



# ZIONEWS

May 2011 Zion Lutheran's Monthly Newsletter



## Wondrous Love...

The storm had died down. The wind and hail had moved on. We went out to the horse barn to check on the horses, and feed up. I checked the water troughs, sure they would be full after the heavy rain, and there, floating on a little piece of bark, was an anole lizard. He was clinging to his little raft for dear life, and looked up at me with one, wet, unblinking eye. I carefully reached down and slid my hand under the piece of bark, and, letting the water run through my fingers, lifted the little guy out of the trough, and put him back on the tree he must have been blown out of. He ran quickly up the trunk and away from me without so much as a backward glance. "Thanks to you, too!" I laughed. So much for communication!

Later that night, I was searching the internet for May Day, thinking I might write a newsletter article about the May Pole I vaguely remembered from grade school days, when the computer took another route. Suddenly, I was learning all about the *distress* call "Mayday!" which Wikipedia says comes from the French *venez m'aider*, meaning 'come help me.' It said that Mayday is always called three times in a row, and is only to be used if a boat or plane or person is "threatened by grave and imminent danger and immediate assistance is required." such as a fire, explosion or *sinking*.

I thought of the anole, adrift on his water-trough ocean, and thought about how many times I have felt like I was right there with him! I thought about how many times in my life I have felt myself sinking, and have thrown my head back and screamed, "Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!" hoping that God was going to hear my voice communication and come help me! Many times, I wasn't really in "grave and imminent danger" but it sure seemed like it! That is probably why the line from the hymn *What Wondrous Love is this* has always struck such a chord with me, especially at Easter: "When I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul."

Address Service Requested

Office Phone: (912) 728-3430  
 Email: [secretary@zionlutheranga.org](mailto:secretary@zionlutheranga.org)  
 Web page: [www.zionlutheranga.org](http://www.zionlutheranga.org)  
 Pastor Barbara Koch



Zion Lutheran Church  
 121 Noel C. Conaway Road  
 Guyton, GA 31312-5735

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	Income	Expenses	Balance
January - March 2011	\$48,121.15 Note (1)	\$48,038.80 Note (2)	\$82.35
Weekly Average	\$3,701.63	\$3,695.29	\$6.33

Notes: (1) Includes \$11,200.00 from the Ebenezer Trustees.  
 (2) Includes \$10,000.00 to the Building Fund.

**In honor of Mother's Day, a little internet wisdom:  
 'THINGS MAMA TAUGHT ME'**

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME.....'LOGIC'**

"If you fall off that swing & break your neck, you can't go to the store with me."

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME.....MEDICINE**

"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they're going to stay that way."

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME.....ESP**

"Put your sweater on, Don't you think I know when you're cold?"

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME.....HUMOR**

"When the lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME.....HOW TO BE AN ADULT**

"If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME ABOUT.....GENETICS**

"You are just like your father."

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME ABOUT MY.....ROOTS**

"Do you think you were born in a barn?"

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME ABOUT.....THE WISDOM OF AGE**

"When you get to be my age, you will understand."

**MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME ABOUT.....ANTICIPATION**

"Just wait until your father gets home."

**AND MY ALL TIME FAVORITE THING.....JUSTICE**

"One day you will have kids, and I hope they turn out just like YOU.....then you'll see what it's like."

**Happy Mother's Day! Pastor Barb <><**

It's scary to think of how many times I was in grave and imminent danger, and didn't even realize it! How many times has God reached down, carefully lifted me out of danger and set me back on solid ground, and I scampered off, without even a backward glance - clueless? Certainly, no "Thank you, God!" for saving me.

In my saner moments, I recognize that that is what God did for me through Jesus, on the cross! He reached down and saved me, even before I knew I needed rescuing! Today, the cross is the raft I cling to on the stormy seas of life. I try not to send out the Mayday! call unless it's really an emergency! And, I try to remember to thank God for all the times he has come to help me, even when I didn't send out a very clear signal. "Thank you, God!" for rescuing me from a life or death situation! What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

**May Day Blessings! Pastor Barb <><**

*Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. Psalm 69:1*

**Pastor Barb is in the Church Office:** Tuesdays: 2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m., Thursdays: 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. and evenings by appointment. She will be on vacation May 12th, through May 20th. If there is an emergency, please call Council Vice President Joe Studier at 429-2815 and he will be able to assist you as needed.

