



*For the Members and Friends of  
Zion Lutheran Church  
April 2020*

## *The* Long Valley Lutheran

**Zion Lutheran Church, 11 Schooley's Mountain Rd., Long Valley, NJ 07853**  
**phone:** (908) 876-3547; **e-mail:** zionlongvalley@gmail.com; **website:** www.zionlongvalley.org

*We are living in trying times.*

*We're worried about catching a horrible virus.*

*We're even more worried about carrying it to others without knowing it.*

*We don't know how long this will last, nor what our personal or global financial situation will be.*

In this time of anxiety and ambiguity, I'd like to share the advice of **Martin Luther** when the "Bubonic plague" returned to *Wittenberg, Germany* and many people were terrified and began to flee the city. A pastor asked Luther his opinion and so he wrote the pamphlet "*Whether one may flee from a deadly plague.*" In it, he emphasized the duty to care for the neighbor and especially the vulnerable, the responsibility of government to protect and help its citizens, a caution about recklessness, and the importance of science, medicine and common sense. To provide care for the neighbor, Luther recommended that pastors, those in public office, doctors and public servants should remain in the city and Luther practiced what he preached.

Against the overwhelming fear of death, Luther counseled that Christ's resurrection can make all Christians fearless in the face of the grave. Also, that Christians shouldn't fear ministering directly to the dying for in the end, caring for the sick is like caring for Christ. Jesus said, "*I was sick, and you cared for me*". On the other hand, Luther warned against the over-confident who underestimated the seriousness of the plague and condemned recklessness.

*Finally*, Luther also reminded his people that we should trust God's faithfulness and promises, particularly the promise of the resurrection and eternal life.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us trust and hope in God – who is tirelessly working through so many people for our health and well-being. Let us cast our fears, anxieties, doubts, and resentment onto him. God desperately yearns to comfort you and me during these very trying days, and he uses all of us to convey this message to each other.

*Pastor Ingrid Wengert*

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.  
Long Valley, NJ 07853

Tel: (908) 876-3547

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Website: [zionlongvalley.org](http://zionlongvalley.org)



Like us on Facebook at  
"Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley"

Pastor: Pastor Ingrid Wengert

Cell: (215) 692-2091

Email: [Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com](mailto:Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Laura Hamilton

Minister of Music: Marilyn Hibler

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES (On Hold)**

Summer: 9:00 AM

September – May: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday School: 9:00 AM

Adult Forum: 9:15 AM

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS (On Hold)**

Monday - Thursday 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Closed Fridays

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS/OFFICERS:**

President: Judy Bumpus

Vice President: Martina Frommeyer

Secretary: Cathleen Sullivan

Finance: Larry Salvatore

**Members:**

Harry Bullock

Burt Horner

Jim Rasmussen

Becky Rasmussen

Candice Snyder

**LONG VALLEY CHRISTIAN  
NURSERY SCHOOL**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.

Long Valley, NJ 07853

Tel: (908) 876-4115

Fax: (908) 876-4959

E-Mail: [info@longvalleychristian.com](mailto:info@longvalleychristian.com)

Website: [longvalleychristian.com](http://longvalleychristian.com)

LVCNS Director..... Meghan Bridge  
Bus. Administrator.....JoAnn McElwaine

**Office Hours**

We will discontinue office hours to slow the spread of COVID-19 and yet continue to work out of the office as it makes sense. Please contact either of us if you wish to make an appointment to meet or talk:

**Parish Secretary Laura**

available by phone or email during normal office hours

**M-Th from 9:30AM to 3 PM).**

(908) 876-3547 or [zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com)

Pastor Ingrid

(215) 692-2091 or [ingridfathwengert@gmail.com](mailto:ingridfathwengert@gmail.com)

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The deadline for the **May** Newsletter is **Sunday, April 19th**. Articles may be sent to the church office via email at [zionlongvalley@gmail.com](mailto:zionlongvalley@gmail.com), or left in Laura Hamilton's mail box in the Parish Center.

**Your prompt attention to the deadline is greatly appreciated!**



## WORSHIP IN APRIL...

Well the season of Lent did not unfold as we anticipated to say the least! We continue to adapt to changing conditions as necessary to do our part to help control the spread of the Covid-19 (Corona virus) by holding virtual worship services, and will do so now through Holy week and the end of April.

We hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to worship with us on-line. We will use special bulletins for the on-line services. The bulletins, readings and music are located under the “*worship*” tab on our website. We will conduct virtual worship services as follows:

### **Palm Sunday, April 5th at 9 AM**

*\*Palms have arrived!* We invite all who want some to drive by and pick a few up outside the doors at *Faith Hall*. Also in the bin are instructions on how to make “*Palm crosses*”, an activity the big kids and little kids alike will enjoy.

**\*Idea:** What if, on the morning on **Sunday, April 5**, everyone puts a branch on the door of their house or on the window, to celebrate Palm Sunday? It could be any green branch you can find. This would help, despite the social distancing, to be connected as we enter Holy Week!

**Maundy Thursday, April 9th** - a video will be available on Facebook by **6 PM**

**Good Friday, Tenebrae—Service of Shadows, April 10th at 7:30 PM**

**Easter Sunday, April 12th at 9AM**

*Use the following links to access our on-line services:*

\*Directly through Facebook (even if you are not a Facebook user) by following the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchOfLongValleyNj/?ref=bookmarks>

\*From by following the link: <https://zionlongvalley.org>

We do appreciate constructive feedback from those who participate!



*This is the 4<sup>th</sup> in a twelve-part series of articles counting down the “Top twelve reasons why worship at Zion is out of this world”*

### **#9 Every Sunday is Easter**

The first followers of Jesus, like their ancestors through the centuries, worshipped God on the Sabbath, that is, on Saturday - the “*seventh day*” - which God blessed and hallowed because “*on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation*”.

So why don’t we follow the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment “Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy?” Because of Easter.

Christians have been coming together to worship on Sunday since that first Easter morn when the women went to find that Jesus had been raised. From that time, Christians have gathered on the day *after* the Sabbath day, the first day of the week. It is the day of resurrection, the completion of creation, the *eighth day of creation*, to use some ancient names for it. Easter so shapes our identity as Christians, that we boldly worship on Sunday and not on the Sabbath.

Not only that, but every Sunday is a little Easter. We gather on the resurrection day and sing “*This is the Feast of Victory for Our God*” along with other hymns and songs that proclaim Christ’s resurrection. Even the church calendar is shaped by the understanding that every Sunday is Easter.

We gather on Sunday because of the resurrection, and so every Sunday becomes for us a little Easter. Whether we say it aloud or not, every Sunday is a celebration of that ancient Easter proclamation “*Christ is risen!*” “*He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!*”

*Pastor Ingrid Wengert*

### Scheduled Worship Readings for April

<u>Worship Date</u>	<u>Old and New Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
April 5	Philippians 2:5-11	Psalm 31:9-16	Matthew 27:11-54
April 12	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Matthew 28:1-10
April 19	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Psalm 16	John 20:19-31
April 26	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	Luke 24:13-35



## Note from Congregation President

The congregation council met on **March 31st** and decided to cancel all church events for the month of **April**. The church will also be closed to community groups in April. It is particularly sad to have to cancel the events surrounding Holy Week and Easter – events many of us treasure and which typically bring visitors to our church as we celebrate Christ’s great love for us in his death and resurrection.

But this year, we are called to celebrate in a different way. The love shown us in Christ’s death and resurrection are no less real, but the ways we share and celebrate that love will look different this year. As Pastor Ingrid stated, services will be live-streamed, so we can see our familiar church sanctuary and our pastor. In addition, home traditions may come to the fore. Perhaps you will decorate Easter eggs - the symbolism of the tomb- like egg with new life within. Maybe you have a traditional Easter food you will make – which may have a symbolic component. However you celebrate, I hope it will be rich with both meaning and joy.

If you have ideas or suggestions for how we as a church family can support one another or make the experience of worshipping together- but apart- more meaningful, please contact me (908-684-0391 [judy@bump.us](mailto:judy@bump.us)) or any member of the congregation council. Our next regularly scheduled meeting of the congregation council is **Tuesday, April 21 at 6:15 PM** (*please note the change of time*). The council will again be meeting via video conferencing technology.

I wish you a joyous Easter even in the midst of the pandemic, for we know that Christ is risen. He is risen indeed!

*Judy Bumpus*



Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, the Presiding Bishop of the *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)* has disseminated a message in response to the fight against the COVID-19.

