

Zion Evangelical Church
 117 West White Street
 Millstadt, IL 62260-1939

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Zion Evangelical Church

Serving in Christ's Name Since 1835

From the Desk of Pastor Darrell

The Power of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ - For Us Today "Because He Lives" by Bill & Gloria Gaither

The following is taken from the internet site: <https://believersportal.com/story-behind-because-he-lives-hymn/>

In the late 1960s, while expecting their third child, Bill and Gloria Gaither were going through a rather traumatic time in their lives. Gloria recounts:

"I am a wife and a mother. It was in the middle of the upheaval in the sixties that we were expecting our third baby. The drug culture was in full swing, existential thought had obviously saturated every area of our American thought, the cities were seething with racial tension, and the God-is-dead pronouncement had giggled its way all through our educational system."

"On the personal front, Bill and I were going through one of the most difficult times in our lives. Bill had been discouraged and physically exhausted by a bout with mononucleosis, and in that weakened condition had little reserve to fight the psychological battle brought on by some external family problems. Someone whom we had cared about a great deal had hurled some accusations at us and at the Fellowship of Believers and at the whole idea of the existence of God."

"It was on New Years Eve that I sat alone in the darkness and quiet of our living room, thinking about the world and our country and Bill's discouragement and the family problems and about our baby yet unborn. Who in their right mind would bring a child into a world like this? I thought, The world is so evil. Influences beyond our control are so strong. What will happen to this child?"

"I can't quite explain what happened at that moment, but suddenly I felt released from it all. The panic that had begun to build inside was gently dispelled by a reassuring presence that engulfed my life and drew my attention."

"Gradually, the fear left and the joy began to return. I knew I could have that baby and face the future with optimism and trust. It was the Resurrection affirming itself in our lives once again. It was LIFE conquering death in the regularity of my day."

So allow the words of this powerful Resurrection Hymn raise your spirits in our own times of darkness and despair.

God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus, He came to love, heal, and forgive;

He lived and died to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

March 2021

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Office: 618-476-1778

Rev. Darrell Weber, Pastor

Office/Fax 476-1778, ext. 2
 After hours phone: 618-972-6010
 zion@zionmillstadt.com

Vicki Pellmann, Treasurer - 618-806-8878

vicki@zionmillstadt.com

Darlene Gansmann, Secretary - 618-497-4020

darlene@zionmillstadt.com

Sheila Peters, Pre-School Teacher - 618-363-3930

preschool@zionmillstadt.com

Dave Maeder, Custodian - 618-975-6355

Church E-Mail: zion@zionmillstadt.com

Church Website: <http://www.zionmillstadt.com>

Christian Education

Sean Mahoney (22) 618-977-3240
 Kim Gibson (23) 618-301-8913
 Jeri Arnold (24) 618-792-4481

Sisters in Faith

Meets Sept., Oct., Nov., March, April and May at 12:00 p.m.
 President - Charlotte Mehrrens - 476-1267

Z Team

Meets every Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m.
 Coordinator - Gary Shondy - 618-281-6509

CHURCH COUNCIL

(Every Second Monday of the Month- 7:00 p.m.)

Earl Doerr	(23)	618-972-0540
Dale Gruenewald	(23)	618-660-9797 (President)
Rich Hoffmeyer	(24)	702-499-7371
Charlotte Mehrrens	(24)	618-978-2655
Kim Mueller	(22)	618-570-9020
Mary Lou Peter	(24)	618-719-8077
Bob Timmer	(22)	618-476-7326
Kathi Trent	(23)	314-973-4207 (Vice Pres.)
Stacy Woehlke	(22)	618-719-5512 (Secretary)

(00) indicates the year that the Council Member's term expires.

