Bethlehem Lutheran Church

E19675 State Road 27

Fall Creek, WI 54742

**APRIL 2019 DATES TO REMEMBER**

**WORSHIP SERVICES are held Sunday at 9am @ Zion, & 10:30am @ Bethlehem**

**Communion is offered on the 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays of the month**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: ZION 10:00AM; BETHLEHEM 9AM & Adult Bible Study 9AM**

**CONFIRMATION is every Wednesday 5-6pm**

 **CONFIRMATION PRACTICE, EVERY SATURDAY IN APRIL, 9 – 11AM**

 April 3 – Zion Ladies Aid with potluck @ noon

 LENT SERVICE 7:30 @ ZION

 April 4 – Joint Council Meetings @ Bethlehem 7pm

 April 10 - LENT SERVICE 7:30 @ BETHLEHEM

 April 11 – Bethlehem Ladies Aid with potluck @ noon

 April 14 – Palm Sunday; Youth Group Meeting 6:30pm

  April 18 – MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE 7:30 @ Bethlehem

 April 19 – GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7:30 @ ZION

  **April 21 – EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE 7AM @ BETHLEHEM followed by Easter Breakfast provided by the Youth Group**

 **April 21 – EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES 9AM @ ZION & 10:30AM @ BETHLEHEM**

 April 25 – Bethlehem Sunday School Teachers Meeting 7:00pm



Zion Lutheran Church

1286 S 150th Ave.

Fall Creek, WI 54742

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EMPTY IS GOOD!

 Is there any day quite like Easter Sunday? It has a beauty and glory all its own. CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! The beauty and glory of that day stem from a wonderful fact. The women who walked to Jesus’ grave early on Easter Sunday morning did not find a huge circular stone blocking the entrance. The stone had been rolled back. The tomb was empty.

 Ordinarily empty is not good. An empty gas tank won’t get you anywhere. Empty cupboards will not feed you. An empty bank account will not pay the bills.

 In the case of Jesus’ tomb, though, empty is good---for us. In fact, if His tomb were not empty, there would be no reason for Easter joy. The apostle Paul reminded the Corinthian Christians that if Jesus’ tomb were not empty, his preaching and their faith would have been useless. Worst of all, they would not have enjoyed forgiveness for their sins, and there would have been no point in looking ahead to the future.

 Thankfully the Corinthians did not have to worry about those consequences. Nor do you. Jesus’ tomb was empty. His empty tomb proclaims that God the Father accepted His Sons holy life and sacrificial death as the full payment for the world’s sins---including yours.

 His empty tomb also announces that death has been conquered, and because Jesus lives, so too will we---forever.

 He whose tomb is empty now desires that you have life and have it to the full. A life filled with forgiveness, peace, and joy is exactly what you and I have through Spirit-worked faith in the risen Savior.

 A BLESSED EASTER TO ALL

 PASTOR JAMES E. NORTON







*“Bethlehem Lutheran Church* reaching out to our community and to the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Facebook Address: Zion-Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Email: countryc@centurylink.net Website: zion-bethlehem.org

Office Telephone (715)877-3249 Address: E19675 State Road 27, Fall Creek, WI 54742

 - The Youth Group would like to say thank you to the congregation for their support on Youth Sunday. Also the next youth meeting will be April 14. Youth from both congregations are welcome. If questions, contact Jamie & Darin Noel @ 715 877 3721. *The Youth will be serving Easter breakfast following the Sunrise Service @ 7am on Easter Sunday.*

**BETHLEHEM LADIES AID:**

The ladies aid met on March 14th**.** The Bible Study was “Shh! Peace. Be Still” on page 18 in the winter quartely.

The Spring Rally was March 19th at Grace in Augusta.

Our next meeting is April 11th with a potluck at noon. All ladies welcome!

Save your plastic grocery bags and give to Joan Boyea to make mats for the homeless.



**Sunday Morning Bible Study** – every Sunday @ 9:00am @ Bethlehem. Come join us!



*Sunday School children will be singing on Palm Sunday.*

Bethlehem Sunday School is on a Hands & Heart Mission. Please join us on April 7th and watch, partake and in prayer support us. We will be filling 75 bags with toiletries, a fun item and a Christian item to be given to children who have been removed from their homes by social services. In an emergency situation they have to leave their families with nothing from home and often are split from their siblings. We have received grant money of $250 from Thrivent for this project along with t-shirts and a wonderful kit. Youth will purchase items along with Board of Ed members. Bags have been sewn by volunteers. *Get Inspired!* You can help support this project with the purchase of an 8 pack of color crayons, color books, or a donation of money to put towards our purchases.

*Beginning in April our 7th & 8th graders in confirmation class will be lighting the candles. We thank them for this service to the Lord.*

**\*\*\*CHOIR HAS STARTED AT BETHLEHEM. IF YOU LIKE TO SING, TO COME AND JOIN US. WE’D LOVE TO HAVE YOU SING WITH US!** **WE PRACTICE EVERY SUNDAY AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE.**

**Bethlehem’s outside Spring clean-up** will be done Friday, April 26th @ 4pm, and on Saturday, April 27th from 9 to noon. If the yard isn’t ready for cleanup now, a May date will be scheduled. Please bring your tools – rakes, wheelbarrows, etc.

