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## ANNOUNCEMENTS – April 12, 2026

### THIS WEEK AT ZION

#### Sunday, April 12 – Second Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Classic Worship – Sanctuary

9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Youth and Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship – MMC / with Communion

#### Monday (4/13)

*[For the Concordia Universities and the Synod's two seminaries.]*

7:00 p.m. Executive Team Meeting

#### Tuesday (4/14)

*[For the Synod's directors of Family Life Ministry.]*

10:00 a.m. Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

6:45 p.m. Men's Tuesday Night Bible Study

#### Wednesday (4/15)

*[That we have willing hearts to serve the Lord in every way.]*

9:00 a.m. Forest-Aires

#### Thursday (4/16)

*[That God would bless the work toward our Armed Forces.]*

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

#### Friday (4/17)

*[For the President of the United States]*

2:00 p.m. Adult Dominoes

5:00 p.m. Family Game Night

#### Saturday (4/18)

*[For LCMS military chaplains serving on active duty.]*

#### Sunday, April 19 – Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Classic Worship – Sanctuary / with communion

9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Youth and Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship – MMC

12:15 p.m. VBS Planning Meeting

### From The 66...

#### 1 Peter 1:3–4

**“He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.”**

We have an inheritance waiting for us, a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

### & the book of numbers.

#### LAST WEEK:

**God's People Assembled:** (as of 4/5/2026)

Classic - 8:30 am: **129**

Contemporary - 11:00 am: **152**

Facebook & Instagram; [www.zionlc.org](http://www.zionlc.org) (Worship Tab)

Children's Church Total: **25**

Christian Education Youth: **Easter Crafts**

Adult Bible Study: **Easter Breakfast**

**God's People Give with Treasure** (as of 4/5/2026)

Offering: \$12,889.58

**God's People's Response through January 2026:**

Giving: \$40,603 Expenses: \$47,968

Budget: \$48,616

*To hit stewardship forecast for 2026: \$11,219.08 / week*

For ways to contribute please go to our website

[www.zionlc.org](http://www.zionlc.org) and look under the "Give" tab.

Thank you for your continued support!

### Happy Birthday!

### Happy Anniversary!

For the safety of our members and friends we have blocked out this section. If you'd like a copy in full, please contact Zion, [office@zionlc.org](mailto:office@zionlc.org). Thanks!

“TAKING THE CROSS OF GRACE AND PEACE...”

## Looking Ahead. Giving Back. Noting an Opportunity.

**Zion's Staffed Nursery** -- is for children ages 3 and under. Located downstairs in the children's ministry area. Parents are welcome to keep their kids in the service, but if they have the wiggles, the nursery is available for you.

Would you like to help out in the nursery? If you would like to be on the sub list, contact Carolyn Remmele ([carolyn.remmele@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.remmele@gmail.com)).

**The Life of Joseph -- The Life of Joseph** – Starts today! Joseph's story begins with a fractured family—jealousy, betrayal, and wounds that echo across years and distance. Yet through it all, God's goodness prevails, turning brokenness into blessing and rescue. As the narrative unfolds, the Holy Spirit, through Moses, crafts Joseph's life story into a powerful glimpse of the promised Messiah." Dan Duncan will lead this Sunday adult study in the Fellowship Hall, 9:45 a.m.! **Young(er) Parent Study** – Topic to be announced, starts today! Check out a study!

**Table Conversations Sermon Series – Starts 4/19.** How do we converse about Biblical topics? Hot topics? Parents to children/ teens? Friend to friend or family member to family member? This series wants to strengthen the bonds that exist between us so we can talk about our faith, its wisdom, its depth and beauty with those we meet "at table".

**Maddux News** – *Our current need is for Juice Boxes.* Thank you for all of your help! Please leave in bin marked MADDUX.

**Family Game Night** -- Come to Zion for games, food, and fun on **Friday, April 17th from 5-7 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. All ages welcome. Some games will be provided, but if you have a game that's easy to learn and quick to play feel free to bring it along. Sign up to bring a dish to share here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CACAF2FA7F58-62933687-zion>

**Community Serve Day-** We have another opportunity to serve Christ and neighbor during a serve day on **April 25th!** We will be doing projects for New Life Furniture Bank, Hands Against Hunger, and Sherwood Elementary. You can register using this link: <https://forms.gle/r29o7SgHzLFWkptC7>. Reach out to Julia if you have any questions!

**Camp Zion: Vacation Bible School!** – Get ready to go and explore the wilds of the Bible with Camp Zion **June 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>!** Join us as we gather around campfires, to sing songs, tell Bible stories and do crafts! **Registration is open!!** See the QR code on the VBS table in the atrium to register. **Calling all VBS Volunteers!** – We are also looking for people of all talents and ages (13 years old and up) who would be interested in volunteering. Contact: Chris Graves ([cgraves@zionlc.org](mailto:cgraves@zionlc.org)) if you are interested in any way!

**Appalachian Mission Trip – July 27-31<sup>st</sup>** we will be returning to Appalachia with Thirst Missions for mission trip. Please fill out the following form if you are interested in serving: <https://forms.gle/zbK53Fnui3jwSXgT9>. Questions - ask Julia!

**Youth Notes** – Youth will be joining in the Serve Day on April 25 and helping with VBS on June 8-11.

Students who are members of a Lutheran church who are enrolled full-time in a four-year undergraduate program and live in Ohio can receive an interest-free loan from the **Pierstorf College Fund**. For more information, visit [pierstorf.org](http://pierstorf.org).

**Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study** -- meets every other Tuesday at Zion in the Youth Room. Upcoming dates are **April 21st** and May 5th and 19th. All women are welcome. Contact: [Elizabeth.hoffmann513@gmail.com](mailto:Elizabeth.hoffmann513@gmail.com) or [Stmartin.marla@gmail.com](mailto:Stmartin.marla@gmail.com) for more information.

The online flower chart for 2026 is now ready to access. Here is the link to use:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548A5AA2FA6FC1-61293095-2026> Just be sure to click on the chart for 2026. You can also sign up using the paper flower chart. Thank you to all who donate flowers to glorify God's Altar.

**Updated member directories** are available in the Atrium beside our photo album. They will be available online soon. Questions, changes or concerns contact Nancy Shaffer, email: [businessmanager@zionlc.org](mailto:businessmanager@zionlc.org) or phone 513-231-2253.

**Sign In instruction for accessing "Member" information** on our Zion Church Website are located on the Information Table in the Atrium. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Shaffer, Zion Business Manager at [Businessmanager@zionlc.org](mailto:Businessmanager@zionlc.org) or 513-231-2253.

**Please join us for our Congregational Meeting on Sunday**, April 26th at 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. There will be light refreshments available. We hope to see you all there!

**Flowers given for the Glory of God** are provided by the Congregation, In Celebration of Easter. For building-related issues please contact one of this Month's Trustees: Al Born / Patty Varney

"TAKING THE CROSS OF GRACE AND PEACE..."

# Praying. Asking. Seeking. Knocking.

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING; JOYS IN GOD'S + WORK AND WILL

We pray for...

- **Lent into Easter – Easter into Pentecost.** May the blessings of these seasons show us Christ!
- **Teachers, students, aides, helpers, leadership in local schools; colleges and universities.** May they learn Your world, Lord. May they also find ways – be given ways – to learn of You and Your love for them in Christ.
- **Medical and first responders** – all in our communities who make it work and thrive. **Those who protect and serve** in our lives (governmental, law enforcement, military, many more). For officers mourning the recent loss of one of their own and for peace for our community.
- **The mission of Peace Lutheran, Over the Rhine, Cincinnati, OH.**

## IMMEDIATE NEEDS / PETITIONS

We pray for . . .

- **Those that are lost & separated from God's loving embrace. The forgotten, pushed aside, and marginalized.**
- **Those affected by natural and man-made disasters. War-torn places.** God, grant peace & resources they need for body/ soul.
- Relief of pain, strength, and healing for **Nouay Nosouvanh, Jen Miller (Upcoming surgery 4/13), Kylie Tolliver, Debbie Rose-Howard, Karen Vollbracht, Laura Mikow, Bill Spies, and other family/ friends** in need of healing.
- **Those in Care Centers/ Those at Home:** Janet Brunner, Linda Jenkins, Anna Moynahan, Ty and Michele Arendall, Vida Musselman, Doris Motley, and Jody Wiebe.
- **The Zimmerman Family (as they mourn the death of Vera) and the Surdick Family (as they mourn the death of Dorothy's mom) and all families walking through the valley of death's shadow.** Comfort and strength in *the* Resurrection.
- **Opportunities to grow in God's Word.**

## Telling the Stories

Zion's youth prepared and served the Easter breakfast. We had pancakes (plain, with chocolate chips, with blueberries, or with a surprise flavor!), sausage, scrambled eggs, and fruit salad. The kids love doing this event every year and they love being able to get together and serve with their friends. In addition, they learn some valuable life skills like working together, how to cook, how to serve, and how to clean up. They learn to serve their fellow congregation members and to help the congregation with favorite event.

A huge thank you to those who helped the youth, including Deanna and Ed Plourde, our Youth Board co-chairs Madalyn and Allyson Graves, David Colson (Madalyn's fiancé), Marilyn Kuntz, and Jason Hoyt. Also thank you to Thrivent for the generous Action Team grant which enable us to buy the food.



“TAKING THE CROSS OF GRACE AND PEACE...”

## Devoting Ourselves to the Word

**The vision of his skeptic mind was keen enough to make him blind to any unexpected act too large for his small world of fact.” -LSB 472, Verse 2**

*So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” -John 20:25*

A 2022 Business Insider article called Gen Z the skeptical generation. There are many economic and political reasons for this, but the article also pointed to other reasons for Gen Z’s general mistrust of everything, including less participation in communal activities, like team sports, and the rise of social media, with its slew of misleading algorithms, false information, and general negativity. In other words, Gen Z was raised to be individualistic in a world full of conflicting “truths”, and unless they can experience something for themselves, they refuse to believe in it fully.

I used to think Thomas was fool for not believing Jesus rose from the dead. I wondered if he had actually listened to Jesus before his death. If he had listened, he would know Jesus was going to rise from the dead and wouldn’t need to see it to believe it. But, as I have grown up to be another skeptical member of Gen Z, I have found more understanding in my heart for Thomas. If my friends were to come up to me and tell me something that seemed impossible had happened, I would not believe them until I saw it for myself. I am a lot more like Thomas than my younger self would like to believe.

Thanks be to God that my salvation is not dependent on my ability to ease my skepticism. Rather, I, like Thomas, have been saved by grace through faith, which is not of my own doing, but a free gift from God (Ephesians 2:8). The grace of God, who appeared to disciples who still doubted Jesus after years of learning from him, is the same grace given to you and me. Alleluia!

-Julia Witt

## Letting the Little Ones Come to God (Draw us something !)

*Drawing Prompt: Jesus’ disciples ate some fish with Him. Draw yourself having lunch with Jesus!*

**“TAKING THE CROSS OF GRACE AND PEACE...”**