



The Voice of Zion

April 1, 2018

A MEMBER CHURCH OF LUTHERAN
CONGREGATIONS
IN MISSION FOR CHRIST (LCMC)

PASTOR GREG KNIPPA, pastork7354@hotmail.com,
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Church Office: (830) 538-6335 ■ office@zion-castroville.org

www.zion-castroville.org

*Our Mission: We unite to bear witness to
and receive God's love through Jesus Christ,
by worship, fellowship, education, and
service*

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am -2:00 pm

Sunday School for All Ages: Sunday 8:45 – 9:30 am

Sunday Fellowship at 9:30 am

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Tuesday: Ladies Community Bible Study: 7:00 pm

MOPS: 2nd Tuesday of each month -6:30 pm

Quilters: Each Wed. at 1:00 pm



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



April 1, 2018

Members and Friends;

Spring flowers are abundant, we had a nice rain, crops are coming up. Christ has Risen and God is everywhere!! What a blessing for us all.

Thank you for all your efforts to continue to help Zion to grow. It takes everyone working and praying together to keep us strong in today's challenging world in which we live. Daily prayer should never be underestimated.

We will be welcoming new members soon. If you can, stay for the fellowship and get to know the new members and get reacquainted with the long -standing members.

Blessings,

Judy Newman

jbeloat@swbell.net

(210) 416-2286



Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes 11 March 2018

Attending: Scott Hunsicker, Judy Newman, Pastor Greg Knippa, Wayne Benke, Jackie Moss, Jacob Schuetz, Richard Crain, Chris Filline, Chuck Hart

Absent: Dewayne Boyles

- I. **Opening Prayer** – Pastor Greg Knippa
- II. **Election of Officers** – Richard Crain was elected to the position of Council Vice-president, Jackie Moss will remain as Treasurer, Chuck Hart will continue as Council Secretary
- III. **Minutes** – Having completed review of the minutes from the January and February council meetings Chris Filline motion to accept the minutes, second by Jacob Schuetz, the motion carried.

IV. **Treasurer's Report** – Jackie reviewed the report that was included in the meeting packet. Things are tracking well to budget. Motion by Chuck Hart to approve the report as submitted, second by Chris Filline, the motion carried

V. **Pastor Greg's Report** – Pastor Greg will be attending the Hwy 90 LCMC Pastors Cluster in Sabinal; soliciting delegates/attendees to the LCMC District Gathering in New Braunfels in July; will accept 13 (and counting) new members on April 15; touched on the Goals for 2018 and Zion's Theme for 2018 to keep everyone focused on what we need to be working toward.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Altar Guild – going well
- b. Camp Gladiator – starts next week
- c. Christian Education
 - i. Confirmation – possibly 1 student when the class starts up in the fall
- d. M.O.P.S. – continuing to go very well and growing
- e. Property – a new thermostat was installed in the Fellowship Hall, the cross hedge in front of the church has been treated, fed, and watered

VII. Old Business

- a. Michael Eichman presented information to the council regarding the development of the church's web-site; Suzanne Feliciano has content for Michael that will populate the Ministries section of the web-site.
- b. Wayne Benke will contact Wayne Rogers about seal coating the parking area on the Youth Building side of London Street. This was work that was planned and budgeted but delayed due to water main replacement by City of Castroville. Water main work is complete.

VIII. New Business

- a. Family Heritage – tabled, no action taken
- b. Internet Service for the Church Office – lengthy discussion on the subject; Jacob Schuetz and Chuck Hart will develop a solution for council approval.

c. Usher Responsibilities – a "SOP" for ushers was included in the meeting packet, reviewed and discussed. A time for training assistant ushers will take place in a couple of weeks, to occur during the social time before a Sunday service.

d. Medina Senior Center/Zion Agreement – council has reviewed the agreement and many questions remain; Jackie Moss and Chris Filline will follow up with the center representative to address the concerns of the church.

e. Ministries Sunday / Time and Talent – we will be holding another Ministries Sunday to provide time for members to meet and talk with those heading up a ministry(ies) at Zion so they can learn more about each and hopefully get involve with one or more of them. The previous Ministries Sunday was very effective getting folks involved. Also discussed possibly using "Time and Talent" sheets again, no specific action taken.

f. A new auxiliary building for the parsonage has been purchased and needs to be installed. Pastor Greg's sons will set it up but it needs a pad to sit on. Wayne Benke will look into getting what is needed.

g. Narthex update – Richard Crain and Chuck Hart reviewed possible improvements in the Narthex area of the church with the council members; Richard and Chuck will put together a list of items, or projects together with costs for consideration by council.

