

“Touchdown!”

(A Little Football Analogy to Get Us Thinking about Easter)

By Pastor Kurt Ziemann

Even if you aren't a sports fan, I think you'll appreciate this story about a college football team whose starting quarterback had just been injured. Their #2 quarterback was sick and hadn't even dressed out for the game. All the coach had left was a 3rd-string freshman who had been a quarterback in high school, but who was just being used on the college team as a punter.

To make matters worse, they were backed up on their own 3-yard line. It was a desperate situation, and the coach's only thought was somehow to get a little farther from their goal line to give them room to punt out of danger.

Sending in the 3rd-string quarterback, the coach said, "Son, I want you to hand off to the big fullback Kowalski for the next two plays, let him run right into the middle of the line and get us a few yards of breathing room. Then I want you to punt."

The young quarterback did as he was instructed. On the first play he handed off to Kowalski, but almost miraculously Kowalski found a hole off tackle and ran for 50 yards. The young quarterback called the same play again, and once more, miracle of miracles, the hole opened again, and Kowalski gained another 45 yards. The fans went crazy. In two plays they had gone 95 yards, and the ball was on their opponent's 2-yard line. It was first down and goal to go!

Confidently the team lined up once again. The young quarterback received the snap, stepped back and to everyone's amazement, punted the ball high into the stands.

Sometimes during Lent, we get that feeling that we are going nowhere. Troubles and worries get the best of us. We lose our joy. We lose sight of what is ours through Christ. We may fall into the run, run, punt mentality. Not God! In Lent we make big gains as our Lord's Passion unfolds because Jesus ran right up the middle, and when Good Friday and Easter came, He didn't settle for a punt. No, He ran it in. It's a touchdown and the victory is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. By the end of the month, the cry will be heard: "Christ is risen! He risen, indeed! Alleluia!"



**OBSERVING LENT:
MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY SERVICES
12:30 pm and 6:30 pm**

Midweek 3 – March 6, 2024

“The Faithful Word” (Matthew 27:46)
Rev. Travis Henry

Midweek 4 – March 13, 2024

“The Dying Word” (Luke 23:46)
Rev. Dr. Kevin Guynn

Midweek 5 – March 20, 2024

“The Compassionate Word”
(John 19:26-27)
Rev. Paul Sundbom

**Lenten Suppers
Wednesdays, 5:30 pm**

March 6: Chicken Alfredo,
Bread/Butter & Dessert
March 13: Corned Beef Sandwiches,
Macaroni Salad, Chips/Pickle &
Dessert
March 20: Penne Pasta with
Meatballs, Bread/Butter & Dessert

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Sat Mar 23	6:30 pm	Passion Saturday Traditional
Sun Mar 24	9:00 am	Palm Sunday Passion of our Lord w/communion
	11:30 am	Palm Sunday Contemporary w/communion
Thu Mar 28	12:30 pm	Maundy Thursday w/communion
	6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday w/communion
Fri Mar 29	12:30 pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
	6:30 pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
Sat Mar 30	8:00 pm	Easter Candlelight Contemporary w/communion
Sun Mar 31	6:30 am	Easter Sunrise w/communion
	7:45 am	Coffee Time with Pastries
	9:00 am	Easter Festival w/communion
	10:30 am	Easter Buffet Breakfast (no Sunday School)

EASTER BREAKFAST 2024!

Following the 6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service, join us for an informal Continental Breakfast with pastries, coffee, tea, and juice in the Fellowship Hall. **Immediately following the 9:00 am Easter Celebration Service**, we are hosting a Hot & Cold Buffet breakfast, which will feature an Egg and Cheese Breakfast Casserole, Hash Brown Potatoes, Sausages, Fruit, Croissants, and Pastries. Beverages of Coffee, Tea, and Juice will also be served.

If you are interested in helping serve with set-up or clean-up for either of these events, please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board on hot pink paper over the credenza in the lobby.



Easter Lily Request - 2024

Please print clearly!

