



**Zion Lutheran Church
May 2020 Worship Schedule**

Sunday live 10:00 am on Facebook
Links posted to website and emailed

824 NE 4th Avenue Camas, Washington
Associate Pr. Susan A. Dollinger
360-834-4201 office
Email: info@zionluthcamas.org

Building closure

During this time that Zion is closed to all activities, we are keeping in touch with phone, email, Zoom meetings and online worship services. Please – if you are not receiving the weekly letter from Pr. Susan and link to the recent worship service, ***check that we have your correct email address.*** All correspondence is sent out blind copy, so your privacy is assured. If you'd like to visit with your Zion friends on Zoom, contact the church office to have a meeting set up. Zoom is designed for use on the computer or phone, where all participants are visible on the screen and can also hear each other. Check out the Zoom Cheat Sheet in this *Messenger* for instructions.

Contact information for Zion:

Mail:

Zion Lutheran Church
824 NE 4th Ave
Camas WA 98607

Email church office:

info@zionluthcamas.org

Pr. Susan: zionsusand@yahoo.com

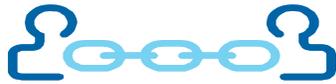
Phone:

Church office: 360-834-4201
Ext 200 for Pat/general messages
(Checked frequently; even though the building is closed, Pat is working from home)
Ext. 202 for Pr. Susan
Ext. 203 for a prayer message

You may use the mail drop (a brass insertion in the brick) at the church for offerings or notes. It's located next to the office window on the 4th Ave side of the church.

A word of encouragement

I saw a sign on the edge of Camas heading to the freeway that read, "We are all in this together." That is a statement of truth. We are all in this together for the good and the bad. Zion is made up of working people and retired people, still-staying-busy people and bored-out-of-their-minds people. Zion has introverted people and extroverted people, young people and old people. All of those people are figuring out new ways to communicate, new things to do, and how to embrace being home. We are all in this together. Reach out if you are feeling sad -- there is someone who can cheer you, or someone that can carry you through another moment. Reach out if you have energy and give someone a call, or write a letter. Reach out if you are lonely, because chances are very good someone else is lonely too. Let us reach out to one another, and together let us reach up to God and lift each other up in prayer. Continued prayers for all,
Pastor Susan



Prayer Chain

Will & Gwen Edgerley, Alan Hansen, Beth Farrington, Mike Hughes, Joe Konzatti, Teresa Newton, Charlene Yoder, Steven Lee; Carrie Golladay, Dick Bishman,

May Zoom Meetings

Confirmation Class	4:30
Mon/Thurs	4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28
What's Brewing?	5:30
Tues	26
Book Club	1:00
Thurs	14
Council	4:00
Tues	19
Bible Study	10:00
Thurs	7, 14, 21, 28
High School Youth	4:30
Weds	6, 13, 20, 27

If you'd like to visit with someone online (up to 25 people at once) we're happy to work with you -- just let us know.

Lite Side

A woman went to her psychiatrist and said, "Doctor, I want to talk to you about my husband . . . he thinks he's a refrigerator." "That's not so bad," said the doctor, "it's rather a harmless complex." "Well, maybe," said the woman, "but he sleeps with his mouth open and the light keeps me awake."

There are two theories for arguing with women. Neither one works.

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is probably not for you.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably a wise investment.

A Sunday School teacher was describing that when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom, she turned into a pillar of salt, when Bobby interrupted. "My mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

A country preacher sold a mule to a friend, and told him the mule was trained to go when the rider said "Praise the Lord," and to stop when the rider said "Amen." The buyer mounted the beast and commanded, "Praise the Lord," and the mule shot off like a rocket. The startled rider panicked. "Whoa!!" he screamed. The mule was headed straight for a cliff. "Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!" At the last second he remembered the minister's instructions. "Amen!" he shouted, and the mule screeched to a halt right at the edge of the cliff. As the new owner peered over the precipice, he wiped his brow and sighed, "Praise the Lord."



Go to the ant, you lazybones; consider its ways, and be wise. Proverbs 6:6

As if Coronavirus stress is not enough, I have an ant problem. Every day, one carpenter ant or two or three crawls across my desk. One has crawled across my desk since I moved into my office nearly every day since January. Every day I scoop it outside. When that one ant brought a buddy and then two ants were consistently crawling across, then it became an issue - an issue of sanity that is. Normally I see them, but the one that crept across my black keyboard did me in, and the one that crawled up my arm --well, that just bought me two hours of hyper thoughts of ants crawling up my arm. Tye Cobb (thank you Tye!!!) has sprayed three times, and the third time was **thorough**.

