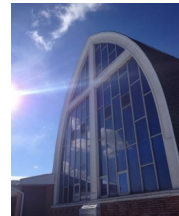




MOUNT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

2164 Mount Zion Road † York, Pennsylvania 17406
(717) 757-7626 † mtzionlutheranyork@gmail.com

www.mtzionyork.org



April Newsletter

April 2024

From the Pastor's Desk ...



The words of Jesus to the women at the tomb on that first Easter morning summarize for us the complete message of the whole of the Easter event, and our Christian outlook on life. Remember Jesus said, "DO NOT BE AFRAID."

Because Jesus Christ is risen from the dead for us, He has affirmed everything written of Him in the scriptures, and confirmed for us everything that He has taught in the Gospel. The core of His ministry among us and all the good news of God's kingdom that He came into the world to announce can be summed up in that statement, and we do not ever need to be afraid again.

"DO NOT BE AFRAID" of death because Jesus has conquered death for Himself and all those who believe in Him. By His resurrection He also assures our own with Him.

"DO NOT BE AFRAID" to be alone because Jesus has promised to always be with us. And not only has He promised never to forsake us, but He has sent his Holy Spirit into our hearts; to live there and to guide us.

"DO NOT BE AFRAID" of God's judgment of the sins that we do, known and unknown, because Jesus died to assure our forgiveness by belief in Him and repentance.

"DO NOT BE AFRAID" of making wrong choices in life but strive to do all things out of love and with a servant's desire to do what is best for others. Jesus commanded us to love God first and neighbor before self, and He promised that if we will do our best to obey His Great Mandatum (the Great Commandment) then He will see to it that in the end of all things, everything will work out for the best.

"DO NOT BE AFRAID" of anything of this world and not even the things of our own broken human nature because we are the children of God and truly loved by our Heavenly Father, and the Father has promised that not a single one of His children will be lost or snatched away from His loving embrace. There just isn't any reason to be afraid. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! AMEN!

Peace be with you.

Pastor Burkhardt

Got a question,... need to talk ?

The office door is open and the phone is working.

Our Services

Sundays

10:30am

Liturgical Worship
with Holy Communion
*Virtual via Facebook Live
and YouTube Live*

*A bulletin can be found to
follow along with worship on
our website at
www.mtzionyork.org.*

*Virtual services are available
to view at any time once the
livestream is over.*

April Events

10: Bible Study 12:30

14: Confirmands

15: Church Council

17: Bible Study 12:30

21: "Spirituality 2.0"

Interim Event

Following worship

24: Bible Study 12:30

26: Lunch Bunch 12:00

Marinos Restaurant

Monthly Benevolence

ELCA World Hunger



OUR MISSION

To spread the Gospel in accordance with God's plan by ministering to the spiritual and human needs of all people through our gifts, talents, and our love in Jesus Christ.

INTERIM MINISTRY PROGRESS REPORT February 18, 2024

On Sunday February 18 Pastor Jorgenson of the Lower Susquehanna Synod visited Mt. Zion. Following the service, he conducted a workshop in the fellowship hall. This session was designed to aid the congregation to continue its transitional journey as we prepare to call a new minister.

The exercise had groups of members use styrofoam cups and school pencils to fashion representations of what we are as a congregation and as God's people here at Mt. Zion. The groups, using their sculptures, identified common traits, behaviors, and themes they saw within the congregation. It was surprising that although working independently, the groups identified common themes. For example, the congregation is cohesive yet flexible: members of the congregation support each other as a church family; the congregation is committed to doing God's work not only within the Mt. Zion Church family but also reaching out to the York area community; the congregation is welcoming and accepting of others; the congregation is diverse (composed of a wide array of members coming from different professions, different educational backgrounds and different political viewpoints). The consensus was that what is wonderful about our congregation is that this mix of perspectives is working. Our members respect each other, we glory in each other's successes, and we support each other when one of us hits a bump or pothole in life's journey.

The session conducted by Pastor Jorgenson was one in a series of workshops conducted by Pastor Bob and our Transition Team to help our congregation look at where we have come from; where we are presently; and where we want to be in the future as God's people and as a congregation. These insights will prove invaluable as our call committee begins the work of calling a new pastor for Mt. Zion.

