**School News**

* Enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year is underway. The 2 morning pre-kindergarten classes are full. We have openings in the afternoon pre-kindergarten class and both pre-school classes as well and kindergarten.
* There will be no school this Thursday and Friday. On Thursday teachers will be meeting with parents for conferences.
* Please consider voting for Zion Lutheran preschool in the Kearney Hub Readers’ Choice Balloting.
* Our boys and girls basketball teams will participate in a tournament in North Platte next Saturday.
* Are you or someone you know looking for a top-notch kindergarten? We would love to have you join our Zion school family. Please speak with Mr. Splittgerber or the office staff about enrolling.

**Don’t forget to direct Choice Dollars®**

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about. Don’t let Choice Dollars expire.

**So far, Zion Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran School have received $1,940 from the 2017 Choice Dollars Program. Funds received by the school go directly to help families pay for their children to attend our school.**

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until **March 31, 2018** to direct any remaining 2017 Choice Dollars. Help support Zion Lutheran Church or Zion Lutheran School. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt.

**Announcements – February 11, 2018**



**Thou shalt silence your cell phone during worship**.

**Our sanctuary has a HEARING LOOP. Please switch hearing aids to T-coil mode. We have 2 headsets and receivers for use by those without hearing aids. Ask an usher for assistance.**

**Forgot your offering? Don’t have your checkbook or cash? Today or any day you can visit our website at zionkearney.com and click on the “giving” tab. Or, text “zionkearney” (one word) to 77977. You’ll receive a text back with instructions to start giving.**

**For Your Safety and Security** … all exterior doors are locked 15 minutes after the church service begins. If you are running late please go to the west door for access to the sanctuary.

**Ash Wednesday**

Please plan to join us this Wednesday, February 14 at 7:00 pm for our Ash Wednesday Divine Service.

Ash Wednesday begins the Christian’s Lenten journey with a reminder of our mortality and a call to repentance. We will observe the ancient practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of all those who wish to receive them. The ashes remind us that the “wages of sin is death.” They are applied in the form of a cross to remind us of Christ’s victory for us over sin and death.

Preceding the service, Mary Martha will serve a meal in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30-6:30. The menu is pulled pork sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, salads and desserts. There will be a freewill offering with proceeds going to our roof replacement fund.

**Reading the New Testament in Lent** … is a worthwhile and doable discipline.  Simply read about 6-8 chapters a day, six days a week, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending before Holy Thursday.  A schedule of readings can be found next to the yellow Bible reading cards in the church entryway.

**Mary Martha Circles**… will meet on Monday, Feb. 12th at 7 p.m.  Love Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall.  Peace Circle will meet at Ellen Koopman's home.

Love Circle - Bev Nuttelman (chairman), Jill Bates, Rachel Burger, Carol DeLoach, Brooke Fisher, Liz Gaunt, Marge Hanson, Jami Helmbrecht, Ann Hinners, Teresa Leising, Carol Kreutzer, Denae Kuhl, Katie Nuttelman, Shirley Oertwig, Becky Thornton, Jeanne Wollberg

Peace Circle - Margaret Smith (chairman), Judy Ahrens, Kay Banner, Donna Bosard, Nancy Dissmeyer, Mary Fiddelke, Carol Florang, Carol Gaunt, Wanda Glanzer, Sandy Heiden, Lyn Hoffman, Ellen Koopman, Marion Richmond, Margaret Smith, Lisa Splittgerber, Carolyn Westman, Darcy Willers

All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend!

**Midweek Students…** are reminded that class will not meet this week on Ash Wednesday.

**Pastor DeLoach…** will be out of town Feb 15-20. Pastor Gaunt will be avilable for emergencies and can be reached at 308-4525-0552.

**Thank You**

We want to thank all those that sent cards and letters of comfort at the loss of our son Tom. Our heart felt thanks to Pastor DeLoach for being with Brandon during a difficult time. Thanks to Pastor DeLoach & Gaunt for their prayers, calls and visits.

God’s Blessing to all,

Don & Gretchen Trampe

**P.E.A.C.E 2018**

One of the major fundraisers for the Zion Parent-Teacher League is our annual dinner and auction.  Our 2018 P.E.A.C.E. (People Excited About Christian Education) Auction and Dinner will be held on March 17th.  Help is always needed to carry out such a huge project.  The more volunteers we have the easier the fundraiser will be to carry out.  It would be helpful to have a large group of parents work together.  Any Zion members interested in assisting with the auction please email lisa.splittgerber@zionkearney.org.

**Opportunities to Worship during Lent**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **Service Time** | **LENTEN MEALS AT 5:30 -SERVED BY** |
| February 14Ash Wednesday | 7:00pm | Mary Martha |
| February 21 | 7:00pm | 7th & 8th grade class |
| February 28 | 7:00pm | Evangelism/Stewardship |
| March 7 | 7:00pm | Youth |
| March 14 | 7:00pm | Board of Education |
| March 21 | 7:00pm | Elders /Trustees |
| March25 | 9:00am | Palm Sunday Meal @ 11:30 |
| March 29Maundy Thursday | 7:00pm |  |
| March 30Good Friday Service | 2:00pm | Fellowship Hour Following |
| March 30Tenebrae Service | 7:00pm |  |
| March 31Easter Vigil Service | 7:00pm |  |
| April 1Easter Sunrise Service | 7:00am | Easter Breakfast served8:00-8:45 |
| April 1Easter Festival Service | 9:00am |  |



**Stewardship Note**

**Mark 9:6** – “For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified.” Soon enough, the disciples’ terror turned into joy for when Jesus is with us, there is no need to fear. He loves us and cares for us and will never abandon us. That assurance is the basis of all generosity – for only those who are set free from worry can learn the joy of giving.