

APRIL 2026

Zion's Lutheran Church  
**THE TRUMPET**

1801 East Second Street  
Defiance, OH 43512  
Phone: 419-782-8781 Fax: 419-782-6719

*"O give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.  
Sing praises to him;  
tell of all his wonderful works.  
Glory in his holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice"  
Psalm 105: 1-3*

Easter Dawn

He is risen! Alleluia!

Our new day has dawned clear and brightly shining once more. Holy Week has prepared our hearts and minds for the joy of this daybreak of love and hope for our world. And this Lenten season of deep reflection has strengthened us as we have returned to the Lord seeking his grace and healing touch. Indeed, Christ has made all things new. His promises are true! Our faith is renewed by his sacrifice and victory over death.

I hope that in the midst of our alleluias! we will pause to give thanks for life in his name. Each and every one of us has been blessed many times over because the love of Christ has removed the darkness within and brought light to our pathways. Christ's victory is a sign for this world - a sign that points to peace - a reality that invites us to live differently, knowing that we can fulfill his mission of love, mercy and justice if we stay the course of faith.

Now, as Easter dawns, we take up our cross. Together we move forward as one - proclaiming his truth in a world sorely in need of healing, love and peace. Each step is important! Each step is a testament to our belief that the Spirit of God is alive within us. On that lonely hill, he gave us hope even when there was no hope to be found. His last breath gave us life and made the mystery of love visible to those who can see.

May you and your family and friends know the joy of salvation and the glory of Easter dawn.

Peace,

Pastor Tom



**ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Defiance, Ohio

*Installation of Pastor Thomas Zulick*

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 — 6:00 p.m.

[www.zionslutheranchurch.com](http://www.zionslutheranchurch.com)

**WELCOME**

*Bishop Daniel Beaudoin,  
Reverend Mindy Elliott, Dean of Maumee-Valley Conference,  
And Clergy*

**Communion will be by Intinction**  
Please come forward



*Thank you for coming!*

*Please join us for a reception  
immediately following the service  
hosted by the Outreach Committee.*

Council President, Dick Anderson  
Greeter, Mary Boals  
Lector, Helena Morris  
Crucifier, Steve Graf  
Communion Assistant, Helena Morris  
Presenters, Doug Eis & Dawn McKibben  
Musician, Neal Deniston  
Ushers, Steve Graf & Sue McKibben



## Installation of Pastor Thomas Zulick





**Worship Service  
Sundays @ 9:45 am**



**Altar Flowers**  
Altar flowers are ordered by the donor of your choice of flower shops. Fancy Petals will deliver to Zion's on Saturdays. The sign-up sheet is posted in the entryway. Please plan to take the flowers after the Sunday Worship Service.



**Memorial Prayer Garden**  
A living memorial to the memory of the saints, both here & above. The garden provides a place for peaceful meditation and quiet reflection for our church family & community.

**Worship Service Online**  
You may watch Sunday Worship Service live through the Zion's Lutheran Website at the Website address below and clicking on "Live Service"  
  
You may also watch any Worship Service at a later date/time on Youtube TV by visiting the Zion's Lutheran Website (see address below):  
  
<https://zionslutheranchurch.com/>

**Little Free Library**  
Take a Book. Share a Book. The Little Free Library is located at the entrance of the Prayer Garden.



**Weekly Bulletin**  
Sponsor a Weekly Bulletin in honor of a Birthday, Anniversary, Loved One, or anything you wish. Suggested donation is \$20.



**The Labyrinth**  
Walk the labyrinth located in the Prayer Garden. Come and experience the power and peace of this ancient form of prayer. Brochures explaining how to use the Labyrinth are available below the Little Free Library.

# Deacon Ministry

*"[Jesus] has risen..."*

*Matthew 28:6 (NIV)*

The most wonderful time of the year! This phrase makes us think of a Christmas song ... but the good news of the Gospel is that Jesus is alive. He is risen. It's that simple. And it's that wonderful! As nature begins to show new signs of life, we, too, are promised new life in Christ. That makes this the most wonderful time of the year! Because he lives, we have hope in salvation and eternal life, just as God has promised throughout the Holy Scriptures. Whether you are celebrating or hurting this season, let us do so together ... supporting one another in Christian unity. No matter your reason or feeling, reach out at any time to Pastor Tom or one of the deacons to talk about what is happening in your life and in your heart and mind.

