

CHURCH MOUSE

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

Important April Dates

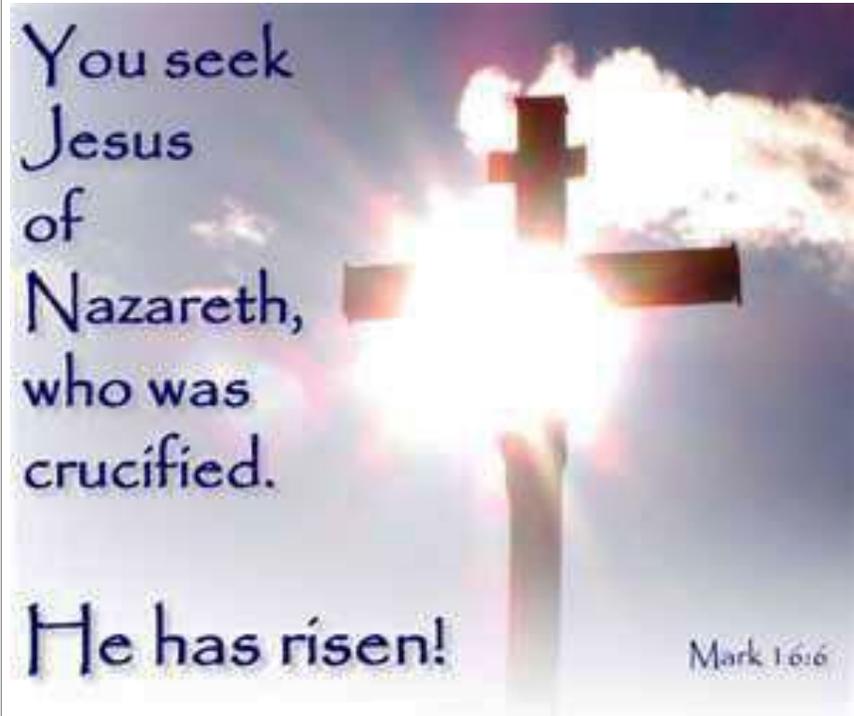
- 1 Men's Bible Breakfast @ Parkview 8:00 am
- 3 PTL Mtg. Meal @ 5:30 pm
Mtg. @ 6:15 pm
- 4 Staff Mtg. 2:45 pm
- 4 Pot Luck 6:00 pm
- 4 Lenten Service 7:00 pm
- 6 Church Council Mtg. 7:00 pm
- 9 Sunday Brunch
- 13 Easter Lunch 11:30 am
- 13 BCE Mtg. 6:00 pm
- 13 Maundy Service with Communion 7:00 pm
- 14-21 School Closed/Easter
- 16 Easter Sunday with Communion
- 28 Spring Program 7:00 pm

Greeters

- 2 Ludwig Family
- 9 John and Jenny Ceccherelli
- 16 John and Peg Holton
- 23 Roger and Helen Drew
- 30 Ron and Ruth Nearpass

Ushers

- 2 Don Heckathorn/
Randy Kellogg
- 9 Matt and Lori Hoyt
- 16 Peter and Heather
Roseboom
- 23 Hallett Family
- 30 Brian and Jackie Schendel



Please join us

Maundy Service with Communion 4/13 at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Service 4/14 at 7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday Divine Service with Communion
4/16 at 8:30 am**

April Birthdays

7 Ruth Nearpass
18 Jen Schendel
18 Lee Roseboom

April Anniversaries

12 John and Jenny Ceccherelli

***Please contact Debbie in the office to add your birthday/ anniversary dates.

A Message from Pastor Grabenhofer

Dear Saints at Zion,
Easter is the most glorious day because on Easter we are remembering the greatest event in all of history—Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Easter would not be the great day and event that it is, if it had meaning only for Jesus and Jesus *alone*, if Jesus' resurrection only benefitted Him.

The Bible tells of others Jesus raised from the dead—like the son of the widow of Nain [St. Luke 7.11-17] or Lazarus [St. John 11]. And we even remember these raisings in the Church Year readings, but we do not celebrate them like we do with Easter. Why not? Although these miracles showed Jesus was Lord over even death and that He is true God [St. John 20. 30-31], these raisings from the dead were mainly for the benefit and blessing of them and their loved ones.

All these that Jesus raised during His earthly ministry eventually died again. Only Jesus rose from the dead, never to die again; and He lives and reigns gloriously and eternally in heaven. And on top of that, Jesus' resurrection was a victory for all people. Jesus' resurrection is a victory after a difficult work, bitter suffering and a fervent struggle with the devil. It is a victory over sin, death, devil and hell—for us. To human eyes, it above all looked as if Christ was defeated when He was placed in the tomb. The disciples mourned, went into hiding, and locked themselves away; fear and terror filled their hearts. If Jesus had stayed dead, then they—and we—would be the most pitiable. But hardly had the sun began to shine on that third day when the message of victory sounded: "The Lord is risen!"

Easter and Jesus' resurrection from the dead is the greatest blessing for us, all people, in the face of our greatest problem: sin and God's wrath over our sin. When Jesus rose from the dead, the Father was announcing that Jesus had lived the holy and sinless life for us; He was announcing that by His suffering and death Jesus had paid the full price for our sin, that nothing more remains and we are forgiven our sin and reconciled to Him. Where there is the forgiveness of sins, how can there be death, the result/ wage of sin? Where there is forgiveness of sin, there is life and heaven because the sin that damns us is forgiven. That's what Easter's proclamation, "The Lord is risen!" means.

Luther comments: First, when you hear Scripture speaking about the death of a human being, you must not only think about the grave and the coffin and the hideous way in which life is separated from the body and the body wastes away and comes to nothing. Rather, you must also look at the cause through which that human being is brought into death and without which death and what it brings cannot be.