I'd like to dedicate _____ Easter Lily Plants

Given by: _____
Name (s)

Offering Envelope #: _____

If desired, flowers can be given ☐ in memory of ☐ in honor of

Name (s)

Payment of \$8.50 per plant is due with order. Please submit to the church office by the deadline of Sunday, March 17. *Orders received after March 17 are subject to availability. Thank you!*





It's Time!!!
Rummage Sale & Bake Sale
Proceeds to benefit Birthright Lake, Inc
(our local crisis pregnancy center)



Saturday, April 13
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Zion Lutheran Church

This is the perfect time to clean out your basement, attic, garage and closets and donate to a great charitable pro-life organization.

Donations will be accepted Friday, April 12 4pm – 8pm
(Friday night presale to workers only)

Rummage donations may include but not limited to: clothing, coats, shoes, boots, linens, baby items, toys, housewares, books, garage and yard items and working small appliances. Please distinguish between donations that can be resold vs. items that should be thrown out.

Bake Sale donations and brown paper grocery bags are also needed.

NO large furniture, large exercise equipment or large or non-working appliances please!!

We also **cannot** accept tube style TV's or computer monitors!! There is a cost to dispose of these if they do not sell!! Thank you for understanding!!

We need your help to make this fundraiser a success! Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help during any or all of the times listed below. Bring a friend, bring the family!! Have fun and put your faith in action!

Volunteers are needed to help during the following times – Sign-up sheet in the lobby!



FRI April 12 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm SET UP – Sort, Organize and Tag donations

SAT April 13 9:00 am – 2:00 pm SALE – Cashier, Customer Service, etc.

SAT April 13 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm CLEAN UP – Tear down and clean-up crew

Call or text Lisa Reed at 440-391-8968 for more details!!!

****Sorry – we cannot accept any Rummage Sale donations before Friday, April 12!!****



Zion Women's Fellowship Group

The Zion Women's Fellowship group's next meeting is March 16, 2024 from 9:30 am to 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Zion.

In addition to our regular meeting activities, we will be preparing the Premie and Parent Support boxes for delivery to Rainbow Babies' and Children's Hospital NICU patients. Contact Karen Lieberg with any questions at clueless2527@yahoo.com or 440-570-3593
All ladies are welcome!

Contact: Carole Cooper-440-376-7798 or cvocooper@gmail.com



OUR GIVING January 2024		
	Actual	Budget
Revenue	\$55,696	\$49,908
Expenses	\$32,519	\$47,323



LWML MISSION OF THE MONTH

**Mobile Kitchen
Forged by Fire Services,
Gulf Coast Region, U.S.
Mission Grant of \$85,000**

About This Mission Grant

Forged by Fire Services strives to actively make known the love of Jesus Christ through its actions and words by providing warm meals, bottled water, and spiritual care to people in times of need following a disaster or economic downturn. They pray with those in need and offer resources such as devotionals and Bibles.

This grant will allow the purchase of a mobile, self-contained kitchen trailer unit to provide meals in communities affected by disaster. Over 130,000 meals have been served in the Gulf Coast region. The mobile kitchen will benefit smaller communities in need that are often overlooked by larger organizations. When serving, Forged by Fire Services strives to connect local LCMS congregations within the communities and share the mercy and grace of Christ, one plate of food at a time.



Our Forged by Fire team serving the community of Houma and the saints of Grace Lutheran following Hurricane Ida

Shoebox Ministry

Bwakeye! That is Hello in Burundi. Many of our Shoeboxes went to Burundi which is in East Africa. There is much to pray for in Burundi as it has been known for centuries, in part, for its political instability and violence between the rival Hutu and Tutsi peoples. Bringing The Greatest Journey and introducing the love of Jesus through the gift of a Shoebox we pray that lives and families are changed.

Back here at Team Zion we are growing personally and by number of volunteers who love & pray for the children to whom our boxes are going. So many have answered the call to sew, knit, glue, donate greeting cards, plastic containers, fabric and time and they share what joy it brings them to be doing this for Jesus.

If you want to get more involved with Team Zion, we are working in the Shoebox office on Friday mornings beginning at 10:00 am, please join us. Also, we will be having our kick-off Craft Night on April 10 at 6:00 pm in the church basement in the Shoebox Office area. Mark your calendar now for this fun, intergenerational event, watch the bulletins and Facebook (Shoebox Team Zion) for the details.

