



# ZION CHURCH NEWS

BLOW THE TRUMPET IN ZION, DECLARE A HOLY FAST, CALL A SACRED ASSEMBLY. (JOEL 2:15)

## EASTER SERVICES IN 2020

Your health and welfare are of paramount importance to us. All worship services and gatherings for this Easter season have been canceled: the Lenten Luncheon Series, Lenten Pot Luck Supper and Bible Study, Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner, the Easter Flowers Cross, Easter Sunrise Service have all been cancelled for 2020 but will be back better than ever in 2021.

Also canceled—4-H Club meetings, choir rehearsals, Dinner Theater rehearsals and performance, Celebrate Recovery meetings, and all other groups that use Zion’s building. The consistory will not be meeting in April.

Soup Kitchen is still operating with one change—all meals will be served on Tuesdays at 5 pm but will be carry-out only. Volunteers are still welcomed for this service to our community.

Micah’s Backpack is still a vital activity. We are working in cooperation with the Washington County Public Schools Meal Machine program so the kids we serve will not be going without food for the weekends.

**Easter Sunday** is April 12, 2020. All our friends and members have the option of viewing the sermon and music on our new website [www.ZionReformed.church](http://www.ZionReformed.church). This new website allows video streaming and also has the added feature of a “Giving” button. Donations to Zion Reformed can be sent through this secure website or if you prefer, mailing your donations directly to the church is also secure.

We miss you all and will see you just as soon as it is permissible!



2020 APRIL

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APRIL

### TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Pastor’s Pen
- Parish Nurse Article
- Consistory Meeting Highlights
- 2020 HARC Hike

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Sunday Morning Schedule 2
- Helping Hands 3
- Birthdays & Anniversaries 4
- Treasurer’s Report 5
- Calendar of Events 7
- Just for Kids 11

### ZION REFORMED UCC

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- Phone: 301-739-7244
- [www.ZionReformed.church](http://www.ZionReformed.church)
- Like us on Facebook.

# Pastor's Pen

## Jesus will Break through the Darkness

This has been a difficult time in the life of this community. It seems as if we are weighed down by bad news, and we cannot even gather together in our sanctuary to offer one another support and comfort. We are, my beloved friends, traveling through a dark valley right now, but we have the hope that our Holy Shepherd will lead us to still waters soon. But, as we travel out of Lent and towards Easter, we are assured that we are not alone. Our God is a God of tremendous promises, and our God has shown us time and time again that those promises are always fulfilled. We may be in a dark place right now, but not only does God understand our grief and pain, God has experienced it through the life and death of Jesus.

We, as people of faith, know that the darkness cannot stay in place. The day of crucifixion was the darkest day of all, but it was also a day that changed history. The light that bursts forth from that empty tomb pushes the darkness back. This Easter morning, watch carefully and you will see the light push back. The darkness will roll away

and we will see the first bright rays of new life shining through.

We are facing an unprecedented disaster and the fear and anxiety we experience as a congregation and as individuals will not disappear; we will face the valley of darkness again. But, Easter reminds us that in the light of dawn we have hope. Shortly before his death, the Gospel of John tells us that Jesus promises us: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:1-4). No

matter what we face in our lives, we can live in confidence that Jesus faced the same sorrows. And we can move forward in the confidence that at the moment when the edge of night meets the break of day, Jesus will break through the darkness and lead us home.

~Pastor Katie

The  
people  
stood  
yelling,  
"Crucify!"  
and it breaks our hearts every time.  
For Jesus' death occurs every time someone  
is ignored, mistreated, oppressed.  
"Crucify!"  
tears  
away  
at  
God's  
Beloved

Children's Church  
is held during  
Sunday Morning  
Worship Services



### Sunday Morning Schedule

9:45-10:45 am Day School Classes  
ages 0-3  
10:45-11:45 am for ages 4-18 "Epic Teachings of the Bible"  
Young Adult Bible Study Class  
Rev. Arthur Grove Adult Class  
11:00 am Worship Service