## Council Babysitting Evening to be Rescheduled

The babysitting evening, which was originally scheduled for **April 18th**, will have to be moved to another date as we will still be socially distancing throughout **April**. We will announce a new date when it is safe to gather together again. We want all of our young families at Zion to know that your church family is here for you. Even though we cannot, at this time, offer parents the chance to have an evening free of childcare, the children an evening to play and get to know one another better, and the council and other church members supervising the opportunity to become better acquainted with our youngest members, we want you all to know that we do want to do those things in the future. For now, please know that your church family is continuing to uphold you in prayer as your normal routines have been disrupted, your social circle has contracted and you juggle with schooling and working from home. If you have ideas about how the church family could support and help you at this time, please contact **Judy Bumpus** (908) 684-0391 or [judy@bump.us](mailto:judy@bump.us), or any member of the congregation council. *Thank you!*

# CHURCH COUNCIL



**Summary financials through the end of February, approved by Zion's Council in March.**

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Total Congregational Giving	<b>18,317</b>	<b>16,114</b>	<b>(2,202)</b>
Total Operating Income	<b>23,015</b>	<b>20,763</b>	<b>(2,252)</b>
Total Operational Expenses	<b>24,841</b>	<b>22,353</b>	<b>2,488</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(LOSS)</b>	<b>(1,825)</b>	<b>(1,589)</b>	<b>(4,740)</b>
<b>Year To Date (Thru Feb 28, 2020)</b>			
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Total Congregational Giving	<b>36,633</b>	<b>32,198</b>	<b>(4,436)</b>
Total Operating Income	<b>46,031</b>	<b>41,496</b>	<b>(4,535)</b>
Total Operational Expenses	<b>50,175</b>	<b>47,395</b>	<b>4,144</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(LOSS)</b>	<b>(6,631)</b>	<b>(783)</b>	<b>399</b>



For questions on financial information, please contact our Treasurer, Larry Salvatore at [larrysal@embarqmail.com](mailto:larrysal@embarqmail.com)

**Finance Committee Update:** Pastor Ingrid has shared many of the changes Zion has implemented as our community, country and world deal with *Covid-19*. We would like to share how some of these things tie back to the Church's finances, and procedures we have implemented to conserve resources:

- 1) Elimination of **ALL** building use as recommended by the NJ state government. *Impact on financials:*
  - a. All thermostats have been set back to reduce heat fuel usage and cost
  - b. Except for safety purposes, all lights have been turned off, and timers adjusted reducing electric consumption
  - c. Cleaning services have been suspended while the buildings are closed. *No Nursery school.* The Nursery school is refunding tuition, or applying to future registrations, based on parent's request. Despite this loss of income, the Nursery school has maintained their giving to the church.

**Congregational Giving:** The results through **February** (*Pre-Covid-19*) indicated giving was slightly lower than budget, but not unusual for the first quarter of the year. **March** results, available 3<sup>rd</sup> week in April, will show the impact of 2 "Virtual" Sundays. With no immediate end in sight to this crisis, we have a few reminders:

- 1) If you or your family are in need, whether spiritual, physical, or financial, please contact **Pastor Ingrid** directly. She can offer the many resources of the church, our community and Synod to help, and keep it as confidential as you wish.
- 2) If you are able to continue your regular giving, please see **page 7** for options to help you do so.



If you are able to continue with your giving during this period of social distancing, the easiest way to do this is through *Simply Giving*. Over 50% of our regular contributions come in this way, and *Simply Giving* now offers the option of giving using a credit or bank card in case you are concerned about having funds transferred from your bank account. *Details are on the Church's website at [zionlongvalley.org](http://zionlongvalley.org).*

If you would rather provide an offering via check, you can mail it to the church office, and it will be counted in the same manner as if it were placed in the offering plate. Please use the personalized offering envelopes inside the mailing envelope. *(Cash not recommended).*



### **GIVEPLUS: A New Mobile App for Online Giving**

Our Simply Giving provider has a new mobile app called **Give Plus** which allows you to make a one time or recurring donation through your phone. This free app can be downloaded either through **Apple's App Store** or **Google's Play Store**. Just do a search for **Give Plus Church** – the app shows the word “Give” and a gold “plus” sign.

There is **no fee** to you for making donations through the app and you can do it either as a guest or set up an account, which will store all your information for future use. If you already use the simply giving program, you will just need to log into your account through the mobile app and you are already set up.