*Your Deacons*

*Christ is risen ... He is risen, indeed!*

*Alleluia!!!*

*Happy Easter!*

## Our Deacons

Helena Morris, Head

John Diehl

Doug Eis

Angela Gutman

Regina Snyder

Cindy Wendell

Next Deacon's Meeting

**Sunday, April 19, 2026**

**@ 11:30 am**



## Shut-In's

John Jacob  
Kingsbury Place #154  
245 W. Rosewood Ave.  
Defiance, OH 43512

Carole Engel  
Kingsbury Place #112  
245 W. Rosewood Ave  
Defiance, OH 43512

Barb Jones  
Glenn Park #151  
2429 William A Diehl Ct.  
Defiance, OH 43512

Elaine Davis  
Glenn Park Edon Place  
2429 William A Diehl Dr  
Defiance, OH 43512

Gary Smith  
Evergreen Healthcare  
924 Charlies Way  
Montpelier, OH 43543

Linda Wagner  
At Home  
22668 River Chase Dr  
Defiance, OH 43512

**Outdoor Worship Service  
Sunday, June 21**

**The deacons will host a picnic  
following the service.**



# Council

## MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

March 16, 2026

- 84 paper & hygiene bags were distributed, 103 meals served, and 6 additional people signed up to receive pantry items.
- A member photo directory is being planned. Watch the dates you can have your photograph taken or you may provide a photo to the office for inclusion.
- Help needed—a new council secretary is needed. If interested, contact Council President, Dick Anderson.

### Additions to the Zion's Prayer List:

E-prayers: [office@zionslutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@zionslutheranchurch.com)  
Call the Church office at 419-782-8781.

*If you are calling for someone other than yourself, please be sure that you have their permission to share information.*

## CHURCH COUNCIL



## CHURCH COUNCIL 2026

Rev. Tom Zulick, Pastor  
Dick Anderson, President  
Joyce Rayle, V-Pres  
Laurie Schey, Treasurer  
Mary Boals  
Libbie Engel  
Steve Graf  
Colleen Holley  
Dan Meffley  
Vern Mullett  
Donna Schindler  
Gary Smith  
Regina Snyder

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

6pm on the 3rd Monday  
of each month (except July)  
In the Hofer Room

**NEXT MEETING:**  
Monday, April 20, 2026

### 2026 Leadership Retreat

"MAKING ALL THINGS NEW"

Saturday, March 14th  
9:00 am—3:00 pm

**Awesome discussion on special topics  
to better serve Zion's congregation!**

(see report on next page)

# 2026 Leadership Retreat

## "MAKING ALL THINGS NEW"

On Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> your Council and other leaders met for our annual retreat at Defiance College. A total of 13 members were in attendance to discuss an agenda and listen to Pastor Tom address some very important topics for our discussion.

We were especially happy to include one of our youth members, Peyton Hageman, who participated in all of the discussions and expressed her joy in being there.

All generally agreed it was a second consecutive successful retreat after revisiting the idea last year following several years without a retreat. It will again become an annual event. Gathering in a loving environment was beneficial to think and listen comfortably.

We emphasized that a retreat was not an ordinary, routine meeting, but a special group meeting intended to discuss special topics important for us to serve our congregation. Each member was given the individual opportunity to express their love and concerns for Zion's.

Many of the topics discussed were as follows, all equally important and focused on God:

Listening	Patience	Trust	Love
Prayer	Forgiveness	Goals	Respect
Belief	Evangelism	Teammates	Leadership
Discipleship	Spiritual Growth	Sharing	Courage
Togetherness			

We also discussed the strengths and weaknesses of our congregation and solutions!

The retreat was opened and closed with prayer.

Dick Anderson, Council President



# Christian Education

The Breakfast Club  
Breakfast & Fellowship in the Kitchen  
@ 9:00 am  
Sunday, April 12th  
Sunday, May 10th  
The Breakfast Club will assist with hiding  
The Easter eggs on Easter Sunday  
for the egg hunt!



There will be no  
Sunday School on  
April 5th.



Adult Forum  
The Adult Forum  
will not meet



ZION'S LUTHERAN  
**EASTER  
EGG HUNT**

SUNDAY APRIL 5, 2026  
AFTER W

**DONATIONS NEEDED**  
Prefilled egg or candy  
Donations are needed.  
Please place them in  
the pantry chest in the  
Narthex.

