**School News**

* Zion School plant sales have begun. Please see a school student or the office to order your annuals, perennials, select garden vegetables, herbs, seeds, baskets, and planters.
* Zion will begin the track season March 9th. If you are a Zion school student or a member of Zion and would like to join the track team contact the office.
* 2020-2021 Enrollment is open to everyone! Tell your family and friends to get enrolled before the classes fill.
* P.E.A.C.E will be on Saturday, March 21st. Zion members are encouraged to attend as well as invite friends and family. Please join us for an evening of fellowship, supporting our school and Christian education. Please stop by the office for reservation forms or to make a donation. Please continue to check the announcements to learn of ways to become involved. Thank you for your support of our school.
* Last week was a fun, full, exciting week celebrating National Lutheran Schools week. A big thank you for everyone that helped with the special events. We really appreciate all of the help!
* On March 17th the Zion band will participate in a Kearney Christian School Music Festival at Kearney Catholic at 6:00pm in the gym.
* Zion will not have school on March 25-27 for spring break.



**Announcements – March 8, 2020**



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

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**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.

**Midw 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 in the church entryway.

**Week Service March 11th**- Our Lenten Midweek services are following the theme "Eyes on Jesus," which uses the metaphor of eyesight to examine how the various people in Mark’s Gospel viewed Jesus during His Passion.

This Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. we will see in Gethsemane that Jesus’ inner circle—Peter, James, and John—cannot keep their eyes open to watch and pray with Him for even an hour. How awake have we been, lest we fall prey to temptation? Why does Jesus agree that His Father’s will be done?

The 7th & 8th Graders will serve a meal in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30-6:30. There will be a freewill offering.

**Mary Martha** – Will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, March 9th at 7:00 pm. All ladies are welcome to join.

**Easter Lilies**

It is time once again to order flowers to grace our chancel for Easter services on Sunday, April 12th. Lilies may be purchased for $15 each. Orders need to be turned in by Monday, March 30th. To simplify bookkeeping, please turn your order in to the church office. An envelope and signup sheet will also be available during the Bible Class Hour. You are welcome to take your plants home on Easter Sunday following the 9:00 a.m. service.

**Loving Our Little Ones** – We love having our little ones in worship with us so that they can learn the language and rhythm of the Divine Service. We can help them by serving the back three pews on each side for families with babies and toddlers. We also have a “cry room” in the North East corner of the narthex for their comfort and care. Thank God for the gift of these children.

**Birthday Celebration** – Norman Abels celebrates his 98th birthday on March 9th. If you would like to send him a card his address is: 600 Brookestone Meadows Plaza, Elkhorn, NE 68022.

**Man Feast 2020** – Sunday, March 29, 5:30pm at Peace Lutheran Church in Grand Island. Doors open at 5:00pm. Tickets are $25. Enjoy ribs and fellowship. Featured speaker former NFL player Danny Woodhead. For males of all ages. Contact Pastor Gaunt by March 15th if you are interest in attending 308-455-0552.

**Help Wanted** – We need Sunday school teachers and substitute Sunday school teachers. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the church office.

**Radio Broadcast and Flowers** – Zion is in need of radio broadcast sponsors. Please consider sponsoring a radio broadcast, several families can sponsor together, or providing altar flowers to beautify the sanctuary. The sign up sheet is on the board across from the mailboxes. There are several open dates. Sign up today!

**Missions** - The first quarter mission for 2020 will go to Lutherans for Life. Please use the special marked mission envelopes located in the narthex. Please make sure that the missions are clearly marked and placed in the offering plate.

**Thrivent Choice Dollar Sunday** – Designating Thrivent Choice Dollars to Zion Church and/or School is a simple way to support our ministry at no additional cost to you. The deadline is March 31. If you own a Thrivent policy of some kind you probably have Thrivent Choice Dollars available to designate to a qualified charitable organization like Zion. We will help you on March 15th. Stop by the Thrivent table in the hallway after church. You will need to know your Thrivent ID and password, or your Thrivent membership number.

**Thank You** – I am so greatful for Pastor DeLoach and Pastor Gaunt for their devotions, communion, and encouragement. Thank you also to members for the cards, visits, balloons, and especially for your prayers which I truly needed. Blessings, Carolyn Westman

**Opportunities to Worship during Lent**

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| **DATE** | **Service Time** | **LENTEN MEALS AT 5:30pm –****SERVED BY** |
| March 11 | 7:00pm | 7th & 8th Grade |
| March 18 | 7:00pm | Elders |
| March 25 | 7:00pm | Trustees/Stewardship |
| April 1 | 7:00 pm | Teachers |
| April 5 | 9:00am | Palm Sunday Meal @ 11:30 |
| April 9Maundy Thursday | 7:00pm |  |
| April 10Good Friday Service | 2:00pm |  |
| April 10Tenebrae Service | 7:00pm |  |
| April 11Easter Vigil Service | 7:00pm |  |
| April 12Easter Sunrise Service | 7:00am | Easter Breakfast served8:00-8:45 |
| April 12Easter Festival Service | 9:00am |  |

**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 in the church entryway.

It’s not too late to start. You can start fresh with chapter one of John’s Gospel on Monday.

**John 3:16** – **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”** This is perhaps the most well-known and well-beloved verse in the New Testament – and for good reason. This simple Gospel message is the foundation for our whole life, including our new life in Christ. This new life is characterized by thankfulness and devotion to our Father, who has provided for us so lavishly in Christ.