

Amazing!News

APRIL // 2019



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM ZOAR LUTHERAN CHURCH | WWW.ZOARLUTHERAN.COM

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LEADERSHIP RETREAT: SETS GOALS FOR 2019

The Church Leadership Team, comprised of Council members, committee chairs, pastors and church staff, met on March 2ND at beautiful St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Toledo to discuss priorities and plans for Zoar in 2019. We reflected on Zoar's vision to gather, grow and give. The team also considered the general mission of the ELCA to find means of nurturing Zoar members in the Word of God to grow in faith, hope, and love and to reach out to people to bring them to faith. Discussion on our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats produced three major initiatives for 2019 and task forces to address them:

1. The Worship Task Force will explore and make recommendations to Council by January 2020 about worship in all formats.
2. The Data & Software Task Force will investigate the data needs of the church and identify software options to address those needs. The task force will make a recommendation to Council by January 2020 on a software package.
3. The Safety Task Force will create and submit to Council by January 2020 a Safety Plan using the ELCA Generic Safety Template as a guide.

The task forces will be reaching out for input from Zoar members during their investigations, so please watch for opportunities to provide your thoughts. Your involvement and engagement is critical to our church's mission. Thank you to all who generously and skillfully serve the church.



from
Pastor Tim
Senior Pastor
pastortim@zoarlutheran.com



THE MOST AMAZING MYSTERY OF ALL GOD

"April is in my mistress' face." Now, there's a unique way to start a newsletter article!! In 1594, Thomas Morley, a contemporary of William Shakespeare, penned these words as the beginning of a sonnet. His mistress shone with the light of April.

Ah, there's the connection! What a joyous month, April is! What a month of light and beauty and grace! And as Mr. Morley saw the delight of this month in the face of his mistress, so that light blinds us with God's grace.

Spring! Everywhere April sings of new life. Plants erupting from dirt and from buds, birds returning filling the air with glorious sounds, longer days of warming, and color all around. Yes, it is true that I deeply love winter, but when spring comes it is a delight. For many early cultures the year began in spring, for it seems that the world wakes up from its "long winter nap."

Saints! The month of April is replete with the memory of those who have died for their faith, such as Dietrich Bonhoeffer (killed by Nazis), Olavus Petri and brother Laurentius (took the Reformation to Sweden in the 1500's), Catherine of Siena, (died in 1380, teaching the church about God's redeeming love), Toyohiko Kagawa, (died working for his faith and world peace, 1960), and St. Mark, buried in Venice. Wow! The light of Jesus was clear in their faces!

Resurrection! Springing from the tomb, making death no longer the final enemy, Jesus bursts out. He was where we will be, in death. But because of His death we will now be where He is, in life eternal. Alleluia! On Easter God sang to the world that there is nothing that can separate us from God's grace – not our histories, nor our race/color, not our sexual orientation, not our politics, not our anything. It's all grace, it's all love, it's all Jesus.

April is in your face! Well, actually the love of God is in your face, and shines with forgiveness and peace. You are God's beloved child. You are graced with God's light forever. And that light shines in the faces of all we meet.

So, this April, as you rejoice in spring, as you remember those who have taught you the faith, and as you celebrate Jesus' Resurrection, look deeply in the mirror, and into the faces of others, and see Jesus. How brilliant your seeing will be!

CHRIST, OUR PASSOVER

FRIDAY, MAY 3RD 7: 30 PM

On Friday, May 3RD at 7:30 Zoar's Music Program would like to invite you to exult in the season of Easter by joining us for Christ, Our Passover, a concert featuring the Ohio premiere of "Come Life, Shaker Life", a composition based on Shaker tunes written by NY composer Barbara Wesby. Other selections at this event, hailing from a wide variety of singing traditions, will represent a musical offering as you have never heard before, all tying into the theme of the Feast of the Lamb.

This musical celebration will be brought to you by Zoar's Chancel Choir, the Agape Bells, guest soloists, and instrumentalists. A free-will offering will support Mom's House. A reception will follow.



