



The Rosette

March 2025

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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For a couple of days last week my backyard was filled with flocks of feathered friends. The birds were busy and happy, foraging and feasting on overwintered berries and seeds from bushes and trees in my garden. It was a sight! Robins and starlings mostly, with a few sparrows and a pair of cardinals looking on. Every so often, the birds took flight en masse, only to return a few minutes later. The hungry robins particularly caught my attention because I rarely see flocks of these red-chested birds during the summer. This morning my beauty berry bush is devoid of its purple berries, but I did see a few birds hopping around looking for leftovers. I am taking all these things as a sign that spring *is* coming.

Jesus said, "Consider the ravens, they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds?" (Luke 12:24)

The season of Lent calls us to prayerfully consider this very question: "of how much more value are you than the birds?" Do we trust the promise in these words? Do we trust God's steadfast, immeasurable love? Do we trust God to provide?

Traditionally, Lent has been a 40-day season to empty ourselves through a variety of spiritual disciplines including confession and repentance, prayer, fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love. The important thing to remember is **why** we engage in such spiritual practices. We understand that in praying, fasting and giving, we empty ourselves and create space for God to fill and renew us. This Lent, consider the birds, and know how much God desires to nourish us with grace, mercy, and love.

The word Lent, by the way, comes from an old English word meaning 'lengthen,' a reference to the lengthening of the days in spring. Lent reminds us that a season of renewal is coming, that daylight will soon dispel the gloom, and that new life will emerge from the earth.

Lent is coming, beginning Ash Wednesday, March 5th. This means spring is coming, thanks be to God!

Pastor Kate

Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. We will offer a spoken service of worship at 11:30am and a service with music at 7:00pm. Both services will include holy communion with the imposition of ashes.



Marking our foreheads with ashes, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

Bible Study Continues

Sunday mornings we continue to ponder the book of Revelation. We are nearing the end of Revelation and will wrap up our study sometime in March. If you want to know how it ends, please join us! Here’s a hint: after many cycles of judgement against the principalities and powers that oppose God and the Lamb, Revelation ends with good news! Come and join the conversation after worship as we read this challenging letter written to the early church about 60 years after the time of Christ.

Small Group Discussion

The Tuesday small group continues to read and discuss God Has a Dream, A Vision of Hope for our Time. In his reflections on God’s dream for the world, Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa gives us reasons to hope, even in hard times. The group meets weekly at 1:30 pm.

Souper Bowl of Caring Results

The recent Super Bowl proved to be an interesting game this year. Whether you were rooting for the Eagles or the Chiefs, it didn’t matter where your loyalty was. Our Souper Bowl of Caring collection once again generated a nice number of cans of soup and crackers (179 cans and 3 boxes/bags of crackers for a total 201.28lbs) for the Food Pantry. These will help stock the shelves during this time of need. We thank all of you for your generosity. Well done!!

Property Updates

Hopefully, finally... our steam boiler system seems to be functioning properly! After extensive diagnostic work, and significant repairs to the steam piping system, Leffler is preparing to sign off for final inspection. We have been working on this boiler project for over a year and appreciate Leffler's diligence in seeing the project through.

For Your Information



In case of inclement weather on the morning of worship, please check Zion's Facebook page, or call the office for the status of worship or other activities.

Pastor Kate will record a message for the church answering machine (press 1 for worship schedule) in the event we need to cancel worship. If Sunday morning in-person worship needs to be cancelled, we hope to offer an alternative online. If weather conditions are questionable, please use your own discretion as to whether you want to go out or not. We certainly do not want to have anyone experience an accident trying to get here. Please, be safe. We will see you at another time.

Time to Spring Ahead!



Daylight Savings Time begins this year on Saturday night, March 8th. Remember to turn your clocks forward one hour when you go to bed that night to reflect the time change. *(If you forget, you may find yourselves missing Sunday morning worship.)*

2025 Flower & Bulletin Sponsors Needed

We have Flower and Bulletin Sponsor Charts posted in the entrance hallway for 2025. There are various openings listed for the year that need to be filled yet. Take some time to jot down your names on the special days you'd like to sponsor.