Beware! A scammer is again using Pastor Bob's name to ask members to send money or gift cards. Pastor says he will NEVER ask for money. If you receive such, **do not** open. Delete and call Pastor if you want to confirm.

TRANSITION TEAM REPORT

The January Interim Event was a series of questions and discussions to discover who we are as a congregation. In February, members met with Pastor Jorgenson. See that report on the left.

All reports will be conveyed to the Call Committee to assist them in their task of calling our next pastor. Anyone with questions should contact Merris Harvey at (717) 676-7667.



LUNCH BUNCH

Come one, come all! Please join us for lunch and fellowship at an area restaurant at 12 am on the 4th Friday of the month. Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for future dates and locations. The locations are chosen by the group for the following month.



Friday, April 26—

Please be sure to sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you plan to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Suter. You can call or text her at (410) 491-7854. Please leave a message if you call and do not get an immediate answer.

Fm: Pastor Burkhart, Interim Minister
Re: Interim Progress Report #4
February 28, 2024

Grace to all and Peace, from God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, it is the Season of Lent and for me the words of one of the great Lutheran hymns of Lent serve as a call to an extra measure of reflection, devotion, and prayer: *“Jesus, I will ponder now / On Your holy Passion; / With Your Spirit me endow / For such meditation.”* That said, I sense God’s blessing overflowing here as you continue to be faithfully engaged in our Interim Process and I am so pleased to share that thus far your every effort together has been bearing fruit towards a future call. Your energy and dedication in seeking God’s will for this Body of Christ is not only evident; it is thoroughly refreshing. There is little doubt that Mt. Zion will bloom and grow to the benefit of all God’s Children in this community and the world.

For this 4th report let me reflect briefly on what has been accomplished on this faithful journey since my last report.

The second of our “Intentional Interim Events” took place as scheduled at the end of January. Following a luncheon and fellowship we put on our thinking caps and went to work identifying the assets this congregation brings to bear for the ministries of the Gospel. We were all amazed by the number and variety of ministries, large and small, currently underway, and excited to see how just how much ‘love of neighbor’ is being shared beyond our doors. What’s more, shared our hopes for future ‘loving’ endeavors based on resources already here present, and then did some brainstorming to consider what new resources if secured and brought to bear might due ‘to improve our serve.’

Again, the transition team has completed their review. All your insight, suggestions, and hopes have been recorded and saved for posterity, and will no doubt be very helpful to the Call Committee when the time comes for them to step up. The Transition Team also thoroughly believes, once again do, that our time was well spent and wishes to commend the congregation for its dedication to the Interim goals and earnest participation. We are more and more God has great things in store for Mt. Zion.

We were pleased to welcome Pr. Richard Jorgensen on Sunday February 18th, to share the Gospel and lead us into a closer look at the subject of Spiritual Leadership. This was certainly a timely topic as there are several leadership vacancies to be filled and committees to re-invigorate. Let me say with all certainty, Richard’s presentation was joyously received and well considered by all present. In our time with him, we blessed to find reason to take heart; that God has blessed Mt. Zion with skilled and gifted people who only need now to Trust God and step out in faith to share their gifts and lead where the Lord would have us follow.

Now then, please mark your calendars for our time with Deaconess Marsha Roscoe following worship on April 24th. Following another fine soup luncheon in Fellowship Hall, Marsha will lead us in a Spirituality Event that delves into our deepest need for living our faith in every moment, attuned to God's Holy Rhythm for life with Him. To quote Marsha, *"I have witnessed firsthand the toll that the relentless pursuit of time can take on our mental, emotional, and physical well-being. With "Breathing in Christ" practices, that later became a way of living and being, I discovered the incredible power of being fully present – of aligning my heart and soul to God's divine flow, which begins with the rhythms of nature, our bodies, and the universe."* I personally look forward to having Marsha share her insights with us to the benefit of all in our spiritual and relational journeys on the way with Christ and one another. Do be sure to join us.