Worship Schedule

9:00 AM - Sunday School/Conf
 10:15 AM Worship Service

Office Hours

Vicki Pellmann on Monday & Tuesday
 From 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Darlene Gansmann
 Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
 Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



Lay Liturgist Schedule for March

We have 13 liturgists who read the Scriptures. They are: *David Harres, Tracy Holmes, Linda Hopfinger, Annette Hund, Sean Mahoney, Kay Mehrrens, Vicki Pellmann, Bill Saverling, Tina Smith, Joyce Tastad, Richard Trent, Dave Woehlke, and Marjie Weber.*

If you are interested in reading the Scriptures during our Worship Services, please contact the Church Office (476-1778) to be signed up. The Lay Liturgist schedule is given below. To make a change, contact someone listed below.

March 7	Joyce Tastad	618-660-6259	jtastad51@charter.net
March 14	Richard Trent	939-8765	trentech@htc.net
March 21	Marjie Weber	618-972-5532	weber_maw@charter.net
March 28	Dave Woehlke	476-3846	dwoehlke1959@Charter.net

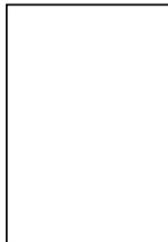
Chorus

Because He lives I can face tomorrow, Because He lives all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future. And life is worth the living just because He lives.

How sweet to hold, a newborn baby, And feel the pride, And joy he gives; But greater still the calm assurance, This child can face uncertain days because He lives.
Chorus

And then one day, I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain; And then as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.
Chorus

Christ's blessings to you and your family,
Pastor Darrell Weber



Baby Bottle Fund Raiser Update

In 2019 we collected \$1,005, in 2020 we collected \$1,280, and this year, even with COVID reduced numbers in Worship, we collected \$1,925.07. Well done, members of Zion!!!

Daylight Savings Time Change March 14

Spring Forward Daylight Savings Time change is on Sunday, March 14. So, as a reminder – set your clocks *ahead* 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 13.



Remaining Lenten Schedule

This year's Lenten Service theme is Jesus' "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John. Through these bold statements, we come to know Jesus (who He is and what He has done) more fully.

Note: We will NOT have fellowship meals at 6:00 p.m., due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Lenten Services will be held in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

The Lenten schedule is listed below. Note: EA Pastor Bill Saverling and I will deliver the messages.:

DATE	JOHN	I AM THE	PASTOR
March 3	10:11-18	Good Shepherd	Darrell
March 10	14:1-11	Way, Truth & Life	Bill
March 17	15:1-11	True Vine	Darrell
March 24	11:17-44	Resurrection & Life	Bill
April 1	06:25-29	Bread of Life	Darrell

These Lenten services are really a Crusade for Christ - kind of like a Billy-Graham Crusade. So I encourage you, young and old, to come. And I encourage you to invite your relatives, neighbors, school friends, and coworkers to come. For (Rev. 22 :17), "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."

Zion Evangelical Church

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>7</p> <p>Communion 9:00 AM SS / Conf 10:15 AM Worship</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 616 7:00 PM Council Mtg</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 AM Z-Team</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool 7:00 PM Lenten Service</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time starts 9:00 AM SS / Conf 10:15 AM Worship</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 AM Z-Team 6:00 PM Cub Scout 622</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day 8:15 AM Preschool 7:00 PM Lenten Service</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Conf Pres. 9:00 AM SS / Conf 9:00 AM Conf. Photos 10:15 AM Worship</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 616</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 AM Z-Team</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool 7:00 PM Lenten Service</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Conf. Service Food Pantry 9:00 AM SS / Conf 10:15 AM Worship</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:15 AM Preschool – Easter Egg Hunt</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 AM Z-Team 6:00 PM Cub Scout 622</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:15 AM NO Preschool</p>			
						<p>6</p> <p>7:00 PM CANCELLED Trivia Night Fund Raiser</p>

