

ZION NEWS

Zion Lutheran Church
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LENT

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

10 a.m. Midweek Lenten Services At Zion
February 24, March 3, 10, 17 & 24

Wednesday, February 24

6 p.m. Soup Supper & Midweek Lenten Service
At Zion Lutheran Church

Wednesday, March 3

6 p.m. Soup Supper & Midweek Lenten Service
At First Presbyterian Church in Menominee

Wednesday, March 10

6 p.m. Soup Supper & Midweek Lenten Service
At United Church of Christ

Wednesday, March 17

6 p.m. Soup Supper & Midweek Lenten Service
At Pioneer Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 24

6 p.m. Soup Supper & Midweek Lenten Service
At St. James Lutheran Church

Our Discipleship Together

Being Lutheran

An old joke: The dying Lutheran tells his pastor that he's certain that he'll be going to heaven because he hasn't done a single good work.

As Lutherans we are pretty passionate about making it clear that the only way we are saved is by the grace of God through Christ and not by anything we can do. Why do we believe this is so important? If we were not saved by grace, we would be imprisoned by the worry of always wondering where the line was being drawn. And, in case you haven't noticed, life is awfully gray. Just listen to a child when any kind of boundary has been set. "Yeah, but what about . . ."

The Seven Marks of Discipleship

- ✠Pray
- ✠Worship
- ✠Study
- ✠Invite
- ✠Encourage
- ✠Give
- ✠Serve

Recently I have been involved in many discussions about the decisions made at the last ELCA Churchwide Assembly, and one of my flip comments has been that these decisions were probably some of the most Lutheran things we can do. We are trusting that grace will be there for us, certain that our good and proper decisions will never save us. The older I get the more I realize that there is a lot of gray when it comes to sexuality and maybe that is the most frightening aspect of it. These decisions recognize that grayness and come down on the side of grace.

Grace frees us from fear, but it also frees us for, get this, good works! With grace we don't have to worry about whether or not our good works measure up. Grace frees us to follow our Lord with joy and excitement rather than dread, empowering us be the love of God in the world today.

Pastor Keith



book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Book of Faith Lenten Journey: **Forty days with the Lord's Prayer**

“When asked to teach his disciples to pray, Jesus said, “Pray then in this way,” and then he taught them what we have come to call the Lord’s Prayer. In Matthew’s telling of the prayer in the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, it is only sixty-two words in ten lines. It has only seven petitions. It is a short prayer; yet, as Tertullian, a third-century theologian once declared, it is a summary of the whole gospel.” (From the Introduction)

This Lent we are going to spend 40 days focusing on the Lord’s Prayer using a resource produced by Augsburg Fortress, our church’s publishing house. The book is designed for individual study, but we will also be using it for group discussions. On Sunday mornings during Lent, following worship, and on Wednesday mornings, again, following worship, we will gather to discuss the themes of the week. You will be invited to bring your thoughts, your questions, your observations and your experiences. There will probably be an on-line discussion on our website as well.

The books will be available in the narthex. A \$9.00 donation for the books will help defray costs.

Join the journey as well as the discussions.
Pastor Keith

Stewardship Committee Report

As of January 15, 2010 the Stewardship Drive resulted in 66 pledges to the General Fund totaling \$122,391 - down \$8,181 from 2009. Of the 66 pledges made 31 remained unchanged from 2009, 4 decreased, 11 were new pledges, and 19 were increased.

There were 39 pledges to the one year Debt and DAR Campaign totaling \$23,870. Of the \$23,870 pledged 70% or \$16,709 will go toward paying down our debt; 20% or \$4,774 will go to the DAR Boys and Girls Club to purchase scholarships, computers, and renovations to the playground; and 10% or \$2,387 will be paid to Synod as a Tithe.

Zion has a total of 200 households within the congregation. While the number of pledges made does not represent a significant number of those households, we do feel blessed given the current state of the economy. We also realize that even though many have not pledged, we know they will continue to support the ministry of Zion.

We want to thank all those who did pledge and those who will continue in their support of Christ’s ministry.

Karen Sylvester
Chairman

Church Council January Update

25th Anniversary of Ordination

Sunday April 25th we will be celebrating Pastor Kolstad's 25th Anniversary of his ordination. Bishop Skrenos will be here to preach and give him his certificate from the Synod. This will be his last Sunday with us before he leaves for Tanzania. I am looking for people to serve on a committee to plan the decorations of the church, fellowship hall and serve the coffee hour. If you would like to help in any way please contact me. We would like to make this a very special day. I need some help as I will be busy planning the service and music.

Ann Buscher 735-3017

Volunteer Coordinator Report

The fine tuning is almost complete on the pictorial directories. Shortly they will be sent for final proofing and printing. If all goes as planned we will have them in the beginning of March.

We are still looking for volunteers for coffee time. I will be making contact with congregation members this week as we still have openings on the 14th and 21st of February. If you are uncomfortable sponsoring coffee time alone, or it is your first time, feel free to contact us and we will have someone help you on your Sunday. Families, friends, and social groups are encouraged to get together to sponsor. If you are interested in baking items for any Sunday, please let us know. If you have any questions feel free to call or email me.

Zion's goal for this year is to have coffee and fellowship EVERY Sunday. As of today we have achieved our goal! I want to say thank you to those who have sponsored this year.

Coffee and fellowship is such an important time; it is a chance for us to connect and form new friendships with others.

God Bless,
Sarah Rabideau
Volunteer Coordinator
(715) 801-0150
mnvik_26@hotmail.com

At the January 18th Council meeting Ann Buscher made a presentation regarding an event to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Pastor Keith's ordination. The celebration will take place on Sunday, April 25th. Bishop Skrenos will be preaching at worship that Sunday and there will be an African musical send off for Pastor Keith as he leaves for his sabbatical. In addition to planning this event, Ann will be providing information weekly to the congregation on what a sabbatical is, where Pastor is going, and what he will be doing when he gets there.

