

# the herald

NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

APRIL 2025



**ZION**  
LUTHERAN + ANOKA

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### In-Person Worship

5 pm (Sat)  
8, 9 & 11 am (Sun)

### Livestream Worship

9 & 11 am (Sun)

### Cable TV

10 am & 5 pm (Sun)

### Radio Broadcast

106.1 (BOB-FM)  
9:10 am (Sun)

### Scripture Readings

#### April 5-6

John 12:1-8

#### April 12-13

Luke 19:28-40;  
Luke 23:1-49

#### April 19-20

Luke 24:1-12

#### April 26-27

John 20:19-31

## *Holy Week Worship*

Palm Sunday Weekend April 12 & 13

Sat 5 pm; Sun 8, 9 & 11 am

Maundy Thursday April 17

12 noon & 6:30 pm

Good Friday April 18

Family Service 10:30 am in Chapel

Traditional Worship 12 noon & 6:30 pm

## *Easter Worship*

Easter Services April 19 & 20

Sat 5 pm; Sun 8, 9:30 & 11 am

Easter Sunday Radio Broadcast: BOB-FM 9:10 am

Easter Sunday Cable Broadcast: Ch 6, 10 am & 5 pm

Childcare available Easter Sunday at 9:30 & 11 am

LIVESTREAM BROADCASTS:

PALM SUNDAY AT 9 & 11 A.M.

MAUNDY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY AT 6:30 P.M.

EASTER SUNDAY AT 8, 9:30 & 11 A.M.

## a message from your pastors



As we approach the pinnacle of the Christian calendar, Holy Week and Easter, it is essential for us to reflect deeply on the significance of these sacred days. Holy Week is not just a series of events; it is the heart of our faith, the story of God's profound love for humanity, and the ultimate triumph of life over death. This time invites us to examine our lives, our relationship with God, and our understanding of the hope that Easter brings. Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday**, when we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The crowds waved palm branches and shouted "Hosanna!" recognizing Him as the Messiah. However, as the week

progresses, the tone shifts from celebration to sorrow. On **Maundy Thursday**, we remember the Last Supper and Jesus' act of servanthood as He washed the disciples' feet. It is a reminder of Christ's command to love one another as He has loved us. **Good Friday** marks the somber day of Jesus' crucifixion. The significance of this day cannot be overstated. On the cross, Jesus bore the weight of the world's sin, offering Himself as the ultimate sacrifice for humanity's redemption. This moment is one of great sorrow but also profound gratitude. We are reminded that through His suffering, Jesus reconciled us to the Father, making a way for us to experience forgiveness and eternal life. It is a day for Christians to meditate on the depth of God's love and to reflect on the cost of our salvation. After the sorrow of Good Friday, **Easter Sunday** emerges as a day of victory and joy. Easter is the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus, the most glorious event in Christian history. Jesus' resurrection is not just the foundation of our faith but the source of our hope. It demonstrates that death does not have the final word. Through His triumph over the grave, Jesus offers the promise of eternal life. Easter is the ultimate symbol of God's power to renew, restore, and bring life where there was once death.

As we celebrate these moments, let us hold fast to the words of the angel at the empty tomb: "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said" (Matthew 28:6). May we live in the reality of the resurrection every day, shining the light of Christ in a world that desperately needs His hope.

*Pastor Connie*

### Shake the Tree of Faith

By Colleen Nelson

Toddlers think they are so clever, like when they get ready to throw a toy, but get your attention first; you shake your head 'no' and they toss it anyway. Then they run away and hide because to them, it's a game. Sometimes, as God's children we act like this toddler in that, rather than listen to God's guidance, we act in a way that we know, deep down, displeases God. When this happens, it's easier to distance ourselves from God than to seek forgiveness.