Treasurer's Report

2021	GENERAL FUND					
	2021 INCOME	2021 EXPENSE	difference	BUDGET 2021	2020 INCOME	2020 EXPENSE
January	\$ 19,402.12	\$ 19,772.01	\$ (369.89)	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 14,696.04	\$ 20,516.47
February	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 17,209.97	\$ 20,081.24
March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 19,233.68	\$ 22,555.31
April	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 15,814.58	\$ 17,651.08
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 15,943.39	\$ 18,059.67
June	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 17,038.96	\$ 14,668.99
July	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 12,430.52	\$ 14,726.85
August	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 15,861.50	\$ 11,068.67
September	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.33	\$ 16,267.93	\$ 16,409.11
October	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.34	\$ 16,140.21	\$ 17,852.77
November	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.34	\$ 21,898.75	\$ 20,643.43
December	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,107.35	\$ 54,172.73	\$ 12,759.05
TOTALS	\$ 19,402.12	\$ 19,772.01	\$ (369.89)	\$ 205,288.00	\$ 236,708.26	\$ 206,992.64

Confirmation Schedule

Our confirmation schedule is listed below. Please keep our 2020 – *Aubrey Weaver* – and 2021 confirmands - *Lukas Pellmann, Ava Stumpf* and *Emma Stumpf* – in your prayers.

- On Sunday, March 21 (Presentation Sunday) each of our 8th Grade confirmands, *Lukas, Ava* and *Emma*, will make a presentation about their faith in Jesus Christ. Our three 8th Grade confirmands will make their presentation during the Worship service (10:15 a.m.). All four of our confirmands will have individual and group photos taken by Kimberly Gibson at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.
- On Sunday, March 28 (Palm / Confirmation Sunday), they will be confirmed at the Worship Service (10:15 a.m.).
- And on Sunday, April 4 (Easter Sunday), they will partake of their first communion (with their family), using the commemorative olive wood cups from Israel, during the 10:00 a.m. Easter Service (*note time change on Easter*).



Holy Week & Easter Schedules

Easter will be here very soon. Our Holy Week and Easter schedules are listed below.

- **On Palm / Confirmation Sunday, March 28**
10:15 a.m. - Worship begins with waving of palms and concludes with the Rite of Confirmation for our 4 confirmands.
- **On Maundy Thursday, April 1**
7:00 p.m. - Our final Lenten service, wrapping up with Jesus' statement, "I AM the Bread of Life," and concluding with the Lord's Supper.
- **On Good Friday, April 2**
The Millstadt Community Cross Walk has been canceled again this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **On Easter Sunday, April 4**
8:00 a.m. - Sunrise service with Holy Communion (No Breakfast this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic)
9:00 a.m. - Sunday School with Easter egg hunt
10:00 a.m. - Resurrection service with communion & first communion for our 4 confirmands and their families.

Secret Words

Cross out all words listed below in the puzzle. Words are in straight lines and all directions. Your bonus words are made up from the 17 letters leftover. Have fun!

"Secret Words" bonus words:

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-------|
| BLANKET | ICY | TUFTS |
| BREEZE | LAYERS | VAPOR |
| CIRRUS | MIST | WATER |
| CONDENSE | PATCHES | WHITE |
| COOL | PRESSURE | WISPY |
| CRYSTALS | RAIN | |
| CUMULUS | SHADE | |
| DROPLET | SHADOWS | |
| FLEECY | SHAPES | |
| FLOAT | SHOWERS | |
| FLUFFY | SLEET | |
| FUNNEL | SNOW | |
| GRADUAL | STRATUS | |
| GRANULE | SUNSHINE | |
| GRAY | SYSTEM | |

"IT'S GETTING CLOUDY"

F L E E C Y S K C W I S P Y
 U M E D A S P H G I H E C P
 N I M R A A U R A L R I A N
 N S G E T H A T E D O R T E
 E T Y C T D S L A S O O U E
 L S H E U S U T H R S W C S
 O E N A S N Y O F U T U S C
 S N L E A R W S N U M S R D
 F F T R D E E S H U T Y R E
 W L G S R N H Y L A S O A Z
 A O U S L I O U A T P H I E
 T A E F N E S C A L S E N E
 E T K E F Y E L E W O N S R
 R O P A V Y S T E K N A L B



If you'd like to order an Easter Lily the cost is \$8.00. The orders and payment are due by March 23. Just fill in the bottom of this form and turn it into the church office with your payment of cash or a check written to Zion Church. Thanks!!