Canceled through May 17, 2020



# Church Happenings

April 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### April 2020

SUN	4/5	<i>PALM SUNDAY</i>	
		Worship Service Streamed	11:00 am
TUE	4/7	Soup Kitchen (Carry-Out Only)	5:15 pm
SUN	4/12	<i>EASTER SUNDAY</i>	
		Worship Service Streamed	11:00 am
TUE	4/14	Soup Kitchen (Carry-Out Only)	5:15 pm
SUN	4/19	Worship Service Streamed	11:00 am
MON	4/20	<i>May Newsletter Deadline</i>	
TUE	4/21	Soup Kitchen (Carry-Out Only)	5:15 pm
SUN	4/26	Worship Service Streamed	11:00 am
TUE	4/28	Soup Kitchen (Carry-Out Only)	5:15 pm

## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

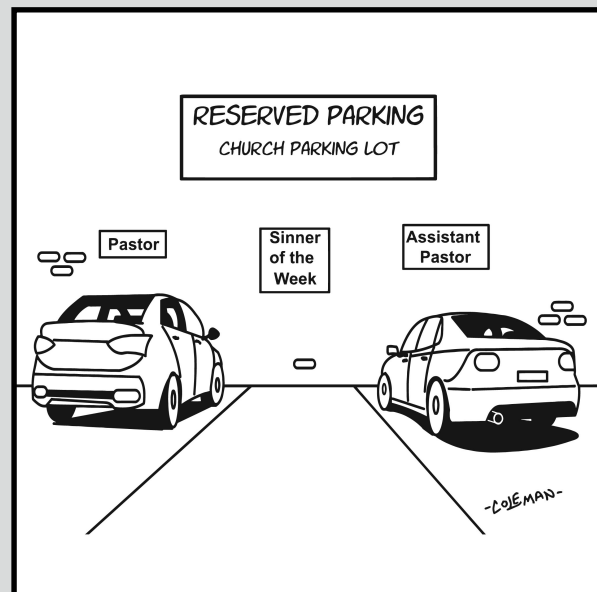
- 4/1 Mike Stoner
- 4/4 Aaron Kelly
- 4/5 Tess Summers
- 4/7 Betsy Roulette
- 4/7 David Rhodes
- 4/9 Randy Hendershot
- 4/10 Lynda Graves
- 4/10 Kim Ridenour
- 4/12 Robert Kefauver
- 4/17 Sally Stewart
- 4/21 Michael Mooers
- 4/21 LoriBeth Martin
- 4/23 Krista Burgan
- 4/24 Kenlin Martin
- 4/26 Burnie Clutz
- 4/28 Mike Heyser

## ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

- 4/9 Julia & Dan Springer
- 4/12 Mary & Robert Kefauver
- 4/28 Sylvia & Dave Ridenour
- 4/30 Alice & Scott Barr

### Never miss a Sunday sermon!

When you can't make it to church you can still watch the sermon on FaceBook. Go to [www.ZionReformed.church](http://www.ZionReformed.church) and click on the link.





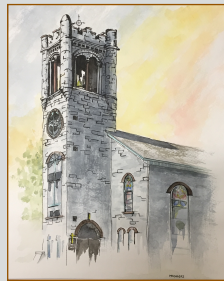
## New Piano Fund Donations Needed

If you are thinking of making a donation to the church to commemorate the 250th anniversary, a piano fund has been set up to receive donations to enhance our music program and recital program for generations to come. Call Susan in the church office Monday through Friday or see the music director for more information.



## Zion Watercolor by Michael Mooers

For a limited time, you can get a print of the watercolor that was presented to Rev. Munroe on his retirement. You will have your choice of prints, matted prints and notecards with envelopes. Prints are signed and numbered, available in the church office.



*Prints for \$25*

*Matted prints for \$40*

*Notecards 5 for \$10*

## Treasurer's Report

<b>MONTHLY FIGURES</b>	<b>March 2020</b>	<b>Year to Date 2020</b>
Income	\$8,269.23	\$14,414.73
Transfer from Special Funds	\$20,000.00	\$60,000.00
Expenses	-27,762.06	-60,171.74
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$507.17</b>	<b>\$14,242.99</b>

## March Consistory Meeting Highlights

The condition of our properties comprised most of the agenda for the meeting. The latest breakdown was the freezer in the closet upstairs. It was replaced by one which was moved from the basement. Work in the cemetery, which will be done by Mosko, should begin in late spring or summer. Estimates to repair sanctuary problems have been very high, between \$180,000 and \$225,000. Masonry and gutters as well as the truss are involved. We need further assessment of this project. Plumbing estimates for the parsonage are being accepted. The consistory voted to winterize the property to save us some money as we ponder its future. It turns out that the city is revising its zoning policies. Changes in zoning may affect how we proceed. Becky has been in contact with the city, hoping to get answers to shed light on our situation.

