



# The Mountain Top Messenger

ZION LUTHERAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, ASHLAND, WI APRIL 2019

It seems Spring is springing forth, slowly, but surely. Days are certainly getting longer, the snow is disappearing, some of the spring flowers are starting to stick out of the ground, and Easter is right around the corner. I am guessing, even though I do not know with certainty, that Easter is in the spring perhaps for that very reason. The season for rebirth, flowers, trees, birds, and animals, everything coming back to life and creating new life. All as a reminder of the new life we will be experiencing when Christ returns. Because of his awakening the whole world awakens. Because of His victory over sin and death we are all victorious. I had a conversation the other day with an individual who is struggling over their relationship and understanding of God. They have become overwhelmed by all of the information, half-truths, and misinformation out there regarding who or what is God, about which religion, if any, is right, and what about self-awareness? The discussion focused around what to believe, what is right and how do you know if it is right. I did my best to work the conversation around to a discussion about faith. Whether we want to admit it or not everyone has faith in something. Somethings require a great detail of understanding to believe, others not so much. I have faith that when I fly in an airplane that the pilot knows what he is doing, my faith is in the pilot. The pilot has faith in the training and thousands of hours that he has flown so that he can safely get me to my destination. The pilot also has faith that the aircraft maintenance personal that they have the plane in tip top condition so it can reach its destination. In that situation who has the most faith? I guess personally, even though I am not 100% sure, but I think it may be the passenger, because they have the least control over any of the process. In a sense, when I step on that plane I have no control over anything except perhaps where I want to sit, all the rest has been and will be taken care of for me. This brings me to Mark 10:15 "*Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.*" Jesus is talking about faith, our only requirement is to believe, and not only believe, but believe as a little child. In last Sunday's sermon I mention how children can be so trusting, we tell them "jump and I will catch you", they believe, they trust, they jump. Simple right? Believe, trust, it is not hard, except the world, Satan, and our own sinful ways get in the way and challenge our trust. "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'? That temptation still exists today, only it has been magnified and media-fied, so that we are challenged everywhere we turn to question, to lose faith, to not trust in the Lord. It's ok to live together outside of marriage, it is alright to abort an unborn child,

(cont. on next page)

**Pastor Rick Williams -**  
715-209-0479

**Office Hours: M/T/W/Th**  
**8:00am-5:00pm**

Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor Williams as he may be visiting shut-in's, at a conference, etc.

**Office Secretary**

Lynn Ladd 715-682-6075

Office Hours M-W 8-2

Days and times may change upon need of work.

**Church President:**

John Pruss 715-292-4825

**Head Elder:**

Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

**Little Friends of Jesus Child  
Care Center:** 715-682-5185

**LFOJ Administrator:**

Karyn Leino 715-682-6075

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**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**1111—11TH AVE WEST**

**ASHLAND, WI 54806**

**715-682-6075**

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am

Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm

Sunday School 10:15am (Sept.-May)

Bible Studies

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*(cont. from front page)*

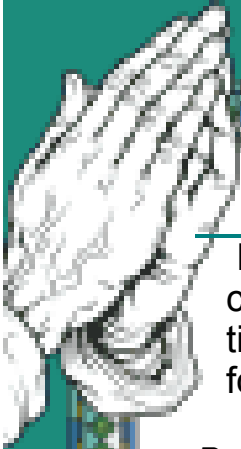
it is ok to have same sex relationships, everyone goes to heaven regardless what they believe, there is no hell, there is no Satan "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'? That temptation still exists today, only it has been magnified and media-fied, so that we are challenged everywhere we turn to question, to lose faith, to not trust in the Lord. It's ok to live together outside of marriage, it is alright to abort an unborn child, it is ok to have same sex relationships, everyone goes to heaven regardless what they believe, there is no hell, there is no Satan. "Did God actually say?" **Yes** he did! And the Word also said:

**"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (john 3:16-17)**

My friends, it's that simple, believe. As we approach Easter, as we observe the passion of our Lord, and as we celebrate His marvelous resurrection. Believe, believe as a little child believes the words of his father, "Jump, I will catch you".

God's blessings on all of you this Eastertide.