Annual Teen Central Banquet

Tuesday, March 11th – 6:00-8:30pm

The Junction Center (Landis Hall)

Doors open at 5:30pm / Silent Auction begins at 6:00pm

Guest Speaker, Ryan Zook (Interim Chief Executive Mentor at Men of Iron)

A member of Zion is sponsoring a table at the banquet again this year and we currently have 3 seats available. If you are interested, call the office and reserve a place.

Food Pantry Needs



During the month of March, the Manheim Central Food Pantry is looking for beef stew, cereal, egg noodles, rice sides, crackers, canned tuna, and canned chicken. (No used or opened items; no out-of-date items).

Monetary donations may also be sent to the MC Food Pantry, c/o Salem United Methodist Church, 140 N. Penn St., Manheim.

Please make sure any food items you may be donating are not out of date. Put donations in the cart outside the church office or drop them in the box on the porch of the food pantry at 334 W. Gramby St., Manheim. Monetary donations may also be sent to the MC Food Pantry, c/o Salem United Methodist Church, 140 N. Penn St., Manheim, PA.

We received a thank you note from the Food Pantry recently stating that we donated 1,114.88 lbs of food during the course of 2024. That's fabulous! They also received monetary donations totaling \$320 from members of Zion.

Daughters of Zion

Our February meeting showed how committed our ladies are. Seven faithful women braved the cold and wind to come out and start the new year off right. Helen Warnke opened the meeting with an interesting presentation on George Washington, since it was President's Day. We had a good business meeting, then played a "Do You Remember This" game for fun. Desserts were provided by Dot Longenecker and Jean Rambler.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) when our theme is "Wearing of the Green". We welcome new members to come and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and fun. We have refreshments, too! Come out and join us!!

Daughters of Zion – Committed to serving the Manheim Community

Just a reminder: Upper Room devotional booklets are available, both on the table in the Rose parlor and on the bookcase in the hallway. Price is \$1.00 per copy.





Love INC of Lancaster County has moved to Manheim and has established a new ministry called CONNECTION CENTRAL. This ministry is addressed to families and individuals who are struggling in Manheim Central, Manheim Township, and Hempfield School Districts. CONNECTION CENTRAL will provide limited financial assistance to those with qualifying needs, as well as more wholistic support to try to break cycles of poverty. An open house to showcase "Connection Central" as a place for hope and wholeness will be held in April.

Through its ministries, Love INC connects a person from a church with a neighbor who has a struggle or needs help. Currently, they are looking for people to serve as in-office helpers, Navigators, and Allies. All of these are key roles in the journey to wholeness for people who are struggling. Training will be provided.

Connection Central is committed to *revitalized lives for a better future*. Who knows? If you bring your talents into the mix, you might just open up New Hope and watch as someone is transformed.

Ashes

"Remember you are dust and to dust you will return." These words come from the Book of Genesis (3:19) and were spoken by God to Adam and Eve as they were being sent out of the Garden of Eden.

When we hear these words on Ash Wednesday, we remember that we continue that human journey into a fallen, broken world. With our foreheads smeared with ashes, we are called upon to face our own mortality and failings. In the act of receiving ashes, we are called to bare our whole selves to God — our beautiful, messy, sinful selves. And we are called to trust that when we come before God with humility and honesty, God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Traditionally the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are prepared by burning the palms left over from the previous year's Palm Sunday worship. In preparation for our services on March 5th, Pastor Kate hopes to burn Zion's dry and dusty leftover palms in coming days, once the wind and the weather cooperate.

Lenten Hymn

This year for our worship in Lent, we will learn and sing “Now is the Time of Grace.” The simple chorus printed below, and the accompanying verses are based on 2 of the assigned scripture readings for Ash Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 6:2 and Isaiah 58:6-9. Marty Haugen composed both the words and the music.