After downloading the app for the first time, you will be prompted to enter the name of the church by either typing in *Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, NJ* or using the “*Find My Church*” feature. If you set-up an account, the next time you sign in, Zion will be shown as your own church.

For new users, you will be asked to enter your email and create a password. You will be prompted to add in your address and bank account information. Under donations you go to “*Give Now*” – and add a new one time or recurring donation. From the menu you can select *general/operating, building, flowers, Easter, etc.*, then select “*frequency*” (one time or recurring) and select the amount. Press “*add*” on the bottom and you are done. You can get a history of your donations and you can make changes or delete a recurring donation at any time. These donations will all be included in your giving statement at the end of the year.

If you have any questions you can contact **Barb Schulz** at [barbaralschulz@gmail.com](mailto:barbaralschulz@gmail.com) or call at **(201)787-7460**



Dear Pastor, Congregational Leaders and Friends,

On behalf of the Office of the Bishop and alongside all of you, I rejoice in the generosity your congregation has demonstrated in so many ways, not the least of which is your participation in annual Mission Support to your New Jersey Synod. Generosity is one of the concrete ways our baptismal life takes shape and makes a difference. I think it's worth repeating if you haven't heard it before: God doesn't need to receive, but we do have a need to give. Lives of generosity are transformative and transforming. Please visit the ELCA YouTube video by copying and pasting this link into your browser: [Where Does your Offering Go \(www.youtube.com/watch?v=MS208jnkcg\)](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MS208jnkcg)

I give thanks to God for you. And I give thanks to God because of Christ within you.

Sincerely, Rev. Dean R. Brown



New Jersey Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our grace.

# MISSION SUPPORT

2019

## THANK YOU

Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley

In grateful appreciation for giving

\$15,276.54

for Mission Support.



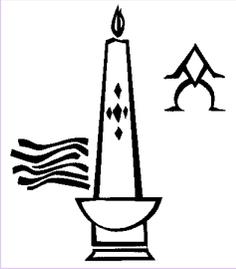
*A note of thanks from the Tuckers.....to all our family of friends at Zion. Gale and I extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you. The love and support received is immeasurable through prayers, meals delivered, cards and letters received through the years. Pastor Ingrid and others offering us communion, comfort, and encouraging words as we recuperated at home. Our journey indeed has taken us back to our roots in Pennsylvania, but that does not diminish the memorable years spent here at Zion. We will be coming back from time to time knowing you will welcome us with open arms.*

*God Bless you all, Linda and Gale Tucker*

# The Youth Ministry ZONE

In March, the Sunday School children enjoyed the annual **"Pretzel Breakfast"** where they made (and ate!) pretzels, as well as Lenten boxes which contained coupons to help them serve others and pray during Lent. Many thanks to our pretzel chef **Arne Olsen** and all who helped make it a wonderful event!





# Sacrament of Holy Baptism



On *March 8th*, adorable **Ella Jean Drake** received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. She was sponsored by **Tracey Drake** and **Douglas Smith**, and accompanied by her parents **Josh** and **Jenn Drake** and big brother **Cooper**!





## Social Ministry Update

The Lutheran Episcopal Advocacy Ministry of New Jersey speaks out for justice and peace and provides a channel for us to live out our faith through advocacy. If you would like to learn more or sign up for **Weekly Witness** e-mails, visit [info@learnj.org](mailto:info@learnj.org).

### Making Masks for Local Hospitals

As we isolate at home, we can still work together (separately) on projects to help our community. On the Zion website one can find directions for making masks for the *Atlantic Health System*. There is also a video demonstrating the process on the website. The *New York Times* ([nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)) also has a tutorial on "How to Sew a Face Mask". These masks extend the clean wearing time of professional masks by providing a cover for the professional mask. *If you do not have access to the website, here is a simple overview of the process:*

- 1) Cut two rectangles of fabric (*9.5 inches by 6.5 inches*)- either both from your cotton material or one from the cotton and one from a soft flannel.
- 2) Make a "sandwich" of material and ties as follows: Put one of your fabric rectangles on a flat surface, right side up. At the corners of this piece of material, place your ties to hold the mask to the wearer's head. Ties can be *8" by 14"* strips of fabric folded and sewn to prevent raveling, bias tape, shoelaces, ribbons or thin elastic. Make sure the ties are neatly placed in the middle of the fabric so they do not protrude over the edge of the fabric rectangle which will become the seam (except for in the corner where you will be sewing them). Now add the top layer of the "sandwich" – the other rectangle of fabric or flannel which you will place right side down.
- 3) Sew around your rectangle "sandwich", leaving a *1 ½"* gap. Turn the rectangle right sides out through the opening and stitch the opening closed.
- 4) Make three pleats on the right side of the mask. Make three corresponding pleats on the left side

of the mask. Sew the pleats in place by topstitching around the mask – twice, just to ensure that it is closed. Your mask is complete!