Two final things, the last of our Intentional Interim Events is scheduled for May 26th, again following worship. We will spend some playful and thoughtful time together discerning and envisioning Mt. Zion's path forward into God's future, which has already been prepared for us and only needs to be discovered. And I am please to share that our Bishop Jim Dunlop will be our guest for worship and conversation on Sunday June 23rd. It will be an opportunity for all to play 'quiz the Bishop' with regards to the Call Process Mt Zion will have started to engage in, and whatever else might be on your mind regards the church.

I continue to be thankful for your support of my Interim office and efforts, and I consider myself thoroughly blessed to be here with you all on this stage of your faith journey. Please let me know if there is anything on your heart that I can help you with, and remember my door is open and my phone is working (mostly.)

God's Grace and Peace to all;
Pastor B. Burkhart

CONTACT INFORMATION SHEETS

We are still in the process of updating our membership and friends of the congregation contact information lists, which has been a daunting task, due to still missing quite a few contact information sheets.



We are looking to receive a completed contact information sheet from everyone, even if you currently receive our newsletters and emails.

If we have not received a contact information sheet from you, one will be mailed to you in the coming weeks. Upon receipt, please fill it out and return it to the church by mailing it back, or by returning it in-person via the offering plate or by placing in Kristi Conover's mailbox.

If you have any questions, please call the church office or email Kristi at mtzionyorksecretary@gmail.com.

DO YOU KNOW A SHUT-IN?

We are updating our list of those who are homebound, shut-in, or otherwise unable to attend our services. If you, or someone you know, fall into one of these categories, please call the church office and leave a message for Kristi Conover, or email her at mtzionyorksecretary@gmail.com.



SENIOR CHOIR

We are looking to restart the Senior Choir. The choir would sing periodically through the church year with rehearsals happening after church the Sunday(s) before.



We are also looking for someone who would be an accompanist to play with the choir on those Sundays. Please contact Erin



ALTAR FLOWERS

We are accustomed to seeing flowers on the altar every Sunday throughout the year except during Advent and Lent. These flowers are not simply decorations; they are an integral part of our worship that help to draw our attention to the focal point of the chancel area — the Altar. They serve as a reminder of God's creation and the bounty of His handiwork. That said, it is time to fill in the list for 2024.



Sponsoring these flowers is very simple:

1. Decide when you want to sponsor altar flowers, one week or multiple weeks; it's not necessary to have a specific reason, but if you do, simply indicate that on an order form always available in the pocket under "Flowers" on the bulletin board in the narthex.
2. Choose as many dates as you wish. If you have no specific dates in mind, simply indicate that you want to sponsor a Sunday, or again, any number of Sundays.
3. Complete the order form, making sure to include your envelope number, a check for the amount ordered, and place it in a green envelope, or in your regular weekly envelope, and put it in either the offering box or offering plate. **COST OF FLOWERS: \$35 FOR EACH VASE.**

Each year there are 44 Sundays when we have flowers on the altar. Sponsoring these flowers is a perfect way to honor God and show that you understand and value stewardship to the church.

If you have questions or need help deciding when or how to sponsor flowers, talk with Dale Good after worship, or call or text him at (717) 880-3853. If you call, please leave a message if you do not get an immediate answer.

WE NEED YOU!

BIBLE STUDY—COME JOIN US!

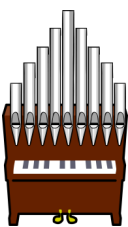
Bible Study with Pastor Bob will resume on Wednesdays at 12:30, starting April 10. You are welcome to bring your lunch (BYOL) and learn about Jesus' parables.

Hope to see you there!



ORGANIST WANTED

Our organ bench has found one occupant, but we are still looking for another to complete our team to share this ministry role. Once hired, the team of organists can work out their schedules to cover all Sunday services and other seasonal services throughout the year. Please spread the word that we are hiring and have all interested candidates contact Cindy McDaniel (717) 757-3954, Kristi Conover (717) 968-1428, or email the church at mtzionlutheranyork@gmail.com.