For more information,  
CONTACT SUE MCKIBBEN OR CHURCH OFFICE.

# INNKEEPERS' COMMUNITY MEAL & PANTRY

Our mission is to assist those living in Defiance with basic needs.

NEXT DISTRIBUTION DATE & MEAL  
WEDNESDAY, April 8th

## ACCEPTED DONATIONS



The Innkeepers have designated the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. as distribution and Community Meal night. *In March, we distributed 84 bags, 6 new sign-ups, and served 103!! Wow!!*

The April Pantry needs are:

Kleenex  
Dish soap  
Liquid hand soap  
Bar Soap

## Innkeepers' shopping list:

Laundry Detergent  
Paper Towels  
Toilet Paper  
Facial Tissues  
Dish Soap  
All Purpose Cleaner  
Bleach  
Toothpaste & Toothbrushes  
Deodorant  
Bar Soap & Body Wash  
Shampoo & Conditioner  
Disposable Razors  
Shaving Cream  
Feminine Hygiene Products  
Disposable Diapers  
Baby Wipes  
Adult Incontinence Diapers

We also accept volunteers & monetary donations.

# grateful



## Another Blessing!

The Women's Giving Circle took up a collection of items for the Zion's Innkeeper's Pantry at their Annual Meeting on March 17th!

The Lord is so GOOD!



Thank you to those who generously participated in the "40 Items for 40 Days of Lent" Challenge.

What a great congregation we have!



## ZION'S INNKEEPERS 40 ITEMS FOR 40 DAYS LENTEN CHALLENGE!

- simply donate 1 item for each day of Lent.
- watch our pantry grow!
- items can be dropped off in the chest in Narthex.
- benefitting those in our local Community served by Zion's Innkeepers pantry.

February 20 - MARCH 30  
2026

# Announcements

## COME CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK

ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1801 E. SECOND ST.  
DEFIANCE, OH



### *Palm Sunday*

Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am

### *Maundy Thursday*

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm



### *Good Friday*

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm

### *Easter Vigil*

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm



### *Easter Sunday*

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am



## Lenten Love Offering

The season of Lent is upon us, and our Midweek/Wednesday Offerings are once again being designated to The Innkeepers' Pantry. This has been the tradition for the past several years. Council has chosen to continue with this designation as the pantry is an essential part of our congregation's outreach ministry. Typically, the offerings collected during the 6 weeks of Lent cover between 1-2 month's expenses, and that is a wonderful effect! Thank you to all for your continued support—our Pantry Guests are so appreciative!

### April



Mark & Libbie Engel	4/07
Gene & Barb Vogel	4/28

If your birthday and/or anniversary is not listed here or is incorrect, please call the church office at 419-782-8781 or email the secretary at [office@zionslutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@zionslutheranchurch.com)

### April Birthdays



Cooper Hageman	4/01
Gene Vogel	4/02
Julie Gustwiller	4/05
Malory Eickhoff	4/12
Bonnie Meffley	4/14
Marsha Leaders	4/16
Hazel Smith	4/16
Nancy Swingle	4/25
Cindy Hageman	4/26

# Announcements

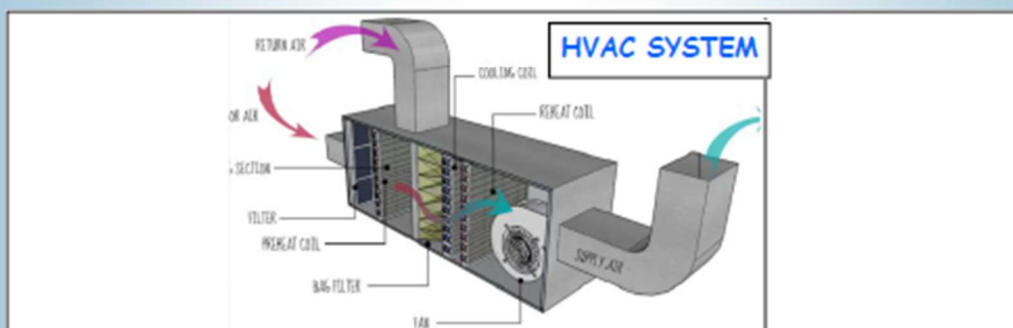
## Zion's Lutheran Church QR Code

Zion's new way to access VANCO Mobile—our tool for mobile giving!

