



*For the Members and Friends of Zion Lutheran Church
April 2025*

The Long Valley Lutheran

Sundays in April

Worship alternates between contemporary and traditional styles, is live-streamed on [Zion's YouTube channel](#). The worship bulletin, readings and music are [located on our website](#) .

April 6, Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Service of Holy Communion

April 13, Palm / Passion Sunday

There will be extra parking spaces available in the field

8:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Service of Holy Communion

April 20, Easter Day

There will be extra parking spaces available in the field

9:30 AM Service of Holy Communion,

10:45AM Easter Brunch

April 27, Second Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Service of Holy Communion, Baptism of Olivia Hey

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

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.
Long Valley, NJ 07853
Tel: (908) 876-3547

E-mail: zionlongvalley@gmail.com

Website: zionlongvalley.org



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

Pastor: Pastor Ingrid Wengert
Cell: (215) 692-2091
Email: Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Sarah Scudese

Minister of Music: Marilyn Hibler

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

9:30AM Worship with live-stream.

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL
MEMBERS/OFFICERS:**

President: Tom Scudese
Vice President: Eric Snyder
Secretary: Courtney Derr
Treasurer: Ron Schulz

Members:
Burt Horner
Marcia Horner
Elaine Kesler
Karen Newquist
Lori Prussack
Larry Salvatore
Christine Stabile

**LONG VALLEY CHRISTIAN
NURSERY SCHOOL**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.
Long Valley, NJ 07853
Tel: (908) 876-4115
Fax: (908) 876-4959

E-Mail: longvalleychristian@gmail.com
Website: longvalleychristian.com

LVCNS Director..... Meghan Bridge
Bus. Administrator....Cyndy Thompson

Office Hours

Parish Secretary Sarah

M-Fr from 9:00AM ish to 1PM ish

Our hours are flexible, please call ahead to make sure we are here.

(908) 876-3547 or zionlongvalley@gmail.com

Pastor Ingrid

M-Th mornings

Pastor Ingrid's day off each week is Friday.

(215) 692-2091 or ingridfathwengert@gmail.com

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The deadline for the
**May Newsletter is
April 20th**



Articles may be sent to the church
office via email at

zionlongvalley@gmail.com, or left in Sarah
Scudese's mail box in the Parish Center.

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

Parson to Person



Easter Sunday is very late this year! Did you know that this founding festival, Christianity's oldest and most important holy day is what we call a 'moveable feast?' It can occur any time from March 22 to April 25 in the Western church. The last time it fell on April 20, as this year, was in 2014, and the next time will be 2087!

How is the date for Easter determined? Here's a little help from "timeanddate.com":

"The Easter date is set around the time of the vernal, or spring, equinox, when the length of day and night is nearly equal in every part of the world. Twice a year, around March 21 and September 23, the sun shines directly on the equator and the length of day and night are nearly equal everywhere in the world. These two days are known as the vernal (or spring) equinox and the autumnal equinox."

"...Easter and the holidays that are related to it are moveable feasts that do not fall on a fixed date in the Gregorian or Julian calendars. The dates of many Christian holidays depend on the Easter date. Some of these holidays include Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Ascension Day and Pentecost."

The Eastern Christian churches, typically called "Orthodox" churches use the Julian calendar and Western Churches use the Gregorian calendar, so we don't usually celebrate Easter Sunday on the same day, except for years like 2025, when we do.

In the New Testament of the Bible, Jesus' death and resurrection occurred around the time of the Jewish Passover, which was celebrated on the first full moon following the vernal equinox. Early sources showed that this soon led to Christians around the world celebrating Easter on different dates. At the end of the second century, some churches celebrated Easter on the day of the Passover, while others celebrated it on the following Sunday.

In 325CE the Council of Nicaea (note: the Council for which our Nicene creed has its name) established that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. From that point forward, the Easter date depended on the ecclesiastical approximation of March 21 for the vernal equinox. Easter is delayed one week if the full moon is on Sunday, which decreases the chances of it falling on the same day as the Jewish Passover."