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 BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

 **Council Meeting Minutes**

 **March 7, 2019**

* The February Council Meeting was canceled due to weather

**Treasurers Report:** Reviewed the February 2019 Financial Report.

**Elders Report:**

1.) Acolytes – students of the confirmation classes will be acolytes during the church service. A schedule will be posted.

**Trustees Report:** None.

**Board of Education Report:**

1.) Average Attendance – 18 to 20 children each Sunday.

2.) Youth Sunday – March 17th, the children will sing 2 songs during the service.

3.) Hearts for Jesus – collected $64.64.

**Old Business:**

1.) Parsonage Update – Dale Noel’s financial advisor is willing to help with the steps and paperwork required in order to rent out the parsonage. Dale will bring the information to the committee when he returns from vacation.

The parsonage driveway needs to be plowed so that Thaler Oil can deliver fuel. Tom will contact the Town of Ludington.

2.) Install AED and Memorial Tree Plaque – Discussed locations for both. Will ask Mike & Sally to install.

**New Business:**

1.) Ice Build-up on Church Eaves – Discussed removing large pieces for safety issues.

2.) Installation of Officers – Pastor will schedule it for Sunday, March 24th.

Zion Lutheran Church 

Zion Lutheran Church seeks to preach and teach God’s Word to all people of all ages, and to show God’s love through our witness, fellowship, and service.

**April 2019 Newsletter**

Joint Council Meeting is at Bethlehem, April 4, beginning at 7:00, followed by each congregation’s council meetings, and then the Elder’s meeting

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Begins with

on Sunday, April 14.

Maundy Thursday service is at Bethlehem on April 18, at 7:30 pm

Good Friday Service is at Zion on April 19, at 7:30 pm.

 April 21



Easter Sunrise service is at Bethlehem at 7 am. Zion Easter Service is at 9. And Bethlehem service is at 10:30.

At Bethlehem, breakfast will be served between the sunrise service and the 10:30 service.

At Zion breakfast will be served after the 9:00 worship.

He is risen! He is risen, indeed!



Looking ahead…The Board of Education is looking toward Vacation Bible School. Donations toward materials would be appreciated. Monetary donations can be put in an envelope, labeled VBS and placed in the offering plate, or given to Deb Prill. Thank you for your support of this vital ministry.

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 **Council Meeting Highlights**

 **March 7, 2018**

President Dave Kiesow called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. There were 11 members present.

**Secretary’s Report:** Due to a snowstorm February’s meeting was cancelled. The minutes from the January 3, 2019 meeting were read.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Chris Hausmann reported the financial information for January and for February.

**Elder’s Report:** The average attendance for January was 39, 3 children, and 32 for communion. The average attendance for February was 40, 3 children, and 33 for communion.

**Trustee’s Report:** It was reported that snow was cleaned off the roof of the Sunday school rooms. It was mentioned that the trustees could use help with cleaning and other duties. There is a lot to do.

**Sunday School Report:** A list of VBS expenses was presented. Regular Sunday school attendance is 7. There was discussion about VBS and Sunday school expenses and it was agreed that monthly financial reports from the Sunday school would be presented to the council. It was suggested that a change of banking institution and a change of name on the checking account for the Sunday school be tabled until the next meeting.

**Mission Board Report:** The mission board brought in about $100.00 from Zion and about $300.00 from Bethlehem for the soup lunches.

**Old Business:** Chris Hausmann mentioned that the computer software that was considered will not work for our needs.

**New Business:** A suggestion was made that the list of members could be divided among the elders for notification of cancellation of church services due to bad winter weather. Serving Easter breakfast was discussed. It was decided that the Sunday school will serve Easter breakfast.



*Lunch is served at Zion each Sunday, following the worship service: This month, the first Sunday is hosted by the Sunday School, with a celebration of Baptism, The second Sunday is hosted by the Council, with proceeds going to the fuel fund. The Third Sunday is the Easter Breakfast and bake sale, served after the 9:00 service. The Fourth Sunday is hosted by the Ladies Aid. Be sure to join us for good food and fellowship, and to support these ministries.*



*\*\*\*Thank you for all the prayers for our grandson, Drake. The surgeons have expressed faith in a full recovery from his surgery. Gene & Dottie Neumann*

**Please remember in your prayers** Vivian Huff, Dorothy (Noel) Smith, Bev Curler, Paul Leverty, Penny & Olivia Schmidt, Martha Jaenke, Pastor Jones at Zion-Chippewa, Diane Goss, shut-ins and members living in Care Facilities.

 OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS  HOMEBOUND

 Augusta--Diane Goss--Zion                                 Brian Markham--Beth

               Geneva Smith--Beth.                            Carol Huff--Zion

                Eileen Hagedorn--Zion                          Phyllis Peterson-Zion

                Amy Bergman--Zion Marlene & Bo Tessmer-Beth.