I wish to order a lily plant.

I wish to give a cash gift to the church Memorial Fund. Amount _____

FROM: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____



Zion Evangelical Church
Council Meeting
February 08, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Dale Gruenewald. Those in attendance were Mary Lou Peter, Kim Mueller, Charlotte Mehrtens, Rich Hoffelmeyer, Earl Doerr, Bob Timmer, Dale Gruenewald, Kathi Trent, Stacy Woehlke and Pastor Weber; pre-arrangements had been made to have Vicki Pellmann join the meeting in-progress to present Treasurer's Report. Pastor opened with a prayer.

Guest: Lee Eggemeyer graciously joined council at the top of the meeting to provide advice about the Office Administrator/Financial Treasurer position, including qualities the hiring committee should be looking for. Also discussed pros/cons of Church Windows program and the possibility of switching to another program such as QuickBooks. Council went into Executive Session for further discussion.

BCE report: Pastor presented the report as provided by Sean Mahoney. BCE welcomed Jeri Arnold to the board and gave thanks to Krista Gruenewald for serving consecutive terms.

Younger Sunday School classes are set with their learning materials for the rest of the year and Pastor supplied the post-confirmation class with a series by Ray Vander Laan that the teens have taken an interest in. The board is in the middle of plans to provide a thank you gift to this year's teachers instead of the traditional end-of-year dinner as well as investigating something to do for the Sunday School kids.

No upcoming plans have been made for the youth due to virtual burn out, although hopes are high to continue activities during the summer. Vacation Bible School is currently being planned for July with last year's unused theme and materials. Stacy motioned to accept the BCE report; Kathi seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Vicki presented her report from January and mentioned the interest hadn't been added because interest wasn't available from all the accounts. Direction was given that as the interest gets credited (as it was by Edward Jones), it should be added, regardless of whether we have the interest from other accounts. Rich also noted that more interest is being credited to In Loving Trust than should be and it was agreed that non-In Loving Trust interest should be accounted for separately.

Rich questioned the charge from Vanco as being too high. Vicki explained that she's still working with the

company to get fees straightened out and credits correctly applied to our account.

Some questions arose around memorial donations and the reporting of them being inconsistent. Kim requested that Vicki go back to delineating individual memorial donations for clarity.

Rich pointed out that budget numbers needed to be updated to 2021 rather than 2020. Rich motioned to table the treasurer's report until the discrepancies could be addressed; Bob seconded. Motion carried.

In other financial matters, Vicki asked whether we would be collecting for the Easter Lilies this year and council agreed we should proceed.

Vicki also brought up the matter of the safe deposit box at Central bank reaching capacity. We currently pay a reduced fee of \$8 per year and she requested the approval to switch to a larger box at \$30 per year. Bob motioned to upgrade to a larger box; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes: Minutes for January regular council meeting had previously been emailed for review. Bob motioned to accept January regular council meeting minutes; Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes for the January 14 Special Council meeting were reviewed. Rich motioned to accept the January 14 special meeting minutes; Bob seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's report: Now that Pastor has received his full vaccination, he is eligible again to be called in to Memorial Hospital as chaplain; he is next on call February 18th.

Reducing the video quality for the Live streaming seems to be working as a temporary solution until the internet service can be upgraded by Charter. The Office Admin/Financial Treasurer job opening has been posted to the Church website as has the link for e-giving.

Pastor and Bill Savering will be alternating weeks during lent to provide the message during Lenten services, and Maundy Thursday will once again have a message in lieu of the dramatic presentation.