But truly, whatever the date, we celebrate Jesus "passover" from death to life. Not only that, all who were baptized into Jesus death & resurrection, celebrate Easter as the time to celebrate our own "passover" from death to new life.



Please remember in your prayers all of our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally, and are battling life altering conditions. Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless our friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. Let them recover their health, so that restored, they may joyfully praise your name, for you and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

We pray for:

Family of James and Lori Andershonis: *Beverly Vecchione*

Friends and family of Jeanette Baker: *Frank Baker Jr., Errol & Carol Ernstrom, Marjorie Minnoe*

Family of Annie Clay: *Nanny Holloway, Dorthe Royster*

Friend of Ellen Blaine: *Keith Correll, Carl Gerhard*

Family of Sheila Blaine: *Eleanor Lundy, Denise Rodriguez, Logan Rodriguez*

Friends and family of Charlie & Marcia Davidson: *Gail Boyle*

Family & friends of Corey & Courtney Derr: *Ralph Derr,*

Family of Burt & Marcia Horner: *Bruce Adams, Douilly Catlett, Joann Yanchek*

Family of Jeanne Howell: *Tami Ochs, Jack Steffen*

Friend of Beth Johnson: *Tammy Jackman*

Family of Vi Muriello: *Robert Muriello*

Friend of Karen Newquist: *Don Robinson*

Family of Lori Prussack: *Richard Prussack, Sandy Hamaydi*

Family of Barbara Rennie: *Krista Gundersen, Alan Rennie*

Friends and family of Betty Rush: *Amy Burd, Kirk Klein, Emily Mancuso, Mancuso family, Pastor Martin Travis*

Family of Linda Tucker: *Larry Tucker*

Friend & family of Dottie Weis: *Richard Bosley, Betton Caws, Matt Dunbar*

Members of Zion:

Ellen Blaine, Annie Clay, Marcia Davidson, Donna East, Sue Guterl, Jeanne Howell,

Rob Johnson, Jane Moore, Reinhard Schwartz

Prayer requests will also appear in the insert each week.

Please contact the church office for additions, to make updates, or with questions.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT
ACTIVITY *PROJECTED* THRU END OF MARCH 2025



OPERATING	Actual Yr-to-Date Feb 2025	Estimated Month of Mar 2025	Estimated YTD Mar '25 [This Year]	Actual YTD Mar'24 [Last Year]	(Un) Favor 2025 v 2024 Variance	Notes
Income	\$44,833	\$22,499	\$67,332	\$65,012	\$2,320	A
Expenses						
Payroll-Related	\$24,650	\$12,114	\$36,764	\$36,161	(\$602)	B
Administrative	\$22,752	\$10,562	\$33,314	\$29,695	(\$3,618)	C
Committees	\$989	\$5,221	\$6,210	\$7,393	\$1,183	D
Total Expenses	\$48,391	\$27,896	\$76,288	\$73,250	(\$3,038)	
Net Operating Income/(Loss)	(\$3,558)	(\$5,398)	(\$8,956)	(\$8,238)	(\$718)	
Cash Balance End of Mo.	\$49,753		\$41,765	\$33,541	\$8,224	

Notes on Variances:

- A. One-time offering received in January 2025 partially offset by lower giving in Q1 (~\$5,700)
- B. 3.2% compensation increases based on CPI, per Mutual Ministry Committee
- C. Higher Utilities cost (\$2,610), snow removal (\$1,503) and repair parking lot lighting (\$722); offset in part by fewer one-time repairs \$906.
- D. Timing of flowers billing \$613, timing of bells expense \$250, and 2024's one-time Worship & Music costs \$223