                Naomi Sudbrink--Beth.  Delores Starck-Beth.

 Winifred Boyea-Wicksey-Zion Also in nursing homes, or assisted living:

Bev Curler...Oak Gardens Place, Altoona

The Manor, Chippewa Falls--Delores Staats, (Marilyn Norton’s mother)

Grace-Woodlands, Eau Claire--Florence Korn-Beth. Neillsville--Dorothy Solberg-Beth.

Stanley--Robert Reppe-Zion River Pines, Altoona--Julia Phillips-Beth

Reminder – both Zion and Bethlehem have prayer chains, that is people who will pray for someone who is ill, in need of a job, or need God’s loving support in another way. Zion members can call Betty Woodford @ 715 877-3225 & Bethlehem members can call Sharon Tumm @ 715 877-2402, with a prayer request for yourself or for anyone else.

There are also “Prayer Request Boxes,” paper, and pencils available in the narthex. You may write down any request and put it in the box provided.



 

APRIL BIRTHDAYS – God bless your special day

 1st Scott Pilgrim

 2 Pastor Norton, Daniel McCann

 5 Victoria Marten 7 Betty Woodford

 10 Jessica Fye

 12 Loretta McCann

 14 Mitchell & Samantha Lyons, Travis Sonnentag

 19 Jane Anderson, Skyler Furler

 20 David Kiesow

 23 Rebecca Peterlik, Eric Weggen

 25 Dorothea Neumann

 27 Allen Hadorn, Darlene Noel, Steven Pilgrim

 29 Theodore Biegel, Linda Hermann, Mikayla McCann

 30 Charity Maland

**APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

 4/18 Irene & Harold Schiefelbein

 4/20 Elton & Susan Stephan

 4/23 Norman & Dorothy Luedtke

 4/28 Earl & Debra Jaenke



**APRIL BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS**

 1st Wayne Compeau

 7 Andrew Hermann

 10 Elton Stephan

 12 Laurie Diaby-Gassama

 13 Luke Pilgrim

 14 Mikayla Pilgrim

 16 Jessica Fye

 18 Jodee Moss

 22 Joan Drehmel, Scott Pilgrim

 23 Jenna Bauch, Anna Jaenke

**Bethlehem-Zion Lutheran Parish**

**Rev. James Norton Cell 1(217)725-2487, Home (715)514-5478**

**Bethlehem Office (715)877-3249 (Office Hours T, W, TH 9-noon)**

**Zion Office (715)877-3128**

**Facebook**: Zion-Bethlehem Lutheran Church **e-mail –** countryc@centurylink.net

**Web address**: [www.zion-bethlehem.org](http://www.zion-bethlehem.org)

**SUNDAY SERVICES: ZION 9AM; BETHLEHEM 10:30AM**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL : ZION 10:00AM & BETHLEHEM 9:00AM & Adult Bible Study**

 ***Elders:* Bethlehem – Steve Davidson *Altar Guild*: Bethlehem – Darlene & Dale Noel Zion – Ken Kiesow Zion – Lois & Jerry Kolpien**

April 2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| Beginning in April our 7th & 8th graders in confirmation class will be lighting the candles. We thank them for this service to the Lord. They are called Acolytes. | 1 | 2 | 3 **Confirmation 5p****Zion Ladies Aid****Noon/Potluck****Lent Service is 7:30 @ Zion** | 4**Joint Council @ Bethlehem 7 pm** | 5 | 6**Confirmation Practice 9-11am** |
| 7Acolytes:Zion – AnthonyBethlehem - Cash | 8 | 9 | 10 **Confirmation 5p****Lent Service 7:30 @ Bethlehem** | 11**Bethlehem****Ladies Aid @ noon/potluck** | 12 | 13**Confirmation Practice 9-11am** |
| 14Image result for free black and white religious easter clipart for palm sundayCOMMUNIONZion Acolyte = AdamBeth. Acolyte = SpencerCHILDREN ARE SINGINGYouth Group Mtg 6:30 | 15 | 16 | 17**Confirmation 5pm** | 18Image result for free black and white religious easter clipart for palm sunday**7:30 Service @ Bethlehem** | See the source image19**7:30 Service @ Zion** | 20**Confirmation Practice 9-11am**Bethlehem Altar Guild cleaningChurch 9am  |
| 21Image result for Easter Resurrection Clip Art**HAPPY Easter!**Sunrise Service 7am @ Bethlehem + breakfastZion @ 9am+ breakfastBethlehem 10:30am | 22EasterAcolytes =Zion -VictoriaBeth - Jon | 23 | 24**Confirmation 5pm** | 25 | 26**Spring Cleanup****Outside**C:\Users\uwecsurplus\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.MSO\31C74B1F.tmp4pm @ Bethlehem | 27**Confirmation Practice 9-11am**C:\Users\uwecsurplus\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.MSO\31C74B1F.tmp9-noon @ Bethlehem |
| 28COMMUNIONAcolytes:Zion – AnthonyBeth - Brandon | 29 | 30 | See the source image |  |  |  |