



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
604 W. EVELYN, LEWISTOWN MT
(406) 538-5082
OFFICE EMAIL: zionelca@midrivers.com
<http://zionlewistownelca.com/>

April 2026 Newsletter

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April SERVANT SCHEDULE:

	LECTOR	COMM. ASST.	Greeter	USHER	PowerPoint
<u>4/5</u>	George Maruska				Kyrie Benes
<u>4/12</u>	Suzie Flentie	Vickey Cowen	Tawnia Gerber	Bill Cowen	Kyrie Benes
<u>4/19</u>	Laurie Bentley	Denise Goodwyn	Denise Goodwyn & Sharon Nordahl		George Maruska
<u>4/26</u>	Dana Leininger		Wayne Leininger & Donna Strouf	Wayne Leininger	

Please call the office if you would be willing to fill any of the open positions for this month.

***IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFILL YOUR DUTY, PLEASE FIND YOUR OWN REPLACEMENT**

Click [**HERE**](#) to see Zion's Google calendar.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Dear Members and Friends of Zion,

One of my recent Bible readings was 1 Corinthians 14:6 -10.

“⁶ Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction? ⁷ Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes? ⁸ Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle? ⁹ So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air.”

Clear, thoughtful, and purposeful communication has been at the forefront of my mind these days as we continue on our journey searching for a new pastor, while maintaining familiar routines of serving within our church. It is this portion of Zion’s monthly newsletter (usually written by our pastor) that I have always relied on to give me a sense of direction. Now, I find myself, as your Church Council president, the author of said letter. I pray that God grants me intelligible words to this end, so I don’t sound as though I’m speaking in tongues.

One of my main goals for the year is to keep the lines of communication flowing between groups and individuals. However, your help is needed to achieve this goal. Please let us know how best to share information with you, your family and friends. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex to provide us with your contact information. If you’re not comfortable publicly sharing this information please contact Falan at the church: 406-538-5082 and she’ll get you in the loop. Some options are email, US postal letters, and/or text messages. Please also share these options with members and friends who haven’t been connected to church recently. It is my desire to inform them of our journey and hopefully someday they will feel compelled to join us.

Grace and peace to you,
Audrey Olson
Church Council President



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

We share God's call to experience purpose, wholeness, and community in Jesus Christ and faithfully steward his creation.



If you haven't already, please download this app.



If you need help please call the office or Falan.

Staying connected with our church just got easier. Just download the Instant Church app and you will have access to our church directory.



If you haven't already, please download this app. You can use your home computer or a smart phone.

Zion Youth Bible Study

(All are welcome, not just 7th & 8th grade)

Last Saturday the youth and I had a lock in. We spent time making dinner, planning worship, watching a movie, and of course playing wolf. A big part of that is building relationships and getting to know each other, talking, and just hanging out.

😊 Falan

"Let all that you do be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:14



B.L.A.S.T.

Believe, Learn and Seek Truth

**Vacation Bible School planning
is in the works. If you would
like to help, please contact
Kyrie or Falan.**



April Social Concern is...

The Zion Scholarship Fund administered by the Trust Committee. This fund was established approximately 30 years ago as a memorial for one of our members by his family. Students who are active members of Zion and who are pursuing a Bachelor's Degree or attending an accredited institution of higher learning (i.e. Technology/Trade School) are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Over twenty Zion students have received scholarships from this fund over the past 5 years. Individuals and Zion Lutheran Church Women have financially contributed to it over the years. Since the cost of higher education has greatly outpaced inflation, financial support for students is more critical now than ever. Please consider contributing to this important Zion ministry to help keep the fund solvent long into the future.

If you would like to contribute to this effort, please mark Scholarship in the memo line of your check.

Zion Church Council Summary March 2026

Call Committee – Survey has been sent out. Please return by Easter Sunday

Caring Ministry- Community treats to L&C, Central Kitchen, and CMMC Cancer Center. Shopped for the community cupboard. Shopped for the college care package as well. Meals were provided for Freida Tyler. Several congregation members received communion training on March 1, from Pastor Stacey. 12 cards were sent out. Roger will be doing communion at Valle Vista, and the Villa is Pastor Stacey.



Maundy Thursday Service @ Zion Lutheran Church @6pm

(Ecumenical) Good Friday Worship @ First Presbyterian Church 12pm



Breakfast 8:30am

Easter Sunday Worship 9:30am

Easter Egg Hunt Following Worship

CALL COMMITTEE



The Call Committee has been meeting regularly and is making progress! Our first step is to complete a Ministry Site Profile (MSP), an online profile system designed by the ELCA, which the synod will use to pair our ministry site with appropriate candidates. Once we collect data and complete the MSP, we will wait to be paired with a candidate(s) and begin the interview process.

By now, every member should have received a mailing containing a survey and a cover letter. This survey was created by the call committee to collect data from all members of our church. Some questions are directly from the MSP. Other questions are included to help us understand the wants, needs and goals of our church to help the committee during the interview process once a candidate has been presented. Please fill out the survey as completely and honestly as possible. This is an anonymous survey; any comments provided will be reviewed only by the call committee.