NON-OPERATING	Start Balance 12/31/2024	Plus: Receipts	Minus: Disbursements	Transfers In(Out)	End Balance 3/31/2025
Ministries	\$36,021	\$1,713	\$10,508	\$0	\$27,226
Seasonal events & other	\$2,679	\$943	\$0	\$0	\$3,622
Property and Capital-related	\$0	\$0	(\$139)	\$0	\$139
Mortgage	\$48,612	\$4,510	\$11,700	\$0	\$41,422
Unrestricted Funds	\$56,961	(\$276)	\$172	\$0	\$56,512
Current Memorial Funds	\$30,176	\$0	\$701	\$0	\$29,475
Restricted Memorial Funds	\$103,382	(\$78)	\$19	\$0	\$103,285
Total Non-Operating Balance	\$277,830	\$6,812	\$22,961	\$0	\$261,681

	Start Balance 12/31/2024	Principal Paid	Interest Paid	Total Payment	End Balance 3/31/2025
Mortgage: Year-to-Date activity	\$134,358	\$9,921	\$1,779	\$11,700	\$124,437

Next payment: 4/1/2025

Treasurer's Observations:

Zion's Operating income was unfavorable to last year by (\$718); but without a large one-time donation received in January, Zion would be unfavorable by more than (\$8,000). This highlights the need for all of us to be both timely and generous with our giving in order to catch-up to expected/budgeted expectations.

Respectfully,
 Ron Schulz, Zion Treasurer



HOLY WEEK



Holy Week is the most sacred week in the whole Christian year. It's far more than a historical journey through Jesus' last week – from the triumphal palm process, Last Supper, crucifixion through to the resurrection – it's more about experiencing Jesus' death and resurrection in our lives today.

4/13 Palm / Passion Sunday

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30AM Begins with palm procession outside.

4/17 Maundy Thursday

7:30PM Holy Communion service concluding with the stripping of the altar

4/18 Good Friday

LV Good Friday Cross Walk for peace 10:45am (gather at LV Presbyterian Church) procession to Zion with prayer stops along the way.

7:30PM Tenebrae Service of the Word

4/20 Easter Sunday

9:30AM Easter Sunday service

10:35AM Easter Bunch

Appointed Worship Readings for April

<u>Worship Date</u>	<u>Old or New Testament Readings</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
April 6,	Isaiah 43:16-21 / Philippians 3:4b-14	Psalm 126	John 12:1-8
April 13,	Isaiah 50:4-9a / Philippians 2:5-11	Psalm 31: 9-16	Luke 23: 1-49
April 20,	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2,14-24	
April 27,	Acts 5:27-32 / Revelation 1:4-8	Psalm 150	John 20:19-31



Morning Mom's Group

If you'd like to get together with other moms for conversation & encouragement, [let Pastor In-grid know](#). They meet once a month at 9AM. The next meeting will be on 4/14



TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

We will meet for bible study in the Faith Hall Splash room at 1:30pm. We continue study on "a Prostitute, Two Prophets and poor ol' Job"

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: Soup & Vespers



6PM Soup Supper

Join together with a small group of Christian friends in Lent, for a simple dinner and fellowship.

7PM Lenten Vespers

We'll gather in the sanctuary for a 30-minute evening worship service - an ancient liturgy that begins in the dark with candles and proclaims Jesus to be the light of the world.

"Wednesdays in Lent, Sermon Titles & Descriptions

April 2: "We believe in the Holy Spirit." We confess the Trinity as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but, as Martin Luther noticed, we experience the Trinity backwards: "The Holy Spirit leads us to Christ who is the mirror of the Father's heart."

April 9: "We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church." In a world where it's "Every man for himself, and winner takes all," the Creed insists that Christians cannot and dare not try to go it alone. United in Christ to God the Father by the Holy Spirit, we are together swept up beyond ourselves into the life of the Triune God. *Come to one or both.*

Children's Sermon on 3/30 *God's promise is for everyone!*





On March 2nd we celebrated the baptism of
Lovens August Exumé
Son of
Ederson & Alexandria Exumé
and proud grandparents
Bill & Jeanne Washkau

Congratulations!