"So, he (Jesus) told them this parable, 'What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.'" Luke 15:4-5. We are not told the 'why' behind the lost sheep's dilemma. Maybe he was a loner and lost track of time. Maybe he was hurt and couldn't keep up with the others. But we are privy to what happens next. Counting only 99 sheep the shepherd is absolutely compelled to find the missing sheep and doesn't return to his flock empty handed or empty shouldered, if you may. I can envision a noisy reunion as the 99 sheep in the fold bleated their 'welcome home' message with delight.

There is a quote by Martin Luther that clearly mirrors this parable. He states, "First I shake the whole apple tree, that the ripest might fall. Then I climb the tree and shake each limb, and then each twig, and then I look under each leaf." Our Lord knows exactly where we are on our faith journey. Maybe we are ripe to answer God's call and ready to bring glory to our God in all that we do. But, if we are hiding with shame under a leaf, the Lord will search endlessly to return us to the fold and all God's people will rejoice!

# welcome and worship

## 2024 Foundation Grant Recipient - Wheels of Honor

Zion Foundation actively participates in local charities which are helpful in the community by offering grants to organizations that make a difference. One such group for this past year is Minnesota Wheels of Honor. Founded in 2022, the organization's mission is "Dedicated to honoring the men and women of our Military, Law Enforcement, First Responders and their Families." They do this in a variety of ways including motorcycle rides and events. We are proud to help this noble mission. Submitted by Jamie Gaboury for the Neighborhood Engagement Team (NET).



## Zion Super Sale is Coming - June 5-6

Drop-off days/times will be: Sunday, June 1 from 12-7 p.m.; Monday, June 2 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Tuesday, June 3 from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. The sale runs Thursday, June 5 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday, June 6 from 9 a.m.-12 noon. Friday will be Donation Day. We are always looking for help setting up during the sale AND help cleaning up on Friday after the sale. Contact Pat Stearns [pat.stearns@comcast.net](mailto:pat.stearns@comcast.net) with questions or to sign up to help.

## New Member Breakfast - April 6

If you have become a new member of Zion in the past twelve months (since March of 2024), we invite you to a Welcome Brunch on Sunday, April 6 at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A meal will be served and pastors and congregation leaders will join us. The breakfast will simply be an opportunity for us to get to know you better and enjoy time of fellowship and good food. Please RSVP to Suzanne Gaboury at [sgaboury@zionanoka.org](mailto:sgaboury@zionanoka.org).

## Women of Zion Spring Luncheon - April 26

Women of Zion are pleased to present storyteller Pati Kachel "Ya Sure, I'm a Norvegin Luteran" on Saturday, April 26. There will be a luncheon at 12 noon followed by a program at 1 p.m. Tickets for the luncheon are on sale at the front desk for \$15. Program is free.

## Baptism Class - May 4

If you are expecting, have had a baby or adopting and would like to know more about baptism, there will be a baptism class on Sunday, May 4 at 12 p.m. in the Library. Contact Kristine [kjohnson@zionanoka.org](mailto:kjohnson@zionanoka.org) to register.

## MN Adult and Teen Challenge Choir - May 4

Zion will host the MN Adult and Teen Challenge choir at the 11 a.m. worship service on May 4. The choir has been invited by Zion's Addiction Awareness Ministry (ZAAM) to share their music and testimony as part of a service centered around the theme of recovery. The mission of MN Adult and Teen Challenge is to assist men, women, and teens in gaining freedom from chemical addictions and other life-controlling problems by addressing their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. They offer effective and affordable programs throughout Minnesota with campuses in Minneapolis, Brainerd, Duluth, Mankato, Rochester, and Buffalo. They provide a wide range of treatment and recovery programs such as Outpatient (Telehealth and In-person), Licensed Residential (45-90 days), Long Term Recovery Program (12 months), Teen Residential (6-12 months), and Ongoing Recovery and Alumni Services, enabling them to effectively serve individuals with various addiction issues—from those seeking treatment for the first time to those who have been struggling with addiction for many years. Recovery worship services offer our faith community an environment where everyone can find strength, healing, and encouragement. A freewill offering for MN Adult and Teen Challenge will be taken after the service to support this wonderful ministry.