All voting members of the church should fill out a survey. This includes all adult members, as well as any young members who have been confirmed. Parents with children who have not been confirmed yet are welcome to discuss the questions and ask for input as well. You may complete a paper copy, such as the one sent by mail, OR an online survey. Please do not complete both. To reach the online survey, please follow the link below, or use the camera of a smart phone to follow the QR code to the form. If you need more paper copies for your household, please call the church and request one, or pick one up from the narthex table. Surveys must be **returned by April 5, 2026**. Electronic surveys will be collected at the time of submission. Paper copies can be returned to the church by mail or dropped off in the collection box on the table in the narthex.

If you have any questions regarding the survey or the call committee process, please contact any of the following members: Anjeanette Carlson, Lana Papp, Suzie Flente, Stan Olson, Scot Solberg, Michelle Trafton, or Ryan Benes.

Online link: <http://tinyurl.com/4jxvxxyp>



April Calendar of Events

4/1 Men Over Lunch 12:00pm
 B.L.A.S.T. /Rainbow @ 3:30PM
 7th & 8th Grade Bible Study @ 3:30pm
 Wee Singers @ 4:30pm
 Youth Group FCC @ 6:15pm

4/2 Men's Bible Study @ 6:30am
 Quilting @ 9am
 Prayer Circle @12:00pm
 Maundy Thursday Worship @6pm

4/3 (Ecumenical) Good Friday Worship @
 1st Presbyterian Church @12pm

4/5 Breakfast @ 8:30am
 Easter Sunday Worship @ 9:30am
 Easter Egg Hunt Following Worship

4/6 Office Closed

4/7 Bible Study @ 4pm
 Caring Ministry @5:30pm
 Choir Practice @ 6:30pm

4/8 Men Over Lunch 12:00pm
 B.L.A.S.T. /Rainbow @ 3:30PM
 7th & 8th Grade Bible Study @ 3:30pm
 Wee Singers @ 4:30pm
 Youth Group FCC @ 6:15pm

4/9 Quilting @ 9am
 Prayer Circle @12:00pm

4/12 Worship @ 9:30am

4/14 Rachel Circle @ 9:30am

4/15 Men Over Lunch 12:00pm
 B.L.A.S.T. /Rainbow @ 3:30PM
 7th & 8th Grade Bible Study 3:30pm
 Wee Singers @ 4:30pm
 Youth Group FCC @ 6:15pm

4/16 Men's Bible Study @ 6:30am
 Quilting @ 9am
 Prayer Circle @ 12:00pm

4/19 Worship @ 9:30am

4/20 Council Meeting @ 6:00pm

4/21 Choir Practice @6:30pm

4/22 Men Over Lunch 12:00pm
 B.L.A.S.T. /Rainbow @ 3:30PM
 7th & 8th Grade Bible Study 3:30pm
 Wee Singers @ 4:30pm
 Youth Group FCC @ 6:15pm

4/23 Quilting @ 9am
 Prayer Circle @ 12:00pm

4/26 Worship @ 9:30am

4/29 Men Over Lunch 12:00pm
 B.L.A.S.T. /Rainbow @ 3:30PM
 7th & 8th Grade Bible Study 3:30pm
 Wee Singers @ 4:30pm
 Youth Group FCC @ 6:15pm

4/30 Quilting @ 9am
 Prayer Circle @ 12:00pm



*Scott *Ed * Jessie * Tia * Mike
* Dan * Holly * Matt * Norma D.
* Dianne *Pam *Ron

DUTY GUIDELINES FOR USHERS

1. Be on duty fifteen minutes before service.
2. If necessary, turn on lights in nave, chancel, and narthex.
3. Make sure guest register is open and working pen is with it.
4. Check bulletin for baptism or special events that may need attention. Check with pastor if you have questions.
5. Stand near the nave doors to distribute bulletins. As needed, usher persons to their pews (e.g., the infirm, new members, etc.) especially as last-minute folks come in and see that the back pews are full. Leave one of the doors open for late comers.
6. Fill out the *Attendance Record*. Leave in the narthex or place in the offering plate.
7. **The Offering**
 - Offering plates will remain at the back (not passed through the pews).
 - Always look at the bulletin to see when the offering should be taken to the front.
 - Receive the offering in the choir loft and narthex, as needed.
 - When the Pastor comes to the altar rail to receive the offering, ushers come forward with one offering plate and leave the other on the table for anyone who might have forgotten to give their offering.
9. **The Communion.**
 - Ushers should open the narthex doors and take their positions in the aisle at the front during the singing of the "Lamb of God", so that members can be directed forward while the pastor communes the assistants.
 - Ushers will move back pew by pew to maintain a steady line of communicants.
 - Inform the pastor if there are persons to be communed in their pew.
10. Tidy the pews after worship. Pick up papers and put hymnals and Bibles in place.

Communion Guidelines

Please come to the sacristy during the singing of the "Holy, Holy, Holy".
(If that is not sung, come during the Offering.)

Wash your hands at the sink.

Decide who will:

- who will serve wine, who will pick up cups (if serving by trays),

During the singing of the "Lamb of God" come to the front and stand at the altar to receive communion.

Leave the emptied trays at the altar. Place the covers on the unused trays remaining on the tables. Exit through the sacristy to take your seat.