

# Amazing! News

MAY // 2019



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

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## VBS DEADLINE THIS MONTH!

JUNE 24 – 27, 9 AM - 12 PM

At Roar VBS, kids discover that even though life gets wild, God is good. Roar is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Join us June 24 – 27, 9 AM – 12 PM. Registration deadline is May 24, absolutely no walk-ins or late registrations will be allowed. Team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings®.

Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!

VBS registration is now open! Visit: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/zoarvbs2019>





from  
**Pastor Tim**  
Senior Pastor  
pastortim@zoarlutheran.com



## MEMORIAL

Sisters and brothers of Zoar – greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord Jesus! May this month be one for you of refreshment in God’s grace! So, let us remember:

There are wonderful people in my family (parents, aunts/uncles, grandparents, neighbors,) who shared with me the kindness of God, but also, I remember with thanksgiving the many members of Zoar who used to sit in these pews, who are now singing praises in the Kingdom of Heaven. Thanks be to God for these saints!

In this same vein is a thanksgiving for those men and women who gave their life and/or their time in service of justice and freedom, on behalf of our country. For them I am also grateful!

As part of this “communion of saints” we have created the Zoar Courtyard Garden, a place in which ashes may be lovingly disposed, ashes of loved ones in God’s presence, ashes close to the living Church of Christ still singing praises here on earth.

Each week we come to the Altar and receive the very presence of Jesus in the bread and wine. We do this

“in remembrance of Jesus,” not just to remember what happened in the Upper Room on Thursday, as well as on the Cross on Friday, as well as out of the tomb on Sunday. We remember because in this remembrance we are connected to the reality of Jesus, in history, in the future, in our midst, in the community gathered, in the bread and wine. Wow!

As St Paul often said in his letters, “I thank God every time I remember you...” Serving with and through the people of Zoar continues to be a joy and a blessing. Each day I thank God as I remember the gifts and the histories and the ministries of those we call “Zoar.” Thanks be to God!

Remembering, bringing to mind, memorial, or in remembrance is not just a mental exercise of thinking about the past. It is a bringing of that past into the present, in which we see God’s Hand working through others.

So now let us imagine ourselves in the future, and “remember” back to May, 2019, and realize how our Loving God is working through our life, through our problems, through our diseases, through our families and neighbors, through our country, through the changes, and in all of this, say, “thank you, AmaZing God!”

# AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

## SUNDAY, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DURING 11 AM WORSHIP

On Sunday, May 5<sup>TH</sup>, our 8<sup>TH</sup> Graders will affirm their faith at the 11 AM Worship Service. This “confirmation” will be the time in which our young members will publicly take on for themselves the calling to serve as disciples of Jesus. Up to this point such a calling has been their parents’ responsibility. But now they become adults in the Church, assuming their discipleship. A breakfast will be held during the Sunday School hour for the confirmands and their families (grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles, all invited by the each confirmand are welcome to join us).

Please RSVP how many are attending from your family to Amanda by Sunday, April 27<sup>TH</sup> at [ARich@zoarlutheran.com](mailto:ARich@zoarlutheran.com)

We ask that you keep in prayer:

Brian Baroncini	Joshua Clark	Andy Englehart
Emma Erlenbusch	Joseph Jacoby	Graham Michael
Carley Milligan	Cassidy Milligan	Gabi Myers
Katie Redd	Torre Stalzer	Jane Wagner
Derrick Newlove		

## MUSIC IN MAY

Two weeks into the season of Easter, the great Week of Weeks, we would like to share with you a preview of the readings which will give shape to our corporate worship in the month ahead. As you already know, these readings will anchor our proclamation, and the themes and images we hear will be further explored and developed in the sermon and our hymnody. Every Sunday the sermon and our hymns complement each other in proclaiming the Gospel. A beautiful characteristic of our tradition is that the preacher and the congregation, both in the sermon and the hymns, share in the homiletical task: the priesthood of all believers in action as each “gospels” the other.

