



*For the Members and Friends of Zion Lutheran Church
March 2024*

The Long Valley Lutheran

Sundays in March

March 3, Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion / Baptism

10:45 AM Adult Forum: "Assisting Ministers: Lay people helping lead worship" led by Ingrid Wengert

March 10, Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Contemporary Service of Holy Communion / Baptism

10:45 AM Adult Forum: God Puts the Words (of Prayer) into Our Mouths, led by Timothy Wengert

March 17, Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion

March 24, Palm Sunday

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Contemporary Service of Holy Communion

March 31, Easter Sunday

9:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion

10:35AM Easter Brunch

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: Jeanne Howell
Treasurer: Ron Schulz

Members:
Burt Horner
Marcia Horner
Ben Johnston
Elaine Kesler
Karen Newquist
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 to 1PM.

If you wish to stop by, please call ahead just to make
sure someone is 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

In this issue:

Sunday Worship.....	pg.1
Prayer Concerns.....	pg.3
Pastors Corner.....	pg.4
Readings & Worship.....	pg.5-7
Easter Happenings.....	pg.8-9
Congregation Council.....	pg.10
Parish Life.....	pgs.11-13
Social Ministry.....	pgs.14
April Birthdays.....	pg.15

The deadline for the
April Newsletter is
March 24th



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!**



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, Alex Cunningham, Deborah Gruber*

Family of Annie Clay: *Dorthe Royster*

Friend of Ellen Blaine: *Keith Correll*

Family of Sheila Blaine: *Logan Rodriguez*

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

Family & friends of Corey & Courtney Derr: *Gennaro Bryant, Lisa Moss Filson, Ralph Derr, Bessie Grant, Don Gunter*

Family of Cathy DiLello: *Russell Dilello*

Family of Craig & Marianne Dise: *Richard Barthelmeh*

Family of Burt & Marcia Horner: *Bruce Adams, Rae Hoffman, David Swan, Joann Yanchek*

Family of Jeanne Howell: *Jack Steffen*

Friend of Beth Johnson: *Tammy Jackman*

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

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

Family of Ron & Barb Schulz: *Richard Schulz*

Friend of Dottie Weis: *Rich Bosley, Betton Caws, Matt Dunbar, Bruce Engelbrecht, Kathy Hepner,*

Friends of Zion: *Linda Daly*

Members of Zion:

*Ellen Blaine, Cathy DiLello, Donna East, Rob Johnson, Jay Kay
Sue Koeppen, Paul Litwiller, Jane Moore, John Resotka, Hannelore Seitz*

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



This month, I'm using my pastor's page as a catchall for various announcements.

Assisting Ministers

Just a reminder that on Sunday 3/3, from 10:45am – 11:30am, I'll hold an adult forum on lay people assisting with worship beginning with a little history and then talking about how a lay assisting minister might help at Zion. All curious parties invited – it's not only for potential Assisting Ministers; however, if you are interested in possibly serving in that role, it would be a good adult forum to make!

Hearing Assistance

By Easter, we're planning to have available 4 hearing assistance devices. The system will be installed by the same company that installed and consistently helps with livestreaming. Trinity Lutheran Church Dover is very pleased with these devices and just ordered a few more. Their use & cleaning instructions TBA. Thanks to Jance for the timely idea and thanks for memorial gifts for the funding - including a large one in honor of Jim Newquist.

WTPS Spring Break & Holy Week

The Long Valley school district now schedules spring break on the last week of March which, this year, coincides with Palm/Passion Sunday through Easter Sunday. So we may see an effect on attendance & participation for the Easter Egg hunt and Palm/Passion Sunday celebration. Public school begins again on 4/1 – so we may have some families back for Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday Breakfast

We finally made the difficult decision: Easter breakfast will be held **after worship (10:35 – 11:30am)**. It used to be held in-between the worship services and trying to decide has been difficult! Jance and I have been polling different groups in order to make the best, imperfect decision possible – which we know will not satisfy everyone. We learned that there are good reasons to hold it before 9:30am worship - as people have Easter lunch to prep, drive to, and eat. Plus there are good reasons to hold breakfast after worship; e.g., some seniors simply can't do early mornings [you try when you're 90 :)].

Also, people might eat a mid-day Easter lunch or dinner and so a late breakfast would be welcome.

Easter Sunday Parking

We're planning on a full house – so you might consider coming a little early to find a parking space. We will open up the field and hope for dry ground, and you're also welcome to park along the street in front of the church – as in days of yore at Zion. A good problem to have?!

**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT
ACTIVITY PROJECTED THRU END OF FEBRUARY 2024**

OPERATING	Actual January 2024	Estimated Month of Feb 2024	Estimated YTD Feb '24 (This Year)	Actual YTD Feb '23 (Last Year)	(Un) Favor Variance	Notes
Income	\$18,644	\$17,237	\$35,881	\$39,162	(\$3,281)	A
Expenses						
Payroll-Related	\$11,851	\$12,429	\$24,280	\$23,304	(\$976)	B
Administrative	\$8,153	\$12,002	\$20,155	\$19,961	(\$194)	C
Committees	\$1,155	\$450	\$1,605	\$1,662	\$57	
Total Expenses	\$21,159	\$24,882	\$46,040	\$44,927	(\$1,113)	
Net Income(Loss)	(\$2,515)	(\$7,644)	(\$10,160)	(\$5,765)	(\$4,394)	
Cash Balance End of Mo.	\$39,010		\$31,081	\$37,277	(\$6,196)	

Operating Notes: (Un)Favorable variances *[amounts ending in 00 are estimated]*

- A. Plate & Simply Giving off about (\$3,900), offset in part by parsonage reimbursement \$900.
- B. Pastor and employees given 5% increases, offset in part by no cost for Business Manager function
- C: Larger (un)favorable variances: Snow removal (\$1,315), electric (\$616), computer-related (\$385), heat \$1,530, and interior maintenance \$669.

NON-OPERATING	12/31/23 Balance	For the 2 months Jan + Feb 2024			02/29/24 Balance
		Receipts	Payments	Transfers	
Ministries (mostly Social Ministry)	\$26,389	\$414	\$66	\$37	\$26,774
Seasonal Events	\$1,819	\$7	\$388	(\$37)	\$1,401
Building & Assets	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
Memorial Funds "short-term"	\$3,188	\$1,700	\$0	\$0	\$4,888
Memorial Funds "long-term"	\$129,359	\$222	\$19	\$0	\$129,563
Mortgage Fund Note D, E	\$46,522	\$4,250	\$7,800	\$0	\$42,972
Contingency & Other	\$46,719	\$1,996	\$158	\$0	\$48,557
Total Note F	\$254,496	\$8,590	\$8,431	\$0	\$254,655

Non-Operating Notes:

- D. Principal balance of Mortgage on 2/29/24 is \$166,394.93 of which \$42,972 is funded
- E. Mortgage payments totaled \$7,800, of which \$6,201 was principal and \$1,599 was interest.
- F. Investments: PNC CD \$20,000 @ 4.42%; ELCA Mission \$25,000 @ 5.005%; Thrivent and BNY Mellon @ Market

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Schulz, Zion Treasurer

Worship in March



We will have one service alternating between contemporary and traditional services.

Virtual: We will live-stream the service to [Zion's YouTube channel](#), and it's automatically recorded so that you can worship when you are able. The worship bulletin, readings and music are [located on our website](#).

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: Soup & Vespers 3/6, 3/13, 3/20



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.

Theme: The faith practice of prayer. We have an existential need to pray to our Creator. Come and reflect upon the basics: Why, what, when, where and how to pray. And when it comes to the Christian faith, do we ever leave the basics?!

Offerings will be donated to Faith Kitchen, a soup kitchen housed in Trinity Lutheran Church in Dover.

Come to one or both.

Appointed Worship Readings for March

<u>Worship Date</u>	<u>Old or New Testament Readings</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
March 3,	Exodus 20:1-17 / 1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Psalm 19	John 2:13-22
March 10,	Numbers 21:4-9 / Ephesians 2:1-10	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	John 3:14-21
March 17,	Jeremiah 31:31-34 / Hebrews 5:5-10	Psalm 119:9-16	John 12:20-33
March 24,	Isaiah 50:4-9a / Philippians 2:5-11	Psalm 31:9-16	Mark 14:1-15:47
March 31,	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2,14-24	Mark 16:1-8



TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

We will meet for an in person Bible study In Faith Hall at 1:30pm. The readings will continue to be the appointed readings for Sunday, which is based on a 3-year cycle that spans the Old and New Testaments: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

There will be no Bible Study on 3/26 & 4/2

On February 4th we celebrated the baptism of Amelia Rasmussen & Caleb Unverricht



*Amelia
daughter of
Dan & Alison Rasmussen*



*Caleb
Son of
Daniel & Amanda Unverricht*

*Proud grandparents Jim & Becky Rasmussen
& Great grandmother Linda Tucker.*

Adult Forum

March 3: Assisting Ministers, Lay people helping lead worship" led by Ingrid Wengert

God Teaching Us to Pray

Despite all of the abuse of prayer by Christians and others (Martin Luther called the Lord's Prayer the greatest martyr in the world), prayer is one of God's greatest gifts to humankind. In 1529, Martin Luther wrote an introduction to prayer that contains some remarkable insights into what prayer is (and isn't). Join us for three sessions bound to enrich your prayers:

March 10: God Puts the Words (of Prayer) into Our Mouths, led by Tim Wengert



*Adult Forum
Learning, Living, Loving*

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.

3/24 Palm Sunday

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30AM Begins with palm procession outside.

3/28 Maundy Thursday

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

3/29 Good Friday

LV Good Friday Cross Walk for peace 11:45am (gather at LV Presbyterian Church) procession to Zion with prayer stops along the way.

7:30PM Tenebrae Service of the Word

3/31 Easter Sunday

9:30AM Easter Sunday service

10:35AM Easter Brunch

GOOD FRIDAY
COMMUNITY  CROSS WALK
FOR PEACE

Jesus' last words ...from the cross



Friday, 3/29, 11:45AM -1PM

Begins at **Long Valley Presbyterian Church** at 11:45AM and concludes at Zion Lutheran Church a 1PM'ish with numerous prayer stops in between.

Sponsored by the Long Valley Clergy Association.



EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH
Sunday March 31st
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 2024 Youth gathering
Bring your friends and family!

Easter Flowers

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



Congregation Council



The new **Zion Church Council**, as voted on by the congregation during the *2024 Annual Meeting*, will consist of the following people:

Executive Committee

President: *Tom Scudese*
Vice President: *Eric Snyder*
Secretary: *Jeanne Howell*
Treasurer: *Ron Schulz*

Christian Education: *Marcia Horner*

LVCNS: *Marcia Horner*

Outreach: *TBD*

Parish Life: *Elaine Kesler*

Property: *Burt Horner*

Social Ministry: *Larry Salvatore*

Stewardship: *Larry Salvatore*

Worship and Music: *Christine Stabile*

Youth Ministry: *Ben Johnston & Elaine Kesler*

We thank God for their willingness to serve Zion.



Installation of Council: (L to R) Christine Stabile, Jeanne Howell, Marcia Horner, Burt Horner, Tom Scudese, Ron Schulz, Karen Newquist & McGee.
Not present: Ben Johnston, Elaine Kesler, Larry Salvatore & Eric Snyder.



Parish Life



St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Sign Up Required

Saturday March 16th at 3PM in Faith Hall

Food, Fellowship & Fun Trivia!

Please sign up so we know how many will attend and can order supplies.

[Sign-Up here.](#)

- How does a leprechaun end a conversation? Irish you well!
- Why did the leprechaun bring a ladder to the bar? Because he heard the drinks were on the house!
- Why do leprechauns make terrible comedians? Their jokes are always a wee bit short!



Congratulations to Olivia Johnston receiving her Arrow of Light award. The highest Cub Scout award!!



Save the Date - Vacation Bible School

Will be held on June 24th - 28th, 9AM - 12PM

For children age 3- going into 5th grade. Please consider volunteering for this amazing week! A Great fun way to earn service hours!

Registration information to follow.





Parish Life



Zion is thrilled to celebrate spring and Christ's resurrection by hosting our third family-friendly Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23rd at 11AM. This event is rain or shine. Children will have the opportunity to help with our service project [Cardzforkidz](#) after the egg hunt.

We will be collecting items for our Goody bags, please leave items in the Narthex, we also have a wish list on [Amazon](#).

Items Needed for our Goody Bags,

Candy & Snacks (no nuts)

Small Easter toys

On 3/17 Sunday school children will be organizing goody bags during Sunday School. Please have all donations delivered or dropped off by 3/16.

[Please Sign-up here.](#) Opening first to our Zion families and then LVCNS.

We still need help setting up and hiding all those eggs. Please contact Elaine Kesler or the church office if you'd like help and be a part of this cheerful spring event.





Social Ministry Update

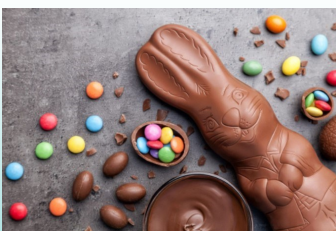


Quilting Day

Thank you to all that came out and helped with our quilting day! We made 12 quilts to be shipped where they are needed most, some of the countries they will go to are, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Honduras, Liberia, Tanzania, Turkey, Ukraine.

Cub Scout Coat Fundraiser—Update

Troy collected 146 coats as part of the drive!! He also had a few bags of winter items that folks included that they dropped at Racks (Jersey Cares only wanted coats) and he bought some food for the food pantry. Zion and the LV community were so generous in donating all the coats!!!



LVCNS Chocolate Shoppe Fundraiser

From LVCNS: ‘It’s time for the LVCNS’ Spring holiday fundraiser. This year we



are pleased to announce that we will again be partnering with the **Chocolate Shoppe of Long Valley**. Last year’s Spring Candy Sale was such a wonderful success with profits going to LVCNS enrichment program. We love that we can support another local business as well. **Candy can be ordered between March 3rd -March 10th and orders can be picked up at the Chocolate Shoppe on March 21st - March 31st right in time for Easter.** You order and pay online. Please see [attached directions](#) for online orders. You may also order in the store, just be sure to mention LVCNS“.

Happenings at LVCNS

March / April



“March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb”. I can’t believe we are already approaching Spring. This year, even the groundhog said Spring is right around the corner. We had so much fun trying to make shadows at school. We really can't complain about the weather. We have had some really fun snow play as well as sunny warm days this winter. Hopefully soon we will be playing in the garden, blowing bubbles and wearing fewer layers.

Registration is underway and is now rolling admission for the 2024-2025 school year. We had a crazy, early morning turn out for our registration. The first person in line was here at 2:45am!! We do still have, **very limited** spots available for Friday only first friends and afternoon threes. So tell a friend.

We are so excited to kick off March with “Restaurant Week”

We will be converting the big room into a restaurant market for the week. We will have a coffee bar, bakery, pizza oven, and bistro. All the children will have fun playing costumer, chef, host, waitstaff, stock person and dishwasher. Thank you for all the donations of items that will add to our fun.

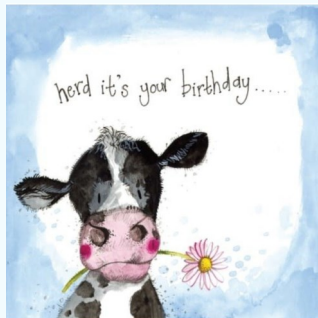
Thank you to all of you who joined us for VIP day! What great day. We were so happy to have families and guests at school and to show you all the wonderful things your children are doing during the day.

Mark your calendars now. LVCNS is planning summer camp the week of Monday, June 3 – Thursday, June 6th from 9am-12pm For details contact LVCNS. Camp is a school extension program for currently enrolled LVCNS students only. (2023-2024) and it’s all about fun! Registration date will be April 24th. Registration is on a first come, first sign up basis and will be done using Sign Up Genius. **Limited space available. Camp will only be open to children 3.6 years old and over who are completely potty-trained (must be 3 by December 31st, 2023.)**

BABY DUCKS AT SCHOOL

We are looking into hatching and raising ducks (for about 2 weeks) this year. We would love to hear from you if you have any connections to incubated duck eggs or VERY newly hatched ducks. We have an incubator. We would also be looking for volunteers to take the ducks home at the end of the 2 weeks and give them a safe and secure place to live:) Please reach out ASAP

Meghan Bridge, Director



March Birthdays

"Count not the candles...see the lights they give. Count not the years, but the life you live. Wishing you a wonderful time ahead.

Happy Birthday

- 1 Van Muttart
- 2 Brenda Carkhuff
Jenn Drake
- 3 Burt Horner
- 4 Joseph Seewald III
- 5 Christian Humcke
Amy Zeier
- 8 Alexis Buchanan
J.D. Buchanan
- 10 Emily Wallace
Leo Wolff
- 11 Stephen Fritsch
- 12 Annie Clay
Mike Ficacci
Jacqueline Fritsch

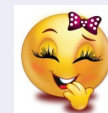
- 15 Kiera Mitchell
Emalyn and Sophia Stoma
Edward and Michael Strebel
- 17 John Hurley
Chance McBee
Amanda Rasmussen
- 20 Judy Bumpus
- 22 Sarah Frommeyer
- 23 Robert Brobst
Jan Collard
- 24 Avery Rose Salandra
- 31 Karen Newquist
Ralph Spengler



Don't forget—Sunday March 10th the clocks spring forward an hour.

If you forget to set your clock forward, you'll just be fashionably late for the future.

Why can't daylight savings happen at 4pm on Friday?





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