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Pastor's Corner



Spring! Easter! New baby animals! Flowers! Birds returning! Green grass!

What a glorious season! I always find it interesting that at the time of year that we celebrate the return of the "sun", we also celebrate the return of the "Son". New life is all around us!

How are you being renewed? Perhaps you've had your COVID shots and feel safe to be out among others for the first time in a year. Perhaps you rejoice in being able to get your hands in the dirt. Maybe it's playing with the baby goats / lambs / pigs and remembering what it's like to be playful and joyful all over again.

I have been blessed to have two special God moments this past month, both found through the words or actions of other people. Maybe God knew that I needed my hope to be renewed. That I needed to really see that He is moving and working right here! How is God blessing you? How is God touching your heart? Take a

look around you and see what message God has for you today!

I just wanted to share a quick note about perspective. Saturday, Bill and I were watching a YouTube video of a TV reporter in Iceland. The volcano had just started erupting. If I was in Iceland, I'd be looking for the first flight off the island. "They've had THOUSANDS of earthquakes and now a volcano?! I'm out of here!" But the reporter that we were watching was so excited! Look! Look over there! You can see it! Isn't it beautiful?! They're not allowing us any closer, or I'd get you a better view!

It really made me aware of how much our perspective on things colors our views. Is something terrible and going to ruin our lives? Or is it a chance to grow and set our feet onto God's path again? Is this surgery that we need to have just going to be miserable and we're going to miss out on all the good things this summer? Or is it an opportunity to slow down and become the best self we can be? Is our child's going through a difficult stage a reason for stressing out? Or is it a time for us to remember that they are developing independence so that they can eventually be self-sufficient? Is the hatred that we hear all around us a reason to shut down (or move to Costa Rica)? Or is it a reason to reach out and show love? Perspective is everything!

May this Easter season bless you! He is risen!

Pastor Kelly

Word was received here in January of the death of Dr. Nathan Hartwig of State College, Pa. Nathan was born in 1937 and grew up on a farm a mile west of Juda on Middle Juda Rd. His parents were Lawrence and Viola Hartwig and he had one brother, Arlen.

Nathan attended Juda Schools and graduated from Juda High School in 1955. He was a member of Zion Church, attending Sunday School classes, and was confirmed by Rev. Peter Retzlaff. After graduating from Juda, Nathan attended the UW-Madison, served in the Army, and was stationed in Germany, where he met his future wife, Elfriede. After discharge from the Army, he and his wife lived in Germany for a year, and then moved to Arizona where he earned his MS degree in Agronomy, and subsequently a PHD degree from UW-Madison.

At the time of his death he was Professor of Weed Science at Penn State University, where he had been employed for 31 years. Nathan was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Viola Hartwig, and by his grandparents, Ed and Lillian Hartwig. (His grandparents were long time residents of Juda on Main Street).

Nathan always remembered his Juda roots and kept in touch with his community and church friends.

New Sound and Video System

The new sound and video system at Zion was moved to its permanent spot in the overflow room and was first used on Sunday, Feb. 28.

Thank you to Bill Jahn, Pat Daniels and J.R. Jordan for getting everything moved, set-up and working. Thank you to Rudy, Judy and Calvin Kaderly for facilitating the soundboard system being donated by the Hope Evangelical Free Church. Also thank you to the United Methodist Conference for the grant money and to those

members who donated funds to cover equipment costs. This system will allow Zion Church to continue to reach the people that are not able to worship in person. This will be a continuing outreach program of the church. Pictured in the photo: Bill Jahn, Pat Daniels and Bob Severson, Jr.





Dennis Pfingsten -Youth Leader

The plastic shopping bags the group collected last year have now been cut into strips, rolled into balls and waiting for the next step! One sleeping mat (plarn) is finished and will be presented at church on Confirmation Sunday. A big thank you to everyone who donated bags and to all the youth and parents and guests who assisted the four nights we gathered to make the strips. Thank you also to Pastor Jahn for taking on the task of doing the crocheting for the plarn! The aluminum can collections for the month of January were designated for the Fairbanks Rescue Mission and a total of \$165.30 was donated to this great organization. The proceeds from the aluminum can collections for March and April will be designated for the Stained Glass Window Repair Fund at Zion. As a reminder, empty aluminum cans may be dropped off at the Jefferson Township Recycling Center or the collection cage at the corner of the bank parking lot on Walnut Street. At this time the only empty inkjet cartridges that are eligible for recycling are HP (Hewlett Packard), these can be left in the collection box in the overflow room at Zion.