While the spraying has worked well, there still is an ant a day or every other day that crawls across my desk. It uses the same track as the ant the day before. I have learned a few things from these tiny but mighty creatures of God that I think can help us during this Coronavirus time.



The first is that ants are attracted to their ant pheromones, which they leave behind so that the next ant will follow their trail. During this stay at home time, we have no navigation, no instincts on how to handle this, so we must rely upon our Good Shepherd to create the first footsteps and create a path. The path is brand new. It is not a well-worn trail that has signs pointing the way, nor has it been cleared of brush and trees such as our trails through our forests have been. No, this is a trail where Jesus takes a step, and you have to look carefully for his footprint, and then you place your foot in the exact same spot. You do not dare veer to the right or the left. It is not a rush through the wilderness, even though you want to get out as quickly as possible; it is a careful tiptoeing and careful placement of small steps that move you forward slowly.

The second thing that I have learned is that the ant is small but mighty. I tried to step on one that was dying from the spray and discovered that wasn't easy, and thus was worth taking outside. They are resilient creatures, just as are we. Yes, our lives have changed. Yes, this is not fun, nor is it healthy to be away from others as I am sure we are all finding out, but we can do it -- we can.

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We need to dig into our mental reserves using the tools that we have to get through this. One of our tools is the story of Jesus. Holy week was a reminder of Jesus' journey to the cross. (grief). He was tortured, beaten, and crucified. In addition, Jesus was also persecuted. In his home town they wanted to hurl Jesus off a cliff. The same people who had seen him grow up and knew his family tried to kill him. He kept going, and we need to do that too.

What tools do you have? You have a faith community that cares. You have the outdoors to walk in and appreciate. You have the ability to be grateful for the small but mighty ways that you can get through to the next day. You also have your faith: your faith in Jesus, the risen Christ. The resurrection brings new birth and new life, not just once but over and over again.

The third thing is the same as the second. The ant is small and mighty. The Coronavirus stress is gigantic, and on a scale of 1 to 10, I think it hits about a 9.2. For me, it was the small ant that crawled across my desk *again* that really could have tipped the scale. The ant across my desk is a call out to be mindful that this is a really hard time. The ups and downs of

emotions that you may be experiencing are a part of a grief cycle (which in turn can tip off other unresolved grief). It can be a very little thing that can set off your emotions. The ant is a reminder that self-care is needed. You all have your own "ants". What is that small tiny thing that brings you to a breaking point? Note what it is and recognize that it is a reminder for self-care. When your "ant" comes in front of you, call someone, take a bubble bath, listen to music, watch something funny, write a letter, journal, get outside, read the Bible, read a book, pray. And note there are ways to see people and continue social distancing through technology or talking to someone spaced 6 ft away. It is more difficult, but it is possible.

We are mighty creatures. We can do it. We can get through this. Each day is one day closer to the cure. You are an amazing, resilient mighty creature of God. Jesus walks before you. One step, then another. Look for his rod and staff. They are there. They point the way. My prayers are with you. With love and care,



Quilters make face masks

Zion Quilters stepped up for local healthcare workers when PeaceHealth Hospital put out a call for volunteers to make cloth facemasks. The specific pattern was shared among Zion quilters and sewing machines sprang into action. Our first donation of 167 masks was dropped off a week later! PeaceHealth staff working in other areas wear these cloth masks to preserve the medical-grade masks for staff directly caring for COVID-19 patients. A local hospice and some other nursing homes are taking donations using the specific 11-page pattern as well. And, not stopping there, quilters just got a request to make some 'ear-savers' for Kaiser facilities. Ear-savers take the pressure off ears when someone is wearing a mask all day long.

Now, the generosity of our own Zion Quilters is being extended to our Zion members, their family and friends. The next batch of masks are now at Zion. You can come get one or a few for your household. While PeaceHealth is still taking these donations, they are also starting to provide masks to people in the Vancouver-Camas-Washougal area who visit their

facility. The latest recommendation is for everyone to wear a mask when out in public.

When you get groceries, visit the hardware store or perhaps picking up take-out food to support a local favorite restaurant you hope will make it through this time – you and everyone else need to be wearing your cloth facemask.

Some tips to avoid contamination:

Wear it over your nose – if your nose is poking out over the top, it is not helping anyone.

Adjust it in the car and then do NOT touch it again until you are taking it off by the ear loops or ties (don't grab the middle) once back in the car.