# welcome and worship

## Cinnamon Roll Sunday - April 27

On Sunday, April 27, Zion youth will be serving fresh-baked cinnamon rolls during coffee hour as a fundraiser for their mission trip to the Boundary Waters this summer. Thanks for supporting this ministry!

## Plant Sale - May 3

Save the date! Zion's annual flowering plant sale will take place on Saturday, May 3 from 8 a.m.-12 noon. Plants (\$35 each) are sold on a first come first served basis. The pre-order form will be available on April 13.

## Noisy Offering for Camp Ministries

Thank you to everyone who brought in their Noisy Offering in March! We gathered \$501 which will go toward our camp ministries. The next weekend our Noisy Offering buckets will be out is April 5 & 6. We will also have a bucket at the Welcome desk if you would like to drop off your Noisy Offering during our normal office hours.

## Unbroken: A Living Faith



### Lenten Mid-Week

April 2: "God compels creation toward mercy."

April 9: "God delights in our goodness and judges sin."

### Holy Week

April 12-13 Palm/Passion Sunday  
Weekend: "God Loves Us Eternally."

April 17 Maundy Thursday: "God Meets Us in Bread and Wine."

April 18 Good Friday: Service of Light and Darkness

### Walk Through Holy Week

Join us for *Walk Through Holy Week*, a family event for all ages! You'll explore Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday by visiting stations filled with art, activities and FUN! Join us in the Fellowship Hall on April 13 at 10 a.m. Contact Ann or Lee if you'd like to help with the event.

### Family Good Friday Worship

Join us on April 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel for age-appropriate storytelling and interactive learning as we explore the story of Good Friday. Geared towards ages 0-5 but older siblings are also welcome! Invite your friends and family!



**Worship in person Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Sundays at 8, 9 & 11 a.m.**

**Livestream on Sundays at 9 & 11 a.m.**

**Cable TV Channel 6 Broadcast Sundays at 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.**

**Radio Broadcast BOB-FM 106.1 Sundays at 9:10 a.m.**

## Roots of Our Faith Small Group Study

*Roots of Our Faith* is a 6-session summary of the confessions of the Lutheran church and an explanation of the main parts of the Augsburg Confession. (For our schedule, we'll be fitting it into a 5-session calendar—see below.) It has been written to help congregants better understand their Lutheran heritage. Each learner copy (\$8) includes a short chapter for readings before each session and a usage guide for leaders that includes ideas and study suggestions for each session. Sign up at the Welcome Desk. Please note that the office will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day, but the rest of the small groups will finish up with their regular Tuesday and Wednesday offerings.

### Roots of Our Faith discusses the following:

Week of Apr 28: What are the Confessions?  
 Week of May 5: The Ten Commandments  
 Week of May 12: The Creed  
 Week of May 19: The Lord's Prayer  
 Week of May 26: Baptism, Confession & the Lord's Supper

### Classes will be offered as follows:

A - Mondays | 1 p.m. | Legacy Room led by Pr Sue  
 B - Tuesdays | 8:45 a.m. | Legacy Room led by Pr Mike  
 C - Wednesdays | 10 a.m. | Legacy Room led by Pr Connie  
 D - Wednesdays | 6 p.m. | TBD led by Pr Mike

## Upcoming Adult Faith Forums

Grab a cup of coffee and join us Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

- April 6: NO ADULT FORUM—New Member Breakfast
- April 13: NO ADULT FORUM—Palm Sunday
- April 20: NO ADULT FORUM—Easter Sunday
- April 27: Hosted by Zion's Creation Care Team. A representative from R Marketplace in Anoka will speak on responsible and sustainable living to minimize our negative effect on God's Creation.