IX. Ushers

- a. April – Judy Newman
- b. May – Chris Filline

X. Next Meeting

- a. Sunday, April 8th
- b. Opening prayer – Chuck Hart

XI. **Close with the Lord's Prayer** – the meeting ended with council saying the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Hart, Council Secretary



**Treasurer Report for
Zion Lutheran Church**

Greetings,

For February Zion Lutheran Church has a net income \$1,927.11. The monthly expenses were normal. There was nothing unusual for February. Praise God!!

<u>Date</u>	<u>February 2018</u>	<u>Year to</u>
Total Income	\$ 13,718.30	\$ 28,313.12
Total Expenses	<u>11,791.19</u>	<u>58,612.36</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ 1,927.11</u>	<u>\$(30,299.24)</u>

I am very proud to be a part of Zion and pray that God continues to use and bless Zion in His work.

Blessings,
Jackie Moss
Treasurer

From Pastor Greg's Desk:

Why Do Christians Celebrate Jesus' Ascension?

Most people know about the Christian holy days of Christmas, Good Friday, and Easter. But what's Ascension Day? In France it's a civil holiday. In Germany it's called Himmelfahrt (roughly translated, "heaven bound"). And yet, Castroville has seen no Ascension Day parade. Wal Mart wasn't overrun by Ascension Day sales. Nowadays Jesus' ascension is largely ignored or forgotten.

However, since the first century Jesus' ascension is a joyous day, concluding the Easter season. It's no day for moping about like Eeyore, "Oh bother. Jesus is gone. Now I'm all alone." Rather, Jesus' ascension is good news for you.

But what exactly happened at Jesus' ascension? Was it like Buzz Lightyear blasting off? "To infinity and beyond!" Did Jesus leap tall clouds in a single bound? According to the New Testament the historical account is much less theatrical. The gospel of Luke simply says, "He parted from the disciples and was carried up into heaven."

So, where did Jesus go? Is he playing hide-and-seek? Can you find him on your smart-phone GPS? Not likely. The New Testament says Jesus ascended to God's right hand. It's not a location. It's a position of power. Having conquered your sin and death, he sits at the right hand of God as a gracious king. Risen and ascended, Jesus benevolently reigns over you and all creation in peace and mercy.

Think of Jesus' ascension like a welcome home party. Jesus, who was born in a lonely feeding trough, died alone on the cross, and was buried in a borrowed tomb, now returns to his heavenly throne. But Jesus doesn't return to heaven empty handed. Where Jesus goes you go.

God became man to rescue humanity and bring mankind back to God. He takes our humanity with him into heaven, scars and all. Think about that next time you have a bad day, read depressing news, or when loved ones are sick or dying. The same Jesus who suffered and died for you now sits on the throne of heaven for you. He knows your sorrows, illnesses, fears, doubts, and pain because He experienced all of them for you. By his ascension, Jesus also lives forever as your Great High Priest. He prays for you even as he lived, died, rose, and ascended for you. Jesus' ascension is good news for you.

Jesus is not gone. His ascension brings heaven near to you in His Word and Sacraments. That's where Jesus promises to be for you. Jesus is ascended and will return one day. Until then, he is with you always. Happy Ascension Day!

Your shepherd in Christ,
Pastor Greg

Welcome to New Members

We will host a Meet 'n Greet on Sunday, April 15th, following the morning worship service, to welcome new members into the congregation at Zion.



(Typically, the services are on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.)

Mark Your Calendars

VBS will be July 9-13 this year. Join us for *Space Station Salvation*.



Sunday Bible Study

Our study continues of the book entitled, "Spiritual Discipleship – Principles of Following Christ for Every Believer." Please join us as Pastor Greg facilitates the study and discussion. Join as we explore God's Word for us today.

Zion Lay Ministry

Women of the Word and Prayer Chain Coordinator: Linda Plante

Altar Guild: Carol Mangold, Cheri Boucher, Diane Hibbs, Frances Bippert

Quilters: Flo Balmer, Fran Bippert, Ruth Felty, Jane Scheffler, Diane Perreault, Karen Balmer, Esther Thomas, Suzanna Feliciano

Prayer Blanket Stitchers: Flo Balmer, Cheri Boucher, Emilie Stege, Mary Day, Lahoma McDaniel

Sunday School: Children – Pat Davila, Danae Kohlleppel, Youth – Emily Bippert; Young Adult – Rod Moss; Adult – Carol Mangold