Place mask in a plastic container in your car. One container for each person's mask so they don't contaminate each other.

Clean your hands with sanitizer and then touch the steering wheel and drive off.

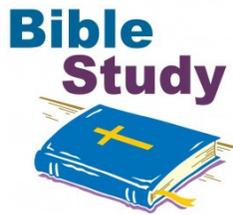
Once home, put mask in the laundry (no special cycle, any soap will kill COVID)

Re-use! This is part of the new normal to staying safe while in public settings.

Do you want to learn more? Patterns are available and we can e-mail or print off some copies.

Want to pick up some masks?
Or a pattern? Or have some
masks or ear-savers to drop off?
Please call the church office at
360-834-4201 ext. 200 and leave
a message (voicemail is checked
frequently) to schedule pick-up
or drop off.

***New Bible Study starting
in May***



In May
we will start
studying the
book of
Romans.
Our study
will take us

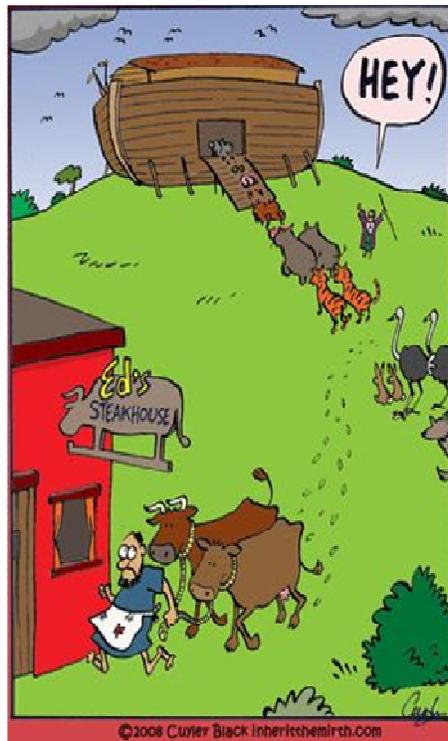
through the end of June. The
book of Romans has inspired the
most commentaries out of all
the books in the Bible. Martin
Luther wrote his commentary on
Romans and used the book of
Romans to develop many
Lutheran beliefs that we follow
today. Martin Luther said in his
introduction to the book of
Romans that "this Epistle is really
the chief part of the New
Testament and the very purest
Gospel, and is worthy not only
that every Christian should know
it word for word, by heart, but
occupy himself with it every day,
as the daily bread of the soul. It
can never be read or pondered
too much, and the more it is
dealt with the more precious it

becomes, and the better it
tastes."

The following schedule is for
the Bible study to take place on
Thursdays through Zoom from
10-11:30 until we can meet again
in person.

Homework Schedule

May 7	Ch. 1, 2
May 14	Ch. 3, 4
May 21	Ch. 5, 6
May 28	Ch. 7, 8
Jun 4	Ch. 9, 10
Jun 11	Ch. 11, 12
Jun 18	Ch. 13, 14
Jun 25	Ch. 15, 16



Book Club meets



Greetings!
I hope this finds you all well and adjusting to this time of staying

home and social distancing. The phone, email, and computer technology have helped us stay in touch with friends and family, as well as continue some of our group activities. A big THANK YOU to Pat, Pastor Susan and Sandra for getting us on Zoom for our book group discussion on April 9. It worked! We had 11 join for discussion of *Beartown* led by Sandra Meeker.



Time will tell if we are able to meet in person or virtually next month. Upcoming schedule: May 14: *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* by Jennifer Chiaverini. Pat Edwards will lead discussion.

June 11: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson.

You will need to borrow or otherwise obtain your own copy of the above books.

Easter blessings to you and your families!
Karen



Need groceries?

Did you know that Zion has a long list of people who are very willing to help get groceries and can do a few errands for those who are sheltering fully in place? Please call the church office and we can connect you with someone who can help.



Meditations

May is my favorite month, although it doesn't contain Christmas, or really hot weather (90°+) usually, or those big snowflakes, or fall color in the trees, all of which I enjoy immensely. May isn't the month when we camp with all eleven grandchildren and their parents

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– you can imagine what a joy that is (and yes, I’m resigned to the possibility that our trip may be cancelled).

No, to me May is the bride’s appearance. In April, you wait for her, as if gathered for a wedding before she comes down the aisle. Everywhere are signs of readiness, like buds, sprouting dahlias and small leaves, and of course the daffodils have announced spring like a flock of flower girls running around before the ceremony in their fluffy dresses. But radiant May steals the show.

