

ZION'S JOURNEY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Why Easter is called Easter, and other little-known facts about the holiday

This April once again, Christians will be celebrating Easter, the day on which the resurrection of Jesus is said to have taken place. I am a history enthusiast, and I love learning about the roots and origins of things. To help us to understand this holiday we call "Easter", enjoy this article from Brent Landau, Lecturer in Religious Studies, University of Texas at Austin.

Easter as a rite of spring

"Most major holidays have some connection to the changing of seasons. This the case with Easter, which falls in close proximity to another key point in the solar year: the vernal equinox (around March 20), when there are equal periods of light and darkness. For those in northern latitudes, the coming of spring is often met with excitement, as it means an end to the cold days of winter. Given the symbolism of new life and rebirth, it was only natural to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus this time of the year.

The naming of the celebration as "Easter" seems to go back to the name of a pre-Christian goddess in England, Eostre, who was celebrated at beginning of spring. The only reference to this goddess comes from the writings of the Venerable Bede, a British monk who lived in the late seventh and early eighth century. As religious studies scholar Bruce Forbes summarizes:

"Bede wrote that the month in which English Christians were celebrating the resurrection of Jesus had been called Eosturmonath in Old English, referring to a goddess named Eostre. And even though Christians had begun affirming the Christian meaning of the celebration, they continued to use the name of the goddess to designate the season."

Bede was so influential for later Christians that the name stuck, and hence Easter remains the name by which the English, Germans and Americans refer to the festival of Jesus' resurrection.

The connection with Jewish Passover

In the Hebrew Bible, Passover is a festival that commemorates the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt, as narrated in the Book of Exodus. It was and continues to be the most important Jewish seasonal festival, celebrated on the first full moon after the vernal equinox.

At the time of Jesus, Passover had special significance, as the Jewish people were again under the dominance of foreign powers (namely, the Romans). Jewish pilgrims streamed into Jerusalem every year in the hope that God's chosen people (as they believed themselves to be) would soon be liberated once more. On one Passover, Jesus traveled to Jerusalem with his disciples to celebrate the festival. He entered Jerusalem in a triumphal procession and created a disturbance in the Jerusalem Temple. It seems that both of these actions attracted the attention of the Romans, and that as a result Jesus was executed around the year A.D. 30.

Some of Jesus' followers, however, believed that they saw him alive after his death, experiences that gave birth to the Christian religion. As Jesus died during the Passover festival and his followers believed he was resurrected from the dead three days later, it was logical to commemorate these events in close proximity.

In A.D. 325, the Emperor Constantine, who favored Christianity, convened a meeting of Christian leaders to resolve important disputes at the Council of Nicaea. This council also resolved that Easter should be fixed on a Sunday, not on day 14 of Nisan. As a result, Easter is now celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the vernal equinox.

The Easter bunny and Easter eggs

In early America, the Easter festival was far more popular among Catholics than Protestants. For instance, the New England Puritans regarded both Easter and Christmas as too tainted by non-Christian influences to be appropriate to celebrate. Such festivals also tended to be opportunities for heavy drinking and merrymaking.

(continued on the next page)

Organ Committee

Zachary Anderson: 252-1229; Sue Gates: 290-1684; Nicole Kempf: 228-5218; Sonya Kempf: 228-2490; Sharon Stroschein: 228-1299; Ed Suchomel: 380-6375; Millie Suchomel: 380-6373

Special thanks to all the organ committee members. They have been working hard on all the fundraisers. If you haven't yet, please pray about it and consider filling out your pledge card and returning it to the church office. Together we can do this.