In His Service,  
Pastor Rick



### PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:

<i>Bob Heggie</i>	<i>Kevin Heggie</i>	<i>Joni Frisco</i>
<i>Brad Prill</i>	<i>Johnny Galligan</i>	<i>Alice Balmer</i>
<i>Mary Bullis</i>	<i>Tim Smith</i>	<i>Jim Bullis</i>
<i>Ellen Hodgson</i>	<i>Doug Tutor</i>	<i>Barb Bjork</i>
<i>David Kaarre</i>	<i>Joan Spalding</i>	<i>Ruth Goldman</i>
<i>Lloyd Koosmann</i>	<i>Tim Fulton</i>	<i>Randy Lauer</i>
<i>Theresa Koosmann</i>	<i>Mike Dimich</i>	<i>Crystal Flectcher</i>
<i>Margaret Goodwin</i>	<i>Doris Nye</i>	<i>Marty Kaarre</i>
<i>Steve Wahlston</i>	<i>Steve Gilmore</i>	<i>Heather Gust</i>
<i>Ruth Young</i>	<i>Mary Helen Bergschneider</i>	
<i>Sheryl Hildebrandt</i>	<i>Cheryl Lueck</i>	<i>Ron Wegener</i>
<i>Kate Smith</i>	<i>Linda Larson-Nelson</i>	
<i>Wendy Clark</i>	<i>Rebecca Gurske</i>	<i>Rachel Juoni</i>
<i>Sue Dimich</i>	<i>Gary McLaughlin</i>	<i>Jim Johnson</i>
<i>David Renz</i>	<i>Katy &amp; Ally Gumz</i>	<i>David Gustafson</i>
<i>Mary Siefers</i>	<i>Scott McDonald</i>	<i>and those in our hearts.</i>

### PRAYERS for Homebound, Assisted Living, Nursing Home

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them. *Walt Schutte, Arlene Zimmerman, Madge Houle, Donna Graves Violet Basina*

### PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families. *David Wright, Johanna Pearce, Emily Melecha, Tucker Melecha*





# 8 "T"s of Stewardship



. By John Heckmann LWML Pastoral Counselor 2011-2015  
(Previously published in the Treasured News Jan.-July 2013)  
Revised August 2017 by  
Rev. Robert Mundahl LWML Pastoral Counselor 2015-2019

**TIME**  
**TREASURE**  
**TOUCH**  
**TRASH**

**TALENT**  
**TESTIMONY**  
**TISSUE**  
**TECHNOLOGY**

## *The Eight T's of Stewardship*

The Eight T's are: **Time, Talent, Treasure, Testimony, Touch, Tissue, Trash, and Technology.** You know the first three; the last four go like this: testimony (Christian witnessing), touch

(relationships), tissue (care of our bodies), trash (care of God's creation), and technology (our use of the electronic devices and tools with which God has blessed us) We will take one "T" each month.

### TALENT

Our TALENTS include the gifts, skills and abilities that God has given to us. We often hear people talking about their "God-given abilities." And this is right on target because all we are and have is a gift from a good and gracious God.

Our TALENTS include the gifts that God has entrusted to us. The 12<sup>th</sup> chapters of Romans and 1 Corinthians speak about some of these gifts and remind us that the Holy Spirit gives various gifts according to His will, and He desires that we use these gifts for the common good (1 Peter 4:10).

Using our God-given TALENTS wisely and well produces the fruit of the Spirit that Paul mentions in Galatians 5:22: *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."*

Just as God provided skilled workers to help with the building of the Old Testament tabernacle and temples, so He continues to bless His people today with special gifts and skills to be of service in ways that honor God and bless others. We are members of the body of Christ (in our congregations) and each of us has TALENTS to put to work within that body so that it may be built up to be the worshipping, witnessing and serving community that God intends.

Make every effort to discover your gifts, skills, and abilities and find ways to put them to work in your congregation.

# 2019 Lent

Wednesdays 6:30 pm

M  
A  
R  
C



Series: Different People of the Old Testament Four Circuit Pastors will rotate through the congregations during the last three Wednesday Lenten services.