In the month of May, the month where, according to American essayist Edwin Way Teale, “all things seem possible,”- Our episodes from the Gospel of John will anchor our proclamation of the Word. On Easter 3 (May 4/5), the Risen Christ appears to his disciples, and we will meditate on how this is still true for us today. On Easter 4 (May 11/12), Jesus promises life to his sheep, and we will delve into the image of the good shepherd who commands his disciples to feed and tend his sheep. On Easter 5 (May 18/19), we revisit Jesus’ Great Commandment, “love one another,” which we heard on Maundy Thursday, but now is spoken to the early followers of The Way in a tone of post-resurrection commendation. On Easter 6 (May 25/26), we, along with the apostles, are given the promise of a teacher and reminder -the Holy Spirit, along with the peace of Christ which surpasses all understanding.

So here is our invitation: Would you, as part of a spiritual practice, be willing to examine how the connections between readings, preaching, and hymns inform and enrich your worship experience and adoration? How do these connections deepen your insight into worship, and, more importantly, how are they embodied and reflected in the way you approach worship? What would happen if we were to consider our church experience - our sacrifice of praise - as our preaching, proclamation, and witness to the world?



from  
**Omaldo**  
Cantor

[operez@zoarlutheran.com](mailto:operez@zoarlutheran.com)

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am delighted to invite you to the last concert of Zoar’s 2018 - 2019 Concert Season. If this article reaches you in time and you have not done so already, please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Friday, May 3<sup>RD</sup>, at 7:30 PM when Zoar’s Chancel Choir and Agape Bell Choir will present Christ, Our Passover.

On this evening, our ensembles and guest musicians will present musical tidings both old and new. Zoar’s Easter concert, Christ, Our Passover, will have an added twist: the exploration of the Shaker-Quaker musical heritage. The centerpiece of our presentation will be Come Life, Shaker Life, written by New York composer Barbara Wesby, is based on tunes from this 18th-century religious community. We will also hear compositions by Johann Michael Haydn (1756-1806) and William Billings (1746-1800) among many other selections. A reception will follow the concert. As a Music-with-a-Mission event, all the proceeds collected at the door will support Mom’s House.



# FAITH FORMATION

## HOW TO MAKE IT A LIFE LONG PROCESS

### **faith [feyth]**

noun

belief in God or in the doctrines or teachings of religion:

### **formation [fawr-mey-shuhn]**

noun

the act or process of forming or the state of being formed:

### **What do we REALLY mean when we talk about Faith Formation?**

The process of Faith Formation gives followers of Christ the tools and the understanding they need to grow closer to God and to go out into the world to spread the news of Jesus Christ our Savior.

It is the lifelong process by which we grow and nurture our faith! What a blessed gift!

### **What comes to mind when you hear the term Faith Formation?**

For many of us, our initial thought of Faith Formation generally falls to Sunday School and other Christian education classes. Sunday School is a very important piece of faith formation, but it isn't the only way that we can grow and form our perspectives of faith. Faith Formation starts in the home. When we pray, read scripture, serve and share God's love together with our children, our parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors we grow together in the body of Christ. When we experience God's greatness, form relationships with our fellow Christians and take action in sharing God's love and the message of the gospel forms not only our own faith, but also those whom we walk alongside in the process.

### **So how can you continue in your faith formation journey at Zoar?**

Zoar is overflowing with opportunities for you to grow in your faith. Join a bible study, attend Sunday School, read the bible, attend worship or find ways to serve! Join a committee, help with Vacation Bible School, assist with our Monthly Mingle, serve as an adult leader or mentor for a youth trip or event, assist with church landscaping needs and SO MUCH MORE! Together we can live out our vision for faith to Gather, Grow and Give together through the love of Christ.

### **For more on Faith Formation check out this free resource online from the ELCA:**

<http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCAfaithformation.pdf>

# MAY SCHEDULE

- May 1<sup>ST</sup>: Lutherock Participant and Parent meeting, 7:30 PM
- May 5<sup>TH</sup>: Confirmation Breakfast 9:45 - 10:45 AM (RSVP Required by April 27<sup>TH</sup>)  
Confirmation at 11 AM Worship  
5 - 12<sup>TH</sup> Grade Youth Group 4 - 6 PM Toilet Paper Pledge and Service Project
- May 12<sup>TH</sup>: Happy Mother's Day!  
No Youth Group
- May 19<sup>TH</sup>: Sunday School Pancake Breakfast! 9:45-10:45AM  
Happy Graduation Day Seniors! No Youth Group
- May 26<sup>TH</sup>: Baccalaureate 11 AM Worship



# TOILET PAPER PLEDGE AND SERVICE PROJECT SUNDAY, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> 4 - 6 PM

5<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> Grade Youth are encouraged to join us from 4 - 6PM for youth group. Each attendee is asked to bring a package of toilet paper to be donated to Feed Our Families. In addition, we will be planting small flowers to spread the joy of spring with some of our homebound members and friends.