## Zion Pages Book Group - April 28

On April 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the Library, we will be discussing *Beneath a Scarlet Sky: A Novel* by Mark Sullivan. All are welcome to attend.

## Apply Now for Paid Summer Intern Positions

Join a team of young adults who lead Zion Kids Day Camps, and discover your God-Given superpowers! We offer three types of paid positions with differing start dates and compensation levels: Intern 1 (high school juniors and seniors) and Intern 2 (at least 1 year of post high school education) and Lead Intern (returning). You will work approximately 12-30 hours per week, Monday-Thursdays from June 3 through July 25. (The week of July 4 is a scheduled break. Excellent training is provided, with a focus on safety, group leadership skills, organizational communication and faith formation methods for kids of all ages. Our camps are geared to kids Age 3-Grade 5, and families with children under age 5, but the experience also includes working with youth and adult volunteers, and parents. For a complete job description and application go to the Document Center at [www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org) or stop by the front desk. Applications are due April 15. Interviews and hiring decisions will be made quickly after the application deadline. Contact Ann Campbell at (763) 421-4656 or [acampbell@zionanoka.org](mailto:acampbell@zionanoka.org) with questions.



## Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry

Since 2022, Zion's children and youth have sponsored the education of two children through LPGM. Due to the overwhelming support of our recent coin collection for LPGM's Project: Education India, we have raised enough money to support three children. Donations are accepted throughout the year. Children can also donate during Sunday School or Wednesday evening programming. If you are interested in doing more, consider sponsoring your own child through LPGM at [www.lutheranpartners.org](http://www.lutheranpartners.org).



**Sri Vidhya**  
Age 5



**Srimathi**  
Age 9



**Dinesh**  
Age 11

## Summer Stretch

Zion is partnering with Grace Lutheran in Andover and Lord of Life in Ramsey for Summer Stretch! Students who have completed 4-8th grade are invited to join us on Thursdays during the summer for service projects and recreational activities in the area. Register for all six Thursdays or just drop in - the choice is yours. Email Katie [kweiland@zionanoka.org](mailto:kweiland@zionanoka.org) for more information.



## High School Coffee & Crafts

Katie is hosting a coffee and crafts event for high schoolers on Sunday, April 6 from 12-1:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. Please use this link to register <https://cutt.ly/ccapril> to place your Caribou coffee order and indicate what kind of crafts you are interested in. Friends are welcome! Registration is REQUIRED for everyone attending.

## Preschool Music and Dance

Join us for a spring session of Preschool Music and Dance! April 9, 16, 23, 30 (Wednesdays) 11:15-11:55 a.m., ages 2-5 with an adult. We'll rock out on ukuleles, have a mini dance class, and sing some silly songs! This class is FREE! Register on Realm at [www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org) under Registration Events.

### Music and Dance



## Register NOW for Kids Summer Camps!

Families and volunteers! It's time to start planning for Zion Kids Camps! Register is open on Realm at [www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org) under Registration Events. Paper copies are available at the front desk.

### "Snorkel!" Family VBS

For families with kids ages 0-5 + siblings  
Sundays, 10-10:50 a.m.  
June 8, 15, 22

### "Snorkel!" VBS for Preschoolers

For kids ages 3-5  
T-TH, 9-11 a.m.  
July 15-17

### "Snorkel!" VBS for Gr. K-5

For kids grades K-5 completed  
M-TH, 9 a.m. - noon  
June 23-26



### Music and Dance Class

For kids ages 2-5 and a caregiver  
Wednesdays, 11:15-11:55 a.m.  
June 11, 18, 25; July 2 & 9

### Sport Camp

For kids grades K-5 completed  
M-TH, 9 a.m.-noon  
July 7-10

### Summer Stretch (see above)

For kids grades 4-8 completed  
Thursdays, all day  
July 10, 17, 24, 31; Aug 7 & 14

# caring for each other

## Recovery Café Anoka County Opens at Zion

Recovery Café Anoka County opens its doors on April 2, 2025 in partnership with Zion Lutheran Church as a recovery support community for those struggling with homelessness, addiction, and other mental health challenges. We are committed to providing a safe healing space. We believe everyone needs to know that they are loved and have gifts to share. We thrive to implement equity, trauma-informed healing, family stability and self-sufficiency.