March 6th Pastor Rick  
March 20th Pastor Rick  
March 13th Pastor Rick

March 27th Pastor Von Seggern  
April 3rd Pastor Wellnitz  
April 10th Pastor Lahners

**"A Lent to Remember: Remember** Soup/Sandwich  
**Wednesdays**



A  
P"  
R  
I  
L  
14th



Service 9:00am  
Breakfast by  
Youth 10:15am  
(tentatively  
planned)

5:00-6:00pm

March 6th Altar Guild

March 13th

LFOJ

March 20th

Zion Council

March 27th

Education/Confirmation



**"Voices of  
the Passion"**



**Maundy  
Thursday**

April 18th 6:30pm

**"Remembrance of Me"**



**Good  
Friday**

April 19th 6:30pm

**"Remember Me"**



**April 21st**

**Sunrise Service 7:00am**

**Easter Sunday 9:00am**



Dear Reader: This devotional was written in 2013. However, in 2019, we face new challenges that call for human kindness and a generous measure of God's grace. Be blessed in Him.

A. Ellis-April 19, 2013

Kind of a crazy Friday. The news media is zoomed in on the "lockdown" in Boston as law enforcement works hard to find the "second" marathon bomber in the suburb of Watertown. There are reports of weapons, SWAT teams, locked doors, vacant streets, epicenter locations, neighborhood sweeps, switched-off cell phones, search dogs, evacuations, blank windows, robots, frayed emotions... all alongside the kindness of those who show up to help out.

While in Ashland, we are caught in a "shutdown" from a heavy-wet snowstorm. Walking is a chore, driving is sluggish, branches are falling, power-lines at risk, birds are hungry, shoveling is slow-going, no newspaper delivery, no shoppers on main street, dogs hang close to home, gusty winds, all alongside the kindness of those who show up to help out.

Other folks are engaged in another type of lockdown. Their epicenter is a medical facility, buzzers beep, electric beds, blood-pressure cuffs, wheelchairs and walkers, shots, IV-tubes, fresh pillows, telephone calls, get-well cards, all alongside the kindness of those who show up to help out.

When we think about it... "shutdowns" are a way of life for millions day-in-and-day out. The poor struggle for every meal, the refugee hopes for shelter, the nomad seeks water, the soldier dreams of home, the war-victims long for peace... and so much more. Millions are hoping kindness will show up to help out. I love what one speaker said yesterday at the faith service in Boston: *Tragedy reveals Grace*. That unique grace that is known in the kindness of others.

Grace is true in our journey of faith. The crazy-Friday tragedy of the cross revealed the holy Kindness of God. The kind-grace of forgiveness. The kind-grace of eternal hope. The kind-grace of deliverance. The kind-grace of healing. The kind-grace of bread. The kind-grace of living water. The kind-grace of shelter. Boston will recover. Winter will give way to spring. And those who are sick will know relief.

In the grand scheme of things, maybe everyday is a crazy day. We wake up... we brush our teeth, comb our hair and move forward in the Resurrection Hope that we are empowered by God to face what comes each day, but also gratefully surprised by the kindness of those who show up to help out.



## **Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting: March 18, 2019**

**Call to Order:** By President John Pruss. Pastor Rick encouraged us to read Hebrews 11 where “faith” is mentioned 17x. He opened meeting with prayer.

**Roll Call:** John Pruss-President, Nick Jarvela-Trustees, Lisa Guski- Treasurer/LFOJ, Darryl Warren- Elders, Alice Ellis- Secretary/Evangelism

**February Minutes:** Motion to approve by Jarvela. Second by Warren. MMC.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Rick reported Sunday Worship/Lenten services going well. He appreciated the Best Practices conference in Arizona. He will be attending the District Conference at Camp Luther May 13 & 14. Pastor gave a presentation on **Pastoral Leadership Classes**. It is a 2 ½ year learning community to include five 3-day training immersions. Both Pastor and June would attend. The plan is to apply for a Siebert Grant to cover cost. The Council encouraged Rick to send in the application, and by July 15<sup>th</sup> the grant decision will be announced. Pastor will bring an update on this request to April Council meeting. Pastor also gave a report on **Red Letter Challenge** Bible study to begin after Easter. This is a 40-day study focused on the Words of Jesus; this series will include large group study and small groups.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Motion to accept as printed by Warren. Second by Ellis. MMC.

**Agenda Approval:** Motion to accept by Guski with additions: Children’s Bible at Baptism in Old Business. Red Cross request, and Palm Sunday Breakfast in New Business. Second by Warren. MMC.

### **Board Reports:**

**Trustees:** Jarvela reported light-fixture ballast replaced. Shoveled scuppers. Ice issues addressed. Easement in progress with Excel energy. Paid first ½ of Pedestal for energy project. Plan to purchase back-up battery to keep on shelf. Mats will be laid when weather is warm.