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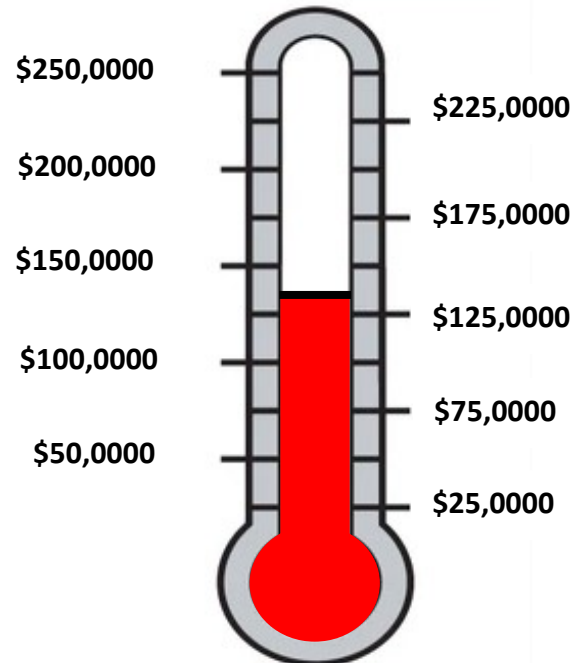
The fortunes of both holidays changed in the 19th century, when they became occasions to be spent with one's family. This was done partly out of a desire to make the celebration of these holidays less rowdy. From the 17th century onward, there was an increasing recognition of childhood as time of life that should be joyous, not simply as preparatory for adulthood. This "discovery of childhood" and the doting upon children had profound effects on how Easter was celebrated.

It is at this point in the holiday's development that Easter eggs and the Easter bunny become especially important. Decorated eggs had been part of the Easter festival at least since medieval times, given the obvious symbolism of new life. A lot of folklore surrounds Easter eggs, and in a number of Eastern European countries, the process of decorating them is extremely elaborate.

Organ Restoration Fund

Cash on Hand - \$84,029.03
Unpaid pledges - \$46,751.77
Total project funds - \$130,780.80

Our Goal: \$250,000



Remaining pledge amount needed
\$119,220.00

Several Eastern European legends describe eggs turning red (a favorite color for Easter eggs) in connection with the events surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection. Yet it was only in the 17th century that a German tradition of an "Easter hare" bringing eggs to good children came to be known. Hares and rabbits had a long association with spring seasonal rituals because of their amazing powers of fertility.

As Christians celebrate the festival this spring in commemoration of Jesus' resurrection, the familiar sights of the Easter bunny and Easter eggs serve as a reminder of the holiday's very ancient origins outside of the Christian tradition."

So what are the takeaways for us from this article?

- It is a good and healthy thing to learn the historical roots of celebrations like Easter, so we can better appreciate their meaning, and learn how best to celebrate.
- Even though there are some pagan origins in holidays like Christmas and Easter, as we have them today, the Good News is that God is the One God who brings life from death, transformation from the old to new. God can transform ANYTHING to God's glory
- The purpose of the Cross is an empty tomb.
- The Purpose of an Empty Tomb is God's checkmark of approval on everything Jesus said, did, and accomplished.
- The purpose of the resurrection is **our** transformation, so we can, from the Word and waters of baptism, "walk in newness of life (Romans 6:1-4)".

Because "CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED?"

In Partnership,

Mark Galbraith, Intentional Interim Pastor

March 2022 Council Highlights

- Council has really enjoyed making phone calls to congregational members and have had some really great conversations!
- Sandra will be out of the office June 1-6, 18-22, 24-28.
- Council will be hosting Palm Sunday breakfast this year on April 10th during the fellowship time. The Faith Formation committee will be holding a time of intergenerational Sunday School on that day, as well.

Noah's Park Preschool

Hello from Noah's Park!!

Hello from Noah's Park Preschool!! Well I'm happy to report that we made it through another St. Patrick's Day in preschool! We were again greeted with leprechaun messes and mischief when we arrived at school – chairs were tipped over, puzzles were scattered, books were turned backwards – it really was quite a sight! However, the children were so helpful in cleaning up all the messes and were very happy to find out that the leprechauns had hidden gold-wrapped chocolate coins as a sort of apology for all their shenanigans! What a day!!! We are in our second week of learning about dinosaurs!! We have made dinosaur books, played dinosaur bingo, built dinosaur models and created dinosaur skeletons, just to name a few things. We will close out our dinosaur theme with a dinosaur fossil dig for snack. Here's hoping we unearth a lot of dinosaur bones!!! ~Jami



Special Offering for April is Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota



Lutheran Social Services of SD responds to changing needs in South Dakota communities. Our mission: Inspired by God's love, we care for, support and strengthen individuals, families and communities.