# MOTHERS DAY SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> 9:45 AM

Mother's are invited to join their Preschool - 4<sup>TH</sup> Grade children for Sunday School on May 12<sup>TH</sup> for a special lesson and treat!

# SUNDAY SCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFAST SUNDAY, MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> 9:45 AM

Join us during the Sunday School hour for our annual end of the year pancake breakfast and celebration! All are welcome!



# LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE

## ZOAR WEEK OF SERVICE

JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup>

Looking for ways to make a difference or find out how you can help out in our community? June 9th - 15th, congregation members and youth are encouraged to join us for our first Zoar Week of Service! Each day a different service opportunity will be available! The week will kick off with our June Monthly Mingle and will also include a trip to the Friendly Center in Toledo and more. Stay tuned for more details!



from  
**Amanda**  
Director of Youth Ministries  
arich@zoarlutheran.com

Dear Friends,

What a joy it has been serving alongside you over the past year. We have grown and accomplished so many things together and I can't wait to see what the future holds.

Here at Zoar the month of May is a time of celebration! As we continue through the Easter season we will be taking time to welcome our fabulous 8th graders in to the congregation as adult members with the affirmation of their baptism. We will partake in a special day of Sunday School honoring our mothers and we will celebrate our Sunday School teachers and students. Finally will we round out the month by honoring our 2019 graduates.

In addition to the celebrations, we will spend an afternoon in service together potting flowers for our homebound members during youth group.

I can't wait to spend time in faith and fellowship with you all.

God's Peace,  
Amanda



from  
**Pastor Mike**  
 Community Pastor  
 pastormike@zoarlutheran.com

My dear friends in Christ,

Where do I start? What do I say?

After preaching, teaching, praying, and talking so much in my time with you, I am struggling to find the right words to let you know that I will be moving on from Zoar. Words cannot express how grateful I am for having served along with you these past years. As a church and as individuals, your love and support have been above and beyond anything I ever expected or deserved. You have shared your lives with me, invited me into your homes, and held me in your hearts. My time with you has been one of great joy. I give thanks to God for each of you. Unfortunately, we must conclude our time together as I have accepted a call to serve as Lead Pastor of Bethel Lutheran Church in Madison, Wisconsin.

My last Sunday with you will be May 19<sup>TH</sup>. I will cherish each of you and look forward to hearing reports of God's continued blessings upon you.



## ZOAR FOUNDATION HISTORY

In January 1987, an Endowment fund was formed at Zoar. There were originally six members to the Endowment Fund Board. In 2007 at the Annual Congregational Meeting the Zoar Lutheran Church Foundation was formed. It was created as a non-profit organization to support the worthy causes and programs of Zoar Lutheran. The Foundation Board believes it will accomplish this purpose through the encouragement and support of:

- Congregational outreach to the community and beyond. Examples of such outreach include (but are not limited to) the support of local and regional efforts to serve the poor and relieve suffering, the participation in mission trips to more distant destinations in the USA and beyond, members' leadership and participation in ELCA and ecumenical efforts such as Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA Global Mission, and Lutheran World Relief, congregational efforts to innovate by developing new ministries and new approaches to ongoing ministries;
- Congregational efforts to develop its lay and pastoral leadership through youth development activities beyond the scope of Zoar's ongoing youth ministry programs, support (through the Kazmeier Fund) of young people pursuing careers in the ordained pastoral ministry, support for special training experiences for lay and pastoral congregational leaders;



# FOUNDATION

- Congregational efforts to bring the best of Christian music (and other arts) to Zoar Lutheran and its community through performances open to community, special engagements of artists in regular or special worship services, support for Zoar artists intent on sharing their gifts beyond the Zoar Lutheran community; and
- Combined judgment of Foundation Board members to respond flexibly to congregational needs or opportunities.