**Sunday School Convention**

Sunday, May 1st is the Sunday School Convention at the Methodist Campground in Springfield. Sunday school classes will line up at 9:45 a.m. and march in with their banners as the roll is called in the open-air sanctuary. A covered dish meal is planned for after the worship. Bring a dish to share. Zion will have an abbreviated worship service at 8:30 a.m. so all may attend both. Come be a part of this 132 year old tradition!

**Evangelism**

Please note - if any committee or group needs advertising for events, please contact Laurie Langston at least 3 weeks prior to the event at laurielangston@gmail.com or call her at 912-272-6440

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

April 3, 2011

*A complete copy of approved minutes will be posted on the Church Bulletin Board.*

#### Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The Minutes from the March 6, 2011 Council Meeting were approved.

The Minutes from the March 20, 2011 Called Council Meeting were approved.

#### Reports

The Pastor's Report for March 2011 was reviewed. Mileage up due to large number of hospital visits.

The Treasurer's Report for March 2011 was reviewed.

#### Committees

**Property Committee:** Handed out updated Action list. Work day on April 16 from 8:00am – noon. Have installed a steel pipe cage over the new AC unit. Exploring security options. Leak over nursery roof patched; cost, 300.00. Rough draft of a new Cemetery Policy for council members to take home to review. Will discuss further after members have a chance to review it.

**Evangelism:** Purchased ad in the Effingham Now for Easter week activities.

Movies to be every other Friday through summer. Upcoming events: Playground dedication/ ice cream festival, BBQ in September as a fundraiser, Trunk or Treat in October, Fair Parade and Rincon Christmas Parade, yard sale on May 14.

**Stewardship and Finance:** Recommendation to invest Endowment money in a 10 year annuity offered through Ameriprise Financial. There will be no risk to the principle and there is an 8% annual return. See attached copy of resolution and action under new business.

**Worship and Music:** Easter Sunrise Service has been moved to 6:30am.

**Christian Education:** VBS to be held in ZFH to save on AC cost. Friday night closing with hot dog supper.

#### Unfinished Business None

#### New Business

A motion to adopt resolution to invest Endowment Fund in the 10 year annuity was seconded and carried. Discussion as to how Zion will prepare and accept new members. Previously, 3 half hour classes with pastor were required. Council decided instruction should be offered but not required.

#### Announcements/ Correspondence

May 15, Pastor Barb is on vacation. Elliott Foss will be worship leader. Permission to preside given by synod.

Next meeting date, May 1, 2011. Committees at 6:00pm/ Council at 7:30pm.

*Sherri Pitman, secretary*



### Lent and Easter Thank You!

What a meaningful Lenten season, Holy Week and Easter celebration we had this year! It was so good to have guest preachers from the other ELCA churches come and present the Miracles of Lent. Thanks to Pastor John Barichivich and Pastor Patrick Finley for sharing their insights with us! The solemnity of Holy Week, with our stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday and our tenebrae service on Good Friday prepared us well for the joy of our Easter Sunrise bonfire and Easter Festival worship.

I don't know if people realize how much behind-the-scenes work it takes to prepare for every worship experience, but I am here to tell you that Zion is very blessed to have such dedicated, creative, and spirit-filled people using their God-given talents for the building up of this church! I am most grateful for all the people who help make our worship a worthy offering to God, for that is what it is.

Thanks to our Worship and Music Team, our musicians, our Children's Choir and their parents for getting them here, our sound technicians, our readers, ushers, greeters, acolytes, crucifers, communion assistants, assisting ministers, yard work, flowers, changing the sign board, proof readers for bulletins, the choir, special music, all who provided food and/or cooked for our Lenten Suppers, our Youth for Easter breakfast, and to everyone who faithfully blessed us with their participation in the services and fellowship meals. This is why we say that the ministers at Zion are YOU! Thank you for all you do! *Pastor Barb* <>><

### Relay for Life Update

I would like to thank all of you for supporting the Zion Relay for Life Team. With your help we surpassed our goal. Our team raised over \$2400 to help support cancer research. **Mckenzie Lott** won the kid walk by raising the most in that division.

