
The Zion Messenger

March 2019

March 6 – Ash Wednesday

March 7 – Trustees

Men's Club

March 11 – School Board

Stewardship

March 12 – Admin. Council

March 13 – Midweek Worship

March 14 – Shipmates

March 19 – Elders

March 20 – Midweek Worship

Glenwood

March 27 – Midweek Worship

March 28 – Alumni & Friends

In the first place it is taught and held that there is . . . **ONE DIVINE ESSENCE** which is named God and truly is God. But there are three persons in the same one essence, equally powerful, equally eternal: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” Decree of the Council of Nicaea

WHO IS GOD? Stop for a moment and think, without reading ahead, how would you answer the question, WHO IS GOD? * * * * * Ok, got your answer? Now read on.

- WHO IS GOD? According to our 4-year old preschool: God is our helper, care taker, maker of the rainbow, Holy Father-Spirit who loves us and is everywhere.
- WHO IS GOD? According to our kindergarten/1st/2nd grade: God is the Creator Savior, Rescuer who loves and keeps us safe in our darkest hour, light of world.
- WHO IS GOD? According to our 3rd/4th grade: God is our Eternal-Mighty Lord, King of Kings, Messiah, our Light and Salvation.

WHO IS GOD? I interviewed students in our school. What about your neighbors? How might they answer? You'd probably get a variety of answers. You might even be rebuffed for asking in the first place. After all people don't typically ask 'religious' personal questions in our modern age of diversity and political correctness. In my Christian

Basics (Adult Info) class we begin with this reflection:

If you had no Bible and had never been taught anything about God, what conclusions might you draw about God based on your own observations of nature and life around you? Answer: God is a God of power, wisdom, beauty, order, goodness, etc. And yet such 'natural knowledge' of God, (creations evidence) of God's wisdom, beauty, order, and even goodness has no power to wash away our sins. Bottom Line: the correct answer to the question WHO IS GOD? begins with God's own **REVELATION**.

God reveals Himself to us in His holy Word and in his Son, Immanuel, Jesus Christ. God chose out of no obligation, to make Himself known to people. “*Hear O Israel. The LORD our God, the LORD is one.*” “*For there is one God and one mediator between God and*

men, the man Christ Jesus.” God has revealed Himself to us as the Triune God. According to Holy Scriptures, God is three divine persons in one divine essence.

WHO IS GOD? John the Apostle wrote, “God is love.” (1 John 4:8) Martin Luther once taught that “God Himself is love, and His Being is nothing but pure love. Therefore, if anyone wanted to draw and picture God in a telling way, he would have to draw a picture that showed nothing but love, as though the divine nature were nothing but the intense fire and fervor of a love that has filled heaven and earth.”

WHO IS GOD? Peppermint Patty, head on her hands sighed deeply. “I need to talk to someone who knows what it’s like to feel like a fool; Someone who knows what it’s like to be humiliated, someone who’s been disgraced, beaten, and degraded, someone who’s been there.” In response Linus held out his open arms and quoted: “*We love because He first loved us.*” That’s Good News; News too Good not to share. And in a Peanuts’ way, the answer to the question.

It’s almost Lent. Ash Wednesday is next week. Plan ahead. Come to church. God will be here waiting, not as your judge but as your doctor, as your healer, and as your Savior. Jesus will be here all Lent to love you and feed you, to heal you and drive out your demons, to clean up your messes, to forgive your sins, to bless you and give you His Holy Spirit.

PLACES OF THE PASSION: THE PASSION OF CHRIST ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE

The scenes of Lent are familiar. The upper room, the garden of Gethsemane, the halls of Pontius Pilate, and the hills of Golgotha. These are the places we remember when we meditate on our Lord’s passion. When Jesus enters a place, he never leaves it as he found it. The most troubling places of our lives become the most amazing places of God’s grace when Jesus visits them.

In this midweek Lenten series (written by Dr. David Schmitt) we will revisit the Places of the Passion. Our focus will not just be on the physical locations of our Lord’s passion, but on the spiritual wonders of his work; the places where he demonstrates his strength in the midst of our weakness, his timeless love in the midst of our temporal darkness.

- March 6: Ash Wednesday - A Place at the Table for You (Luke 22:1-13)
- March 13: The Upper Room: A Place of Service (Luke 22:14-38)
- March 20: Gethsemane: A Place of Strength (Luke 22:39-46)
- March 27: The Betrayal: A Place of Eternal Love (Luke 22:47-53)
- April 3: The Courtyard: A Place of Renewal (Luke 22:54-62)
- April 10: The Trial: A Place of God’s Will (Luke 22:63-23:25)
- April 18: Maundy Thursday: A Place of Forgiveness (Luke 22:14-23)
- April 19: Good Friday: Golgotha: A Place of Simple Love (Luke 23:33-49)

“Immigrants Among Us” Bible Study, March 17 – April 7

The issue of immigration in the United States is currently a major topic in the national conversation. Where do Christians stand in the debate? Is there any guidance in God’s Word to help shape our attitudes? A four-week Bible Study based on a report recently published by the Committee on Theology and Church Relations of the LCMS will be presented during Sunday School beginning March 17. There is no clear cut answer, but the Scriptures help us to see this and many other current issues more clearly and lovingly. The class will be led by Paul Miller. Everyone is welcome. Bring your Bible!