Showing movies on a regular basis was discussed. The next movie will be "Jesus Christ Superstar" and will be shown on March 15th at 1:15 pm.

Becky Owens has contacted three companies regarding website design. They are: Fellowship One, UCC Everywhere, and Hagerstown Community College. Next month the consistory will brainstorm in the chapel on the subject of developing a new website.

Rev. Penick announced the formation of a committee to coordinate worship and music in our services. Amber Nilson will be the chair of the new committee.

Moving toward Easter, Rae Smith is planning the Seder dinner. Kim Ridenour spoke about decorating the flower cross on April 11th to be followed by dinner at Western Sizzlin. Service Workers will be filling Easter baskets for children at CASA and taking flowers to shut-ins.

-Judy Thompson, Secretary



*Get Ready!!*  
*A Parish Nurse Note April 2020*



It's time---time to get more active and shake off those winter blahs. Warmer weather makes it more appealing to go outside and get moving. Walking is one of the best exercises around and it's free! Just be sure to wear a sturdy pair of shoes. Walking burns calories; the faster you walk and the more difficult the terrain (i.e. going uphill) determine the number of calories you burn. Walking also strengthens your heart and cardiovascular system. Studies also show that diabetics' blood sugar is lower when walking.

Because walking lubricates your joints and strengthens the muscles supporting those joints, you can actually ease joint pain by walking. Your leg muscles will also get toned in the process. Walking improves your balance and strengthens your bones. Both your immune system and your mood get a boost from walking.

Studies have also shown that walking can clear your thoughts and increase your creative thinking, especially if you walk outside. You might even live longer if you are an active walker; walking at an average pace (not slowly) has been shown to reduce your risk of death by 20%! An even faster pace bumps that up to 25%. Just remember to drink plenty of water before and after walking. Be safe and walk in a well lit area; walking with someone else is also a great idea. Wear light colored clothing if you are out in the early morning or in the evening so you are easily visible. And don't forget the sunscreen, even on cloudy days!

Although walking is a great way to exercise, I want everyone to start thinking outside the box about exercise. Beginning next month we will all start a journey of many miles. If walking is not your thing, or you are unable to get out, you're not off the hook! You can still participate in our journey. Anything from organized sports, to gardening, to vacuuming and dusting can be counted toward our goal.

As springs blossoms, so will we. Stay turned for more information and instructions about our journey and its destination. You can even get a head start and walk, walk, walk!



Blessings and Health,  
Barb Hendershot, RN  
Parish Nurse

Sources: [www.mayoclinic.org](http://www.mayoclinic.org)  
[www.healthline.com](http://www.healthline.com)

Join us for the 8th Annual



Saturday  
**June 6, 2020**

On the C&O Canal Towpath  
in Washington County, MD

### Three distances to choose from...



Check-in location for all hikers: **Shepherd's Spring Outdoor Retreat Center**  
16869 Taylors Landing Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21782



*You will be shuttled to your start point on the towpath*

4K (2.5 miles) Check-in: 10:30 a.m. Individuals: \$40; Families: \$65	10K (6.2 miles) Check-in: 9 a.m. Individuals: \$50; Families: \$85	Half-marathon (13 miles) Check-in: 7 a.m. Individuals: \$60; Families: \$105
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- \$10 Early-bird discount if you register by May 17
- Enjoy Snacks & Drink stops along the way
- All hikes conclude at Shepherd's Spring Outdoor Retreat Center
- Post-hike Celebration for all hikers at Shepherd's Spring with food, music & fellowship!
- Photo scavenger hunt for youth & nature scavenger hunt for younger children



Visit [www.harccoalition.org/hike](http://www.harccoalition.org/hike)  
to learn more & to register

or call 301-842-4272 for more information

Online registration open through June 5

*(same-day, in-person registration is permitted)*

For discounted registration  
and guaranteed t-shirt,  
sign up by May 17!

**Want a more challenging hike?**  
Join the HARC Challenge Hike  
on Saturday, May 16, on the  
Appalachian Trail in Pennsylvania.  
Visit [www.harccoalition.org](http://www.harccoalition.org)  
for details!

#### Proceeds benefit HARC & Micah's Backpack

- Micah's Backpack, a program to feed hungry school children on weekends
- Early childhood education and well-being programs
- Support & connection of area congregations







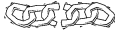





# PUZZLE

## Picturing the Lord's Supper

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples as a symbol of the new covenant.



*Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.*

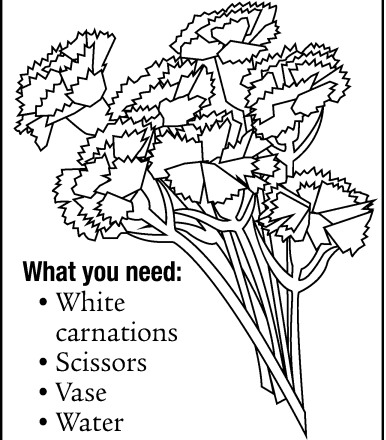
And he took , gave  and  it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my  given for you; do this in  \_\_\_\_\_ of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This  is the new  in my  blood, which is \_\_\_\_\_ out for you."

**LUKE 22:19-20, NIV**

Answer: bread, thanks, broke, body, remembrance, cup, covenant, poured

## Scripture AND NATURE

Conduct a simple experiment to illustrate Easter's meaning.



### What you need:

- White carnations
- Scissors
- Vase
- Water
- Red food coloring
- Bible

### What you do:

1. Cut the carnation stems (at an angle) to about 8 inches long.
2. Fill the vase halfway with water. Add 10 drops of food coloring. (More may be needed to darken the water.)
3. Add the cut flowers and observe what happens to the petals over time.
4. Discuss how this is like Jesus' work on the cross. Read 1 Peter 2:22-24 (NIV) and reflect on what his death means for us.
5. To learn more about this experiment, research capillary action.

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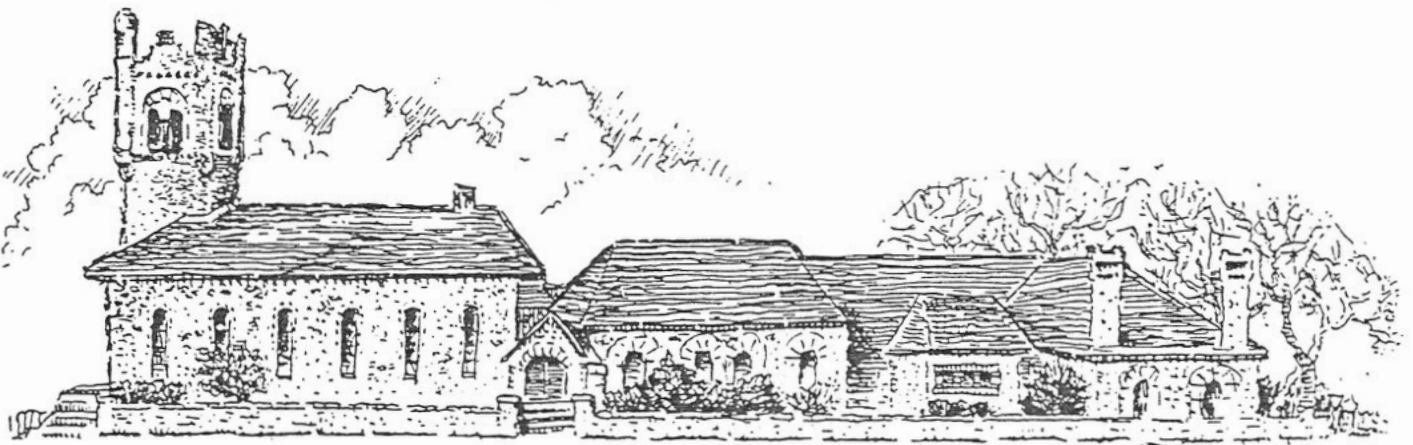
Interim Minister: Rev. Katie Penick (240)418-8028. Church Administrator: Susan Younkins. Music Director/Organist: Claire Marie Moblard. Adult Choir Director: Byron L. Stay. Treasurer: Lisa Saum. Special Funds Treasurer: Carol Mooers. Parish Nurse: Barb Hendershot..

Consistory Elders: Carol Mooers, Becky Owens-President, Kim Ridenour, Carroll Sager, Kent Shaffer.

Consistory Deacons: Burnie Clutz-Vice-President, Dee Krause, Daisy Schlotterbeck, Felicity Shafer, Rae Smith, Judy Thompson-Secretary.



ZION REFORMED UCC  
201 North Potomac Street  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