Regarding the confirmation class, Faith presentations will occur on March 21st, with Confirmation on March 28th and First Communion on Easter Sunday, April 4th. Aubrey Weaver of last year's class, will be joining this year's class of Lukas Pellmann, Ava Stumpf and Emma Stumpf for Confirmation and First

Facing Your Gardens of Gethsemane

Are you struggling with fear today? Is it the pandemic, a job, food, something else? Are you seeing the size of your worries and not the size of your Savior? I think I can point you in a direction that might help you right-size your fear. I'd like to start with a long look at Jesus. A long look at his face.

It's the expression of Jesus that puzzles us. We've never before seen his face like this. Jesus smiling, yes. Jesus weeping, absolutely. Jesus stern, even that. But Jesus anguished? Cheeks streaked with tears? Face flooded in sweat? Rivulets of blood dripping from his chin? You remember the night. Jesus left the city and went to the Mount of Olives, as he often did, and his followers went with him. When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray for strength against temptation."

Then Jesus went about a stone's throw away from them. He knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take away this cup of suffering. But do what you want, not what I want." Then an angel from heaven appeared to him to strengthen him. Being full of pain, Jesus prayed even harder. His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. (Luke 22:39-44)

What do we do with this image of Jesus? Simple. We turn to it when we look the same. We read it when we feel the same; we read it when we feel afraid. For isn't it likely that fear was one of the emotions Jesus felt? One might even argue that fear was the primary emotion. He saw something in the future so fierce, so foreboding that he begged for a change of plans. "Father, if you are willing, take away this cup of suffering" (Luke 22:42).

What causes you to pray the same prayer? Facing a pandemic? Leaving your house? Being in a crowd? Walking into a hospital? Boarding an airplane? Speaking publicly? Starting a new job? Taking a spouse? Driving on a highway? The source of your fear may seem small to others. But it freezes your feet, makes your heart pound, and brings blood to your face. That's what happened to Jesus.

He was so afraid that he bled. Doctors describe this condition as hematuria. Severe anxiety causes the release of chemicals that break down the capillaries in the sweat glands. When this occurs, sweat comes out tinged with blood. Jesus was more than anxious; he was afraid. Fear is worry's big brother. If worry is a burlap bag, fear is a trunk of concrete. It wouldn't budge. How remarkable that Jesus felt such fear. But how kind that he told us about it.

We tend to do the opposite. Gloss over our fears. Cover them up. Keep our sweaty palms in our pockets, our nausea and dry mouths a secret. Not so with Jesus. We see no mask of strength. But we do hear a request for strength.

"Father, if you are willing, take away this cup of suffering." The first one to hear his fear is his Father. He could have gone to his mother. He could have confided in his disciples. He could have assembled a prayer meeting. All would have been appropriate, but none were his priority. He went first to his Father.

Oh, how we tend to go everywhere else. First to the bar, to the counselor, to the self-help book, or to the friend next door. Not Jesus. The first one to hear his fear was his Father in heaven. How did Jesus endure the terror of the crucifixion? He went first to the Father with his fears.

Do the same with yours. Don't avoid life's Gardens of Gethsemane. Enter them. Just don't enter them alone. And while there, be honest. Pounding the ground is permitted. Tears are allowed. And if you sweat blood, you won't be the first. Do what Jesus did; open your heart. And be specific. Jesus was. "Take this cup," he prayed. Give God the date of the event. Provide the number of the flight. Tell him about the doctor's appointment. Share the details of the job transfer. He has plenty of time. He also has plenty of compassion. He doesn't think your fears are foolish or silly. He won't tell you to "buck up" or "get tough." He's been where you are. He knows how you feel.

And he knows what you need. That's why we punctuate our prayers as Jesus did. "If you are willing . . ." Was God willing? Yes and no. He didn't take away the cross, but he took the fear. God didn't still the storm, but he calmed the sailor. Who is to say he won't do the same for you?

Philippians 4:6 reminds us, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Don't measure the size of the mountain; talk to the One who can move it. Instead of carrying the world on your shoulders, talk to the One who holds the universe on his. Hope is a look away. Maybe you've let fear rule your life in the past, but today, give your fears to God. It's never too late to begin again.