MOPS – Jana Urbanczyk

Garden Granny: Marcia Hart

Music Director: Pete Martinez



Pastor Greg's Medina Valley Nursing Home Service Schedule:

Apr. 12, 2018 – 10:30 am Worship and Holy Communion

Apr. 26, 2018 – 10:30 am Worship and Holy Communion



Flowers

- Apr. 1 Dorothy Jean Breeze
In memory of her father, Theo R. Wurzbach
- Apr. 8 Grace Klump, Cheryl & Nathan Griggs
In memory of Dick Klump & W.R. Griggs
- Apr. 15 Bryan, Kim and Kayla Dietrich
In memory of loved ones
Lahoma McDaniel
In memory of her loving husband
- Apr. 22 Millard and Inell Schuchart
In memory of Loved ones
Judy and Richard Crain
In memory of Erma Hansen
- Apr. 29 Bob Chester and Family
In memory of James and Myrtle Chester



- April 1 Ian Vonderharr
- April 8 Ian Vonderharr
- April 15 Ian Vonderharr
- April 22 Ian Vonderharr
- April 29 Ian Vonderharr

- Frances Bippert
- Jackie Moss
- Adam Knippa
- Frances Bippert
- Diane Hibbs



April Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4/03 Laura Denman | 4/05 Marjorie Krause |
| 4/08 Roy Lee Bippert | 4/10 Nathan Stinson |
| 4/12 Zachary Feltner | 4/12 Lynda Filline |
| 4/18 Christina Burges | 4/18 Chrissi Flanagan |
| 4/18 Floyd Santleben, Jr. | 4/19 Sara Flanagan |
| 4/20 Janet Armstrong | 4/20 Caryn Swenson |
| 4/20 Ian Vonderharr | 4/21 Florence Balmer |
| 4/22 Vera Steubing | 4/23 Lee Ann Hart |
| 4/24 Dorsey Krause III | |
| 4/26 Christopher Manire | 4/27 Byron Krause |
| 4/27 Bill Burges | 4/27 Eileen Merryman |
| 4/29 Troy Klump | 4/30 Marvin Kriewald |



Please Remember in Prayer:

Zion Lutheran Church Prayer Request

Please pray for rain for all areas of Texas in need, and employment for those who seek work.

Please pray for our members, friends and neighbors in public and military service: Sarah Bippert, Joshua Bradley, Jeff Burges, Mikela Cotham, Aaron Grigsby, Cody Haegelin; Sam Heath, Katie Johnson, Dorsey Krause III, Matthew Krause, Ryan Sprauer, Nathan Stinson, Paul Stinson, Pat Sheehan and Garrett Wurzbach.

Please remember in prayer our members and friends in nursing homes and hospitals: Harvey Kunze, S.P. Martinez, Alvin Santleben; Floyd Santleben, and Catherine Tschirhart.

Please lift up our homebound members in prayer: Bonnie Stein and Stan and Addie Smith.

Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured: Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured: Irene Bendele; Prayers of thanksgiving for Emma DeAttley; Jimmy Henry; Mandy Seay Machen & Family; Alvin Santleben.

*******Deadline For Bulletin Items*******

Thursday, 10:00 am



Senior luncheon every third Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm at the VFW Auxiliary in La Coste

All seniors welcome



***Pastor Greg's
Corny Corner***



"Don't worry. I'm a church pastor. First little problem, and they'll find me."

Congregation's Easter Lilies

Donated by:

Gaye & Donald Belcher
Emily Bippert
Bill & Frances Bippert
Richard & Judy Crain
Pat Davila & Family

Suzanna Feliciano
Nathan & Cheryl Griggs
Diane Hibbs
Myra & Scott Hunsicker
Nancy & Earl Jonas
Patrick & Ivania Kahn
Rev. Greg & Alicia Knippa,
Adam & Andrew
Eddie & Dortha McDaniel
Lahoma McDaniel
Carol & Dickie Mangold
Becky Melton
Pete & Bobbie Martinez
Eileen & John Merryman
Jackie & Rod Moss
Wayne & Judy Newman

Tom & Jacque Page
Karen Poissonnier
Kenneth & Clara Ricks
Irene Robbins
Evelyn Smith
Kathy & Mark Smith
Anthony & Suzanne Stinson
Hilton & Cindy Stinson
Jim Warnke

In Honor/Memory of

Nelson Bippert & Wendell Griggs
Loved Ones
Our Parents
Irene Crain
Alfred & Violet Wolfshohl
Elias, Oscar & David Davila
My Parents, Elsa & Conrado Maldonado
Gloria Martinez