If you do not have the cotton material but wish to make some masks, please contact **Judy Bumpus** at (908) 684-0391 or [judy@bump.us](mailto:judy@bump.us). We have some cotton material at church for use in our *Lutheran World Relief* quilts. I would be happy to bring some of that material outside for you to pick up and use in mask making.

Remember, you can also use things you have on hand such as the body of a dress shirt whose collar and cuffs have worn out or an extra sheet you have on hand.

If you need the flannel for the softer inside of the masks, please contact **Jeanne Howell** at (908)879-4764 or [jeannehow@gmail.com](mailto:jeannehow@gmail.com). Jeanne can drop flannel off at church for you to pick up.

When you have finished your masks, please give **Judy or Jeanne** a call and drop your masks off at church - call the office first please. We will come to church to collect the masks. **Tami Ochs**, Jeanne's daughter, is a nurse in the *Atlantic Health System* hospitals, and we will make sure she receives the masks to deliver when she goes in to work. Call **Judy or Jeanne** if you have any questions on the mask-making process or on getting materials or arranging for delivery.

Thank you so much for helping our front line medical workers in this way!

Judy Bumpus

Additional resources can be found at JoAnn Fabric's website, [JoAnn.com](http://JoAnn.com)



For the time being, the prayer page will consist of all of those we know whose jobs might mean contact with people who are infected with COVID-19. Each Sunday, we will pray by first name for all who are members of the congregation. But here, we also wish to include friends and extended family members who are health care workers or first responders. We thank them all for their tireless work to keep all of us healthy and safe, and do so at risk to themselves and their families. We'd like to list the name, role and also the hospital at which each person works. If you have someone you'd like to add to the list, or can provide further information, please let the office know. The "Ongoing Prayer List" will be located on our website under the "**Worship**" tab. Please also keep all those listed in your prayers.

### Health Care Workers

**Kailene Brobst** - Nurse  
**Zulaykah Dise** - Radiology  
**Kyle Egan** - EMT  
**Tricia Hibler** - Physician  
**Jessie Hurley** - Nurse  
**Lori Prussack** - Nurse  
**Tami Ochs** - Nurse  
**Cathleen Sullivan** - Nurse  
**John & Denise Visci** - Physicians  
**Anna Weth** - Nurse  
**Amy Zeier** - Nurse

### First Responders

**Rob Brobst** - Police  
**Charlie Davidson** - Fire  
**Josh Drake** - Fire  
**James Carkhuff** - Fire, First Aid  
**Tim Hanft** - Police  
**Joe Rooney** - Police  
**Phil Seabeck** - Police

**Those Who Die in the Lord:** Robert Brobst, Sr., Mitch Kolesaire

**New Prayer Concerns:** *Karen Sauer* and the Sauer Family, *Matt Dunbar* and family

*New prayer requests will also appear in the announcements each week.  
Please contact the church office for additions or to make updates, or with questions.*



In Celebration and Memory  
of  
Special Birthdays in April



2 Jennifer Miller  
3 Zachary Frisk  
5 Michael Bullock  
Henry Herms  
Jayne Herms  
6 Connor Andrus  
Connor Duhe  
Alexandria Seewald  
10 Sophia DelleCava  
14 Cathleen Bullock  
16 Erna Dietz  
Max Tortorello  
18 Bruce Andrews  
19 Christine Stabile

20 Danielle Visci  
22 Daniel Aron  
Mark Schultz  
23 Matthew Huber  
24 Danielle Rakus  
25 Ann Rahmann  
26 Amanda Butynes  
27 Justin Angle  
Christine Cappello  
Rebeca Lore Frisk  
Eric Humcke  
28 Kelly Kaltenhauser  
30 Brian Staples  
Nicole McConnell

Our Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy Birthday from your friends at Zion!  
If you see that someone is missing from our list, please let the office know!

As always, please let the church office know if your address, your childrens' addresses, emails and phone numbers have changed. Thank you!