BREAD FOR THE WORLD

OFFERING OF LETTERS SET FOR APRIL

Can you please write one letter? This letter will provide a voice for the poor children of this world. The theme for this year's letter writing is **Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow**. It focuses on the need that all children deserve the opportunity to live a healthy life and reach their full potential.

Hunger and poverty rates have been cut in half over the past 30 years. But the number of people experiencing hunger around the world has increased for the third year in a row. BFW offering of letters for 2019 would urge our government to accelerate progress toward ending hunger by increasing funding for global child nutrition programs, including breastfeeding, safe drinking water and sanitation. One in 4 of the world's children are affected by stunting, and almost half of all child deaths worldwide are linked to malnutrition.

Information will be shared on Sunday, April 7TH for you to write to your congress person or Senator. Then during the week you will write your letter and return it to your church service on April 14th for a blessing before being mailed out.

Addresses for the Senators are:

Sherrod Brown 713 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510
Rob Portman 448 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510

Representatives addresses are:

Bob Latta 2448 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington DC 20515
Marcy Kaptur 2186 Rayburn House Office Building Washington DC 20515



from
Omaldo

Cantor

operez@zoarlutheran.com

If you grew up Lutheran, you might be familiar with the five Solaes of the Reformation: Sola scriptura (scripture alone), Sola fide (faith alone), Sola gratia (grace alone), Solus Christus (Christ alone), and Soli Deo gloria (to God alone be the glory). These tenets, postulated by the original reformers, inform our piety to this day. These five also undergird all the theological discussions of a group of people who identify as "Protestant" nominally and relationally.

One of the many exciting aspects of the Lent-Easter season is how it highlights the common ground we share with others Christians: in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ we all find promise, redemption, and salvation! This is reason to celebrate! On Friday, May 3RD, at 7:30 PM, Zoar's music program invites you to celebrate the gift of God's grace in a program called "Christ, Our Passover," which will feature the Ohio premiere of "Come Life, Shaker Life," a piece by NY composer Barbara Wesby, among many other fascinating selections.

Don't miss it!

ZOAR YOUTH //



2019 ZOAR EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH 9 AM - 12 PM

Join us for Zoar's Annual Easter Egg Hunt in its new location: Woodlands Park, Saturday, April 20TH from 9 AM - 12 PM.

A light pancake breakfast will be served from 9 - 10 AM followed by a journey through the Easter Story and the main event: the Easter Egg Hunt!

Please note: The easter egg hunt will be organized by age to allow our littlest hunters time to find an Easter treat! Be sure to attend the entire event so as not to miss your age group!



ZOAR EASTER PROGRAM

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH 11 AM WORSHIP

Our Sunday School Youth are excited to share the Easter story with you by performing Sheila Wilson's Resurrection Rock! edited by Alison Hedger, Sunday, April 28TH at the 11 AM worship service. A rehearsal will be held April 27TH from 9 AM - 12 PM.

Resurrection
Rock!



APRIL SCHEDULE

April 7TH: Monthly Mingle 4 - 6 PM
April 13TH: Global Youth Service Day
April 14TH: No Youth Group
April 20TH: Zoar's Annual Easter Egg Hunt
April 21ST: Happy Easter! No Youth Group
April 27TH: Youth Easter Program Rehearsal 9 AM - 12 PM
April 28TH: Youth Easter Program and Fish Fry! No Youth Group



MONTHLY MINGLE SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH 4 - 6 PM

Our Second Monthly Mingle Event is set to take place April 7TH from 4 - 6 PM here at Zoar. Join us in sharing in some Easter Activities with our friends from Lutheran Home of Mercy, Woodlane and more!

Volunteers are needed for this event please sign-up on the youth bulletin board or contact Amanda at arich@zoarlutheran.com to help out.

GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

Join Amanda and our friends from Grace in collecting good for Perrysburg Christian United! More information to come! Please contact Amanda to sign-up!

LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY

CONFIRMATION BREAKFAST SUNDAY, MAY 5TH DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

Join us on May 5TH in celebration of our 8th grade confirmation students as they affirm their baptism during the 11 AM Worship service. A breakfast will be held during the Sunday School hour for the confirmands and their families (grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles, are welcome to join us).