## DISTRIBUTIONS

Since 2010 the Zoar Lutheran Foundation board has been distributing funds twice a year. Grant request deadlines are March 31st and a second date of September 30th is available if funds are remaining. Requests must be received by these dates and completed on the approved Grant Request Form, found at [www.zoarlutheran.com](http://www.zoarlutheran.com), to be considered by the Zoar Foundation Board.

Since 2010 the Zoar Foundation has distributed \$360,264 from the Foundation Fund, \$12,709 from the Kazmaier Fund and \$189,162 from the Kurfis Fund. The Foundation has funded fun projects such as a Guitar Camp, a Theatre and Music camp, Fall Family Camp, Monthly Mingles and new videography equipment.

Now in 2019, the Foundation operates as a separate non-profit organization with 12 board members who meet regularly to serve the Zoar Congregation.

## SUPPORT

You can contribute to the Foundation through estate bequests, life insurance policies, memorials, charitable trusts, gift annuities, real estate, or personal gifts. By bequeathing to Zoar Lutheran's Foundation and including instructions in your will, you are assured that your wishes will be followed.

The Zoar Lutheran Foundation was established to support and promote the charitable, educational and religious ministries of Zoar Lutheran Church. Making a gift to the Zoar Lutheran Foundation is a wonderful way to support God's ministry through Zoar Lutheran now with a gift that will be kept in the Zoar Lutheran Endowment in perpetuity.

# GATHER/GROW/GIVE

## FEEDING GODS PEOPLE

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

John 21: 15b

Here at Zoar several of our ministries focus on feeding our hungry neighbors. Through these ministries we have provided thousands of meals, groceries and personal items to those in need.

### **Kitchen of Hope**

Kitchen of Hope has served over 10,000, hot, home-cooked meals over the past 12 years. Kitchen of Hope occurs on the last Friday of each month beginning in September and ending in May. Typical dates for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals change due to the holidays. Meals are shared in the Zoar Lutheran Family Life Center. There is no charge for Kitchen of Hope Meals. Zoar offers this opportunity to all residents of Wood County, regardless of age, income, race or church affiliation. Donations can be made to this ministry in honor or in memory of a loved one.

RSVP to the church office at 419-874-4346 or contact Connie Teare at 419-874-5259.

### **Perrysburg Christians United**

PCU is a local non-profit organization which is supported by Zoar and other Perrysburg churches. PCU operates a food pantry that serves those who live in Wood County north of State Route 582. Those receiving food assistance must present two proof's of address (for example, a photo ID and a recent utility bill) and must verify that their income falls within the guidelines of the Ohio Department of Job's and Family Services.

The pantry operates on the following schedule:

MONDAYS from 1:00 - 3:00 PM

FRIDAYS from 9:00 - 11:00 AM

PCU's pantry is located in the southeast corner of the parking lot of Grace United Methodist Church, 601 East Boundary St. in Perrysburg.

### **Feed Our Families**

Feed our Families was created in 2009 and provides free meals and groceries during the summer months for families in Wood County whose children qualify for the federally assisted lunch program during the school year. Meals are served each Friday at noon beginning in early June and ending mid August. Families are provided with breakfast and lunch groceries for the coming week. Proof of current Wood County residency is required.

To learn more, make a donation, volunteer, or register to receive food, contact chair: Tracy Rickman at 419-206-7927 or [tracyrickman@hotmail.com](mailto:tracyrickman@hotmail.com).



# COURTYARD GARDEN DEDICATION

SATURDAY, MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FOLLOWING 6 PM WORSHIP

All friends and families of Zoar are invited to the dedication of Zoar's Courtyard Garden on Saturday, May 25<sup>TH</sup> following the 6 PM worship service. You are also invited to view the Courtyard during the Sunday Social hour.

The Courtyard task force wishes to thank the congregation for their support in the creating of this space. There are additional plantings to be finalized in the garden area, as the weather delayed a lot of this project. As the warm weather approaches, we will get to enjoy this garden as a place of celebration, meditation and laughter.