Now Is the Time of Grace



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains two measures of music, with a '1' above the first measure and a '2' above the second measure. The lyrics 'Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion.' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'Turn now, and seek God's face, now be-hold God's in - vi - ta - tion.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

Prayer Chain - Have you ever needed prayer? Instant, right away prayer? Or, needed as many people as possible to pray for you, whatever reason? Zion's Prayer Warriors are there for you! As soon as Pastor Kate is aware of a need for prayer, she, in turn, calls Linda Keiffer (contact person, 717-742-2149). Linda then contacts the Prayer Warriors. Since crisis, emergencies, death, etc. are spontaneous, you might get a call while still in your pajamas just having tea and toast or watching your favorite football game...BUT...it literally takes 3-5 minutes to answer the phone and “lift a prayer, Jesus have mercy”. We hope you will search your heart and be so inspired to join the group of warriors.



The Expanded Prayer List is published at the beginning of each month. Printed copies are available at the church. **You can contact Pr. Kate at the church office (665-5880) or Linda Keiffer @ 742-2149** to add a name to the list and to initiate the prayer chain.

Current Prayer Warriors to Zion's Prayer Chain include: Holly Brosey, Linda Keiffer, Norm Drescher, and Yvonne Kreider. If you would like to join the team as an additional prayer warrior, please contact Linda Keiffer. We could certainly use a few more members to make phone calls.

Take note: Please have permission from the person whose name you are placing on the list for prayer. The name of the contact person and phone number are also important for updates and further information about the person being prayed for.

Preschool News

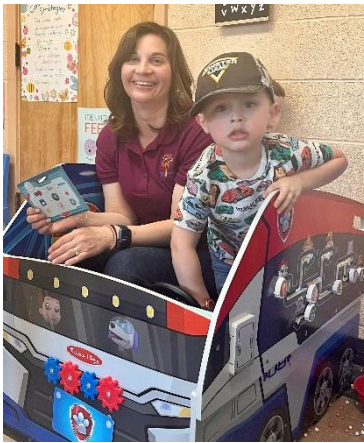
We kicked off February with a snow day and followed it up with Valentine's Day fun and Parent/Teacher Conferences. During conferences we have the opportunity to talk about our favorite people with their families and help guide their next steps. It's a special time where we get to focus on each child individually and hear from their parents. Conferences go hand in hand with us opening enrollment for the 2025/2026 school year. We already have two full classes and the other classes are filling up nicely!

Thank you to all who purchased a Sub/Sandwich during our preschool fundraiser! The sale was a success!

March looks to be full of learning and fun! I am hoping the weather cooperates and we can get through the month smoothly. We are itching to get outside and look for sunny days in the forecast!

Please continue to keep our programs in your prayers!

Katie





Parish Registry

New Phone # - Linda Martin, 717-575-1666

Financial Notes:

with joy and thanksgiving for your faithful stewardship.

OFFERINGS	Mo. Total	Budget
January General Fund offering	19,870	19,659
January Greater Zion Fund offering	1,220	---
February General Fund offering (as of 2/17)	10,322	19,659
February Greater Zion Fund offering (as of 2/17)	710	---

March Birthdays

- 3/4 Jessica Summy
- 3/6 David Mann
- 3/15 Heather Fotiou
Tim Sheaffer
- 3/16 Donna Wilkie
- 3/21 Mike Schroll
- 3/23 Donna Ober
- 3/24 Rick Brosey
- 3/30 Linda Barthold
- 3/31 Yonnie Kauffman



March Anniversaries

- 3/9 Mike & Donna Dieter



March Readings

3/1 Psalm 99
Deuteronomy 9:15-24
Luke 10:21-24

Transfiguration of Our Lord

3/2 Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

3/3 Psalm 35:11-28
Exodus 35:1-29
Acts 10:9-23a

3/4 Psalm 35:11-28
Ezekiel 1:1-2:1
Acts 10:23b-33

Ash Wednesday

3/5 Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

3/6 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Exodus 5:10-23
Acts 7:30-34

3/7 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Exodus 6:1-13
Acts 7:35-42