Please RSVP how many are attending from your family to Amanda by Sunday, April 28TH at arich@zoarlutheran.com



from
Amanda
Director of Youth Ministries
arich@zoarlutheran.com

Dear Friends,

Spring is finally HERE! The month of April brings us warmer temperatures (or at least I hope!), sunshine, bright colors, flowers and renewal. I don't know about you, but this winter has really given me a case of spring fever. Luckily with the start of the new season comes many exciting events for us here at Zoar! This month we continue through the lenten season and we finally arrive at Easter. In 2019 we decided to make our Easter Celebration bigger than ever! This year's egg hunt will be a community effort held at Woodlands Park! There we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord together with a pancake breakfast, assisted by the Perrysburg Exchange Club, a walk through the Easter story with stations designed to form the faith of our youth and guests and the long awaited egg hunt. By stepping out into the community, we hope that our Perrysburg neighbors will join us in the celebration and be an active part in our journey through faith together. We can't wait for you all to be a part of the fun!

Blessings,
Amanda Rich



from
Pastor Mike
Community Pastor
pastormike@zoarlutheran.com

We will soon have the new Zoar pictorial directory in our hands. After looking at the proof copy, it struck me how much I have come to cherish each and every one of you. Not everyone at Zoar could get to church for the photo shoot, so there are some faces missing. But, from beginning to end, you are lovely and attractive bunch. I know I am biased, but I don't think I know of a more grace-filled church. I hope that when you pick up your copy, you make good use of it. Beyond simply having photos for ourselves and loved ones, the directory is meant to help us all make connections with each other. You do know that while Zoar has a very nice facility, the church is not the building. The church is the people, the community. Take your new directory and study it. Appreciate those around you. Learn some new names. Refresh your memory on with others. Let love abound. This is what makes you stand out in the community.

Y O U



A P R I L 21

HOLY WEEK

After Christianity began, followers of Jesus would gather and visit the places that shaped the end of Jesus' life on earth. Over the years this time of remembering Jesus' last days spread throughout Christianity and was called Holy Week. Holy Week remembers the events of the last week that led up Jesus' death and resurrection.

Years later, we continue this holy practice at Zoar Lutheran Church and celebrate the Great Three Days – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Morning Worship, April 15 – 19

7 AM Worship at Zoar

Maundy Thursday, April 18

7 AM, 11 AM & 7 PM Worship at Zoar

Good Friday Friday, April 19

7 AM & 7 PM Worship at Zoar
12 PM St. Timothy's Episcopal

Holy Saturday Vigil, April 20

6 PM Worship at Zoar

Easter Sunday, April 21

6 AM at Ft. Meigs Cemetery
7 AM, 9 AM & 11 AM Worship at Zoar

'RE INVITED

EASTER

7 A M 9 A M & 11 A M

EASTER

Everything changes at Easter! We know the pain and loss of death, we know how death seems to be the end. But no! There is another answer! God sings out, "yes" and "joy" and "hope" at the resurrection of Jesus. God brings life now and forever. God promises that "love wins." Join us this Easter! Your heart will beat wild with hope as we proclaim the awesome news! Jesus has risen, he has triumphed over death.

Easter service is where you can expect an exciting and uplifting environment where your entire family will be welcomed. This is an excellent time to invite friend, family and loved ones to join in the celebration of the resurrection. Come, be amaZed by what God has done, and what God will do.



GATHER/GROW/GIVE

ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE

LENTEN OFFERING TO HELP RELIEF EFFORTS

Just days after Zoar members Barb and Art Peters moved to Port St. Joe, Florida, hurricane Michael made landfall on October 10th just north of their new but not quite finished home. A category 4, the strongest on record in the Florida panhandle this hurricane caused about \$25.1 Billion in damage in Mexico Beach.

Though Barb and Art lived a mile from the greatest devastation, they were forced out of their home for 2 months, living in a hotel about 3 hours away as the local hotels were used for emergency personnel. Their town still feels like a war zone according to Barb. There are a few restaurants, businesses and medical help up and running again where the Peters live, but not yet in Mexico Beach. Several churches have been destroyed and attendance is sparse at the churches trying to stay open.