## CELEBRATING STEWARDSHIP: THANKING THOSE WHO SERVE

Thank you for your time and commitment to the following 2019 Committee Volunteers, on behalf of Stewardship and your Zoar Congregation.  
(# indicates the full year when term of service ends)

### Cash Management Committee

#### Appointed by Council

19 Curtis Recker - Treasurer - Chair  
20 Eric Benington - Financial Secretary  
21 Chuck Elvers  
Ken Widdel - Investment Advisor  
Dale Nordahl - Administrative Manager

### Personnel Committee

#### Appointed by Council

19 Sharon Schadek  
19 Carl Habekost  
19 Dante Flores - Council VP  
20 Beth Baroncini  
20 Jim Kwasniak  
20 Chuck Ackerman - Chair  
Pastor Tim - Senior Pastor

### Budget & Finance Committee

#### Appointed by Council

19 Scott Williams - Chair  
20 Curtis Recker - Treasurer  
21 Eric Benington - Financial Secretary  
19 Larry Karnes  
19 Terry Jones  
20 Dave Richard  
20 Kevin Rohrs  
Dale Nordahl - Administrative Manager

### Worship & Music Committee

19 Julie Buzzelli  
19 Roger Geffe - Council Liaison  
20 Doug Cook  
20 Karen Mathison  
20 Karen Lundholm  
20 Lee Rupert  
20 Patti Seibold - Chair  
Nadine Johnson - Altar Guild Rep.  
Omaldo Perez - Cantor  
Pastor Tim - Senior Pastor

### Youth & Young Adult Committee

19 Jason Scasny  
19 Stephanie Schuppenies  
19 Julie Winder - Council Liaison  
20 Gerald Arndt  
20 Tom Haar - Chair  
20 Leah Patnode  
20 Jennifer Robeson - Secretary  
20 Anne Schroeder  
20 Jennifer Wideman  
Chris Cline - attends, no vote  
Amanda Rich - Director of Youth Ministry



## MEET A MEMBER THE ISERMAN FAMILY

Tom and Margie Iserman came from different church backgrounds. After a year of bouncing back and forth from Margie's church (St. John's Lutheran Church/ Toledo) to Tom's church (Hampton Park Christian Church/Toledo), it was time to put down roots. Our move from Maumee to Perrysburg after one year of marriage resulted in attending Zoar services. It was not long until Tom voiced his wish to join the new member class since he enjoyed the Lutheran worship experience of liturgy and creeds. The rest is all history. Margie finally felt like an adult at Zoar, leaving behind the constant reminder of being a daughter of active Lutheran parents at St. John's. As a "convert", Tom was quick to get involved in committee work and choir.

One year later, we started our family. Boy/girl twins were born in October 1973. Jeff and Jody grew up in a congregation that loved and nurtured them into adulthood. Zoar became our extended family and today, it is where we find our closest friends.

Our activities have changed over the years at Zoar from teaching Sunday School and Bible School to our participation in committees, church council, companion program, and bell choir. However, you will most often find us in Zoar's kitchen...involved in some aspect of food! As retirees, we are available to help serve funeral luncheons, concert receptions, and Sunday social hour. We have truly been blessed to be a part of the Zoar Family.

We thank you all for volunteering and serving Zoar and the community. If we have missed anyone in this list, we humbly apologize and ask your forgiveness. Please contact the church office so that your name and service can be recognized.

# 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

## MAY // 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Bible Study	2 Men's Breakfast	3 Christ, Our Passover	4 Exchange Club Pancake Breakfast
5 Affirmation of Baptism	6	7 Men's Disciples	8 David Cremer Birthday  Rachel Circle	9	10 Widow Support Group	11 Faith Science and Technology
12 Service Sunday  Mother's Day	13 Ruth Circle	14	15	16 Bible Study  Naomi Circle	17	18
19 End of SS Year Pancake Breakfast  MS/JH/HS Youth Group	20	21 Betty Hoffmann Birthday	22 Ruth Emch Birthday	23	24 PCU Blood Drive	25 Courtyard Garden Dedication
26 Baccalaureate	27 Robert Shank Birthday	28	29	30	31 Kitchen of Hope	

for a complete list of events, please visit  
[zoarlutheran.com/calendar](http://zoarlutheran.com/calendar)

### ZOAR STAFF

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

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

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

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Member SIPC

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

Contact Mollie at [communications@zoarlutheran.com](mailto:communications@zoarlutheran.com) for pricing and availability.