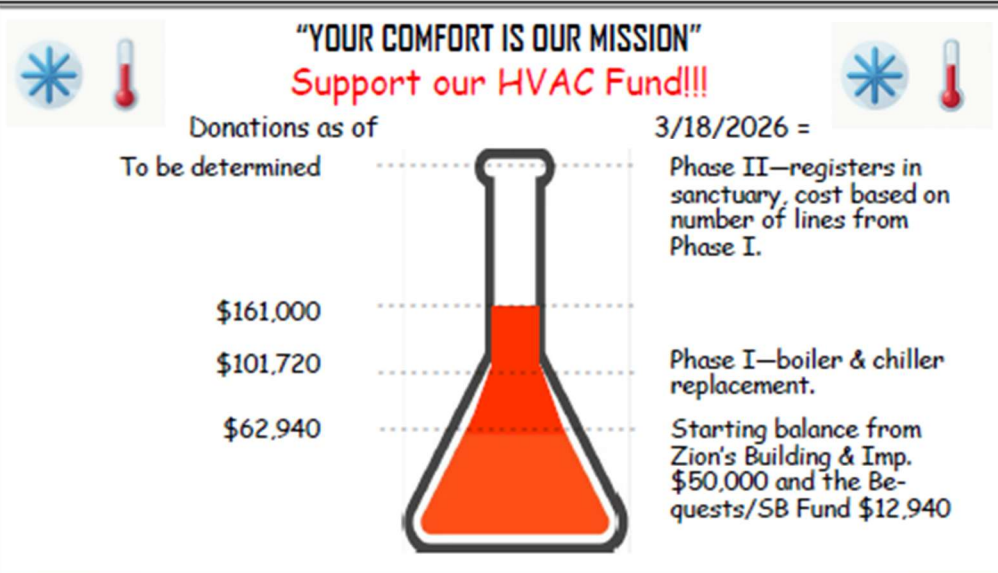


Zion's now has a QR code that you can scan that will take you directly to VANCO—then you can proceed to make your giving choices from there i.e. General Operating Fund, Innkeeper's Fund, and/or the Building Fund.

You will see the QR Code in the back of the pews.



A fund has been established for the new Boiler and Chiller (HVAC) System. If you feel led to donate to the fund, you may do so by writing "HVAC" on your envelope and/or on the memo line of your check and placing it in the offering plate.



# Announcements

Let Us Help You!



**Please contact the church office:**

- \*To plan a baptism
- \*To plan a wedding (at least 4 months ahead of time)
- \*When entering the hospital
- \*When there is a death in the family.

*Fun Fact: Pastors have busy work lives, take vacations, and plan time with family. Please include them before you set dates for special events.*

## DEADLINES

### BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.  
(unless otherwise noted)

### MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

April 27, 2026

**Please remember to call the church office when:**


1. You will be or have already moved.
2. Have an addition to your family.
3. You have an address update and/or correction, or birthday correction.
4. New email address and/or phone number.



# Upcoming Events



## 2026 Photo Directory & What You Need to Know

We will be doing photos on two Sundays before and after service. We are looking at **April 19<sup>th</sup>** and then the beginning of May. If you wish to provide your own photo, please email it to the Teresa at [office@zionslutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@zionslutheranchurch.com) along with your names, current phone number, email, and address. All photos and information need to be completed and to Teresa by Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. This will give adequate time to compile and update everything to complete the directory by the end of May. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or text 419-487-0144. - Libbie 



## Upcoming Events



30th Annual City of Defiance  
**CLEAN UP YOUR PARKS DAY**  
Saturday, April 11, 2026  
9:30 am to 11:30 am

**WHERE TO VOLUNTEER:**

- Bronson Park
- Diehl Park
- Eastside Park
- Fort Grounds
- Holgate Park
- Kingsbury Park
- Pontiac Park
- Reservoir and Nature Trail
- Riverside Park
- Riverside Cemetery
- Veterans Park at Latty's Grove
- Wertz Park

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Wear your boots and gloves and bring a friend!  
**FREE lunch** at 11:30 a.m.  
at Diehl Park  
**PLUS !!!**  
Get a free t-shirt !!  
*(while supplies last)*