3/8 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
John 12:27-36

1st Sunday in Lent

3/9 Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

3/10 Psalm 17
1 Chronicles 21:1-17
1 John 2:1-6

3/11 Psalm 17
Zechariah 3:1-10
2 Peter 2:4-21

3/12 Psalm 17
Job 1:1-22
Luke 21:34-22:6

3/13 Psalm 27
Genesis 13:1-7, 14-18
Philippians 3:2-12

3/14 Psalm 27
Genesis 14:17-24
Philippians 3:17-20

3/15 Psalm 27
Psalm 118:26-29
Matthew 23:37-39

2nd Sunday in Lent

3/16 Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35

3/17 Psalm 105:1-15 [16-41] 42
Exodus 33:1-6
Romans 4:1-12

March Readings, cont'd

3/18 Psalm 105:1-15 [16-41] 42
Numbers 14:10b-24
1 Corinthians 10:1-13

3/19 Psalm 105:1-15 [16-41] 42
2 Chronicles 20:1-22
Luke 13:22-31

3/20 Psalm 63:1-8
Daniel 3:19-30
Revelation 2:8-11

3/21 Psalm 63:1-8
Daniel 12:1-4
Revelation 3:1-6

3/22 Psalm 63:1-8
Isaiah 5:1-7
Luke 6:43-45

3^d Sunday in Lent

3/23 Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

3/24 Psalm 39
Jeremiah 11:1-17
Romans 2:1-11

3/25 Psalm 39
Ezekiel 17:1-10
Romans 2:12-16

3/26 Psalm 39
Numbers 13:17-27
Luke 13:18-21

3/27 Psalm 32
Joshua 4:1-13
2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5

3/28 Psalm 32
Joshua 4:14-24
2 Corinthians 5:6-15

3/29 Psalm 32
Exodus 32:7-14
Luke 15:1-10

4th Sunday in Lent

3/30 Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

3/31 Psalm 53
Leviticus 23:26-41
Revelation 19:1-8



Altar Flowers



- Mar. 2 This space available. Please call office at 665-5880.
- Mar. 9 Mike & Donna Dieter in honor of their anniversary
- Mar. 16 This space available. Please call office at 665-5880.
- Mar. 23 Marc & Carol Phillips in honor of Jack's & Caleb's birthdays
- Mar. 30 Donna Moore in honor of her parents

Note: Flowers are \$40 per week and must be paid to the church by the beginning of the month for the flowers you are sponsoring. Thank you.

Bulletin Sponsors

Month of March – Kelly Barthold

Bulletins are - \$9.00 per week



Worship Help Schedule

We need helpers for this position. Please sign on the volunteer sheet outside the church office.

Date	Greeters/Ushers	Lay Readers	Communion Assistants
3/2	Dave & Sharon Lynes	Denny Valins	
3/9	Stan Rohrer	Norm Drescher	Lenny Burns
3/16	Martha Rudisill	Donna Moore	Donna Moore
3/23	Dennis Obetz	Donna Wilkie	Donna Wilkie
3/30	John Stouch	Paul Caplinger	
4/6	Fay Varner	Ronda Moore	
4/13	Kelly Barthold	Mary Welliver	Lenny Burns
4/20	Donn & Deb Gehman	Esther Brosey	
4/27	Mike & Kathy Connelly	Carol Atherholt	

Zion's Prayers

Please remember Zion's members as you pray:

Gloria Althouse
Barbara Grunenberger
Erma May
Dennis Shafnisky

Nancy Brenner
Verna Landry
Betty Minnich
Nic & Stefan Spohn

Kate Eichelberger
Linda Martin
Sue Murray
Mary Welliver

Please remember our Friends of Zion in your prayers:

Emily Bair
Mary Bisking
Janet Cummings
Bill Duncan
Dave Faus
Sandy Grimm
Jenny Lohr
Linda McClurg
Ed Moyer
Karen Plessl
Abby Shipe
Thad Toole

Becky
David Bradfield
Jake Deery
Lee Elgin
Leslie Flory
Christa Hampton
Diane Lord
McKenna
Jason Mummau
Mike Rambler
Frank Smith
Joyce Warn

Tom Beil
Judi Brosey
Esther Diffenderfer
Lewis Ettinger
Sterling Gernert
Heather Hildebrand
Yasir Makki
Matt Meiskey
Pamela Nester
Diane Repp
Rachel Toole
Tom Welliver

Please remember those in Military Service as you pray:

Ryan Plowman, Blake Reber, and Mikaela Adams