Due to the opioid epidemic, and the increase of mental health and addiction in our communities we want to bring a loving and safe place where people can support each other and connect as a community. The café will be open on Mondays & Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Our plan is to bring members to the café, located at Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka 1601 S. 4th Ave Anoka MN 55303 where we will be utilizing space to participate in the following free programs:

- Weekly Peer Support Circles
- Hot meals and coffee Free Lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- School of Recovery (Life Skills Courses, Health & Wellness Courses, etc.)
- Sports Activities/Leagues
- Resource Library (housing, job, health, culturally specific materials, etc.)
- Community Outreach

Co-Founder/Executive Director, Sheri Cindrich says, “Healing doesn’t mean the damage never existed, it means the damage no longer controls our lives.”

### **Visitors are welcome and membership is free!**

Anyone interested in joining as a member of Recovery Café Anoka County must:

- Be drug and alcohol free 24 hours before coming on site
- Attend a peer support Recovery Circle weekly
- Empower every member to contribute to the community

Recovery Café Anoka County is an Emerging Member of the Recovery Café Network (RCN). As an RCN Emerging Member, Recovery Café Anoka County joins a learning cohort with other groups starting Recovery Café. Over two years, they receive mentorship, materials, expertise, and facilitated learning experiences. The Recovery Café Network helps them build a foundation of long-term recovery support and change the conversation around addiction, other mental health challenges and homelessness.

The Recovery Café model began in Seattle in 2004 and an increase in requests from groups for guidance to start recovery support centers in their own cities led to the creation of the Recovery Café Network in 2016. The Recovery Café Network ([www.recoverycafenetwork.org](http://www.recoverycafenetwork.org)) uses a social licensing model in its replication efforts and now has over 77 Member sites nationwide, including Recovery Café Anoka County.

# caring for each other

## Encouraging Words Ministry - New Phone Number

Each afternoon, Zion member Greg Bergeron records a phone message of encouragement and hope. Greg writes the scripts himself using *The Message Bible* as a resource. Call **763-506-8109** to hear the **Good News** for **YOU** today!

## From the Zion Addiction and Awareness Ministry (ZAAM)

During the month of May, Zion will host a photo gallery of the works of John Noltner. John is an artist, author, and gatherer of stories about relationships, life, love, hope and peace as well as a 2023 Zion Foundation Grant recipient. In 2020, he and his wife Karen sold their home and traveled 93,000 miles over 900 days gathering photos and stories of hope, healing and transformation. The photos begin to tell the story of his work, *A Peace of My Mind*. John truly has a gift to help recover our insight to relationships, hopes and peace. He takes each moment and uses it for growth on the road to understanding. To learn more visit [www.APOMM.org](http://www.APOMM.org).

## From the Rachel Circle - Alexandra House

**Alexandra House** is a non-profit located in Blaine that provides domestic, sexual and relationship violence services to women, men, youth and families across the state of Minnesota. It is the only 24 hour emergency shelter in Anoka County. **65% of domestic violence survivors** have a pet and nearly half of the victims stay in abusive situations rather than leave their pet behind. Many abusers threaten to injure or kill a pet as a means of control. **As of January 13**, Alexandra House opened Linus' Pet Haven as part of the services they offer. They can now house up to 6 pets with indoor and outdoor spaces. As this new program expands, their need for support will be both immediate and ongoing. **To donate** go to <https://www.alexandrahouse.org/>, click on the magnifying glass and enter Linus' Pet Haven in the search bar. In the drop-down menu select Linus' Pet Haven and scroll to the bottom. From there you can select "Make A Donation" or "View Amazon Wishlist". Orders from Amazon can be delivered directly to Alexandra House (10065 Third Street NE, Blaine, MN 55434). Donations are tax deductible.