In case of hospitalization or surgery, please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital, be sure to mention that you are affiliated with this congregation. This will help us keep you in our prayers and assist you in our ministry of care.



IN THE HOSPITAL IN FEBRUARY

Judy Sutter, Tracy Gilmore, Barb Hohlt

CURRENT PRAYER LIST

Pray for strength and healing for the following:

Marv and Patti Albert, Carson Allen, Katelyn Allen, Wanda Basse, Dylan Billhartz, Brock Bomleny, Darwin Bretsch, Pat Burns, Nancy Caponi, Jesse Cook, Cindy Cooney, Bob Cotter, Ellen Daniels, Roger Davis, Julie Dickerson, Sharon Dill, Angel Forsha, Annie Dulle, Doug Elden, Sue Flora, Carol French, Willard French, Fritz Fritzinger, Pastor Matt Friz, Tracy Gilmore, Pearl Griebel, Kendra Haas, Matt Haas, Winnie Hambleton, John Harries, Mary Harries, Barb Hohlt, Dennis Hopfinger, Adam Hubbs, Pat Illert, Tom Jenkins, Sarah Johnson, Wayne Jones, Julie and her husband, Melanie Keck, RJ Keim, Luann Kenrickstein, John Kistner, Jerry Klotz, Mary & Sonny Koehler, Tom Krauter, Bill Launius Sr., Jo Ann Martz, Monique Masengale, Allen Mattingly, Armin Mehrtens, Don Mehrtens, Kay Mehrtens, Les Mehrtens, Landon Meppiel, Myrt Metter, Kenny Middendorf, Wilbur Miller, Norman Mills, Jennifer Missey, Helen Mueller, Jim Mueller, Paula Muskopf, Era Osborn, Jodi Notter, Dr. Pat and Norma Novak, Doris Obernagel, Jon Orelt, Alexis Papavassilion, Linda Pistor, Layla Post, Matt Preston, Jim Reinheimer, Rich Riemann, Mrs. Savering, Peter Schrader, Jean Seymour, Shelly Smith, Nicky Smith, Sharon Stallmann, Chris Stander, Judy Sutter, Joann Talent, Jerry Tastad, Angie Thomason, Jackson Thorn, Rich Trent, Elizabeth Tubbs, Marcia Twellmann, Darrell Vogt, Freda Warriner, Melissa Weber, Neal Weber, Lauretta Werhan, Doug Whelan, Reese Wild, Joan Wilkens, Rev. Jeffrey Willey, Beth Windeknecht, Herb Woehlke, Marge Woehlke, Bart & Kelley

SERVING OUR COUNTRY Sgt. Anthony Hanson, Jr., Brandon Lester, Kory Klein and Michael Barnes serving overseas; Alec Winter, Erin Green, Adam Stern, Andrew Haag, Brendan Caswell and Derek Ferguson in the Middle East; Jesse Eimer, Jason Parrish, Chris Lewis, Sharon Wirth, Al Wirth, Jimmy Combs, Joe Morris, Stefan Caswell, Cameron Ahrens, Kasey Launius, Samantha Glaeser and Joshua Trent serving in the States; Austin Stumpf serving in Korea

To add a name to our prayer list, please locate a communication card in the pews. Provide the name, address, phone, and reason for the prayer request— place the card in the offering plate or give it to an usher. You may also contact the church office between 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. weekdays or by leaving a message on our answering machine. Members of our prayer team will pray daily for everyone on our list. (Contact Barbara Hohlt for more information (476-1750). **Names will be left on the list for one month unless you contact Barbara Hohlt or the church office.**

If you would like to receive prayer chain information via e-mail, contact Barb Hohlt at barbhohlt@aol.com

Meal-a-Month Schedule

Let us not forget those who are less fortunate. There never seems to be an end to those who are in dire need. Your help is appreciated.