The Peters ask us to keep them and Mexico Beach in our prayers.

Providing offerings to ELCA disaster response at this Lenten time will help provide the continuing financial support needed in their long struggle to rebuild. Watch our step scene leading to the sanctuary grow as donations are tabulated.



FISH FRY

APRIL 28TH 12 PM

One of the first things Jesus did after his resurrection was to gather his followers and have a fish fry. Well, maybe they weren't deep fried but they were definitely cooked over a fire on the beach. On the first Sunday after Easter, April 28TH, at 12 PM, Zoar will gather all the Jesus disciples for a meal of fresh perch, hush puppies, and various sides. Hot dogs will also be served for any who don't eat fish. No need to bring anything. The tables will be set and the food ready.



NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH
11 AM WORSHIP

On Sunday, April 28TH, during the 11 AM worship, join us in welcoming the newest members of Zoar to their church home. If you have been considering joining Zoar or are interested in what that process is, please contact Pastor Mike at: pastormike@zoarlutheran.com

CELEBRATING STEWARDSHIP: THANKING THOSE WHO SERVE

Thank you 2019 Committee Volunteers for your time and commitment, on behalf of Stewardship and your Zoar Congregation.

Church Council

Beth Krolak - President
Dante Flores - Vice-president
Curtis Recker - Treasure
Eric Benington - Financial Secretary
Pam Kwasniak - Secretary
Jeff Artz
Vicki Karnes
Roger Geffe
Derek Meyer
Julie Winder
Tom Iserman
Dale Nordahl - Staff Advisor
Pastor Tim - Senior Pastor
Pastor Mike - Community Pastor

Nominating Committee

Marianne Wagner
Shar Cook - Volunteer Coordinator
Sarah Flores
Matt Obrock
Patty Haar
Brian Tomko

Property Committee

Doug Williams - Chair
Merritt Higbie
Tom Trimble
Mike Arnos
Terry Jones
Matt Obrock
Beth Krolak - Council Liaison
Bill King - Emeritus
Dale Nordahl - Staff Advisor
Chuck Ackerman - attends, no vote
Todd Long - attends, no vote

Heritage Committee

Pam Kwasniak - Council Secretary
Susan Kazmaier
Karen Mathison
Pat McNutt
Karen Lundhoim
Sharon Schadek
Mollie Rauscher - Staff Advisor
Pastor Tim - Senior Pastor

Z O A R C A L E N D A R O F E V E N T S H I G H L I G H T S

APRIL // 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Lent IV Worship Richard Guest Birthday	4 Men's Breakfast	5	6 Gerald Moser Birthday
7 Monthly Mingle	8	9	10 Lent V Worship	11 Thrivent Workshop	12 Richard Hazle Birthday	13 Yarns of Love
14 Palm Sunday	15 Worship	16 Worship Jacques Everhart Birthday	17 Worship	18 Maundy Thursday Carrie Osgood Birthday	19 Good Friday	20 Easter Egg Hunt Easter Vigil
21 Easter	22	23 Roy Lessing Birthday	24	25	26 Kitchen of Hope	27
28 New Member Sunday Sunday School Easter Program Fish Fry	29	30 Phyllis Belch Birthday				

for a complete list of events, please visit
zoarlutheran.com/calendar

ZOAR STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tim Philabaum
 Community Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mike Brown

Cantor: Omaldo Perez
 Director of Youth Ministries: Amanda Rich
 Director of Communications: Mollie Rauscher

Administrative Manager: Dale Nordahl
 Secretary: Suzanne DeLaney
 Custodian: Paul Cannon

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

Would you like to place a birthday announcement or congratulatory message in the Zoar monthly newsletter?

Contact Mollie at communications@zoarlutheran.com for pricing and availability.

Deadline is the 5th of the preceding month!



