Volume 53—No. 4

April 2020

Tidings of Zion

VISIT ZION'S WEBSITE AT ZIONBELVIDERE.COM

From the Pastor's Desk

What a difference a month makes!

Last month we were gearing up for Lent, introduction of Holden Evening Prayer, return of morning Bible Study to Zion, and we still had a faint smudge of ash on our forehead.

We hardly need to be reminded of our humanity, our frailty or our mortality this month.

Our reminders are now in the 24/7 news cycle, in government and facility lockdowns, in social and physical distancing. Our frailty to the coronavirus is revealed in the difficult decision to temporarily suspend worship services at 1300 Pearl Street, and other decisions.

Holy Week worship: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter will all be on video. Plan for walking with Christ, from the streets of Jerusalem, to the table of the Last Supper, to the hill known as The Skull, to the Empty Tomb. We will celebrate Easter on video. When it is safe to reconvene, we will have a huge Celebration Feast on worship and fellowship.

We remain a community committed to Sharing Christ's Love. We are now challenged to do it differently.

While we miss the physical bonding, (I miss hugs, handshakes, and seeing the pews full of the Zion faithful and visitors), we remember that the church is not 1300 Pearl Street.

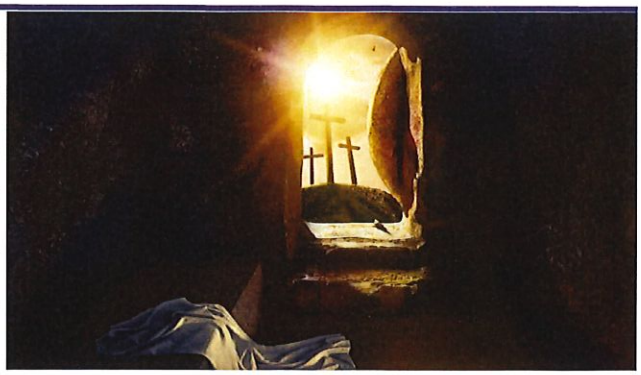
You, dear people of Zion Lutheran are the church. You are the Body of Christ.

It is time to be church….in a time of anxiety, disease, fear and even death. The church was made for times such as this...to minister to the suffering and afflicted and to be the Light in the darkness.

It is especially time for the Light of Christ to shine forth. Let your Light shine before others.

I hold you all in prayer and am confident that nothing, NOTHING can separate us from the love of Christ.
Pastor David Petersen

Zion Covid-19 Updates, Tithes, Lenten Cans, Palms	2
Staying Connected, Children's Message	2
Birthdays, Community Meal, Barnabas, From the Treasurer	3
Thank You's	4
Genoa Road Clean-up, Nursery, Lower Level, Update Contact Info	5
Ministry of the Month, Ruth Kaschub Obituary	6
Mark Your Calendars, Date to remember, Staff, Worship Schedule, Council Members	7



Zion Covid-19 Updates

- Public worship services in the building are suspended till further notice. Thursday night and Sunday morning. Instead, you now have the option to be at church via video whenever you like…..and even more than once! Through the website www.zionbelvidere.com or via the Zion Facebook page.
- The church building is closed to all but the most essential church business. This is in part the responsibility we all have to shelter in place to decrease the spread of the infection. Especially because our beloved church admin has a very sensitive immune system. We want Jennifer to remain healthy, so please stay out!
- Holy Week worship: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter will all be on video. Plan for walking with Christ, from the streets of Jerusalem, to the table of the Last Supper, to the hill known as The Skull, to the Empty Tomb. We will celebrate Easter on video. When it is safe to reconvene, we will have a huge Celebration Feast on worship and fellowship.

Tithes, Offerings, Lenten Cans, and Palms

In these times, we are called to remain faithful in our giving and worship. In the entryway on the west side, on the window area you will find offering plates. During the week, during regular office hours you may drop off your offering in the plate. If you cannot make it by the building, you can mail your offering in or on our web site, click on "Donate" then click on "Donate using Paypal" and follow the instructions.