Team Zion Shoeboxes are filled with school kits, hygiene kits, 3-4 items of clothing, a stuffed animal, toys and games. We are hoping that whenever you see a quality item in those categories and you would like included in a Shoebox to please consider donating it by leaving it in the box on the lobby credenza. For March we are focusing on hygiene items. We especially need the 2-piece toothbrush covers, and include toothbrush, ChapStick, comb/brush, nail clipper, sunglasses, washcloth, band-aids, and emery boards in the kits.

This past year we noticed that our boy boxes need more, so this year, in June in honor of Father's Day, we want to build tool kits to include. Customs regulate that the boxes are gifts - not aid, so we must be careful about how much 'tools' we include. We are already making sturdy bags to fill and will be looking for hammers, sandpaper, nails, twine, tape measure, small level, and small blocks of wood for these kits.

Thank you for all the prayers, support, suggestions & questions on our Shoebox ministry. Team Zion continues sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and making disciples of the nations. Thank you.

Joyfully in His Service,

Shawn Biese,

440.221.8709

Facebook: Shoebox Team Zion



ZION LWML The 2022-2024 LWML Ohio District Biennium ends March 31, 2024. We are hoping to fill the large Mite Boxes in both lobbies with your heartfelt prayers and donations for all the missionaries, ministries, and faith organizations, who are being supported by LWML mission grants. By March 17, we will be submitting our Mites to the LWML Ohio District Financial Secretary and hope to make it a God-pleasing and strong representation of how Zion supports those who work in the mission field here in the Ohio District and around the world. Look for one large Mite Box in the Narthex and one in the lobby under the mission bulletin board on the credenza. There are small empty Mite Boxes for you to take home and fill. They may be returned full to Zion and emptied in those large Mite Boxes at any time. Thank you Zion! Please continue to pray for God's work sharing the gospel message of love and hope and note our Motto, "Serve the Lord with Gladness!"

The LWML Mission Statement

"As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others."



WHAT IS THE ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY?



The Zion Lutheran Church's Food Pantry is a ministry which partners with various organizations to provide food to those people who are experiencing a variety of hardships, including food insecurity.

This ministry is one of Zion's largest and relies on the generous donations of the congregation.

In keeping with the Mission Statement of Zion Lutheran Church, this long-standing ministry has evolved and has become ever more involved in our community. The Food Pantry averages anywhere between 25 to 40 families representing approximately 125 people per visit. Many people at Zion are involved in the operation of this ministry.

As Jesus said in Mathew 25:35 *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me."* We are also reminded in Proverbs 22:9 *"When you are generous to the poor, you are enriched with blessings in return."*

THIS IS WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT!

What exactly does the Zion Lutheran Church Food Pantry do?

There are many aspects to this ministry:

1. Recipient Registration- The use of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank (GCFB) online Pantrytrak system to register recipients for food.
2. Food Resource Ordering- The use of the GCFB online Express Ordering System to purchase food for our Pantry.
3. Delivery- Delivery of food to our Pantry from the GCFB on the second Thursday of every month.
4. Pick-Up- Pick up of food from our partner agencies GCFB Marketplace, United Way and Trader Joe's, which supplements at no charge, the purchased food for distribution, not to mention the generous giving from our congregation, especially those items not readily available from our other partners.
5. Receiving- The shelving of dry goods and storage of the refrigerated and frozen items received.
6. Bagging- The pulling and bagging of items based on a preprinted list of foods for the number of people in the family.
7. Distribution- Recipients pull up to the Pantry and receive "prebagged" dry, refrigerated, and frozen items from the Pantry located on Hayes Drive.

As of December 1, 2023, our partnership with Trader Joe's allows the Pantry to provide "fresh" items such as breads, fruits, salad mixes and prepackaged wraps and sandwiches to recipients. The GCFB has encouraged food pantries to allow guests to "shop." We are proud to be able to provide this shopping experience and thank Zion Lutheran Church and Our Shepherd Lutheran School for allowing the Pantry to utilize the Fellowship Hall through March due to Ohio's winter weather. The Pantry will continue to explore a more permanent distribution site.

NOTE! - Distribution of food to families takes place on the **last two Tuesdays of each month** between the hours of **6:00-7:00 pm**.