Thank You

Aluminum can collections for January and February were designated for the Fairbanks Alaska Rescue Mission. A total of \$165.30 was raised! As a reminder the collections for March and April have been designated for the Stained Glass Window Repair Fund at Zion.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the February Noisy Offering, a total of \$133 was raised for the Stained Glass Windows Repair Fund.

Dear Zion/Oakley Youth Group,

We are truly Blessed by your support. Thank you for thinking of us. Hope to see you up here one day! On behalf of the men, women and children who will find shelter, a warm meal, safety and encouragement at the Fairbanks Rescue Mission, we thank you.

Dear Zion Methodist Team,

Thank you so much for your gift to us! We have been so lucky to be partnered with your church for the Joshua Project and the folks that come up to build.

We will use your gift wisely to serve more of God's children in need. God Bless!

Praying for your church and your ministry.

Pete Kelly
C.E.O.

Can you help?

Roger Green is looking for someone to capture his LP records onto DVD. If you have the capability and willingness to do this, please let Pastor Kelly know.

Sermon Themes and Scriptures

- April 1st Maundy Thursday 6:30 PM
The Call: Called To Be Faithful
Acts 21:12-13
- April 4th Easter Sunday
Communion
Cancel Easter?
Matthew 28:1-10
- April 11th God's Grace: More Than Forgiveness
Titus 2:11-14
- April 18th Confirmation Sunday (Zion)
God's Grace: Paralyzed by Grace
Matthew 11:28-30 and Hebrews 10:1-3
- April 25th Lay Servant Corrie Daniels
Topic and Scripture TBA



In Case of Emergency.... April 21-27

Pastor Kelly will be out of state visiting a friend at the end of April. If you have an emergency (serious illness, accident, death in the family) that needs immediate pastoral care, please contact Rev. Don Kim from Monroe UMC. To reach him, contact the Monroe church office at 608-325-6700 or email monroeumc@tds.net

HAVE AN UPDATE FOR FACEBOOK ?

Please send updates for Facebook to Savanna Daniels at: annavasd@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER REMINDER

If you prefer an electronic copy of the newsletter rather than paper, please e-mail the church (joumc@wekz.net) from your preferred e-mail address and we will add you to the distribution list.

GREEN COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

Address: 1129 17th Ave, Monroe. Open: Mondays 2-4:30pm; Wednesdays 9-11am. Phone number: 608-329-7511. You may leave a message if needing assistance.

The Green County Food Pantry, Inc. is still serving families in need via curbside service due to the Covid pandemic. Thank you to everyone who continue to give to The Green County Food Pantry, Inc. in Monroe. The pantry served 118 families in Feb. 2021 which totaled 469 individuals. There were 2 new families who sought assistance in Feb. Due to serving these families at curbside we are not able to break down into ages the individuals served.

I would like to thank everyone who has given to the Lenten drive so far. You still have time to take any crosses (at the back of Zion's sanctuary) of items you would like to donate. The response has been overwhelming.

The current needs for the Green County Food Pantry, Inc. are: laundry detergent, bars of soap, cereal, pudding/Jell-o and soda crackers.

Leanne Severson

Soup Day Thank You

The congregation at Union Church would like to thank everyone who bought a meal at our Soup Day Drive Thru. Your support is very much appreciated. We received many comments on how much you enjoyed the delicious food and how fast the service was from placing your order to driving away with the meal. Thank you to all our workers (some even filling in at the last minute), the planning crew, those behind the scenes and on the 6th to set up, serve and take down. Everyone's help in working together made for a successful fundraiser.

Zion Finance Notes

The Zion Finance Committee will provide monthly Finance updates comparing actual income received versus what is needed each month as per the budget. This year's budget to meet all expenses is around \$1,900 more than last year, or \$140,138. All numbers, (income and expenses) do not include special projects.

| | <u>FEBRUARY</u> | <u>Year End Total</u> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Total Income for February | \$9,096 | \$20,674 |
| Income Minus Misc. & Special Project Income | \$8,496 | \$20,034 |
| Monthly Budget | \$10,949 | \$21,898 |
| Variance of Monthly Income to Monthly Budget | \$2,453 | \$ 1,864 |



- 5th – Darin & Stephanie Davis
Richard & Marcia Wunschel
- 6th – Tom & Tricia Moore
- 7th – Brian & Carolyn Bauman
- 18th – Tim & Deb Myers
- 29th – Rudy & Judy Kaderly