LSS touches the lives of South Dakotans 27,759 times each year with a variety of programs and services statewide. LSS is one of the largest private non-profit human service agencies in SD. LSS serves people of all ages, faiths, races and economic status with professional, confidential and affordable services.

Thank you for your continued giving!

Zion is active in ministry and mission, and the church's ministry depends on your support. Checks can be mailed to the church office: Zion Lutheran Church, 1732 S Main St, Aberdeen SD 57401.

You can give online today (multiple ways) by going to zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving



or just scan this QR code with your smartphone and it will take you to our giving page.

ZION HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Bethesda Home

Martha Zimmerman
Ben Schroeder
Carol Knispel
Jane Fischer
Janice Peterson

Bethesda Town Sq.

Meta Vetter
Shirley Wagemann
Viola Tetherow
Gladys Voegele
Lorraine Kusler

Minnesota

LeRoy Buechler

California

Erna Schmierer

Colorado

Ella Aipperspach

Primrose Cottages

Frances Wolff

Groton Health Care

Leon Tobin
Joe & Ruth Bosmoe

Mother Joseph

Lois Sollie

Primrose

LaVon Elsen

Angelhaus

Harold Hoffman

Milbank

Marge Rhodes



“GRATEFUL FOR YOU”

- ☺ Special thanks to Glenn Denning for fixing the drawer in the quilting room.
- ☺ Thanks to all who helped make and assemble the freezer meals.
- ☺ Thanks to all who cooked meals for our Lenten worship services.
- ☺ Thanks to all of our leaders for the Mission Study small groups.
- ☺ Thanks to Mary Jane Kabrud for the donation of a roaster and to Gary & Kathy Job for the donation of a crockpot to the kitchen.
- ☺ Thanks to Jeff Carlson for changing the clocks around the church for Daylight Savings.
- ☺ Thanks to the council committees for providing Confirmation meals.



Noisy Offering

We will collect noisy offering during the worship service during the offering time on the second Sunday of the month. Don't forget your coins!

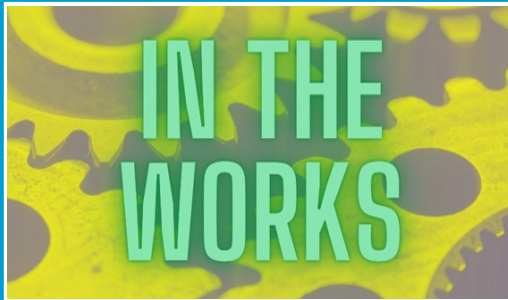
A bucket will remain at the back of the sanctuary on the offering table for you to use to donate noisy (or quiet) offering on the other Sundays of the month.



Rummage Sale

There will be a free will rummage sale held at Zion on Saturday, April 30th from 8 AM—12 PM. All proceeds benefit the general fund. Caramel rolls and coffee will be available for purchase that morning, as well.

If you would like to bring items to donate to the rummage sale, you can drop them off on the tables in the Fellowship Hall starting on Monday, April 25th. **Please no electronics or adult clothing.**



In the Works

The Worship and Music Committee is working on service times for the summer. Stay tuned to bulletins this month and the May newsletter for final details!

Freezer Meals

If you know of anyone in need of a meal, please stop in to the church office.

We will assist you in getting meals from the freezer to give out.



PASTOR MARK'S OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

***Monday-Thursday – office hours** are 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM. For all church business, emails, meetings, scheduling appts., etc., please call the church office or email me @ pastormark@nvc.net.

***Monday-Thursday outside office hours** for those “when-it-just-can't-wait moments, please email me at the above address or text./call my cell 360-325-3227.

*** Friday and Saturday – days off –** please reserve contacts for true emergencies only.

Faith and Family



Progressive Supper

Our next progressive supper will be on **Sunday, April 24th**. Open to middle and high school youth. Bring a friend! We will meet at Zion at 4:30 pm, and we will take the church van to our different locations. Kids will be returned for pick-up or can be dropped off at home after the event upon request.