I don’t like anything about COVID-19, but the strictures it has placed on my lifestyle have forced me to appreciate more fully the blessings I have. I’m so fortunate to have two big windows in my home office, so my work days have a background of glorious May all around with its unchanging rituals of bloom, nest building, and sweet sunshine. Some of you have shared your blessings, which we hope to assemble for inclusion in a future celebration. The devoted hen of Rick Schaal (a video, not the hen herself); two year old Amelia Porter, daughter to Tyler & Ashlie Porter, granddaughter of Bev Waterman and great-granddaughter of Pat

Edwards; intricate jig-saw puzzles *completed* by Deanna Eichler (a marvel to me who is challenged by a 10-piece Daffy Duck); and other pictures of personal inspiration.

And you, Zion family, are an enormous blessing. As I stated last month, witnessing the steadfast caring of this congregation is such a gift and comfort. I’ve seen 167 masks brought in for PeaceHealth staff (our daughter Shelley is a charge nurse on the trauma floor, so she may be wearing a sign of Zion’s love); every time I empty the mail drop in the church office there are faithful offerings; the list of those willing to collect groceries grows; the technical difficulties of the online worship services are forgiven; and your messages full of concern for others tell me plainly that COVID -19 has not conquered the Spirit at Zion. No, we are hand in hand with our Lord and walking tall.

Lift up your hearts! We don’t know when the end of this is coming, but God is already there waiting for us.

Pat Hagensen



YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

Zion and Beautiful Savior Holden Village trip cancelled for the year, BUT

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Holden Village has decided that they cannot host guests in the Village this summer. HOWEVER, Holden is energized by innovative ideas to explore a different kind of Holden experience this summer. They are exploring webinars, vespers on the ark, music concerts, special broadcasts, and virtual community gatherings.

A thought from Sonya Renee Taylor: "We will not go back to normal. Normal never was. Our pre-corona existence was not normal other than we normalized greed, inequity, exhaustion, depletion, extraction, disconnection, confusion, rage, hoarding, hate and lack. We should not long to return, my friends. We are being given the opportunity to stitch a new garment, one that fits all humanity and nature."

Rummage Sale will be postponed until further notice

A beautiful thing: communications volunteers needed

As I have called people, I have heard from so many how they have been contacted by another person at Zion or that they have contacted others themselves. That is wonderful and please keep it up. There are definitely a few people who have been missed and have had little contact from others. Perhaps they are new or don't come as often. Please make sure all your information is up to date with Pat Hagensen including

your email, address and phone number.

I would like to organize a communications care circle. I need people who can call or write about 5 people a week (both callers and writers are needed) and also a team coordinator. Please let the office know if this is something you can do. Thank you for all you are doing to care for others. This is a beautiful extension of Christ during a really difficult time.

Pastor Susan

FINANCIAL DIGEST

MARCH

BUDGETARY INCOME YEAR/DATE	85,874.54
BUDGETARY EXPENSES	57,498.53

BUDGETARY OFFERING MONTH YEAR/DATE

2020	19,068.77	85,874.54
2019	26,570.29	80,072.18

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON			# of Sundays	Avg/YR to Date
2020	264	1417	10	142
2019	678	1672	13	129



Zion Lutheran Church Staff:

Ministers	Entire Congregation
Associate Pastor	Susan Dollinger
Youth Minister	Pam Ensley
Office Assistant	Sandra Meeker
Music Staff:	Karen Rezabek, Gary Ritter
Nursery Attendants	Emily McElhaney, Alexa Gaudio, Brooke Gaudio, Christina McElhaney
Sound Techs:	Nolan Purkerson, Reid Frank, Max Malcom
Custodian	Tye Cobb
Council Officers:	Pres. Madlin Baltzell, Vice Pres. Leslee Froehlich Sec. Laura Greulich
Administrative Assistant	Patricia Hagensen

The **Zion Messenger** is the monthly newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, located at NE 4th & Garfield, Camas, Washington. Worship services are at 9:00 am (traditional) and 11:15 am (contemporary). Pr. Susan A. Dollinger can be reached at 360-834-4201 ext 202 or 503-548-7997 (cell). Administrative office hours are 8-12:00 Mondays and 8-5:00 Tuesday - Friday. Email can be sent to info@zionluthcamas.org. The website is zionluthcamas.org. For youth & family ministry, the email address is youthminister@zionluthcamas.org.

***"As a welcoming Body of Christ, we celebrate and share
God's saving grace for all."***

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