**Deadline is the 5th of the preceding month!**



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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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

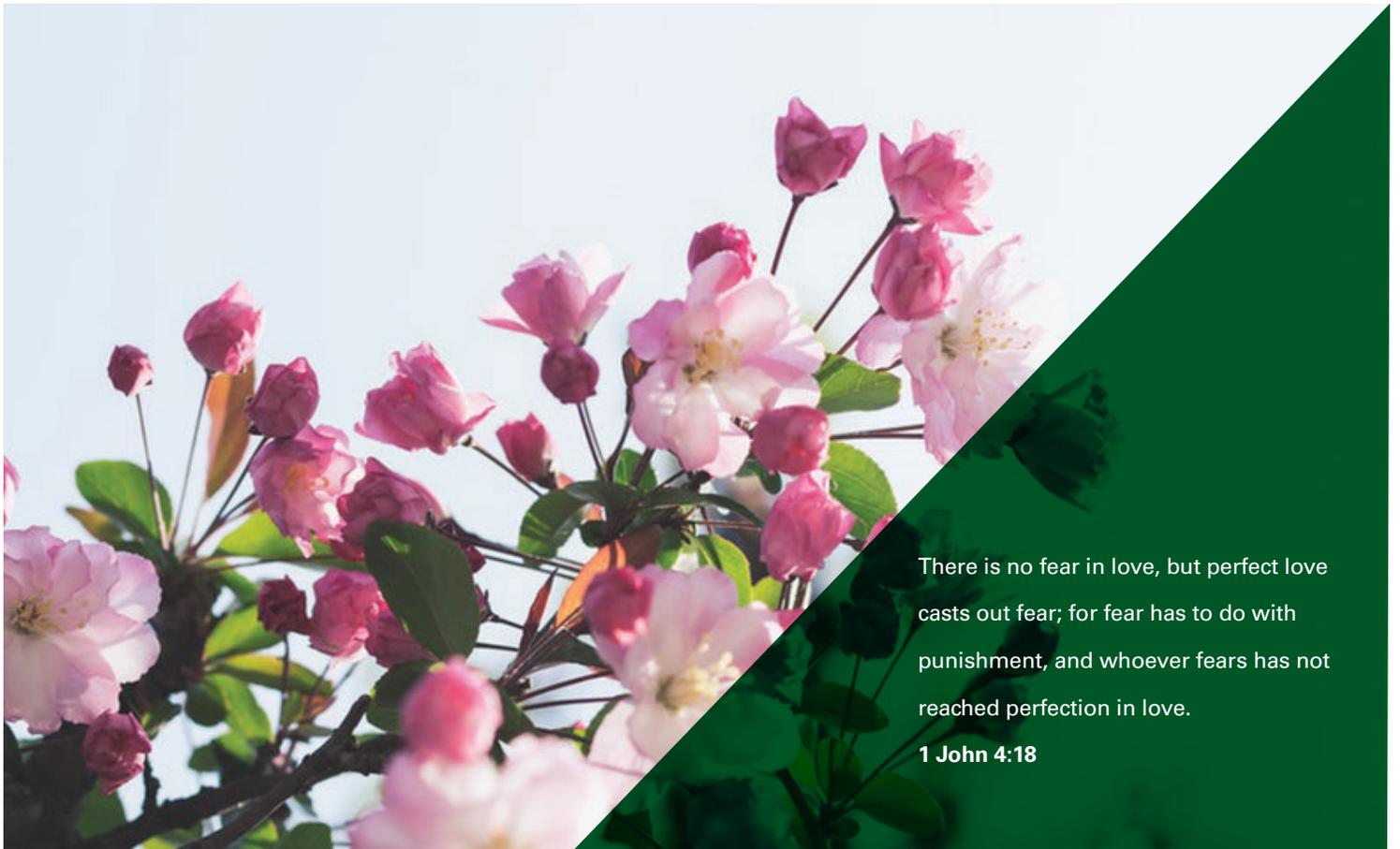
Worship times:  
6 PM Saturday,  
7:15, 8:30 & 11 AM Sunday

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 AM

*Be*  
**AmaZed!**



[www.zoarlutheran.com](http://www.zoarlutheran.com)



There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

**1 John 4:18**