**Education:** Lisa Guski will head up Summer VBS program. She has contacted Camp Luther.

**LFOJ:** Guski reported Fundraisers in April: Dutch Mill Bulbs. Formal Parent/teacher conferences 3/11/19.

**Evangelism:** Ellis reported Easter baskets for home-bound will be completed on April 1, and distributed by Pastor and Team.

Motion to accept Board reports by Jarvela. Second by Warren. MMC.

### **Official Acts:**

**Baptism:** Fynn Wright February 17, 2019

Motion to accept official acts by Warren. Second by Guski. MMC.

### **Old Business:**

**Bibles at Baptism:** Children’s Bible will be purchased and presented to child at baptism. Pastor Rick will follow up on this.

### **New Business:**

**Synod Membership Dues:** \$1089 balance due- under “mission to Synod.”

**Red Cross request:** After discussion, we feel our “downstairs” facility not suitable, but we will support Red Cross in Ashland, and encourage donations of blood. Motion by Jarvela. Second by Warren. MMC.

**Palm Sunday Breakfast:** Zion youth taking care of this. There will be a signup sheet and the offering to be used for summer youth conference.

Adjourn: Motion by Guski. Second by Jarvela. MMC.

The meeting closed with *The Lord’s Prayer*. Council will meet again on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 5:30 pm.

Thank you.

Respectfully, *Alice J. Ellis*



Our Servers for our Worship Service are very important. date, please find someone else to take your place. We really appreciate your help in this matter!! If you would like to be added or taken off one of our lists please contact the office. Greeters and Ushers should arrive 20 miWe ask that if you are unable to serve on your designated nutes before services start. Thank-you to all

April	Elders	Acolytes	Ushers	Greeters
Wed. 3	Doug Warren	Faith	Adam Hinch	Clarence & Kathy Osmak
<b>Sun. 7</b>	Andy Pruss Darryl Warren	Lily	Chris Bolz	Honkala Family
Wed. 10	John Pruss	Austin	Todd Vyskocil	Warren & Peggy Draeger
<b>Sun. 14</b>	Doug Warren Andy Pruss	Daniel	Larry Hildebrandt	Pat & Katie Colgrove
Thurs 18	Darryl Warren John Pruss	Adeline	Brian Klobucher	Ron & Brenda Schwiesow
Fri. 19	Doug Warren	Matthew		
<b>Sun. 21</b> 7:00am	Randy Spangle	Faith	Nick Jarvela	Ethel Guss Penny Mattson
<b>Sun. 21</b> 9:00am	Scott Thimm Darryl Warren	Daniel	Andrew Wickman	Lipske Family
Wed. 24	John Pruss			
<b>Sun. 28</b>	Randy Spangle Scott Thimm	Lily	Rick Nutt	Herb & Alice Ellis
May 1	Doug Warren			
<b>Sun. May 5</b>	Andy Pruss Scott Thimm	Matthew	Scott Sapper	Rick & Sandy Nutt

**April**

June Williams 715-208-0984  
Tami Thimm 682-4817 JoAnn  
Honkala 682-0175



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"We finished dying all the eggs,  
so now we're decoratin'  
Daddy's golf balls."





SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b> 10:00am Bible Study  Evangelism Mtg. 5:30pm	<b>2</b> LFOJ Chapel 11:00am	<b>3</b> LFOJ Chapel 11:00am Confirmation 3:30-5:00pm Soup/Sandwich 5:00-6:00pm Choir 5:30pm <b>Lent Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Mite Sunday <b>Worship 9:00am</b> Bible Study 10:30am Sunday School 10:15am	<b>8</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>9</b> Sewing Circle 1pm	<b>10</b> Confirmation 1:30-3:00pm Soup/Sandwich 5:00-6:00pm Choir 5:30pm <b>Lent Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>Worship 9:00am</b> Youth Breakfast 10:15am Trustees' Mtg. 10:15am	<b>15</b> 10:00am Bible Study  Council Mtg. 5:30pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>Maundy Thursday Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>19</b> <i>Newsletter Reports Due</i>  <b>Good Friday Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>Easter Worship 7:00am 9:00am</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Sewing Circle 1pm	<b>24</b> Confirmation 3:30-5:00pm <b>Worship 6:30pm</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Food Shelf Sunday <b>Worship 9:00am</b> Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am	<b>29</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>30</b>				