You make us complete.

designed by freepik

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are always looking for more worship volunteers in the following capacities:

Usher: Greet worshipers with a friendly smile as they enter the sanctuary and direct them to pick up a bulletin before finding their seat before the service, and provide direction during communion from the pews to the rail.

Lector: Read the lessons and psalm of the day. Lessons are provided for you to practice ahead of time.

Lay Assistant: Assist Pastor in leading worship by reading the prayers and serving the wine at communion.

Communion Assistant: Light/extinguish candles, receive the offering plate, and assist with the distribution of communion by dismissing congregants from the rail to return to their seats.

Altar Guild: Prepare for communion before the service, and clean-up after the service. Those interested can sign up on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary, one week at a time, as often as you would like.



The schedule for worship volunteers (with the exception of altar guild) is done 3 months at a time. Please prayerfully consider serving in one or more of these ways. If you are interested, please see Kristi Conover to be added to the next schedule and to arrange a time to be trained and answer questions.

Mt Zion Food Pantry List

Packaged Items

Jiffy Cornbread Mix
Instant Mashed Potatoes
Stovetop Stuffing
Knorr Rice – varieties
Knorr Pasta – varieties
Macaroni & Cheese
[Rice-A-Roni](#) – Chicken
Rice-A-Roni - Beef
Rice-A-Roni – Spanish

Pasta Items

Spaghetti
Shells
Elbows
Penne
Ramen Noodles – chicken



Canned Soup

Cream of Mushroom
Cream of Chicken
Chicken Noodle

Cereal

Instant Oatmeal – boxes with individual
Packets

From the Pantry

Mt Zion Pantry thanks you for food donations and continuing to use the green envelopes to support the pantry. You helped 10 clients (44 family members) in March with food and personal care items.

These folks are thankful and expressed their gratitude. If you would like to see this for yourself, please call Kathie Boop (717) 855-6763 to volunteer. It's only a two-hour commitment.

If you or someone you know is in need, please call the PANTRY at (717) 680-3789 to schedule an appointment.

EPHESIANS

William Barclay called Ephesians “The Queen of the Epistles.” It is a breathtaking treaty from Paul elaborating the reconciling work of God in Christ Jesus, i.e., making all human beings into one people as “the Body of Christ,” conquering the hostile cosmic powers of sin and death, the creation of a new humanity, and the creation of a new society founded and grounded in God. We approach the letter to the Ephesians “the greatest” and “most relevant of Paul’s works” properly with a sense of awe and wonder.

In Ephesians, Paul elaborates on two fundamental Christian themes. The first theme (chaps. 1-3) regards faithful doctrine regarding the new life and new society in Christ which God has brought into being by the death and resurrection of His Son. The second theme (chaps. 4-6) teaches the new standards for life and relationships expected of Christian believers. This second theme takes us from theory to practice; from “This is the way things are now,” to “therefore, we are to honor God by living like this.”

April Study:

Opening up: 1. What is the highest, longest, deepest, widest thing you can think of?

Read Chapter 3, verses 14-21

Dig In: Considering Chap 2 verses 19-22, why does Paul pray for the Ephesians as he does? What are his underlying views of God? 2. What is the nature of the Spiritual Power, love, knowledge, and fullness for which he prays? 3. What does this new Life of the believer look like? Sound like? Feel Like?

Reflection: 1. What moves you as a believer to want to live for God and others? 2. Would you describe your prayer life as one of feasting on God or fasting? 3. Where is God’s love, power, and fullness touching you and your family?

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

JANUARY—March 19, 2024

From online bank report:



Administrative Checking Account \$ 5,174.71

Special Needs Checking Account \$ 55,641.51

Memorial Checking Account \$ 35,720.85

Contingency Checking Account \$ 8,315.01

Rental Property Checking Account \$ 3,040.18

Pastor's Discretionary Fund Checking Acct \$ 842.51

Youth Fund Checking Account \$ 5,456.41

Transfers into Admin Fund from Special Needs for year to date March 19th were \$2,000

Line of Credit for Rental Property Repairs (debt) \$ 11,495.13 (credit) \$8,504.87

January 27th — March 19th YTD, 2024 Summary (from PowerChurch)**

Total Contributions Behind Budget \$ 6,148.90

Total Income Behind Budget \$ 8,820.10

Total Expenses Below Budget \$ 5,144.86

**PowerChurch is the computer program used for financial information/tracking.

Thank you for taking the time to remember our consecrated commitment we made in November. Thank you.