March
Instant Potatoes
Jelly
Hamburger Helper
Jello or Pudding

April
Cake mixes/frosting
Cereal
Jelly
Mac and Cheese

The Food Pantry is always looking for volunteers. Please consider donating your time to this worthy cause. Call Patti French at 618-660-4255 to sign up.

Communion services since she missed out last year. Bob motioned to accept Pastor's report; Rich seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Audit & Budget: Rich provided notes and reflections from the audit process. Council will review the notes for further discussion next month.

Long Range Ministry: Stacy had nothing to report.

Mission & Outreach: Mary Lou emphasized the generosity of donations for the different mission projects over the past month.

Staff/Parish Relations: Kim had to leave the meeting early, though Stacy did note that one application for the Office Administrator/Financial Treasurer had been received and would be forwarded to the hiring committee.

Property: Earl reported the clock in the tower is again working and keeping time thanks to the efforts of Rich Hoffelmeyer. The furnace is also being regularly checked and is in good shape.

Volunteer Ministries: Kathi had nothing to report.

Worship & Music: Discussed the need for some work around contemporary music during service. It has been relayed that many members struggle with the new music so we need to investigate how to make the contemporary music portion more accessible and enjoyable for the congregation.

Cemetery Board: Charlotte had to leave the meeting early

Old Business: Vicki presented pricing from a Belleville company for both new and refurbished units and the possibility of investing in two: one for each floor. Pastor asking Vicki to reach out to the company about the possibility of getting two refurbished units.

New Business: Mary Lou suggested a review of the safe deposit box contents to see if some things could be removed. Rich pointed out that Vicki and Pastor are the only signers on the box. Pastor noted it would be better if the Council President replaced the pastor as the second signer on the box as it's generally best to keep the pastor's position separate from financial matters. Rich motioned to replace Pastor with the Council President as second signer for the safe deposit box; Kathi seconded. Motion carried,

Council discussed the usual Easter morning schedule of Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m., breakfast at 8:00 a.m., Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. and second service at 10:00 a.m. Council agreed to forgo breakfast this year due to ongoing COVID difficulties. Sunrise service will now be at 8:00 a.m. with Sunday School still at 9:00 a.m. and second service still at 10:00 a.m. Council also agreed that the Easter Egg hunt for the Sunday School classes should still go on as usual.

Rich made motion to adjourn; Mary Lou seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

President - Dale Gruenewald
Secretary - Stacy Woehlke



A big "Thanks" to everyone who helped make the Memorial Hospital COVID Nurses Dinner a big success! We raised \$345! There were 37 nurses who were treated to a delicious dinner of fried

chicken, potluck potatoes, green beans, applesauce, rolls, homemade pie and valentine candy. The total amount spent was \$163.14 - a small token considering all the stress and hard work these people have experienced during this pandemic.

A big thanks to the Zion workers who donated their time and talents in prepping this carry-out dinner. A job well done!

The Council will decide what to do with the extra money not used for this dinner. Stay tuned !





Mission Article for March 2021

Thank you for your generous support of our February missions. We have a booklet from Casas Por Cristo which states that "They exist to open the door for local pastors and churches to share the love of Jesus Christ by serving". "Local churches in Mexico, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic have seen new spiritual growth within their people as a result of experiencing God through the service of the teams of volunteers who come into their lives and demonstrate the love of Jesus." We are excited that we have a son of Zion serving as a missionary. Brendan Noerper was confirmed at Zion, and he is the grandson of Marvin and Irene Skaer. Brendan thanks us for our prayers and support in his decision to serve as a missionary with Casas Por Cristo. Thank you for your contributions for Brendan's work with Casas Por Cristo.

Thanks also for your support of Blanket Sunday, which helps Church World Service to provide blankets to people suffering from natural disasters and strife in their homes, whether in our own country or overseas. There are so many countries that have experienced warfare and natural disasters in the U.S., the Middle East and Africa the past few years, and people are fleeing their countries in search of safety. The blankets your contributions provide will help people in these difficult times.

