

February 24-25, 2024

We invite you to join us during the season of Lent for our **“Wounds of Jesus”** sermon series each Wednesday. We will be focusing our hearts on the many wounds of Jesus.

February 28 – The Wound of Apathy

March 6 – The Wound of Denial

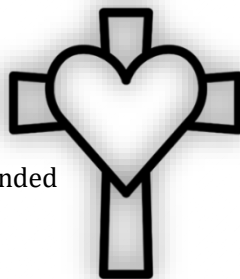
March 13 – The Wound of Mockery

March 20 – The Wound of Abandonment

March 28 – Maundy Thursday – A Meal for the Wounded

March 29 – Good Friday

LENTEN HYMN SING begins at 6:45 p.m.



EASTER FLOWERS are available again this year, through Begick’s Nursery, to beautify the sanctuary for our Easter worship services. Use the form that is available at the Welcome Center or in the church office to order your flowers. Orders with payment are due in the church office by **Monday, March 4.**

EASTER FOOD BAGS FOR FAMILIES: Please help us to fill the Easter food bags for families in need. Items to be included are small, canned hams, boxed scalloped/au gratin potatoes, canned fruit (any kind), mac and cheese, baked beans, jelly, syrup, chocolate crosses or bunnies’, and jellybeans. You may drop off any of the above listed items on the display table in the great hall. March 17 is the food donation deadline, and the distribution date is March 26. As always, the Food Pantry accepts monetary donations, please note “Easter bags” on your donation. (A shopping checklist is available on the display table)



FEBRUARY LOCAL MISSION - FOOD OF FAITH

THIS WEEKEND, at the end of the 24th, 25th, and 28th services we will be sponsoring a door offering to assist in the purchase of food for our May and October participation in distributing food to our local community. As Jesus commanded us to feed the hungry, this is your opportunity to demonstrate your commitment. If you wish, you can also donate anytime by using the Local Missions envelope in our envelope package or envelopes are available at the Welcome Center. Please contact Kay at 989.751.0855 with any questions. Thank you for your help and caring efforts in reaching out to our community!

MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY FOR ZION TO SOAR IN 2024



Through the generosity of Zion's members, a matching gift challenge has been shared with our church as we seek to eliminate our debt. In the next few weeks, we are praying that the Lord blesses us with gifts to this campaign. For every \$2 raised another \$1 will be given up to \$10,000.

Thank you for prayerfully considering a special gift to the **SOAR in 2024** campaign as we ask the Lord to provide for us in ways we can't even begin to imagine.

If you have a prayer request that you would like added to Zion's prayer chain, please contact Kellie at prayerchain@zionbaycity.org. If you also wish to have your prayer included in the weekly prayer concern insert, you may let Kellie know and she will forward that information to April.



Prayer Chain

DATES TO REMEMBER...

ROCK PRACTICE, Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.

BAPTISM, During Saturday's, February 24th service, Rocky William Kraft, son of Eli William and Chelsey Amanda (Bitzer) Kraft, will be baptized. Rocky's sponsors are Brianna & Jordan Bitzer and Noah Kraft.

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP, 5 p.m.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS, 8:30 a.m., Ministry Room A.

EASTER CANTATA PRACTICE, Sunday, February 25, after the worship service.

LWML QUILTING, Monday, February 26, 2-4 p.m., Ministry Room A.

MEN'S CHORUS, practice resumes March 4.

LADIES TEA & COFFEE CHOIR, Tuesday, February 27, 11 a.m.

ORCHESTRA, Tuesday, February 27, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY, February 27, 6:30-8 p.m., Nursery.

CAB, Tuesday, February 27, 7 p.m., Ministry Room A.

CHAPEL, Wednesday, February 28, 8:15 a.m., Sanctuary.

HANDBELLS, Wednesday, February 28, 5:30 p.m.

HYMN SING, Wednesday, February 28, 6:45 p.m.

LENT WORSHIP SERVICE, Wednesday, February 28, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY, February 29, 10-11:30 a.m., Ministry Room A.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS® ...

Attention Thrivent Members – Please direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Zion Lutheran Church before they expire on Sunday, March 31, 2024. Please keep in mind that the phones will be very busy on Friday, March 29th as this is the last day by phone to designate Choice Dollars. Why not designate your Choice Dollars **today**. It is simple and doesn't cost you anything but your time. You must renew the distribution of your Choice Dollars every year. Your choice of a prior year does not carry over. There are two ways to direct your Choice Dollars. Go to www.thriventchoice.com or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "choice dollars" after the prompt. Thank you for considering Zion when making your Choice Dollars donation.

AREA HAPPENINGS...

VLHS Benefit Dinner & Auction! Our Theme is " Monopoly". This year's annual auction is set for Saturday, February 24, 2024, at The DoubleTree in Bay City. Thank you for your past support of VLHS! We could use your help again - we are asking for items to be donated and put up for bid (merchandise, tickets, services, vacation homes, gift cards, etc.). Click on our auction link www.vlhsauction.com for more information and check out our often-updated list of items. For further information or questions, you may call Heidi Behnke at Valley Lutheran at 989-790-1676, Beth (Lambert) Kaul at 989-754-5918 bkaul@vlhs.com.

You are invited to hear **The Concordia Choir from Concordia University** in Irvine, CA, who will be in concert at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth on February 28 at 6 pm. This talented ensemble of 49 singers, under the direction of Dr. Michael Busch will present a meaningful program of sacred music, including classics, pieces by living composers, and familiar hymns. The concert is free and open to the public. St. Lorenz Church is located at 1030 W. Tuscola in Frankenmuth.