**CONTACT:**  
419-784-2745  
cfeeney@cityofdefiance.gov  
Christy Feeney  
M-F 8am-4:30pm  
www.cityofdefiance.com

Maumee Valley Conference Spring Assembly  
Women of the ELCA  
**"REACH OUT TO SERVE"**  
Saturday, April 18th  
First Lutheran Church, Stryker, OH  
Featuring HUT Outreach Speaker: Nichole Coulter

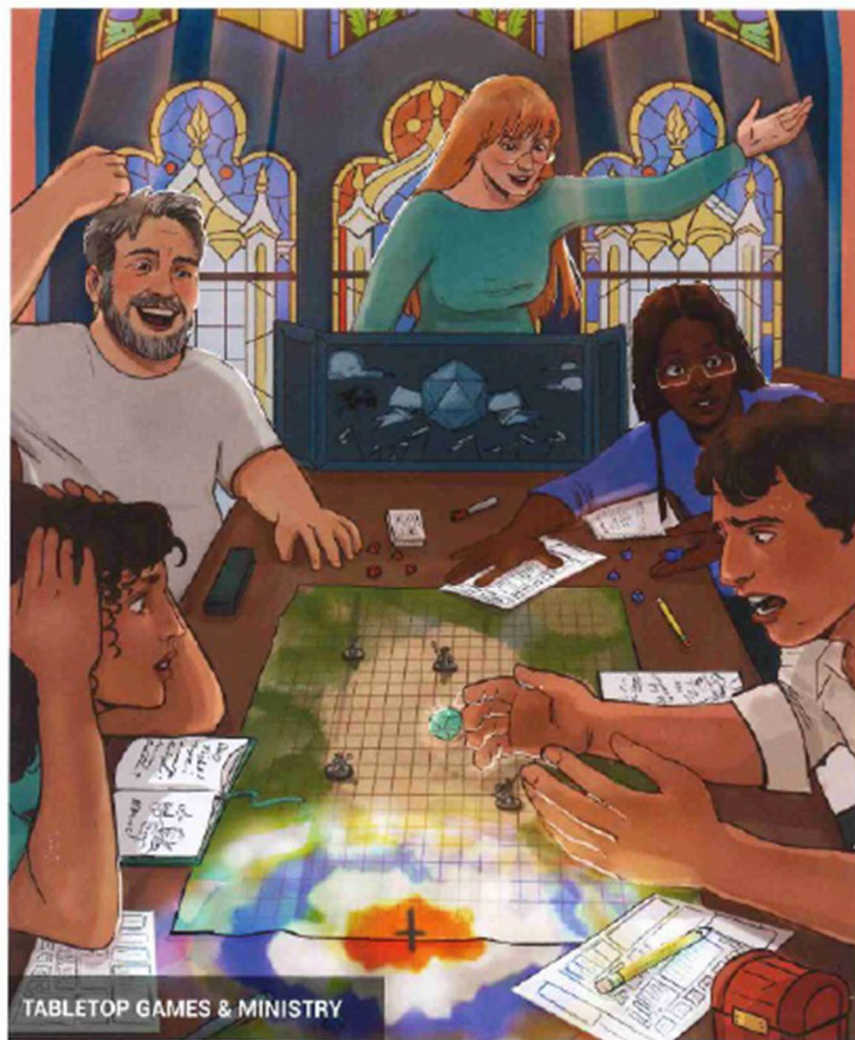
# Announcements

Grab a copy of the "Living Lutheran" Magazine from the spinning rack in the Narthex!!!

## Living Lutheran

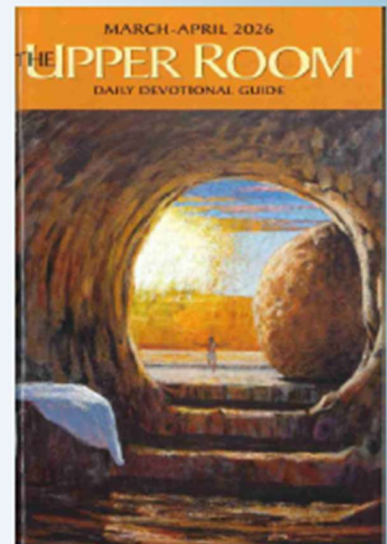
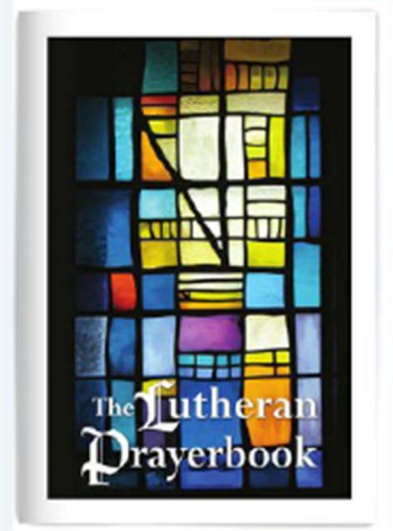
STORIES OF GOD'S PEOPLE  
LIVING THEIR FAITH