## Thank You Recent Zion Radio Broadcast Donors

Thank you to our recent Radio Broadcast Fund donors:

Lee & Barb Thompson  
Elaine Isaacson  
Margaret Steinbring  
David & Cindy Jones  
Lyle & Marlene Willock  
Dianne Carlson  
Chuck Wallace

Sue Dehnicke  
Kristine Johnson  
Lois Peterson  
Craig Bakken

Larry & Kathy Nelson in memory of Mark Braaten  
Dave & Barb Loe in memory of Dee Berg, Joanne Nelson and Mark Braaten  
Carol Mann in honor of grandchildren Sadie, Noah, Cody, Sarah & Alex

# about our people

### Baptisms

March 12 - Archer Naegele  
March 15 - Maverick Tufenk

### Deaths

Jennifer Lejcher  
Pat Quade  
Arnie Entzel

### New Members

Laurel Dresel; Jennifer  
Clarkson; Jamie, Jennifer,  
Maverick & Landon Hill

### New Members

Adam, Arianne & Estelle  
Bartels; June Lydeen



# easter garden

Help decorate Zion’s Sanctuary by donating to the Easter Garden in memory or in honor of someone special. Memorials are \$20 each. To order, fill out the coupon below and mail it back with your payment or pick up an envelope at the front desk. Envelopes must be returned by Wednesday, April 9.



Given By: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

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# caring for our world and each other

## Upcoming Equity Umbrella Team Meetings

All those who are interested are invited to attend these meeting.

- Creation Care Team | Tuesday, April 1 | 6:30 p.m. | Fireside Room
- Social Justice Team | Thursday, April 3 | 6 p.m. | Legacy Room
- Neighborhood Engagement Team (NET) | Tuesday, April 8 | 6 p.m. | Fellowship Hall
- Zion Addiction Awareness Ministry (ZAAM) | Tuesday, April 22 | 6:30 p.m. | Library

## From Zion's Creation Care Team - Save the Date!

The Creation Care Team is hosting various activities throughout the church on the morning of Sunday, April 27. Prepare to learn, converse, and take small actions to show respect for God's beautiful Creation. Activities include:

- Children's Ministry will plant seeds to take home, watch sprout and hopefully transfer outside into a flower pot to benefit pollinators and people throughout the summer.
- Zion members can make reusable name tags. This small gesture will reduce waste at Zion and save money. Watch for more "making" opportunities scheduled throughout the spring, summer and fall.
- That morning's Adult Forum will host Michelle from R Marketplace in Anoka to speak on her passion of responsible and sustainable living to minimize our negative effect on God's Creation.
- A "Trees of the Bible" word find puzzle, created by a Creation Care Team member, will be available at the Cornerstone Café. What a fun activity to do with your table mate friends!
- A brochure table will be available with a list of sustainable and eco-friendly organizations and opportunities in our community to investigate and support.
- A limited number of free bare-root native trees/shrubs will be given away. The trees/shrubs include: Black Cherry, Elderberry, Hazelnut, Highbush Cranberry, Juneberry, Oak (mixed), and Sugar Maple. A blessing of the trees/shrubs will take place before the 8 a.m. worship service.



1601 4th Avenue  
Anoka MN 55303

**ZION**  
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

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**PAID**  
TWIN CITIES, MN  
PERMIT NO. 4190

A WELCOMING FAITH COMMUNITY.  
GROWING. CARING. SERVING.

## news from Zion Pre-K



We visited with Mary Jo Gothmann, our organist and heard the sounds an organ makes. We enjoy new experiences and learning more about our church.



### WELCOME

You are invited, you are welcome to come and experience God's love at Zion Lutheran Church.

### CONTACT US

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[www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org)