THANK YOU to those who have already opened their homes to our youth! Progressive suppers are held on the last Sunday of the month, and we are always in need of hosts for either appetizers, dinner, or dessert. If you would be interested or would like some more information, please contact Sandra at the church office (225-6755).

Youth Group

Join us for a time of fellowship, service, faith, and fun! Come as you are, and join in when you can!

Both Middle School and High School students will meet together every Sunday from 9:45-10:30 AM in the Youth Room.

Just a reminder: there will be no youth group on April 17th (Easter Sunday).



ZION 2022-2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Zion Scholarships

Zion will once again award two \$350 scholarships for the coming academic year. One will go to a 2022 high school graduate and one to a continuing college student.

See the application for full instructions. Printed applications are now available in the fellowship hall. Completed applications should be returned to the church no later than April 10, 2022 at 12:00 PM or emailed to Pastoral Assistant Sandra at:

Sandra.Anderson@nvc.net

You can also find the application on our website at zionlutheranaberdeen.org/signupcentral

Parking Lot Party

There will be an end of the year parking lot party on Sunday, May 1st at 5:00 PM in the Bethlehem parking lot. There will be a grill out, yard games, music, s'mores, ice cream floats, and more! Come enjoy some time to unwind together with other youth in our faith community! This event is a joint activity between Bethlehem, Good Shepherd and Zion Lutheran churches for high school youth.



Faith and Family

SIP WITH SAUNDRA

April 20 & 22
4:00 PM

MEET AT CARIBOU
First drink is on us!



Sip with Sandra

Come enjoy some fun and games with Sandra! We will meet at Caribou Coffee on Wednesday, April 20th and Friday, April 22nd at 4:00 PM. Open to middle and high school youth—bring a friend! You are welcome to come to one or both dates. First drink is on us!

Cookbooks for Sale

Zion cookbooks are available! Cost for a cookbook is \$20, and all proceeds benefit Zion youth programming. You can purchase your copies from the church office during the week or from the table in the Narthex on Sunday mornings.



FIRST COMMUNION



First Communion

The celebration of First Communion for our fourth and fifth grade students will be during the Maundy Thursday service at 6:05 PM on Thursday, April 14th.

Sunday School

Just a reminder that there will be no Sunday School on April 17th (Easter Sunday). Our last day of Sunday School for the year will be on May 8th.



Escape Room and Egg Hunt



Join us for an evening of learning and fun! On Sunday, April 10th, there will be an Easter-themed escape room with a glow-in-the-dark egg hunt to follow!

Open to middle and high school youth—bring a friend!

Summer Camp Registration

If you have a 3rd grade student or older, it's time to start thinking about summer options for camp! Lutheran Outdoors in South Dakota offers three different locations with options to suit whatever interests you have!

If you are interested in applying for camp, please speak with Sandra as soon as possible so we can get you registered and discuss fundraising options. There are some scholarship funds available, as well!

Prices will go up on April 15th.



Happenings at Zion

Holy Week Services



Holy Week Services

PALM SUNDAY	8:30 AM 10:45 AM
MAUNDY THURSDAY	6:05 PM
GOOD FRIDAY**	6:05 PM
EASTER SUNDAY	8:30 AM 10:00 AM

**Community Good Friday Service: 12 PM @ Bethlehem Lutheran

Join us for services during Holy Week as we walk through the betrayal, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Holy Weeks starts with Palm Sunday services on April 10th at normal worship times. The Maundy Thursday service on April 14th will also include First Communion for our 4th and 5th grade students.

In addition to Zion's Good Friday evening service, there will be a Community Good Friday service held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church at noon. Holy Week concludes with a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus at 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM service times.

Spring Bazaar

The Spring Bazaar will be held on Saturday, April 23rd from 9AM—1PM. If you are interested in helping with the event, please either contact Carmel Heyd or fill out donations sheets that can be found in the church office or in your pew on Sunday morning.