For all of those who came out, thank you. Those who spent the night and participated in the Redneck Games and won were **Abby Hutcheson** and **Jody Dixon**, Great Job Ladies!!! If you missed the fun we will be having a team next year and we can't wait to see you there. Cheryl Pannal



For **James, Lowell, and Clayton Dasher** and families on the loss of their sister, **Leona “Chubby” Helmey** on April 9th, 2011. Her funeral and burial were at Zion on April 12th.

*We pray for God’s comfort for all who mourn.*



Thank you to our Zion Church family for all the sympathy, support, cards, prayers & meal given in the passing of our beloved Leona. We appreciate everything you all have done for us.

**The Family of Leona “Chubby” Helmey**

To all the ladies of Zion Lutheran, thank you so much for blessing us with your prayers, support and encouragement. AND thank you so much for showering us with such lovely gifts!

**Love, Lindsey & Anson Dasher**

We would like to thank all of the women of the Church who helped make our baby shower such a success. We appreciate all of the wonderful gifts, advice, and support. We can not wait for all of you to meet our new baby girl! ~**With Sincere Gratitude, Misti and Brett Vandenhouten**

The Southeastern Synod is in grateful appreciation to Zion Lutheran Church for its 2010 Benevolence donations of \$3,512 undesignated, and \$1,052 designated. **Gratefully, Bishop Julian Gordy**



Congratulations to **Randy Hall & Laura Paul** on the birth of their new son, **Jayden Randal Hall** on Thursday, April 14th. **Henry & Margaret Hall** are the proud grandparents.

Congratulations to **Brett & Misti Vandenhouten** upon the birth of their new daughter, **Blaire Ann** on Wednesday, April 20th. **Rick & Jenny Ullman** are the proud grandparents and **Louise Ullman** is the proud great-grandmother.

Congratulations to **Charlene & Mirko Bulovic** upon the birth of **Lazar Peter** in Atlanta on Friday, April 22nd. **Charlie & Melinda Heidt** are the proud grandparents.

## Children’s Choir by: Melinda Heidt



It is hard to believe that school gets out this month. Our last day for Children’s Choir will be May 18<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to sing through May 22nd. During the summer months, we will have some specials using the younger Sunday School children and the children’s choir singing with them. Thank you to our Children’s Choir members who have faithfully come to practice on Wednesdays and sang at the Sunday Worship Services. To the congregation, we thank you for the prayers and support you gave the choir during the year. We will have a pool party in June to honor our children for their dedication in singing at church. We hope you have a fun and safe summer!



## Care for the Troops

### Some Miscellaneous Facts and Figures



- Visits by family members of active-duty military personnel to therapists have increased at a compound annual growth rate of 15% over the past 10 years.
- The unemployment rate among post 9/11 veterans was 15.2 percent in January and well above the 9.6 percent rate for non-veterans.
- For the age group 18-24 yrs, the unemployment rate is 31.9%. This is considered a potential factor in the increased suicide rate.
- The Veterans Administration said in December 2010 that more than 9,000 U.S. veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan were homeless.
- 300,000 of the U.S. military veterans coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, PTSD.
- An average of 18 veterans commit suicide every day and five of those are already getting treatment at the VA.
- Since 9/11, 800,000+ Reserve/Guard personnel have deployed; over 250,000 have deployed more than twice; and 89,000+ are now deployed.

## Lutheran Youth Organization News

submitted by Dana Lee Smith

### April Highlights

Thanks to everyone who helped with the preparation and cleanup of the Sunrise Breakfast. Special thanks to all who joined in the meal and fellowship following the service. Also, thanks to everyone who helped with the carwash and for letting the youth give your car a shine! We appreciate your support!!