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 st – Gary Preston | 18 th – Bob Severson, Sr. |
| 2 nd – Ryan Schmitt | 21 st – Kari Speckman |
| 6 th – Aubarey McCullough | 23 rd – Liana Daniels |
| 7 th – Jerry Ladwig | 25 th – Darlene Becker |
| 12 th – Sharon Creuzer | 26 th – Trent Davis |
| Amber Ramos | 27 th – Bonnie Dittmer |
| Delmar Zettle | 30 th – JoAnn Eberle |
| 16 th – Evelyn Binger | Emily Makos |
| 17 th – Marvin Becker | |
| Daegan Brauer | |
| Carol Davis | |
| JoAn Hawthorn | |

APRIL ALTAR DECOR

Joyce Hoesly

APRIL NOISY OFFERING

Will go to the 2021 Ingathering Kits

WE ARE NOW LIVESTREAMING

our Sunday 10:45am worship services on YouTube. If you are unable to attend in person, please join on our YouTube channel by searching YouTube for JudaZionWorship or entering the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS4HVzQM-tqK4iur-ZFnkVQ>

LIBRARY: Books/Videos/DVD's

Intimate Moments with the Savior: Learning to Love by Ken Gire (self help)

Intimate Moments with the Savior is a devotional tapestry, richly woven from the threads of Scripture, meditation, and prayer. It captures the intimate moments Jesus spent with individuals and how those moments forever changed their lives. In reliving those life-changing moments, you will walk where Jesus walked.

John the Baptist, Forerunner of Jesus by Johnnie Human (children's)

Relates to the career of John the Baptist whose preaching predicted the coming of the Messiah. Told in a way for children to understand.

DVD: The Case for Christ's Resurrection

Operation Smile – Lenten Mission 2021

We have chosen to collect funds for Operation Smile again this year. Operation Smile has provided hundreds of thousands of safe surgeries for those born with cleft lip and cleft palate. Every three minutes, a child is born with a cleft lip or cleft palate and many are unable to access the safe, effective surgical care they need due to a shortage of surgeons, medical infrastructure and affordability. At Operation Smile we believe that every child deserves exceptional surgical care regardless of where they're born or how much money their family makes. With more than three decades of expertise, Operation Smile creates solutions that deliver free surgery to people where it's needed most. As one of the largest medical volunteer-based nonprofits, Operation Smile has mobilized thousands of medical volunteers from a wide range of medical specialties from more than 80 countries. Operation Smile engages public-private partnerships to advance health care delivery, train local medical professionals to provide surgical care for patients in their communities, donate crucial medical equipment and supplies, and increase access to surgical care so that everyone living with cleft is treated.

Please consider donating to Operation Smile. We are currently at 4 smiles and our goal is 10 smiles. We will gladly accept any amount of contributions (check or cash) towards

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joumc@wekz.net



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We are on the web

www.joumc.org

**MISSION
STATEMENT:
Growing within...
Sowing throughout**

this worthwhile cause. All checks should be made payable to "Operation Smile". We will be collecting donations from now until the Sunday after Easter (April 11th). Place all contributions in the offering plate or give directly to Julie Davis

Ingathering 2021

Each year, churches around our state work together to put together kits for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. We have previously put together flood buckets. This year, they are asking us to focus on two different kits which are in great need. We have from now until June to gather together these kits and then Pastor will get them to the correct spot for pickup. Perhaps it could be a Lenten project for your family to put together a kit or two. Perhaps you could pick up ONE extra item when you do your shopping. These kits are used to help people who are dealing with some of the worst moments in their lives and it's a way we can reach our hands out to help others.

Personal Dignity Kit

- 1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth - No kitchen towels
- 1 Adult Toothbrush - No multipacks
- 1 Bar Soap – 3 - 4 oz

1 Shampoo – 15 - 18 oz
1 Deodorant – 2 - 3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
Place items in a 1-gallon resealable plastic bag
Video at www.midwestmission.org
\$2 for toothpaste and razor

Homecare Kit

2 Liquid Household Cleaners 16 - 40 oz (no spray bottles)
2 Dish Soaps 16 - 34 oz
2 Liquid Laundry Detergents 32 - 64 oz
1 scrub brush with or without handle
Place items into a 5-gallon resealable bucket with a resealable cover.

The Little Blue Box

Thank you for your donations to the food pantry on the lower level of the church. We are guessing that several families are now using it, as it does need refilling pretty regularly. Now that the weather is warmer, we are able to put out canned goods again. We are blessing our community

Looking Ahead

Switch to Summer Hours – June 6th Zion goes to 8:15am and Union to 9:30am.

Wed., Aug. 11th – VBS



Sept. 24-26 – Women’s Retreat - Our chocolate-themed retreat

VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE - June 18 and 19

If you are a youth or young adult and you’re curious about Annual Conference or you want to gain a voice in leading our Conference, please contact Pastor Kelly before May 15th for an application.