If you have any questions, please see Kathy Swords or Ellen Gibb, or email at mtzionyorktreasurer@gmail.com

Exciting News!

Mt. Zion now has a **Camp Person** for our congregation. As a liaison between the Lutheran Camping Corporation and our congregation, the Camp Person is the resource person for outdoor ministries in Kirchenwald, Nawakwa and The Wittel Farm. Children, grandchildren and families now have a discount for camping experiences this summer.

Kirchenwald and Nawakwa are hiring staff for this summer as well.

Please see Kathy Gable, Camp Person, for brochures and information.



Ways of Giving

**Mount Zion
Lutheran Church**



God's Work, Our Hands

Your gift, Your choice

Direct: Cash or check donations placed into the offering plates are always appreciated!

Banking: Look into how your personal bank account as some banks mail offerings to the church from accounts directly. Some programs are free and included with particular accounts.

Online: Make a donation on our website: www.mtzionyork.org

Text: Make a donation via Text message! Text to: (717) 537-9088

Simply text an amount (no dollar sign needed) to the number above and follow the prompts to complete your donation!

Give+ App: Search "Give Plus" on your phone App Store, download and find Church name by ZIP code, 17406

CONFIRMATION DATES

Mark your calendars for these important confirmation dates for 2024. All classes start at 9:00am in Fellowship Hall.

April 14—Worship Whys

May 5—TBD

May 18—Confirmation Retreat at 6:00pm for all those being confirmed this year

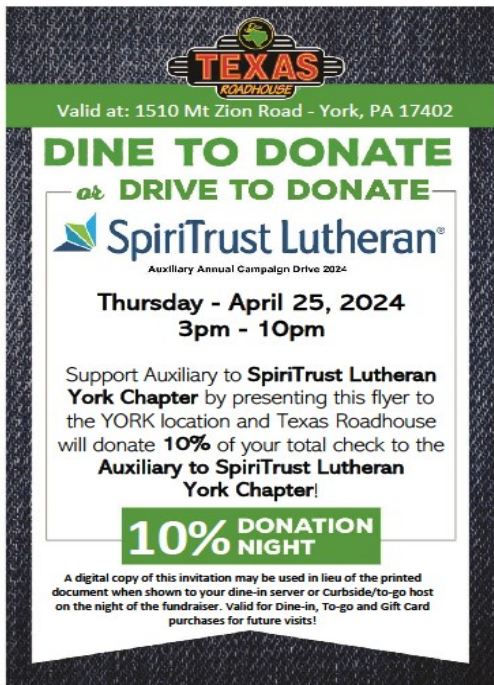


Support SpiriTrust Lutheran—

April 25

Dine at Texas Roadhouse—
10% goes to SpiriTrust !

Clip or copy to your phone



Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran – York Chapter

“Servants Sent by the Spirit”

“The Spirit sends us forth to serve: We go in Jesus’ name.”

(D.Dufner, ELW Hymn 552)

Auxiliary supporters, believing that they are “Servants Sent by the Spirit” support a variety of programs and activities by both financial contributions and volunteering their time and talents which benefit the residents of the Kelly and Sprenkle Villages.

A brief look at the chief budgeted items this year summarizes the scope of the Auxiliary’s ministry:

- The Village at Kelly Drive \$4,500
- Village at Sprenkle Drive \$4,500
- The Benevolent Fund \$6,000
- Chaplaincy supplies \$500

Deadline is April 21

Campaign contributions are welcome in any amount, payable to:

Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran, York Chapter

Contribution: \$ _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

Kindly return this form to our village representative,

M Dale Good
122 Carriage Hill Ln
York, PA 17402-6723

CALENDER OF MOUNT ZION INTERIM MINISTRY EVENTS

Following Worship in
Refreshments provided

Fellowship Hall—



April 21, 2024 at 11:30am

Spirituality 2.0: “Living in Holy Rhythm”

Synod presentation with Deaconess Marsha Roscoe

May 26, 2024 at 11:30am

“Here I Am, LORD” – Pathway to Renewal

Convene Call Committee to begin Step 1—Congregation Profile

June 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM

LSS Bishop Jim Dunlop -“Preaching for Worship”

Followed by Congregation Q & A



PRAYER LIST



Continue to pray for: Raven Ambrose, Steve Ambrose, Tom Ambrose, Bonita Anderson, Jerry Arnold, Shannon Arnold, Randy Bailey, Lauren Beyer, Jacklyn Billet, James Billet, Mary Bishop, Pat Boop, Mary Sue Bottstein, Joyce Brown, Ralph Brown, Robert Brown, Sarah Brown, Scott Brown, Ted Brown, Eric Bruner, Julie Christy, Jess Combs, Phyllis Comery, Ian Conover, Billee Couch, Tim Couch, Steven Cowit, Tana Cox, Jason Crowley, Vivian Deardorff, Lynn Deitzer, Annie Diehl, Zoe Doll, Ruby Druck, Joe Ellis, Carol Emswiler, Pr. Courtney Erzkus, Chris Farmer, Pam Fay, Jason Frederick, Martha Frederick, Jacinda Frigm, Karen & Colten Garber, Lonnie Ginter, Mots Ginter, Ronnie Ginter Jr., Fannie and Joe Glover, Dale Good, Gina Goodrich, Jeannie Grove, Bob & Mary Gundlach, Mary & Tom Haberkorn, June Hain, Dolly Harbolt, Donna Hayes, Alicia Hedrick, George Heller, Brian Hinderer, Barry Hinkle, Ruth Hoak, Heather Hoffman, Dennis Hummel, Tullia Hydingler, Jolene Klinger, Gene Krisukas, Sarah Kuhn, Jean Leiphart, Dick Lynn, Joel & Fran Marple, Sharon March, Amy Martzall, Jim Martzall, Cindy McDaniel, Rose McGowan, Kenneth & Sue Miller, Sally Miller, Randy Minnick, Jennifer Mitterholtzer, Jodi Mitterholtzer, Matthew Mitterholtzer, Otto Mitterholtzer, Rebecca Mitterholtzer, E.T. Moore, Angy-Mike Mossengo, David Murphy, Sandy Murphy, Ellen Myers, Jeff Myers, Karen Naugle, Sandy Nelson, Rae Nissley, Cindy Novak, Mike Novak, Nancy & Lou Orndorff, Gail Pommerer, Tom Reynolds, Linda Robenolt, Jeff Sargen, Joan Schildt, William Schmeed, Patrick Schmitt, Ralph Serrano, Tom Shaffer, Barry Shenberger, Zach Shiffer, Gloria Shipley, Heather Smith, Condoda Smith-Boyle, Heidi Snyder, Thomas Somerville, Candy Stambaugh, Judy Stambaugh, Herb Stauffer, Bud Stevens, Carol Stickles, Lisa Striebig, Lizzy Swam, Debra Tracey, Micheal Tudino, Jane Van Zant, Griffin Voorhees, Joann & Jerry Wagner, David Walker, Nancy Walker, Andrew Walter, Bob Warren, Bonnie Warren, Bill Weaver, Bruce Weaver, Dodie Weaver, Jolene Weaver, Victor White, Alta Wilson, Bob Wolf, Larry Wood, Donald Zepp, Rich Zerbe, the shut-ins of the parish, and our confirmands.

The Prayer List is reviewed each month. Though names may remain on the prayer list for an unlimited time, periodic updates are appreciated. Contact KATHIE BOOP (717-855-6763) for any additions or subtractions from the prayer list. If a name has been mistakenly deleted, please notify KATHIE BOOP.

April Prayer Ventures

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your

1 “We need to hear the gospel every day, because we forget it every day” (attributed to Martin Luther, 1483-1546). Pray that we might never grow weary of hearing the story of Easter or experiencing God’s love and mercy for the world in the gift of Jesus Christ.

2 Arab American Heritage Month Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages, ethnic values and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern neighbors and siblings in Christ. Ask God to bless and further the work, witness and advocacy of Arab and Middle Eastern congregations and ministries, of ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries, and of the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage.

3 Ask God to help us see the presence and influence of Jesus in our daily lives, our relationships and our conversations with neighbors, co-workers and siblings in Christ.

4 Pray for the people of Haiti, who have suffered multiple

natural disasters in recent years and are now experiencing civil and political unrest and violence.

5 Lift up praise and thanksgiving to God, celebrating God’s promise of love, forgiveness and eternal life. “This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation” (Isaiah 25:9).

6 Pray for the ministry of Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) and give thanks for its 80 years of work supporting and empowering immigrants, asylum-seekers and refugees as they rebuild their lives in the United States.

7 Thomas wasn’t sure what to believe when the risen Jesus mysteriously appeared to him and the other disciples, but Jesus met his skepticism with love and understanding. Give thanks for God’s patience with us when we grapple with the mysteries of our faith, and for the Spirit having revealed truth

to us through Scripture, prayer, reflection and our siblings in Christ.

8 Pray that the leaders of Russia and Ukraine and of Israel and Palestine will commit to their respective cease-fires and meet face-to-face to resolve their conflicts and create peaceful ways forward, ending the widespread human suffering and destruction that have impacted generations of their people.

9 *Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian (1906-1945)* Remember and give thanks to God for people throughout history, such as Bonhoeffer, who are driven by their faith and convictions to stand against injustice, evil and violence toward others, even in the face of personal threats and death. Ask God for the courage and boldness to act when our neighbors are threatened or treated unjustly.

10 "Everything they owned was held in common ... and it was distributed to each as any had need" (Acts 4:32-35). Ask the Spirit to stir our generosity and nurture our unwavering concern for the well-being of our neighbor so that we might share our assets with those in need and foster concerned communities.

11 Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire the leaders of our church gathered for the ELCA Church Council in Chicago, that they will work together to guide, strengthen and grow the church; respond to new challenges; affirm God's call for us to serve our neighbors; and encourage people of all ages to bear the gospel into the world.

12 Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, including volunteers, longtime staff, Young Adults in Global Mission, and seminary students serving as Horizon International interns. Give thanks for their faithful service and the gifts and talents they bring to their work alongside our global companions.

13 We live in a world that pits different groups of people against each other, causing inequity and anguish. Ask the Spirit to transform our fear and prejudice into compassion, kindness, empathy and respect — qualities that strengthen our relationships with each other and affirm the goodness of God's creation. "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1).

14 Thank God for the Scripture, sacraments, hymns and liturgical art that reveal our redemption and freedom through Jesus Christ.

15 "Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth" (1 John 3:18). Praise God for ELCA World Hunger's 50 years of action to end hunger, bring relief to those who suffer, develop sustainable solutions to hunger and raise awareness of the needs of our neighbors — here and around the world. Pray that we might exercise generosity, wisdom and perseverance to meet the challenges of ending hunger.

16 Ask God for the openness to reflect on our nation's history of injustice and inequality and for the courage and humility to overcome racial, religious and gender bias.

17 Give thanks that we can live in the joy of being God's children and that, though we may not understand completely

what that means, it will be fully revealed to us someday.

18 Praise God for the lengthening daylight of spring, which stirs new life and reminds us of the light God brings into the world through the gift of Jesus Christ.

19 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana and Western Iowa synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

20 Remember in prayer our ministry in Africa through ELCA Global Mission, which works alongside Lutheran churches and agencies in 24 African countries and supports the work of the Lutheran World Federation's Department for World Service.

21 Jesus, our good and loving shepherd, laid down his life for us, his sheep. Give thanks and praise to God!

22 Remember in prayer our neighbors and siblings in Christ whose vocations pull them away from their family, friends, congregation and community. Pray that the Holy Spirit will sustain their faith and spirit and that we will express our connection with them as they come and go.