Easter Flowers



Spring is coming! Please help us decorate our altar for Easter on 4/20
Daffodils, tulips & lilies available. Please fill out the [attached form](#) by 4/11/25
There will be forms in the Narthex on Sunday, or you can call or [email](#) Sarah in
the office.





Parish Life



GOOD FRIDAY
COMMUNITY **+** CROSS WALK
FOR PEACE

Jesus' last words ...from the cross



Note: This is one hour earlier than previous years.

Friday, 4/18, 10:45AM

Begins at **Long Valley Presbyterian Church** at 10:45AM

The walk concludes at Zion Lutheran Church with numerous prayer stops in between.

Sponsored by the Long Valley Clergy Association.



EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday April 20th

PLEASE JOIN US FOR EASTER BRUNCH

after worship 10:35 - 11:30AM

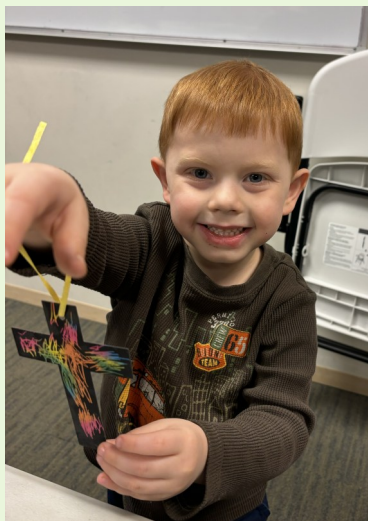
**FEATURING: Egg Casserole, bacon, sausage,
French toast casserole and more!!**

Free will donation to benefit the 2025 Youth gathering

Bring your friends and family!

(No need to sign up, just come!)

We had a great turn out for
Shrove Tuesday/ Pancake Dinner!
A big thank you to Jance and the Kitchen Cuties!!
Everything was delicious as always.





Zion clean up Day April 26th 9-11AM

Please come out and help clean up and get Zion ready for spring & summer. Bring rakes, shovels, tarps, if you have them! *Thank you to all the Scouts that come out and help us clean up every year. Any groups that use our building are welcome to come out and join us!*

Rain date 5/3



2025 Graduates

It's that time of year when we begin to ask for information about our High School and College Graduates so that we can honor them in the LVL Newsletter. We would like to let them know their church family honors and appreciates their achievements, and celebrates this milestone in their lives. Parents, please send your graduate's info into the office and include: *school, honors and awards, picture (even in their cap and gown if you have it) and future college or employment plans if they know them.*



Pancake Breakfast Schooley's Mountain Fire Company Sunday April 6th 8AM-12PM

231 Schooley's Mountain Rd Washington Township, NJ
Adults \$12 Seniors/Military \$10 Children \$7

As always, thank you and we appreciate your endless support as we continue to provide quality firefighting services to our community and mutual aid areas.



Social Ministry Events



Easter Egg Hunt April 12th, 11AM

Zion will host our fourth family-friendly Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12th at 11AM. This event is rain

or shine. It is open to the first 100 to sign up. [Please sign-up here.](#) Sign-up will close on 4/5

Children will have the opportunity to help with a service project after the egg hunt, [cardsforkidz.](#)

Please join us at Coffee hour on 4/6 to pack the goody bags for the Easter egg hunt.



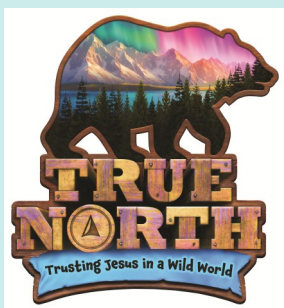
Cardsforkids



Mothers Day Sunday

Let's celebrate our Mother's on **Sunday, May 11th** and remember their warmth and kindness by dedicating donations in their name to the *LWR*. Your gift of **\$5** will enable the *Lutheran World Relief Organization* to supply Quilts & Kits to those who are facing hardship. To dedicate, please fill out the form below by **Sunday, May 4th**. All checks should be made payable to "Zion Lutheran Church."

Please place with the form in the collection plate, mail or drop off at the Church office. [Order Form.](#)



Vacation Bible School June 23rd-27th VBS Registration

Thank you for your interest in True North VBS at Zion Lutheran Church. We have currently reached our maximum enrollment capacity - wow! We may have additional spots open up, however, so if you'd like to join the waiting list, please email [meghan callow](mailto:meghan.callow) with your child(ren)'s name(s), age(s), and 2024-25 grade level(s). The registration fee is \$25 for 1 child; \$40 for 2 children; \$50 for 3 or more.

We Need Volunteers: If you and/or your older children (entering 6th grade and up) are able to volunteer in any capacity, please complete this [form](#) separately. The more help we have, the more children we'll be able to take. This is a great opportunity for Scouts and high school/college students to earn community service hours, and it's a lot of fun, too! Friends are welcome, and you do not need to be available all five days. *(Please complete this form even if you've already spoken with one of us about volunteering.)*





LVCNS Monthly Up-Date

Spring has Sprung here at LVCNS. We are enjoying some warmer weather and lots of time outside. After a much needed spring break we are all back and ready to take on some exciting events.

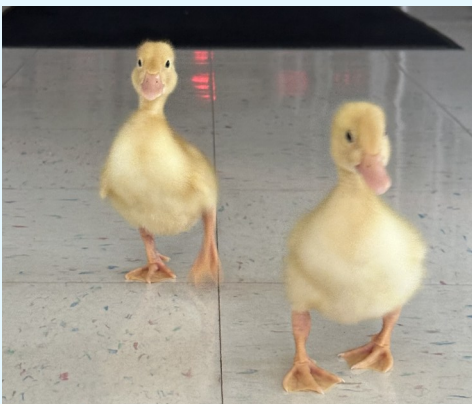
April is the LOVE program season. We celebrate the families we love by putting on a little show of the songs and fingerplays we have learned throughout the year. Our families are invited to stay for family playground time with a special snack.

We will celebrate Easter this month with music and a special visitor.

At the end of April, we will be hatching and raising 2 ducks (for about 3-4 weeks) this year. This is a wonderful experience for the children. We will learn about the hatching process and watch our ducks grow into ducklings. We hope the weather is warm enough to let them swim in the courtyard and follow us through the hallways. This is a very hands-on experience that the children and teachers love. Thank you to the Cristi family for offering to make sure our ducks have a safe place to live after we have had our fun.

We will have very limited spots for the 2025-2026 school year ages 2.6-5 including our Transitional Kindergarten program (open house coming) Please call Meghan to set up a tour 908-876-4115

Do you have a special talent that you would like to share with the nursery school children? We are always looking for volunteers to come in and share your expertise. If you are interested in running a one hour, one day a week, 6 week enrichment class starting in September 2025 and throughout the year please reach out. This is a paid position.



Last years friends exploring the hall ways!



April Birthday

Wishing you a spring-filled birthday,
full of sunshine and joy! .

Happy Birthday!

1 John Trembley
 6 Alexandria Seewald
 7 Gemma Taylor
 14 Cathleen Sullivan
 15 William Muttart
 17 Chris Ito
 19 Christine Stabile

22 Elodie Johnson
 25 Ann Rahmann
 Brent Whalen
 Kerry Karpinski
 27 Tyce Shakespeare
 28 Caitlen Whalen

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.



What do you put in your hair before church on Easter?
Hare spray!

What do you get when you pour hot water into a rabbit hole?
Hot, cross bunnies.

What do you call a mischievous egg? A practical yolker!

Why happens if you tell a duck an Easter joke? They'll quack up.

What does the Easter Bunny say before it eats? "Lettuce pray."

Why did the Easter egg hide? It was a little chicken.





Zion Lutheran Church
11 Schooleys Mountain Road
Long Valley, New Jersey 07853



Zion Lutheran Church
The Rev. Ingrid Wengert, Pastor
Church Office: 908-876-3547
Worship Service Sunday 9:30am
Sunday School 8:30AM