MONTH	YEAR	HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	PEOPLE SERVED	CHILDREN	ADULTS
October	2023	83	293	101	192
November	2023	70	245	78	121
December	2023	56	219	80	98
January	2024	78	260	87	173

***** Blood Drive Results *****

Thank you to all who donated! Zion collected 37 pints total, helping 111 patients in need! Thank you Vicky Campaign for chairing this event!



- 1 Lora Babic, Shirley Niccum, James Pethtel, Janet Swan
- 2 Fred Cooper, Jacob McWhorter
- 3 Aurora Johnson, Bryant Medink, Emily Russell
- 4 Yvonne Buck, Elyse Champa, Carol Eberling, Donna Lombardy
- 5 Frank Pearson, Pam Tsiros
- 6 Miriam Brunstetter, Peyton Nolan
- 7 Alisha House, Molly Ratay, Louisa Spiesman
- 8 Ruth Hietala
- 9 Zachary Fronk
- 10 ---
- 11 Sue Oslin
- 12 Allen Holpit, Leah Percassi
- 13 Ashley McAlpine, Ruth Yenc
- 14 JoAnn Conger, Rick Hughes
- 15 Gareth Mononen, Liz Zinkowich, Timothy Brainard, Roger Stevens, Shelly Thompson
- 16 Gayle Hunt, Cora Thompson
- 17 Anthony Joki, Craig Light, James Lindhurst
- 18 ---
- 19 McKenna Apel, Frank Eberling, James Koscik
- 20 Larry Matty, Scott Galinac
- 21 Margaret Brockway, Kamden Lange
- 22 Claudia Hendrix, Jenna Wojkowski, Nathan Yarnell
- 23 Fannie Abbott
- 24 Tiina Haller, Kailey Pipoly, Dawn Motiejunas, Ingrid Petrus, Matthew Webster
- 25 Alexis Olwert
- 26 ---
- 27 Samuel Salcius
- 28 ---
- 29 Chris Wilson
- 30 Monica Jones
- 31 Carson Coad, Dan Wilson

If your birthday is not listed here, please let the office know.
We want to help you celebrate your special day!



Mission Notes from the Schultes

Woe to the Earth – Cast from heaven, Satan can no longer accuse us before the face of God, and so he does the next best thing. He accuses us directly.

You know he does. Each day, Satan comes beside you and calls you every sort of vile name there is; idolater, murderer, pornographer, thief, liar, gossip. He plays upon your insecurities, naming you a loser, unlovable, and hopeless. Unable to convince God to cast you out of heaven, he seeks to sow despair and doubt so that he can drag you down with him into the pit.

Written in Stone – It's easy to believe those accusations, isn't it? After all, they're all based on things we have actually done. And yet, in the upside-down justice of the courtroom of heaven, we are judged not by things we have done but by the things done for us.

In Psalm 11 David, a liar, adulterer, and murderer, tells us "In the LORD I take refuge. How then can you say to me: 'Flee like a bird to your mountain.'"

Accused daily by a furious fallen angel, God's Word is an essential comfort and strong tower for the beleaguered Christian. Through it, we can read and hear, again and again, the stories of those who, like us, deserved death but received life. Through it, we can read and hear, again and again, the love, forgiveness, the promises, and the new name Christ has given us. A name so certain He has "written [it] on [a white] stone." (Rev. 2:17)

Imagine what reading that Word would mean for the Subula, a group of mountain people that we will partner with. Imagine them listening to the words of their brother David, who tells them, "I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth." (Ps. 121:1-2)

God has also given the Subula new names and carved them on their own white stones. Names that reveal their enemies, human and spiritual, to be liars. They need no longer be fearful people 'perched' on the mountain. They need no longer be sinners deserving of death and hell. They are children of almighty God, whose advocate is waiting in heaven to argue their case.

God's Word brings light into dark places, hope into fearful disgraces, and clarity into confusing spaces. God's Word throws out the book of our painful stories and writes our new names into the Book of Life. May we, and the Subula, lift our eyes to the hills for help when Satan accuses us and flee like birds to perch on the rock of Christ.

Prayer Requests – Pray that the Subula believers would continue to seek Christ as their true mountain stronghold courageously; for our vehicles as they begin to suffer increasing mechanical issues; for our spirits as we get closer to the day that we must give our pet dog Fig away; and for my brother Jeff and sister-in-law Kayla as they welcome their first child, a girl.