### May Events

**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 10:00am-2:00pm:** *Sunday School Convention*  
Youth are encouraged to attend Sunday School Convention starting at 10:00am at the Methodist Campground in Springfield. All churches in Effingham County are invited to be a part of this special day. There is special music, a guest speaker and each church shares a song with the group. Following the service, all of the Lutheran churches in Effingham have been invited to share a covered dish picnic lunch together. The bus will be leaving Zion at 9:00am.

**Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:30pm:** *Youth Bible Study*  
Come join the fun as we explore God's word. This is our final Bible study of the school year.

**Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 9:45am:** *Mother's Day Project*  
We need all extra hands to complete a special project for all the ladies of Zion. This will be completed during Sunday School.

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00am-1:00pm:** *"I Was Hungry" Serv. Project*  
This is a special project to reach out to those who are in need. We'll meet at church at 9:00am to assemble bag lunches. Then, we'll go and distribute these bag lunches around the squares in downtown Savannah. We should arrive back at Zion by 1:00pm.

### Summer Plan Ahead

**Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup>:** *AFFIRM @ Berry College*  
in Rome, GA - Travel arrangements are being made, stay tuned for details!

*All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate in youth activities. For additional information contact Dana Lee Smith at 728-3227 or 665-1377.*



## Congratulations Graduates!

Zion offers a big "CONGRATULATIONS" to all our members graduating this month.

From *Armstrong Atlantic State University*:

**Theresa Nichole Gordon** - Graduating Magna Cum Laude with a major in History and a minor in Political Science. An invitation to the event for the congregation is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

From *South Effingham High School*:

**Lauren Chapman**      **Andrew Kessler**  
**Katie Conaway**      **Alexis Mercer**  
**Casey Griffith**      **Wesley Ogletree**  
                                 **Shelby Zipperer**

We rejoice with **Devan and Layla Funderburk** who received their First Communion on Maundy Thursday. We welcome them to the Lord's Table, and pray for God's continued blessings upon them.

### Welcome!

We rejoice in the Baptism of **Riley Claire** on April 10th. She is the daughter of **Rachel and Craig Bracken**.

We also rejoice in the Baptism of **Grayson Alexander** on April 17th. He is the son of **Jody Dixon and Rhett Lott**.

*We welcome them to the family of God here at Zion.*

### Church Directory Updates: New Addresses...

Jamie Atkinson	Megan Edwards
2035 Timothy Road	2035 Timothy Rd.
Apt. K207	Apt. J208
Athens, GA 30606	Athens, GA 30606
Becky Floyd	Heather Edwards
376 Blandford Rd	426 Briarwood Rd.
Rincon, GA 31326	Guyton, GA 31312

## May Events

Zion will host its **Annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, May 5th, 2011 from 2:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.** The Red Cross is always in need of blood donations, so please come out and support them. For more information, contact Norma Ralph at 912-313-2465.

### ***Friday "Movie Night" at 8:30 p.m. at Zion!***

Zion will host May's Movie Night at **8:30p.m. on Friday, May 6th.** We will be showing "*Tangled*". If the weather is nice, we will be able to head back outside! So, call a friend, call a neighbor, invite your family, for a FREE movie night at Zion. As always, candy, popcorn, water, and soda will be available at minimal cost. Come on out and enjoy the show!



**The Evangelism Committee** will host its annual **YARD SALE** on **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.** Please don't throw your things away that can be sold, as we are taking donations.



Bring your donations to the Church and we will store them until the yard sale. We would appreciate it if most items would be delivered by Saturday, May 7th. Thanks for all your efforts. If you have any questions, contact Rebecca Heidt, Laurie Langston or Cheryl Pannal.

**Cemetery cleaning and mowings** will be held at

8:00 a.m. on the following Saturdays,  
**May 14th, June 25th, and July 30th.**

We appreciate your support in helping keep our cemetery tidy.



### ***LMM BREAKFAST SOCIAL***

**Lutheran Men in Mission** will host their monthly **Breakfast Social on Sunday, May 22nd, at 9:00am.** Milk, juice, coffee, breakfast sweets, cereal and toast will be served. LMM will also have a short meeting during this time. For more information or if you would like to assist with this project, contact Clayton Dasher at 728-3222.