A Message from Pastor Grabenhofer Continued...

Scripture shows and teaches that this cause is sin and God's wrath. This brings death with it, always adheres to it and appears with it, and works and drags along all bodily misery and misfortune on earth. Moreover, it separates man from God and all His grace and joy. So also in turn, when life is being discussed, you must also lay hold of the cause which brings and gives life. This must be the righteousness through which a human being is pleasing to God and in turn has pleasure, delight, and joy in God, and along with this receives everything good that he desires from God eternally. [AE, vol. 79, pg. 137]

"The Lord is risen!" is the joyous message of victory which continues to sound even in our day. This proclamation should make our hearts rejoice and glad and with St. Paul we glory [1 Cor. 15:57]: "**Thanks be to God!**" Jesus' Easter Sunday resurrection victory over sin, death, devil and hell is also, through faith, our victory. We now merely await our resurrection on the Last Day when our bodies will be raised from our tombs, reunited with our soul, and be eternally in heaven with the holy Triune God, the holy angels and all the saints.

Wishing you a joyous Easter,
Christ is risen!
Pastor Grabenhofer

Church Mouse Submissions

We are always looking for your info to publish in the Church Mouse. If you have recipes and/or pictures from life events like the birth of your own baby or grandchild or family vacations/celebrations/birthdays, send them to Adina to include in the Church Mouse. Please include a caption to go with the picture. Adina will also accept announcements that have to do with the Church life at Zion. Adina has a mailbox in the office or you can send her an email at asetzer01@stny.rr.com. The deadline for any submission is the 20th of the month. We thank you for your support of the Church Mouse.





Rada Catalog Available

The new Rada Catalog for 2016-2017 is located in the rack in the narthex. If you need any knives, kitchen utensils, cookbooks, soup mixes, dessert mixes, etc., as a gift for yourself or somebody else, you will find them in this catalog.

You can give your order to Joyce Ingersoll or call her at 687-0342 or leave your order in her box in the office.

Payment is due when you receive your item. Orders are usually filled within two weeks or less.

The sale of Rada products is an ongoing fundraiser for the LWML. So once you have ordered, please return the catalog to the rack in the narthex.

Thank you,

Joyce Ingersoll

Grant Awarded

Congratulations Mrs. Roseboom and thanks to the Owego Apalachin Foundation for Excellence in Education for awarding a grant entitled "Make Learning Fun" for \$365! This grant will allow for the purchase of smartboard lessons, several learning games, three science learning kits, as well as a canopy and pillows for the K/1 classroom. Monies will be awarded to Mrs. Roseboom in late April.



Amazon Smile

Do you buy stuff on Amazon? If so, you could be supporting Zion Lutheran Church and School with your purchases. To do so, you must use smile.amazon.com. Once you are on the Amazon Smile page, Amazon Smile will want to know what organization you want to support. Search for Zion! Once you have Zion as the organization you support, proceeds from your purchases will go to Zion.



Box Tops Collection

Please clip and save your Box Tops and submit them to the school or office. Box Tops for Education can be found on a variety of products and can be redeemed for money for our school. Starting April, there will be a classroom contest to see which class can collect the most!



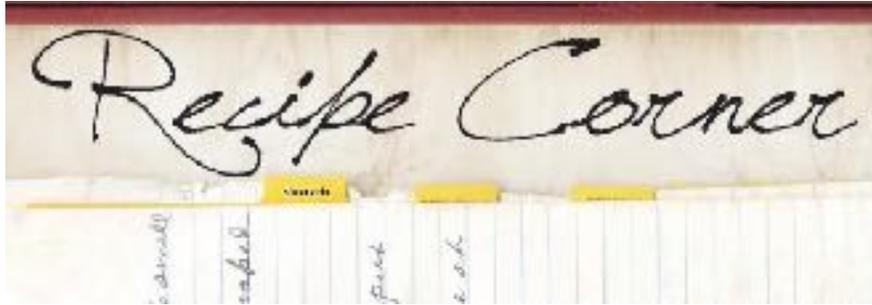
Price Chopper Tools for Schools

Our school gets points when you shop at Price Chopper! You just need to register your AdvantEdge Card and use it when you shop. Go to www.pricechopper.com and use school code 18736 or get a paper form from the office. Ask your friends and family to sign up too!



Spring Program

Please join the Pre-K through 6th grade students on Friday, April 28th for the Spring Program at Zion! Program begins at 7:00 pm.



Stroganoff Meatballs

Thanks to Sharon Souto for the recipe!

Ingredients:

1 egg
1/2 cup dried bread crumbs
1/4 cup milk
1 TBS dried minced onion
1 TBS dried parsley flakes
1/4 TSP garlic salt
1/4 TSP pepper
1 lb ground beef

Sauce:

1 can (10-3/4 oz) condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
1/2 cup sour cream
2 TBS chili sauce
1/4 TSP dried oregano
1/4 TSP pepper
1/8 TSP garlic salt

In a large bowl, beat the egg; add the next six ingredients. Add the beef and mix well. Shape into 1 inch balls; place on ungreased baking sheets. Bake, uncovered, at 450 degrees for 12-15 minutes or until no longer pink. Drain on paper towels; place meatballs in a serving dish and keep warm. Combine all of the sauce ingredients in a medium saucepan; cook and stir until well blended and heated through. Spoon over meatballs. Makes 4 servings and meatballs can also be made ahead and froze for quicker prep time.

Do you have a recipe that your friends and family love? We want to share them in the Church Mouse. Please submit any recipes/pictures to Adina (asetzer01@stny.rr.com) by the 20th of each month.