

News from Old Zion/Alt Zion Lutheran Church



628 N. Broad St,
P.O. Box 24816
Philadelphia, PA 19130
phone # 215-765-5883
<http://oldzionlutheran.org>

Rev. Daniel P. Metzger, Pastor
Betty Meyer, Editor

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“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Romans 6:4

“So sind wir ja mit ihm begraben durch die Taufe in den Tod, auf daß, gleichwie Christus ist auferweckt von den Toten durch die Herrlichkeit des Vaters, also sollen auch wir in einem neuen Leben wandeln.”

A Blessed Easter to Everyone!

****He is risen, risen indeed.****

A word from Pastor

A Prayer in this Time of the Coronavirus

Heavenly Father, we come to You in earnest prayer in this time when the coronavirus is still spreading so rapidly in the world, in our own beloved nation, and now also in this Philadelphia area. With thankful hearts, we cling to Your promise that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ, and that You will make all things work together for good for Your people of faith. Today we ask, Father, that out of Your boundless mercy You would end the threat which this disease poses to us and to all people. Grant healing and recovery, we pray, to those who now suffer from this illness. To all who have lost loved ones in this pandemic, we ask that You would provide the comfort of the Gospel of our risen Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus. Send us Your Holy Spirit, we pray, to keep us diligent in prayer for our families, for our congregation, and for all people. And now and in the days ahead, grant to us true wisdom and fill our hearts with the love of Christ, so that in every way we may act diligently and responsibly for the good of our neighbors. Hear our prayer, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, Your Son and our Lord. Amen



keep up with changes on our web site especially the new Old Zion History blog, and check out our posts on Facebook!
<http://oldzionlutheran.org>

A Word from the Pastor (cont.)

From Luther's Large Catechism, the 3rd Article of the Creed

Luther first makes the point that the special function of the third Person of the Holy Trinity is Sanctification, "namely, that He makes us holy." He does this, Luther explains, by making ours what Christ has won for us, bringing us into "the communion of saints or the Christian Church," giving us the "forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life-everlasting."

For neither you nor I could ever know anything of Christ, or believe on Him, and obtain Him for our Lord, unless it were offered to us and granted to our hearts by the Holy Spirit through the preaching of the Gospel. The work is done and accomplished; for Christ has acquired and gained the treasure for us by His suffering, death, resurrection, etc. But if the work remained concealed so that no one knew of it, then it would be in vain and lost. That this treasure, therefore, might not lie buried, but be appropriated and enjoyed, God has caused the Word to go forth and be proclaimed, in which He gives the Holy Spirit to bring this treasure home and make it ours. Therefore "sanctifying" is nothing else than bringing us to Christ to receive this good, to which we could not attain of ourselves.

Special thanks!

In this strange time through which we are making our way together, we want to acknowledge with thanks those who have continued to make sure that everything gets done so that we can still worship and do the work of a congregation—the officers, those who clean, committee members and chairpersons, the secretary, our organist, choir, and soloist. Special thanks go to J.P. Meyer for seeing to it that we have been able to share our worship online.

Frauenverein

Because of the Covid-19 situation, it has been decided to delay a decision concerning the meeting place for the Frauenverein until we are able to get together and make plans that will be acceptable to everybody. In the meantime all planned activities are cancelled.

A special reminder!

The needs of the congregation continue to be the same even when not all can attend on Sunday. Remember that you can follow us on Facebook, and that you can also continue to contribute online to the financial needs of the congregation!

Sunday Services on Line

As long as the coronavirus keeps our church door closed for live services, Old Zion is streaming the service live on facebook, at 10am Sunday mornings. Find all information pertaining to this and more on our web page: <http://oldzionlutheran.org>



As of the writing of this article for the Newsletter, Philadelphians are ordered to limit their travel. God willing, however, we hope in the month of April to hold all our usual services for Holy Week.

Our Holy Week Schedule:

April 05, **Palm Sunday:**

10:00am, English service with Holy Communion
11:15am, German service with Holy Communion

April 09, **Maundy Thursday:**

7:30pm, English service with Holy Communion

April 10, **Good Friday:**

10:00am, German service with Holy Communion
12:00noon, English service of the Word

April 12, **EASTER SUNDAY:**

10:00am, combined service with Holy Communion

Outreach Committee

We gave the annual report for Outreach - I thanked all the committee members and those who assist as affiliates. The baseball game is postponed. Depending on Covid-19, we may wish to choose another sport - perhaps indoor hockey, or soccer. The church tour has been postponed. Two new signs are done and ready to be put up. Clothing sorting has been postponed since many of the outlets we give to, are closed for the Covid-19. JP has added availability to donate funds online. Keep the food donations coming. Thanks for all you do, everyone..

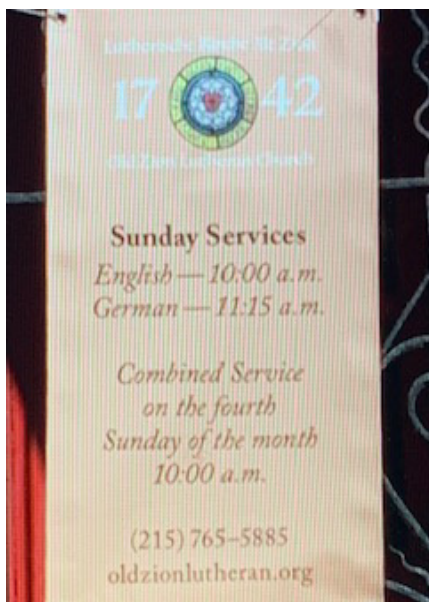


Remember:

Our Collection of foods and clothing is ongoing, even though we can not bring anything to church right now.

After, God willing, the virus situation settles, we will be glad to receive clothes and non perishable foods again.

“Cradles to Crayons” is our new outlet for childrens clothes, which we will be using in the future.



New Church Sign for the Broad Street Gate!

Please remember
our sick and shut ins in your prayers!
A card or a phone call will surely lift their spirits!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 4/5 - Pam Fernsler
- 4/8 - Asiyah Kurtz
- 4/11 - Metzger's Anniversary
- 4/23 - Helmut Reiser



April Altar flowers

As long as no services are being held in our church, we can't take any orders for altar flowers. However, if flowers or lilies are needed for the video, we will be glad to except a donation for that purpose.

Old Zion Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall Rental Opportunities

Now that we have incorporated climate control elements into our lovely Fellowship Hall, the council of **Old Zion Lutheran Church** has made the Fellowship Hall available to members, friends, and those in the greater community on a rental basis for various functions, meetings, and events.

The Fellowship Hall is ideal for meetings and classes, small cabaret performances or recitals, and personal celebrations (anniversaries, birthdays, etc). The hall can be rented on an hourly basis at \$150 per hour, or for a larger block of time at a discounted rate (4 hours for \$500). Ongoing rentals can also be considered.

Aside from both heating and cooling to meet your needs, the Fellowship Hall has space for approximately 70-90 people. We can provide tables and chairs to accommodate your guests, easy access to bathrooms, and space to put out any refreshments you may wish to serve. Basic wifi is provided, as is a large projector screen that can be pulled down for your convenience. We ask that any decorations be approved prior to use.

For more information, please see our new "Space Rental" page on the website by visiting *www.oldzionlutheran.org/rental*, or by searching for **Old Zion Lutheran Church** on the Philadelphia Space Finder (*philly.spacefinder.org*). For more direct information, please feel free to communicate with **Pastor Metzger** or **Jaye Green**, the head of our leasing committee.