SPRING 2026



# PUBLICATIONS

(Get your copy in the Narthex)



# GET INVOLVED AT ZION'S



## Altar Guild

Altar Guild is a group of ladies who alternate serving our Lord by preparing His Holy Table for communion every week.

**New volunteers are always welcome!**



## Bell Choir

The Bell Choir plays during festival seasons and some Sundays throughout the year. Rehearsals are scheduled as needed by Neal Deniston



## Book Group

The Book Group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 12pm in the church library. Please bring your book & join us.

Next Meeting:  
**Mon, April 13th @ 12pm**



## Lutherans of Long Standing

LLS meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 2pm in the church library. Next Meeting:

Next Meeting:  
**Tuesday, April 7th @ 2pm**



## Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship meets every **Thursday** at 9am at Cabin Fever South.



## Sisters in Christ

Sisters in Christ meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 11am in the church library. Cards are signed the following week in the Narthex.

Next Meeting:  
**TBA**



## Worship & Music Team

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6pm in the Hofer Room at the Church.

Next Meeting:  
**Tue., April 14th @ 6pm**



# April 2026

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
			1 12:00p AA Group 6:00p Bell Choir	2 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS 7:00p Maundy Thursday Service	3 7:00p Good Friday Service	4 5:00p Easter Vigil
5 <b>EASTER SUN.</b> 9:45a Worship Easter Egg Hunt 7:30p AA Group	6 7:00p Barbershop	7 2:00p LLS Group	8 12:00p AA Group 4:30p Pantry Dist. & Meal 6:00p Bell Choir	9 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS 5:00p Finance Mrg	10	11
12 8:45a Adult Forum 9:00a Breakfast Club 9:00a Sunday School 9:45a Worship 7:30p AA Group	13 12:00p Book Group 4:15p CIA Group 7:00p Barbershop	14 4:30p Outreach Comm. 6:00p Worship & Music	15 12:00p AA Group 6:00p Bell Choir	16 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS	17	18
19 8:45a Adult Forum 9:00a Sunday School 9:45a Worship 11:00a Endowment 11:30a Deacon Mtr. 7:30p AA Group	20 7:00p Barbershop	21	22 12:00p AA Group 6:00p Bell Choir	23 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS	24	25
26 8:45a Adult Forum 9:00a Sunday School 9:45a Worship 7:30p AA Group	27 7:00p Barbershop	28	29 12:00p AA Group 6:00p Bell Choir	30 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS		

## APRIL LESSONS

<b>APRIL 5</b> EASTER	<b>ACTS</b> 10:34-43	<b>PSALM</b> 118:1-2, 14-24	<b>COLOSSIANS</b> 3:1-4	<b>MATTHEW</b> 28:1-10
<b>APRIL 12</b> EASTER 2	<b>ACTS</b> 2:14a, 22-32	<b>PSALM</b> 16	<b>1 PETER</b> 1:3-9	<b>JOHN</b> 20:19-31
<b>APRIL 19</b> EASTER 3	<b>ACTS</b> 2:14a, 36-41	<b>PSALM</b> 116:1-4, 12-19	<b>1 PETER</b> 1:17-23	<b>LUKE</b> 24:13-35
<b>APRIL 26</b> EASTER 4	<b>ACTS</b> 2:42-47	<b>PSALM</b> 23	<b>1 PETER</b> 2:19-25	<b>JOHN</b> 10:1-10

# ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Driven by God's spirit, we will grow in faith and make Christ's love known"



1801 EAST SECOND STREET  
DEFIANCE, OH 43512



419-782-8781



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TREASURER@  
ZIONSLUTHERAN-  
CHURCH.COM



**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday–Thursday  
9am–2pm



**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
Sundays  
9:45am



**Pastor**  
Tom Zulick



419-344-2629



tom.zulick@gmail.com

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGES.