, **Rachael Roushey**.

Rachael has been a Lutheran all her life having been baptized in a Rochester church.

While attending Houghton College she met Pastor Phil. As students, both worshipped at Hope Lutheran Church in Arcade. Rachael regularly sang in the choir. Upon their graduation from Houghton Rachael and Pastor Phil were married.

Afterward, they moved to St. Paul, MN, where Pastor Phil attended seminary. Meanwhile, Rachael taught Sunday School and assisted with Vacation Bible School at a local Lutheran church.

Four months after graduation from seminary in 2012 Pastor Phil was called to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Vermont. During Pastor Phil's three-year ministry Rachael sang in the choir, taught Pre-K Sunday School class and led a women's Bible study twice a month.

Since her arrival at Zion Rachael has utilized her gifts from God as directed by Paul in Romans 12:6-8. For example, her strong, soprano voice has been an excellent addition to our choir.

In 2016 she initiated and has led the Joyful Noise program for infants to three-year olds and their caregivers. They meet every Friday at 10:00 am according to the school calendar. Sessions include songs and nursery rhymes with basic instruments such as music sticks and shakers. Concurrently, Rachael plays the ukulele.

She also leads the Tea and Scripture Bible study on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. for women in their 20s, 30s and 40s; a time for fellowship, study and prayer.

Since her teenage years, Rachael has developed a passion for photography to the point of using a professional camera. She shot all the photos for our latest church directory over a period of several weeks. Subsequently, she worked several hours on the computer using pdf and photo shop to complete the layout before sending it to the printer.

With a joyful and thankful heart Rachael shares her spiritual gifts with love toward both her brothers and sisters in Christ as well as those who have yet to know the Lord. We, at Zion are truly blessed to have such a faithful steward to serve with and among us.

The Stewardship Committee

Birthdays for May

Happy Birthday to all those born in May! If your birthday is not included, it is because we do not have the information. Let us know so that we can be sure and include you in the future.



Eliza Roushey	5/01
Reid Bjork	5/03
Gunnar Rosing	5/05
Linda Trostle	5/05
Nathan Peterson	5/06
Matt Harvey	5/08
Eric Sadowski	5/08
Eric Harvey	5/09
John Gatgen	5/11
Nate Rogers	5/12
Rebekah Swart	5/15
Kathy Lundberg	5/19
Carol Bandley	5/20
Don Weber	5/22
Matt Ekstrom	5/28
Michael Yager	5/29
Craig Rodgers II	5/30
Caleb Eckman	5/31



Cordelia Rodgers, Tim Haskell, Chuck Stohlberg, Grant, Sasha Van Kirk, Ralph Cardone, Barbara Macholz Grimaldi, Pastor Becca Ehrlich, Payton Simmons, Scott Stearns, Kiana, Pastor John Klatt, Dwight Swanson, Pam Aldrige, Pam Goldych, Verna Mathews, Sandy Thomas, Janette Coleson and Jennifer, Kathy Henry, Morgan Yoney, Lu Nordland, Michelle Hedlund, Judith Rhodes, Bob Swanson, Jon Carlson, Sandy, Maribeth Norrod, Donna Petransky, John Gatgen, Mary Jane Courter, Mackenzie Rogers

Pastor Kate Warn – in Rwanda, East Africa

All members of the military including:
Matt Dickerson, Breanna Oltman, David Heald

Greeters

Just a reminder to those who signed up to be greeters in the month of May.

- May 7 – Dick and Debbie Cable
- 14 – Neil and Ardell North
- 21 – Mark, Shannon, Kaylee and Jacob Constantino
- 28 – Troy, Michell, Xander, Elayna, and Anelia Pitts

The U in JesUs

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God even stuck U in the name of His Son.
And each time U pray, you'll see it's true
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.
And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?
The stones split away, the gold trUmptet blew,
And this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention
"Go into the world and tell them it's true
That I love them all – just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?
It all depends now on what U will do.
He'd like them to know, but it all starts with U.

Author Unknown

Paint Night!

On Monday May 15th at 7:00, the Tea and Scripture Bible Study invites you to join us for a paint night in the Fellowship Hall! There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please sign up by May 7th. Kirstie Inkley has offered to lead us for the evening (former elementary art teacher). We are asking for a \$5 donation to cover the cost of supplies. Hope to see you there!

Greetings of grace and peace in this holy season.

I am writing from Kigali on a rainy Palm Sunday afternoon, in the early days of a week devoted to remembrance of the Rwandan genocide. Commemoration day in Rwanda (April 7), and commemoration week (through the 14th) are colored by deep sorrow as well as hope in these days. It has been 23 years since the Genocide began the Tuesday after Easter in 1994. Not surprisingly, this season tends to be somber here, but this year there is a stronger sense of movement to the promise of Easter life as the days of commemoration overlap with holy week. Rwanda lives between memory and hope, and the nation continues to offer many lessons of faith and fortitude and forgiveness.

As you will see in my newsletter this is a season of change in my own life, as I am beginning to prepare for a permanent return to the US. This is a bittersweet announcement as good things are happening in my work with the Lutheran Church of Rwanda, and the roots of YAGM are beginning to bear fruit. But after some months of discernment, I am finding myself living in God's time once again, trusting that this is the right time to move closer to family and to engage in mission amidst the challenges of US life. A new ELCA missionary for Rwanda has been with me for the past few weeks for initial orientation and learning. Rev. Janelle Neubauer will move to Rwanda permanently in May to begin her ministry as YAGM Rwanda country coordinator, and I will wrap up my time here with the completion of the current YAGM year in July.

There will be more to say as July draws near. I live with gratitude that global mission has taught me what it means to be a part of a worldwide community of disciples who share faith in word and deed, prayer and other expressions of support. As is so often said in Rwanda: "turi kumwe." We are together -- to the glory of God.

in peace,

Kate Warn

(See Kate's newsletter on the next page.)