There will be many shopping opportunities, including crafts, kuchen, quilts, food, and so much more!



Potluck with the Bishop



On April 24th, Bishop Constanze Hagmeier will be visiting with the Zion congregation. She will be preaching at both services that morning. There will also be a forum between services at 9:45 AM during the fellowship time, and there will be a potluck lunch at noon in the fellowship hall. Please bring a dish to pass!



Happy Birthday!

Happy 70th birthday to Delila Norton!
We enjoyed cake during fellowship time to celebrate.



Happy 90th Birthday

Joseph Bosmoe
Help us celebrate this milestone Birthday for Joe on April 17th with a Card shower. Greetings may be sent to:
Joseph Bosmoe – Avantara Groton
1106 N 2nd St.
Groton, SD 57445

Zion Lutheran Church
 1732 South Main Street
 Aberdeen, SD 57401
 (605) 225-6755 zion@nvc.net
 zionlutheranaberdeem.org

Staff

Pastor Mark Galbraith.....Interim Pastor
 Saundra Anderson.....Pastoral Assistant
 Donna Steckler.....Business Manager
 Sonya Kempf.....Director of Music
 Sue Gates.....Assistant Director of Music
 Stephanie HawkinsonPraise Band Director
 Jami Ringgenberg.....Preschool Director/Teacher
 Art Ketterling.....Maintenance

ZION'S KEY MISSION

Rooted in faith + Growing in Spirit + Reaching out to those in need

ZION'S MOTIVATING MISSION

+ Centered in prayer, nourished through the Sacraments, empowered by God's Holy Spirit, Zion is spreading the Good News through new and innovative ministries.

+ Rooted in a strong heritage, Zion focuses on developing ministries of caring to help those in need.

+ Zion opens her doors to singles, families, special needs, young and old, churched and unchurched, welcoming all into the family of God.

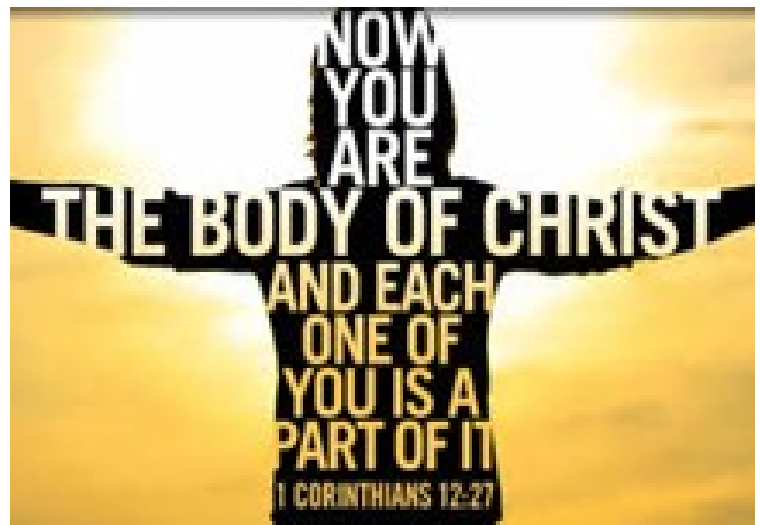
CHURCH COUNCIL

Officers / Executive Committee:

Jena GermanPresident
 Ed SuchomelVice President
 Joel AlbrechtTreasurer
 Nancy Schmidt.....Secretary

Council Representatives:

Jessica Moser.....Faith Formation
 Ryan BretschFinance & Stewardship
 Nicole Schutter.....Mission & Outreach
 Kathy Heffernan.....Worship & Music
 Norma Nielsen.....Welcome & Caring



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT
 THROUGH February 28, 2022**

Monthly budgeted expenses: \$35,000.00
 Actual February Income: \$24,102.84
 Plus transfer from Fund 2 \$ 5,000.00 = \$29,102.84
 Actual February Expenses: \$31,340.74

ZION MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

For:

From:

Richard Anderson	Organ Fund	Dean\Mae Click
Richard Anderson	Organ Fund	Gwen Carson
Richard Anderson	Organ Fund	LaVina Nelson
Richard Anderson	Organ Fund	Sue Gates
Richard Anderson	Organ Fund	Karl\Sonya Kempf
Richard Anderson	Organ Fund	Friends
Richard Anderson	Building Fund	Kathy Franz
Richard Anderson	Organ Fund	Ray\Marcie Andersh
Beth Anne Carson	Cardmaking	Wilma Zimmerman
Jordan Heyd	Organ	Karl\Sonya Kempf
Beth Anne Carson	Organ	Carmel Heyd
Beth Anne Carson	Organ	LaVina Nelson
Beth Anne Carson	Organ	Larry\Sharon Stroschein
Beth Anne Carson	Organ	Dean\Mae Click
Beth Anne Carson	Organ	Michelle Heyd
Beth Anne Carson	Organ	Sharon Paranto
Kenneth Kabrud	Organ	Mary Jane Kabrud
Beth Anne Carson	Organ	Mary Jane Kabrud
Richard Anderson	Organ	Mary Jane Kabrud
Betty Heinz	Organ	Gladys Melcher
Calvin Nelson	Organ	Gladys Melcher
Richard Anderson	Organ	Mike\Jena German

**RADIO BROADCAST
 SPONSORS NEEDED**

Call the office at
 225-6755 to sign up

\$110 for whole broadcast
 \$55 for half

Radio Broadcast Sponsorships

If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, please call the church office to pick your Sunday!

Available dates: May 1, 5, 22; June 19

Worship Schedule

8:30 AM	Traditional worship with radio broadcast
9:30 AM	Fellowship hour
9:40 AM	Sunday School
10:45 AM	Contemporary worship

We currently have two services available on Sunday mornings. Traditional worship is held in the sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. and can be heard on the radio on KSDN 930 AM and 102.1 FM. Praise Band-led contemporary worship starts at 10:45 a.m. Both services will feature a kids' time during the service. Sunday School is held in the Education wing upstairs in between services, starting at 9:40 a.m.

All services will be livestreamed on our Facebook page and website. Recordings of the broadcasts will also be available after to be viewed at any time on our Facebook page or our YouTube channel.

Welcoming New Members

Are you interested in becoming a member of our faith family? Or do you know someone who is? Or are you wondering what it means to be a member of Zion?

Let Pastor Mark or Pastoral Assistant Sandra know of your interest! We'd love to know if you're thinking about becoming a member. Or you can call the church at 225-6755 or by email: zion@nvc.net.



Lutheran World Relief Update

We will still take donations of sheets, hand soap & school supplies to be used for local charity and quilt making. If you have questions about the LWR or quilting at Zion, contact Norma Miller at 380-2599 or 605-439-3124. Thank you to all who have donated and helped in our efforts!



Join the Council for Common Grounds!

Members of the Zion council will hold a monthly open forum called "**Common Grounds**" to encourage discussion of recent council items and how the congregation is carrying out our vision for mission. Our next Common Grounds will be **Sunday, April 3rd at 9:45 AM** in the fellowship hall.

Bring your coffee and snacks, and spend some time with your leaders!



common grounds

PALM SUNDAY

8:30 AM **Traditional worship service**

9:30 AM **Breakfast in fellowship hall**
egg bake, pastries, fruit for
free will offering to benefit
the general fund

9:50 AM **Intergenerational Sunday
School in fellowship hall**
a time of fellowship,
learning, crafts, and
conversation for all ages

10:45 AM **Contemporary worship
service with palm
processional and singing by
Sunday School children**

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS - The Portals of Prayer and Christ in Our Home Devotionals are put out each quarter and are located on the backside of the card rack? Remember to get your copy today.

SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Fireside Room. Join us at 6:00 PM. This is a non-denominational group and there is no charge. Just come and share.

STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

Web: zionlutheranaberdeen.org
YouTube: bit.ly/ZLCYouTube
Facebook: facebook.com/ZionAberdeen
Facebook: facebook.com/zlcaberdeenyouth
Instagram: @zlcaberdeensd

CHURCH PHONE
225-6755

PASTOR MARK'S #
360-325-3227