### **Women of the ELCA**

Submitted by Dana Lee Smith

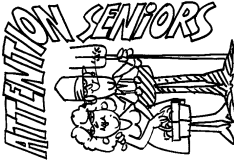
Thanks to all who helped with our annual Easter Egg Hunt! We had a great turn out and all who attended had a good time. We appreciate the donations to help cover costs and we appreciate all of the "hands on" help.

Our next quarterly meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm. We will meet briefly following the worship service. The meeting will be held in the overflow room of the church (next to the sound board). All ladies are invited to join us for this brief meeting. We will plan the details for hosting the June birthday party at the Effingham County Nursing Home.

Remember.....all ladies of the congregation are members of WELCA. Everyone is encouraged to get involved. Check the monthly meeting schedules in Zionews.



### **Senior Citizens!**



Sgts. **Ed Myrick & Pete Hossalla** from the Effingham Co. Sheriff's Office were our guest speakers at our April meeting. They informed the 38 folks present how the Project Lifesaver works. If anyone has a loved one that has memory loss and tends to wander, please get in touch with the Sheriff's Office to enroll in this program. The bracelet that wanderers wear makes it possible for them to be tracked. It certainly could be a "lifesaver" for your loved one.

Thank you to **Charlie & Melinda Heidt, Cheryl Pannal, & Georgia Foss** for preparing the delicious meal. Thank you also to the others who brought food &/or helped clean up.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Our guest speaker is **Didi Sims** from the YMCA in Rincon. She will be speaking about good eating habits and will show us some exercises that can be done while sitting. Plan to come on out & enjoy a great get-together – and bring a friend! The meal will be provided.

## Zion's Vacation Bible School

June 13th thru June 17th

It's a BEACH BASH! Yes that's right. We are bringing the beach to Zion. While we are here having fun we will be exploring several Bible stories such as "An extraordinary boy being discovered" and "A man who disappears into the clouds". We will sing fun songs and we will have several surprises in store, so bring a friend to the SONSURF BEACH BASH. Classes are for ages 4 (by Sept. 1, 2011) through 5th grade. Please contact Cheryl Pannal at 772-5465 if you would like to volunteer or have any questions.



June 3rd - 5th - Southeastern Synod Assembly in Atlanta, GA

June 13th-17th - VBS

June 19th-24th - LYO to AFFIRM at Berry College in Rome, GA

June 21st - Effingham County Nursing Home Birthday Party

**St. Boniface Church in Springfield has begun offering bereavement sessions for anyone in need of support during the difficult grieving process that takes place after the passing of a loved one.**

**All are welcome to attend.**

*The meetings are the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month.*

Time: 5:15p.m. until 6:30p.m.

Place St. Boniface Hall

Cost: Free and available to all. No need to RSVP.

Location: St. Boniface Church

1952 GA HWY 21 S.

Springfield, GA

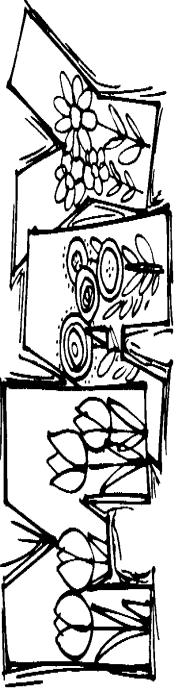
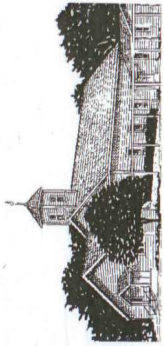
Serving in May						
Date	Flowers	Acolyte *	Crucifer *	Assisting Minister	Nursery	Communion Servers
May 1 (W)	No Flowers	No Acolyte	No Crucifer	No Assisting Minister	No Nursery	Louise Sebastian
May 8 (W)	Ruth Phillips	Charlie HeidtHarris	Christian HeidtHarris	David Harris	Joy Hutcheson	Diane Counts
May 15 (W)	Margaret Hall	Devan Funderburk	Alex Peth	Sherri Pittman	Jennie Vandenhouten	Charlene Freyermuth & Trey Davis
May 22 (W)	Kathleen Conaway	Caycee Pannal	Anna Lee HeidtHarris	Dana Lee Smith	Rachel Bracken	Bill & Laurie Langston
May 29 (W)	Sherri Pittman	Luke Dasher	Christian HeidtHarris	Elliott Foss	Rebecca Heidt	Bryan Vandenhouten