The Men's Club of St. Peter Lutheran Church, 2461 North Raucholz Road, Hemlock, is sponsoring their **Annual Fish Fry** on Friday, March 8, from 3:30 – 7:00 pm. The dinner will be held in the school gymnasium. Take-outs will be available from 3:30 – 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$17.00 for adults; \$8.00 for children 6-12; Kids 5 and under Free.

Valley Lutheran High School in Saginaw is looking to fill two full-time faculty positions beginning July 31, 2024. The first is for Social Studies (U.S. History and Economics) and the second is for English (with a focus on writing and research). The ideal candidate would have an LTD and a secondary teaching certificate in the appropriate subject area. Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Dr. Lisa Meyers by mail (3560 McCarty Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603) or email (lmeyers@vlhs.com). Interviews are anticipated to begin by the end of February and continue until the position is filled.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, GIFTS, AND MEMORIALS...

In honor of our 40th Wedding Anniversary on 3/3/34, from Scott & Kim Bitzer...\$100 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

In loving memory of Ruth Batschke, from Cheryl & Warren Bohnet...\$100 General Fund.

Gifts received: \$545 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

PREVIOUS WEEKS ATTENDANCE:

Saturday (63), Sunday (60)

This Weekend – February 24-25 – Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Service 3, pg. 184

Readings: 2 Corinthians 9:6-12; John 12:1-11

Hymns: LSB 433, 813, 611, 651, 644, 738

Next Weekend – March 2-3 – Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Service 1, pg. 151

Readings: 2 Corinthians 1:1-5; John 18:1-11

Hymns: 420 v1, 5-7, 436, 617, 423, 664, 763

AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER:

- Portals of Prayer devotionals for January-March
- **NEW** Our Daily Bread devotionals for March-May
- Lutheran Hour Ministries devotional “Lamb of God”
- Concordia Publishing House Lenten devotional “Witnesses to Christ”
- February Wonderful Times (Div. on Aging)
- Cougar Newsletter

ACCESSING FACEBOOK STREAMING SERVICES. You can access the streaming service site at <https://www.facebook.com/zionbaycity>.

ACCESSING YOUTUBE STREAMING SERVICES. To access the service from YouTube, go to <https://youtu.be/c7Wvx6h96XA>, select the PLAYLISTS tab, select Church to find the Live-Stream and hit SUBSCRIBE to add this site.



ZION LUTHERAN

510 W. Ivy St., Bay City, Michigan 48706; 989-894-2611

Worship: Saturday 5pm; Sunday 9:30am; Wednesday 7pm

Pastor Phillip Baerwolf, pbaerwolf@zionbaycity.org, 989.284.0500

Bulletin submission deadline: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.



**Zion's Weekly
Prayer Concerns
February 24-March 1, 2024**

Those ill, hospitalized (or recently hospitalized), seeking medical treatment or with long term needs...

Connie Fisher, Lisa White, Rhonda Sepos, Kristy, and those with struggles who suffer silently.

For those celebrating Anniversaries...

Bill & Carol Wright celebrating 51 yrs. on February 24

Brian & Crystal Rabedioux celebrating 1 yr. on February 25

Ed & Mary Martin celebrating 43 yrs. on February 26

For those celebrating Birthdays...

Karen Hunt-2/24

Elaine Myers celebrating her 89th birthday 2/24

Jonathon LaPorte-2/26

Shelby Maillette-2/26

Clarissa Reinhardt-2/28

Bill Schrems-2/28

Ardy Biskupski celebrating her 93rd birthday 3/1

Bonnie Ziesemer-3/1

For this week's homebound/nursing home patients ...

Rebecca Freudenburg, Ernie Highlen, and Betty Ittner.

Baptisms...

Rocky William Kraft - February 24

Pray:

- for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, that they might be treated with respect and love as beloved children of God.
- with thanksgiving for the gift of faith received at Baptism.
- for the administration, faculty, staff, and students at Concordia University-Ann Arbor.

May our prayer be that of the psalmist who teaches us to pray:

"O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath. Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. My soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O Lord—how long? Turn, O Lord, deliver my life; save me for the sake of your steadfast love." (Psalm 6)



The Sacrament of Holy Communion Our Understanding and Practice

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship, firmly believing that Jesus' words, *"This Is My Body... This Is My Blood"* mean what they say. Therefore, Communion is more than a "memorial" or a "representation" of Jesus. Rather, we believe that with the bread and wine of Holy Communion, Christ gives us His true body and blood in a miraculous way through this sacrament. Because of this promise in the Bible that Jesus is truly present, we have confidence that God forgives our sins and likewise strengthens our faith.

Since Scripture instructs us to examine ourselves before receiving Holy Communion, please sincerely reflect on these questions:

1. Am I truly sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin because He gave His life on the cross for me personally?
3. Am I depending on Him, and not my own goodness, as the only way to heaven?
4. Do I firmly believe that Jesus gives His actual body and blood to me in this sacrament?
5. Do I expect to receive God's gift of forgiveness through this meal?
6. Do I sincerely intend, with the help of God, not to return to a life of sin but to live to Jesus' glory?

All who have been instructed about the meaning of communion in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and who confess these statements of belief are welcome to receive communion.

The Bible tells us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod are asked to speak with the pastor prior to receiving this sacrament.

All adults and children not taking part in communion are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing from the pastor. Please indicate this by simply refraining from receiving the bread and wine.

Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available for those desiring this option for reasons of health or conscience.