23 To whom do we turn when we are tired or unsure of our path in life? Praise God, who stays by our side through every twist and turn.

24 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Rocky Mountain Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

25 Give thanks for the numerous volunteers from across the country who are training to help youth and their adult leaders at the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans.

26 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Alaska Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

27 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northeastern Minnesota and Virginia synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

28 "Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen" (1 John 4:20). Give thanks that God loved us first, so that we might know unconditional love and mercy and pass them along to all our neighbors.

29 "To the servant of God ... every place is the right place, and every time is the right time" (Catherine of Siena, theologian, 1347-1380). Pray for the wisdom to see every moment of every day as an opportunity to honor God through loving, serving and honoring our neighbors in need.

30 Thank God for the gift of baptism, which affirms our faith, washes us clean with God's love and forgiveness, welcomes us to the vast community of siblings in Christ and grants us a new life of service and sharing the gospel wherever we go.

Please consider joining one of our committees to enrich the spiritual and community life of yourself and our church. It is in the best interest of our church to have several members in each committee.

Spiritual Growth Committee, formally known as Worship and Education, including Youth: The Spiritual Growth Committee is responsible for all spiritual functions of the congregation. In consultation with the Pastor, they oversee the educational and worship activities as well as youth ministry programs. The committee sees that the services are conducted in accordance with the liturgies of the ELCA, that all assistants to the services are trained, and that hymnal and other devotional materials are provided. The committee supports the music programs in the church, cares for the liturgical paraphernalia, musical instruments and all music supplies. Current members are Chairperson Cindy McDaniel, Erin McDaniel, Kristi Conover and Kollene Stauffer.

The Grounds and Maintenance Committee, also called the Property Committee: The Grounds and Maintenance Committee sees to the proper maintenance and protection of the grounds and buildings owned by the congregation and ensures that the same are kept in good repair. This committee provides work direction for the Sexton. Chairperson Kirk Lesser.

Faith and Community Committee, formerly known as Outreach and Fellowship Committees: The Faith and Community Committee lends a compassionate ear and actively responds to the living needs of those within and outside of the congregation. The committee also provides events inviting congregational community participation. Current members are co-Chairperson, Pat Hauer, co-Chairperson Mary Gundlach, Kathy Gable, Ellen Gibb, Jessica Harvey, Marilyn Lesser, Scott Mann, Angi Lahr, and Diane Zerbe.

Gratitude and Generosity Committee, formally known as Finance and Stewardship and Investment Committees: The Gratitude and Generosity Committee oversees the stewardship and financial affairs of the congregation

and looks for ways to efficiently and promptly respond to its needs. Chairperson Brian Hinderer.

Food Pantry Taskforce: The Food Pantry Taskforce's mission is to serve our neighbors in a food niche that supports their self-esteem by allowing individuals to select food, personal care, and cleaning items once a month to tide over their family. The purpose is community outreach to address food insecurity. Current members are Chairperson Kathy Boop, Dale Good, Pat Hauer, Sue Luchka, Cindy McDaniel, Lynne Nace, Carol Trainor and Tom Trainor.

Audit Committee: The Audit Committee is responsible for annual audits of all the accounts of the Treasurer, as well as the accounts of the schools, organizations, and investments of the congregation.

Budget Committee: The Budget Committee is responsible for meeting once a year to prepare next year's budget in consultation with the Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Investment Manager.

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee exercises oversight of all the financial affairs of the congregation to make sure they are being conducted efficiently.



MOUNT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor:	The Rev. Robert (Bob) Burkhart
Sexton:	Rod Robles (717) 659-4272
Administrative Assistant	Kathy Gable (717) 757-7626, office
Administrative Assistant for Worship:	Kristi Conover
Treasurer:	Kathy Swords
Financial Secretary:	Brian Hinderer

MOUNT ZION CHURCH COUNCIL

Ellen Gibb, President	
<i>vacant</i> , Vice-President	
Pat Hauer, Secretary	
Kathy Gable	Laura Gruno
Mary Gundlach	Brian Hinderer
Kollene Stauffer	Cheyanna Snyder