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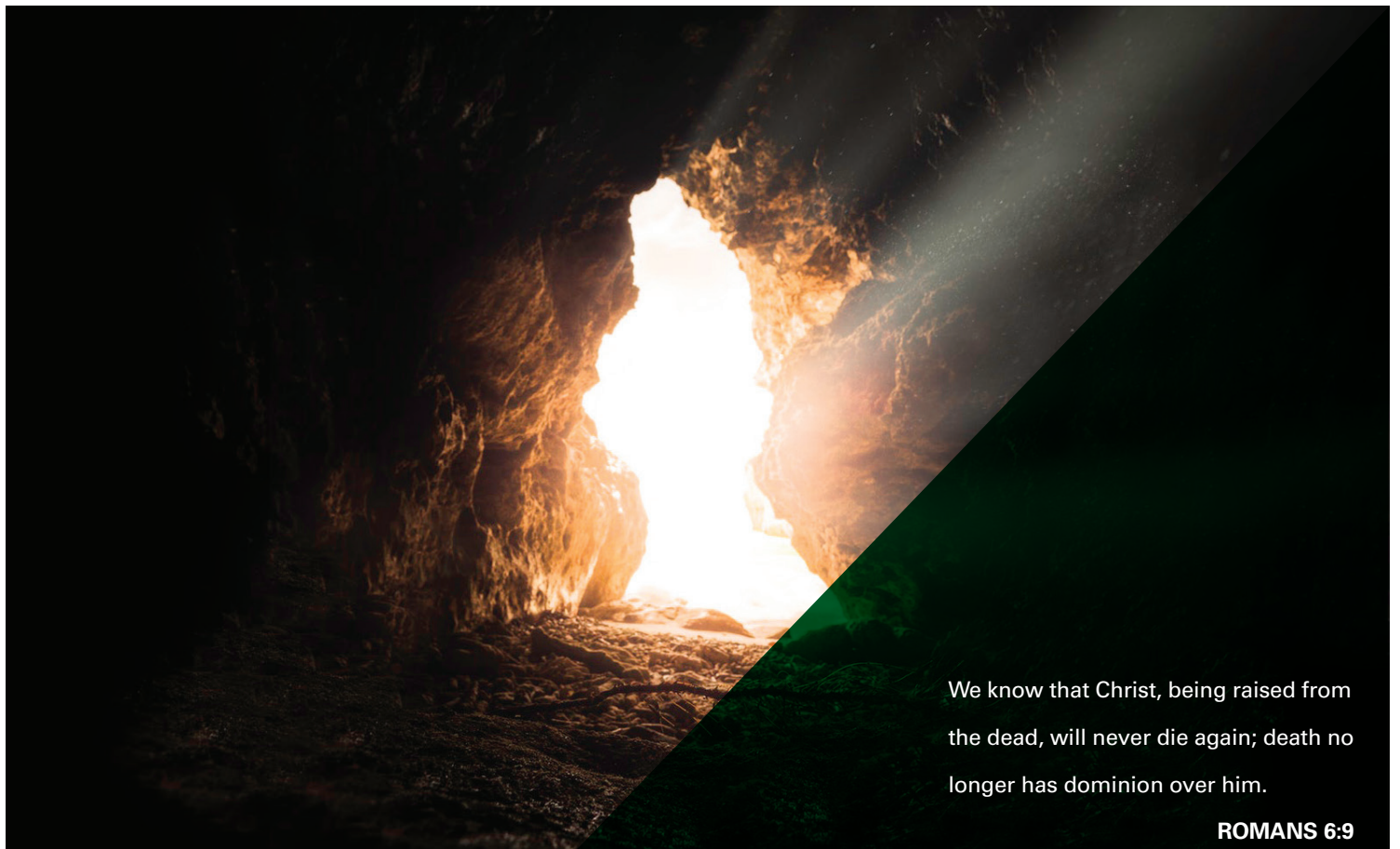
Worship times:
6 PM Saturday,
7:15, 8:30 & 11 AM Sunday

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 AM

Be
AmaZed!



www.zoarlutheran.com



We know that Christ, being raised from
the dead, will never die again; death no
longer has dominion over him.

ROMANS 6:9