Our mission for March will be Kids for Christ, another recent mission for Zion. Kids for Christ was founded 26 years ago in Freeburg, Illinois, and is now in 53 schools, including Millstadt. Kids for Christ is a community bible study for Kindergarten through Grade 4. Grades 5 through 8 are welcome to be helpers. Millstadt Primary Center is the location for Kids for Christ in Millstadt, and we have several volunteers who have volunteered to help this ministry. There is no charge for children who wish to attend Kids for Christ, but of course there are expenses to the organization. The Stewardship Mission Team has selected this group to be our mission for March, and we hope you will support the mission with your contributions. We would also welcome new volunteers to serve our Millstadt students as teachers. Contact Pastor Darrell if you are interested.

Of course we also want to thank those members who never fail to bring food and household items for the Food Pantry. Bless you for helping the less fortunate with their needs. Be sure to bring your food and household items to church and place them in the collection box.

Thank you for your generous support of Zion's missions.


Care Center News

Oak Hill Nursing Home
Pearl Griebel
Jack Purdy
Wilmer Stiffler

Our Lady of the Snows
Betty Baltz

Garden Place at Millstadt
Marianne Baltz
Shirley Brandenburger
Delores Lang

Cambridge House
Shirley Glass
Wilbur Miller

Cedarhurst Care Center
Joan Godsy

Brightly Assisted Living
Arlene Dohrman

The Woodlands of Arnold
Nancy Caponi



With February being cold and snowy there was not too many things getting done. We did pick up some yard sale items from afar; we replaced light bulbs; and shoveled snow from the walkways. A big thanks to Mark Germann for clearing the parking lot.

The Boiler Chemical Testers determined we needed a new valve installed. The cost would be \$541. After discussing it with the Z Team we decided to go ahead with the installation and pay for it out of our funds. A small part with a big cost!!! But, it is working!

Sending get well wishes to Dennis Hopfinger - we miss him and hope to see him back shortly. Also, to the ladies that help us out - Barb Hohlt, Judy Sutter and Kay Mehtens - hoping that you all recover soon.

~ Gary Shondy

March Birthdays

Susan Weible	2	Lucy Caponi	13	Katelyn Schmeder	20
Bridgett Bayer	4	Kenneth Harres	15	Nathan Buecher	21
Kourtney Bayer	4	Judith Jones	15	Eric Caponi	22
Lloyd Schneider	6	Kathryn Skaer	15	Kaeli Bueckman	22
Madylin Horvath	6	Cody Funk	16	Eleanora Johnston	22
Ella Weaver	8	Katelyn Strobo	16	Bradley Rolland	23
Coleman Cromwell	10	Jacob Gruenewald	16	Jacob Kreher	23
Mackenzie White	10	Marvin Skaer	17	Drake Terveer	24
Dale Gruenewald	11	Loraine Obst	17	Stephanie Seibert	25
Shirley Brandenburger	13	Maia Mercurio	17	Brandan Wade	26
David Brommelhorst	13	Calahan McCollum	18	Lauren Acker	27
William Meyerchak	13	Alexander Rosenkranz	18	David Kuester	28
Natalee Bayer	13	Samuel Rosenkranz	18	Henry Campbell	28
Elizabeth Staub	13	Mason Reid	18	Mark Germann	30
				Michael Germann	30
				Kathryn Caponi	30



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021
3:00 - 8:00 PM
ST. JAMES

To schedule an appointment
1-800-733-2767 or
visit RedCrossBlood.org
Bring Photo ID



We are in need of candy to fill the plastic eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. Please consider helping out with this project by donating your candy by Sunday, March 28th. There will be a box in Riess Hall.

Thank you!



March Anniversaries

Les & Kay Mehtens
52 years on the 29th

 **Sisters in Faith** 

Sharing our love for God and each other.

No meeting in March

CANCELLED  **Trivia Night** 