Are you or someone you know grieving? Consider GreifShare. GriefShare is a ministry program designed to help people recover from the deep hurt of loss with fellowship, support, and prayer of others going through the same journey. GreifShare, with its biblical Christ-centered perspective, is an effective tool to help people find or deepen faith in Christ as they examine soul-level questions about death, dying, their own mortality, and eternal life. GreifShare classes are 13 weekly sessions which will meet on Sundays. New topics will be discussed each week. For more information, contact Pastor Mitteis (635-2880), Darlene Barr (815-641-3377), or visit www.griefshare.org.



The Zion PTL will host their annual Trivia Night on Saturday, March 9, at 7:00 pm at Concordia Hall. All tables reserved for the January 19 date will carry over to March 9. Please contact the school office if you reserved a table and will not be able to attend or if you would like to reserve a table for the new date! Doors will open at 6:00 pm. Teams of six to eight people may enter. Entry fee is \$15.00 per person which includes admission and unlimited soft drinks and bottled water throughout the evening. For questions or to reserve your table, please call or email Jessica Meade (635-3060 or jessica.meade@zion-school.org).

Zion's Quilting Ladies, **Zion Lutheran Church Lydia Sewing Circle**, are looking for individuals who NEED hand quilting done or would like to join us when we hand quilt.

We meet every Wednesday from 9a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Center Basement. Also, we have a new price sheet effective January 1, 2019. Remember that the quilt top needs to be sewn together, and you must purchase and provide the backing material, batting, and thread. It may take at least 3-4 months before completion once we have it in the quilt frame (we only meet one day a week and the number of ladies quilting can range from 0-7). Please feel free to contact Karen Brown or Janice Williams with any questions. Thank you!

Price Sheet/Charges for quilting effective JANUARY 1, 2019

Pinning Quilt in the Frame

\$5.00 Crib Quilt size
\$10.00 Twin Quilt Size
\$15.00 Full/Queen Quilt Size
\$20.00 King Quilt Size

Marking Quilt Charges

\$20.00 minimum charge – exact charge varies by detailing

Hand Quilting Charges

\$.45 per yard of thread used; OR a minimum of -

\$25.00 Crib Quilt size
\$60.00 Twin Quilt size
\$75.00 Full/Queen size
\$100.00 King size

Thread, batting, and quilt backing must accompany the quilt top when given to Lydia Circle for quilting.

Karen S. Brown, Secretary/Treasurer, (618) 637-2448

Janice Williams, Contact Person, (618) 637-2367

March

2019

Zion Lutheran Church

Staunton, Illinois

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					10am Heritage Communion ¹	9am Catechism 5pm Worship w/C ²
8am Worship w/C ³ 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C 5pm Griefshare	6pm Sing Language Class ⁴	⁵	Ash Wednesday ⁶ 8:30am Chapel 9am Lydia Circle 1pm Lenten Worship 3:30pm Catechism 7pm Lenten Worship	10am Bible Study: Acts ⁷ 6:30pm Trustees 7:30pm Men's Club	10am Heritage Communion ⁸	9am Catechism 5pm Worship w/C ⁹
8am Worship w/C ¹⁰ 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C 5pm Griefshare	6pm Sing Language Class ¹¹ 6:30pm School Board Stewardship	7pm Admin. Council ¹²	8:30am Chapel ¹³ 9am Lydia Circle 1pm Lenten Worship 3:30pm Catechism 6:30pm Confess/Sacrament 7pm Lenten Worship	10am Bible Study: Acts ¹⁴ 6pm Shipmates	10am Heritage Communion ¹⁵ Early Dismissal at 12:15pm	9am Catechism 5pm Worship w/C ¹⁶
8am Worship w/C ¹⁷ 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C 5pm Griefshare	6pm Sing Language Class ¹⁸	7pm Elders ¹⁹	8:30am Chapel ²⁰ 9am Lydia Circle 1pm Lenten Worship 1pm Glenwood 6:30pm Confess/Sacrament 7pm Lenten Worship	10am Bible Study: Acts ²¹	10am Heritage Communion ²²	9am Catechism 5pm Worship w/C ²³
8am Worship w/C ²⁴ 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C 5pm Griefshare	6pm Sing Language Class ²⁵	7pm Parish Education ²⁶	8:30am Chapel ²⁷ 9am Lydia Circle 1pm Lenten Worship 3:30pm Catechism 6:30pm Confess/Sacrament 7pm Lenten Worship	10am Bible Study: Acts ²⁸ 7pm Alumni & Friends	10am Heritage Communion ²⁹	9am Catechism 5pm Worship w/C ³⁰
8am Worship w/C ³¹ 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C 5pm Griefshare						

Zion works at His Service Station: March 1, 2 & 25-30, 2019