Joyce Ferguson & Doris Hunsicker
Colby Jonas & Mr. & Mrs. O.J. Steubing
Michael Kahn
Alfred & Mary Knippa, Alice Richter

Our Parents
My Loving Husband
Glory of God
Joseph & Martha Bippert

Loved Ones

Dayton & Faye Mayo
Allen & Eva Sanderlin
Glory of God
Joan Dike
Loved Ones
Erna Day
Loved Ones
Jerri Smith & Joe Smith

R.Q. & Edith Stinson
Loved Ones



Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth

Fools for Christ

The number one reason why Christians do not share their faith is fear. More than any other reason that we give for not telling others about Jesus is fear of rejection, fear of messing up, fear of being asked questions we don't know the answer to, etc. In short, we can say that we are afraid of making fools of ourselves!

This month we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ on April Fools' Day for the first time in 62 years! While much has been written and said about Jesus making a fool of sin, death, and the devil in his rising from the dead, I wanted to take a few moments and reflect on our foolishness instead.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 1 that "the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." In other words, we shouldn't be surprised that some who hear the Good News about Jesus will see it as foolishness. And this also should not deter us from sharing the Gospel, but simply prepare us for how we may be received.

Paul goes on to write that "God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe." Paul's words should give us courage to face our fears and not worry about whether we look foolish in the eyes of those we reach out to. We may be rejected, but we shake off the dust. We may be ridiculed, but we know that we are counted as blessed. We may be asked tough questions, but we answer honestly: "I don't know - let's see if we can figure that out together." We may even feel like we mess up, but we know that God is with us, the Holy Spirit is empowering us, and that God promises that his word will always accomplish its purpose.

So be bold and brave and share the love of God with someone God has put in your life to enjoy and befriend. For we are reminded that being a fool for Christ is a good thing and it's not foolishness at all. For if we are never willing to risk some embarrassment for Jesus' sake, we will never receive the reward of the joy of salvation coming to the one who hears and believes.

Jesus looked like a fool for dying on the cross. What kind of King does that? The kind that loves us so much that he was faithful even to death to accomplish his Father's plan of salvation, so that death can be conquered, and the joke be on the devil! And it would be foolish of us to NOT share this Good News!

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for the LCMC Texas District. Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Feel free to contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org. Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/lcmctexas

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April 2018

Zion Lutheran Church

For more information call the office at 830-538-6335, Church Office Hours: 9-2 T-F
 For an emergency, please call Bill Bippert at 830-931-4397 or Janice Hodgson at 210-859-1954
 Pastor Greg Knippa 254-718-9276 email: pastork7354@hotmail.com www.zion-castroville.org

April 2018

<p>Sunday 1 Easter 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am Worship</p>	<p>Monday 2 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator</p>	<p>Tuesday 3 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>Wednesday 4 5 am Camp Gladiator 1 pm Quilters 5:15 & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>Thursday 5 7 am BSA Breakfast 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Boy Scouts / Webelos–Youth bldg..</p>	<p>Friday 6 5 am Camp Gladiator</p>	<p>Saturday 7</p>
<p>Sunday 8 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am <i>Council Mtg.</i></p>	<p>Monday 9 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>Tuesday 10 5:30 pm FITEC- FH Mtg.–Fuos House 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>Wednesday 11 5 am Camp Gladiator 1 pm Quilters 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>Thursday 12 10:30 Pastor Greg - Nursing Home 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 6:30 pm MOPS 7:00 pm Boy Scouts / Webelos -Youth building</p>	<p>Friday 13 5 am Camp Gladiator</p>	<p>Saturday 14 <i>MCARC Mtg. 8 am – Noon Fellowship Hall</i></p>
<p>Sunday 15 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am Worship</p>	<p>Monday 16 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>Tuesday 17 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>Wednesday 18 5 am Camp Gladiator 1 pm Quilters 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>Thursday 19 5 am Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Boy Scouts / Webelos - Youth Bldg.</p>	<p>Friday 20 5 am Camp Gladiator</p>	<p>Saturday 21</p>
<p>Sunday 22 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am Worship</p>	<p>Monday 23 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>Tuesday 24 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>Wednesday 25 5 am Camp Gladiator 1:00 pm Quilters 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>Thursday 26 5 am Camp Gladiator 10:30 Pastor Greg - Nursing Home 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Boy Scouts / Webelos-Youth Bldg,</p>	<p>Friday 27 5 am Camp Gladiator</p>	<p>Saturday 28</p>
<p>Sunday 29 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am Worship</p>	<p>Monday 30 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	  				

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Castroville, TX 78009**