\* Acolytes and Crucifers need to meet in the pastor's office 10 minutes before worship (10:50 am).

Week of	Clean Church	Clean Education Building	Questions/ Changes
May 2nd	Autumn Conaway	Anna Lee & Christian HeidtHarris	If you cannot clean on your assigned week, Contact Dana Lee Smith @ 728-3227 or 665-1377 by Wednesday of the week assigned.
May 23rd	Alex & Benji Peth	Cassidy & Megan Edwards	

Month of	Greeters	Ushers	Visiting Comm.
May	Bruce Peth Lida Peth	Joe Studier, Charlie and Cheryl Pannal, Teresa Sikes	Pastor Charles & Mary Lou Thomas

Women's Circles	Program	Place
Evening May 3rd	Barbara Smith	Home of Emma Lee Dasher (728-3222)
Afternoon May 5th	Mary Lou Thomas	Home of Bessie Studier (772-3424)
Sisters of Faith May 16th	Norma Ralph	Church Education Building
Mary/Martha May 2nd	Dana Lee Smith	Home of Dana Lee Smith (728-3227)



*Each Sunday*  
 9:45 am - Sunday School  
 11:00 am - Worship Service  
 with Holy Communion

**Sun**      **Mon**      **Tue**      **Wed**      **Thu**      **Fri**      **Sat**

1 <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> 8:30a - Abbreviated Service 9:45a - Sunday School Convention @ Methodist Campground, Springfield 6:00p - Comm./Council	2 6:30p - Mary/ Martha Circle - Home of Dana Lee Smith (728-3227) 7p - AA-ZFH	3 7:00p - Evening Circle Home of Emma Lee Dasher (728-3222) (April Mag.)	4 2:30p - Children's Choir 4:30p - K-5 Faith Weavers 5:15p - Meal 6p - LYO Bible Study 7p - Adult Choir	5 2p - 7p - Zion Red Cross Blood Drive 2:30p - Afternoon Circle - Home of Bessie Studier (772-3424) (April Mag.)	6 8:30p - Zion Movie Night "Tangled"	7 14 8a - Cemetery Clean-Up 9a - 2p - Zion Yard Sale
8 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> 9:45a - LYO - Mother's Day Project  <i>Mother's Day</i>	9 7p - AA-ZFH	10 7p - Marlow Farm Bureau - ZFH	11 2:30p - Children's Choir 7p - Adult Choir	12 19 10a - Manna House Board Mtg. - YMCA	13 20 Pastor Barb on Vacation May 12th - May 20th	21 9a - 1p - LYO - Service Project
15 <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> 12:15p - WELCA Mtg.  <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	16 7p - Sisters of Faith Circle - ZFH 7p - AA-ZFH	17 18 11:30a - Senior Citizens - Meal provided - ZFH 2:30p - Children's Choir <i>No Faith Weavers</i> 7p - Adult Choir	25 <i>No Children's Choir</i> 7p - Adult Choir <i>Last day of Eff. County Schools</i>	26 27 7p - SEHS Graduation	27 7p - SEHS Graduation	28 7p - ECHS Graduation
22 <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 a - Cong. Breakfast - LMM 4:00p - Graduate Baccalaureate Service at Rincon First Baptist Church	23 7p - AA-ZFH	24 31 30 <i>Memorial Day</i> 7p - AA-ZFH				
29 <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>						LMM-Lutheran Men in Mission LYO-Lutheran Youth Organization WELCA-Women of the ELCA ZFH-Zion Fellowship Hall