In that same area, you will also find the Lenten Purple draped can…..please continue to drop cans in the collection as we continue our drive to feed our hungry neighbors. Let's see if we can fill the can again!

Beginning Monday, you will also be able to grab a palm branch. In the Palm Sunday worship video, we will shout our Hosannas as Jesus makes His triumphal entry into the Holy City, on a road that ends at Calvary.

Jennifer will buzz you in for the giving of offerings and picking up a palm for praise on Palm Sunday. Please respect the closure of the building and leave after you have given your offerings.

Staying Connected

Check in on a neighbor. Call a friend from church. Say thanks to the clean-up crew.
And….don't be surprised if someone from church calls you. Answer the phone.
It could be a Zion church council person. Who knows? It may even be the pastor, calling to say hello!

Children's Message

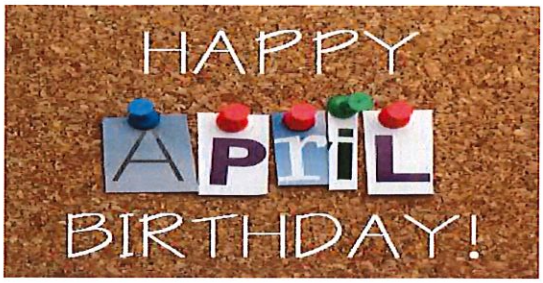
ATTENTION Zion Kidz, Parents, Grandparents, (& Confirmands)!! Did you know that in the worship video Pastor Petersen is giving a Children's Sermon, just like in the regular service? I miss seeing you join me on the chancel steps, but this is the next best thing. Confirmands: you can fast forward to the Children's Sermon and do your sermon/service report. EZ!! I'll look forward to seeing your reports in my mail. Just drop them off in the offering plate (along with your offering and a can of food) in the entryway.

April Birthdays

5 - Kris Enright
6 - Carolyn Poole
Rocco Baird
7 - Preston Watts
Joanne Miller
8 - Marguerite Fowler
Lavonne Spangler
9 - Joanie Ekberg
10 - Anthony Mallegni
Zachary Brown
11 - Marie Anderson
Jordan Lehman
14 - Ellen Swanson
16 - Gail Walsh Knitter
18 - Dick Durley
20 - Julie Bredlau
21 - Kay Boudreau
22 - Nate Brunschon
23 - Judy Ernest
24 - Gretel Baird
25 - Art Boudreau
27- Riley Sipe
28 - Lisa Ahlberg
30- Ben Hicks

Marguerite Fowler will be 95 on April 8th

My mom's birthday party with her family has been postponed. We are making her cards etc. but for those who remember her, if you could send a birthday card to 9350 Reeds Crossing Rd. Belvidere, IL 61008
It would help brighten her day.
Thanks Cheryl Sturges



The Community Meal was held on March 11 and it was a wonderful gathering with 43 people. We enjoyed meaningful fellowship and a wonderful spaghetti dinner with salad, garlic bread and other goodies.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not have an April community meal.
We will keep everyone posted when these can resume.

Barnabas Ministry
encouragement and help for those in need

Barnabas Update

Due to the current shelter in place, and to keep everyone safe, we have stopped all Barnabas visits to the shut-ins. We will be reaching by calling our members at nursing homes and making sure they are not forgotten. We ask the congregation to do the same especially with those alone, and each other, to keep in touch during these difficult times. God Bless

From the Treasurer

General Fund

02/2020	Beginning Balance	$43,282.78
	Total Income	$18,051.73
	Total Expenses	$21,560.95
	Balance	$39,773.56

Building Fund

02/2020	Beginning Balance	$2,165.07
	Total Income	$2,876.87
	Total Expenses	$4,186.42
	Balance	$ 855.52

Church Deep Cleaning -Thank You to all the Volunteers

Due to a possible secondary contact to an individual that tested positive to the Covid19 virus and with a staff member with a compromised immune system, a group of 14 dedicated Zion members spent 4 to 5 hours cleaning and disinfecting the church on March 18th. The individuals that made the church a cleaner and healthier place for what limited activities will be occurring the next several weeks were:

John and Lois Bender, Gene Berg, Dick and Kris Beever, Arlyn Groen, Janet Schultz, Jodie Archer, Jean Andersen, Joannie Ekberg, Melvin and Walita Johnson, Gary and Sharon Yunto

The items cleaned and sanitized included:

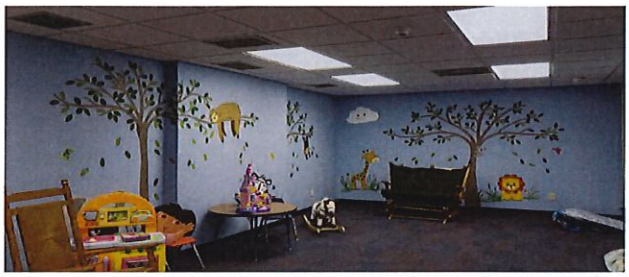
Office and Library area
Pew cushions removed and vacuumed.
All carpets in the church were vacuumed.
Wood Pews, Pew bibles, hymnals, Friendship Pads, pencils.
Alter area surfaces, chairs and rooms on each side.
Choir loft surfaces, chairs, equipment, music folders, etc.
All handrails throughout the church.
All doors, handles, push bars, push plates, glass, wood.
Fellowship hall table and chairs, ledges, piano, alter, storage cabinet doors, serving equipment, etc.
All seven Bathrooms were totally cleaned.
Dave's Den – the whole room.
Kitchen – entire room, Narthex area – all surfaces
Coat racks and all hangers.
Entire Sunday School area used by the kids.
The Sewing area used by the Sewing ladies.
Nursery flat surface areas

Other items accomplished included:
All trash containers were emptied, and some were cleaned
All recycling removed
All soft-soap containers refilled
All the pew hand sanitizers were refilled.
A "Giant" Zion THANK YOU to all the volunteers!(Especially from Jennifer)

Thanks to the Zion video worship team: Video and Production Crew: Gary Yunto, Mike Knitter, Doug Shiloh; Musicians Dan and Mary Albrecht, Nadiya Reininger; Kris Beever and the Altar Guild.
Dedication to detail made this an award-winning worship experience.

Road Clean-up

If you travel south on Genoa Rd. During the fall and spring, weather permitting, you could see a group from our church cleaning up the roadside. We have been cleaning Genoa Road from by-pass 20 to Huber Rd. for over 25 years. The individuals in charge have changed, but the need to care for God's creation still exists. The council would like to thank Mary Lightfoot for her years as head of this ministry. In order to continue we need an individual to step up and lead the project. What does that mean? The county provides us with bags, we have vests and gloves, and the county picks up the bags. You would have to pick a date in the spring and fall and get a group of 12-15 individuals that would help with the clean-up. You could write an article in the newsletter announcing the date and inviting our members to help, (I could arrange for confirmation students to help) and a sign-up sheet on our board. If we do not get a leader for this ministry we will tell the county not to renew our contract.
Prayerfully consider volunteering to lead.
Cheryl Sturges



Our beautiful new Nursery has been cleaned and sanitized and ready for children. We will now have a High School student, Emma Cordray, to staff the nursery. There will be a small Bible lesson for the children and Emma will bring them in for the children's sermon.
Parents may come and get them for communion.

Lower Level Report

Many hands have helped with the tearing apart and cleaning the lower level area. We are waiting on the lights to arrive, and when they come in we have an individual to install the lights. We have washed walls, windows, and registers. The woodwork, windows and doors are being refinished. There are individuals that have taken out old ceiling tile and are washing the grid in preparation for new tiles. We had some of our younger members come and bring in 32 new bundles of ceiling tiles weighing 40lbs each. I would like to personally thank Kristopher, Tyler, Caleb Swanson, Jared Wick, Cody Fowler, Mark Rednour, Andrew Cordray, Bryan Bye and Jeff Ernest. We have cleaned the Sunday School Craft Room, the boiler room, the furnace room and the Daycare office. We are having a paint company come in that will paint the walls. Much has been happening, thank you Gary and Sharon Yunto, Mary and Gene Berg, Jon and Jean Huffman, Melvin and Walita Johnson, Jean Anderson, Joanie Eckberg, Kathy Hansen, John Bender, Mike Knitter, and Aryln Groen.