Contact – Tim and Erin Schulte

Tim.schulte@lbt.org

Erin.schulte@lbt.org

Give at go.LBT.org/schulte



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 5:30 P Growing in Prayer Group 6:30 P Worship Service 7:30 P Bible Study Class
3 9:00 A Lenten Choral Service 10:15 A Sun. School/ Bible Study 11:30 A Contemporary Worship Service 1:30 P Confirmation 1	4 6:45 P Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00 A Bible Breakfast 4:00 P Parishscope Deadline 7:30 P Scouts	6 9:30 A Women in the Word 12:30 P Lenten Svc 1:30 P Women in the Word 5:30 P Lenten Supper 6:30 P Lenten Service	7 9:30 A Nursing Home Ministry 7:00 P Elders	8	9 5:30 P Growing in Prayer Group 6:30 P Worship Service 7:30 P Bible Study Class
10 9:00 A Traditional Worship Service 10:15 A Sun. School/ Bible Study 11:30 A Contemporary Worship Service 1:30 P Confirmation 2 – Hayes House	11 6:45 P Choir Rehearsal 7:00 P Trustees	12 7:00 A Bible Breakfast 4:00 P Parishscope Deadline 7:30 P Scouts	13 9:30 A Women in the Word 12:30 P Lenten Svc 1:30 P Women in the Word 5:30 P Lenten Supper 6:30 P Lenten Service	14 9:30 A Nursing Home Ministry 3:30 P Tea Party Cmt 7:00 P Council 	15	16 9:30 A Women's Fellowship 5:30 P Growing in Prayer Group 6:30 P Worship Service 7:30 P Bible Study Class
17 9:00 A Traditional Worship Service 10:15 A Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30 A Contemporary Worship Service 1:30 P Confirmation 1 2:00 P Voters Meeting	18 6:45 P Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00 A Bible Breakfast 4:00 P Parishscope Deadline 6:00 P Food Pantry 7:30 P Scouts	20 9:30 A Women in the Word 12:30 P Lenten Svc 1:30 P Women in the Word 5:30 P Lenten Supper 6:30 P Lenten Service	21 9:30 A Nursing Home Ministry 6:00 P Men's Ministry	22	23 9:00 A Church Cleaning 5:30 P Growing in Prayer Group 6:30 P Worship Service 7:30 P Bible Study Class
24 Palm Sunday 9:00 A Traditional Worship Service 10:15 A Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30 A Contemporary Worship Service 1:30 P Confirmation 2 – Hayes House	25 6:45 P Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00 A Bible Breakfast 4:00 P Parishscope Deadline 6:00 P Food Pantry 7:30 P Scouts	27 No Women in the Word	28 Maundy Thursday 9:30 A Nursing Home Ministry 12:30 P Maundy Thursday Svc 6:30 P Maundy Thursday Svc	29 Good Friday 12:30 P Tenebrae Service 6:30 P Tenebrae Service	30 No Growing in Prayer Mtg 7:30 P Bible Study Class 8:00 P Easter Contemporary Service
31 Easter 6:30 A Easter Sunrise Service (Continental Breakfast Following) 9:00 A Easter Festival Service 10:30 A Easter Breakfast				This symbol means that communion is offered during the Worship service. Communion is offered every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday and every 2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday. 		



Lent IS A TIME TO
 GROW
 CLOSER TO JESUS



Zion Lutheran Church

508 Mentor Avenue · Painesville, Ohio 44077
440-357-5174 · www.zionpainesville.org

Jesus lays down His life for...

WORSHIP

TRADITIONAL:

Saturday 6:30 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

CONTEMPORARY:

Sunday 11:30 am

SENIOR PASTOR

REV. DR. KURT ZIEMANN

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

REV. TRAVIS HENRY

DEACONESS INTERN

Elizabeth Dobbelaire

OFFICE:

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Jan Brown

Caitlyn Snyder

Leeann Boyce

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Sat Mar 23	6:30 pm	Passion Saturday Traditional
Sun Mar 24	9:00 am	Palm Sunday Passion of our Lord w/communion
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Holy Week