Please submit your current Email addresses and phone numbers to the church office so we can update the our contact list.

Ministry of the Month

Christian Nurturing Committee

The Christian Nurturing Committee is tasked with overseeing education at Zion, especially Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. We usually meet every 4-6 weeks depending on the time of year. Working with the Youth Director, we decide on the Sunday School curriculum, VBS Theme and help with the Christmas Program. We also try to have additional get togethers or outings where the kids can socialize and have fun outside of the Sunday School. The committee includes Melissa Bahena, Nancy Brendum, Emma Cordray (also our Music Leader), Melita Ogen, Linda and Tom Johnson, Heather Wick and Pat Castro (Sunday School Director). We are always looking for new members so if you think you might be interested, come downstairs and visit during the Sunday School Hour.

Ruth Peterson Kaschub 1921-2020

Ruth Peterson Kaschub 98, of Sun City Center, FL, formerly of Belvidere, IL, peacefully passed away on Monday, March 2, 2020. She was born on May 9, 1921, in Union, IL, to the late Otto and Emma (Martens) Wittlief. She was blessed to share her life with two wonderful men. She married Allen Peterson June 24, 1945, in Belvidere. He predeceased her on November 20, 1979. She began the second chapter of her life on April 12, 1986, when she married Paul Kaschub in Belvidere. He predeceased her on April 12, 2015.

Ruth was a very active longtime member of Zion Lutheran Church in Belvidere, involved in many groups and ministries. Throughout her life, she enjoyed collecting angels, playing cards, and dancing. Her biggest joy was spending time with her family. She loved them all a "bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck!"

She is survived by her daughter, Paula (Larry) Karlson; son, Allen (Michelle) Peterson; step children, Mary Lou (Roger) Carlton, Barbara Engstrom, Richard (Theresa) Leonard, William (Toni) Kaschub; numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Zion Lutheran Church 1300 Pearl St. Belvidere, IL , at a future date.

Mark Your Calendars

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH
AT THE FIRESIDE DINNER THEATRE
IN FORT ATKINSON, WI

ARRIVE AT 2:30PM, DINE AT 3PM,
SHOW IS AT 5PM
$71.95 PER PERSON

DRIVERS ARE NEEDED

CONTACT WANDA WATTS AT 815-505-4426
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Council Reports Due on April 10th

Articles for Tidings Due on April 17th

Zion Lutheran Church
1300 Pearl Street
Belvidere IL 61008

Phone: 815-547-6102
Fax: 815-544-0590
E-mail: zionoffice@zionbelvidere.org

Website address
www.zionbelvidere.com
Facebook: Zion Belvidere +

Office Hours:
Monday– Friday
9:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Our Staff

Rev. David J. Petersen
Pastor

Jeff Ernest
Council President

Mary Albrecht
Sunday Musician

Dan Albrecht
Thursday Musician

Dawn Calkins
Choir Director

Pat Castro
Sunday School Director

Diane Vorndran
Financial Secretary

Sharon Yunto, Treasurer

Jennifer Van Fleet, Administrative Assistant

Dan Druckrey, Custodian

Worship Schedule

Due to Covid-19

We are Closed Until
Further Notice

Find our Worship Videos on our
Website at

zionbelvidere.com

Council Members

Term Through 2021
Jeff Ernest
Donna Brookbank
Marge Olson
Doug Shiloh
Tanya Hoemke

Term Through 2022
Kris Beever
John Bender
Pat Scherf
Curt Gustafson

Term Through 2023
Cheryl Sturges
Kris Enright
Gail Walsh Knitter

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 ***Palm Sunday*** Online Service Video	6	7	8	9 ***Maundy Thursday*** Online Service Video	10 ***Good Friday*** Online Service Video ***Council Reports Due***	11
12 ***Easter Sunday*** Online Service Video	13	14	15 7:00pm Council Meeting	16	17 ***Tidings Articles Due***	18
19 Online Service Video	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Online Service Video	27	28	29	30		