Pam Lund presented three separate documents to the Council regarding the numerous memorial funds Zion has. The first document showed contributions received and disbursed by year, the second lists donations made by year and project category, and the third shows items, not funds, which were donated and the year of donation. Pam indicated she still has more work to do, but is slowly moving toward completion in creating an invaluable asset for Zion.

The Council approved including \$600 in the 2010 budget for Goodwill Cleaning Services thereby enabling all seven of Zion's restrooms to be thoroughly cleaned on a monthly basis. Fran will continue to empty wastebaskets and replenish toilet paper weekly. This will allow Fran to dedicate more of his time to mechanical maintenance and construction projects.

Kathy Heimbuch presented an in-depth report on her committee recommendations as regards the projection/recording system. Those committee members are Bill Tipple, Troy Cording, Dean Schoen, Sarge Rudell, Sarah Rabideau, Curt Clarke, Shawn Limberg, Shelby Atwood, and Brittany Kloida. The total cost of the recommended system is \$43,457.39 with funding to come from ... (continued)

Church Council January Update...(continued)

the Capital Improvements fund, Memorial Fund, Capital Campaign and possibly the Agnes Bennett Memorial Fund. Since this project coincides with the stated goals of the Agnes Bennett Memorial Fund the Council recommends utilizing all of the funds in this account for the purchase and installation of this projection/recording system. Given this recommendation, Pastor Keith and another Council representative will speak with a Bennett family representative to obtain needed permission. Kathy's goal is to have the system installed and functioning by Easter.

This years midweek Lenten worship services will involve five different congregations on both sides of the river not all of which are Lutheran. The theme will be "Lenten Hymns." Each congregation will be responsible for one Soup Supper with Zion having the first one.

Karen Sylvester
Council Secretary

Missional Planning Group

The group met January 5; opened with prayer, read and reviewed Zion's Vision Statement, and reading Luke 10:1-12 utilized the "Dwelling in the Word" Bible study.

It was noted that the church directory project is moving forward and is almost ready for proofing.

The projection/recording task group is underway and currently waiting for a vendor quote. Hopefully, this project will be in place very soon.

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Missional Planning Group...(continued)

The Goals into Pathways action step items regarding visitation and leadership development was discussed. To get us started, Ann Buscher shared a list of ideas regarding things to consider for the visitation process: write a purpose or mission statement regarding who would be visited, visit in pairs, have a name for the group, bring a card or something from the church to leave, compose a sheet of possible questions/items to talk about, provide training/role playing for those who will be doing the visitations, inform them of emotions they might encounter, gather names of volunteers who would like to do visitations, and set a timeline for their commitment.

It was noted that this did not have to be a huge time commitment for a volunteer. They could fit the visits into their schedule and commit as much time as they were comfortable with even an hour per month.

A plan and purpose have to be set and then people need to be recruited/invited to participate in this visitation program. Volunteers will have to be trained and empowered to visit with those members of our congregation who are homebound, ill, grieving, or simply in need of someone to talk to for a while.

A discussion was held regarding possible training avenues. Pastor Keith shared a question and answer sheet from the Stephen Ministry Series. This series requires quite a time commitment for training and is rather pricey. It makes a good model to follow though and the question/answer sheet would be helpful to our group as well. Pastor Keith has had 40 hours of training through the Christ Care Ministry and Nora Plym has also had training for serving/helping those in need. How to accomplish the training will be discussed at our February meeting.

...(continued)

Missional Planning Group...(continued)

There is also a need for an administrator for this program someone to oversee and coordinate the volunteers and those who want to be visited. Sara could help with names of possible contacts, but the position itself would be beyond her time and contract. It was noted that we could use a mass e-mail and/or the church web site to notify the congregation of this visitation opportunity. Once we have possible volunteers, we will conduct an informational meeting to discuss the program. We will fine tune the details at our February 2 meeting and then begin advertising shortly after that.

There is a Book of Faith training session for volunteers set at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Peshtigo. Sara is going to check on this as Zion would like to send at least one person to that session. *(Heidi Beland and Karen Sylvester attended the sessions held January 15th and 16th.)*

The next Missional Planning meeting is set for Tuesday, February 2, at 6:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend. We always have a great time, and there are usually treats as well! We closed the meeting with prayer.

Roxy Bowdin

**Property Committee Report
January 2010**

The Property Committee chaired by Mark Swenson will once again be kicking into high gear in 2010. On May 1st the church office will move into the Youth Room located to the left of the side entryway. The move will kick off the beginning of a much needed office renovation which will include new wiring to accommodate computers and other technological advances since construction of the building, enhanced lighting, a finished insulated ceiling, painted walls and new carpeting. While much of this will be hired out the committee will be in need of several individuals who have a bit of construction knowledge, strong backs, and are willing to get their hands dirty. If this described you, please contact Mark or the church office.

May 15th has been set for spring cleanup at Zion. However, this year we're going to have specific jobs which members of the congregation can sign up for. This will allow those signing up to do something they're willing to take on and to bring only the equipment or supplies they will need to do the job they've picked. We hope it works well for everyone. It goes without saying - snacks and coffee will be readily available!

Additional items that will be taken on in 2010 include: replacement of two urinals in the men's restroom off the Narthex, installation of two storm windows in the Sanctuary, and an exterior light installed at the southeast corner of the building.

Ann Buscher is in the midst of painting the radiators in the LSS and Financial Secretary's offices. While Karen Houdek is seriously contemplating painting the paneling and cement blocks walls in her office. If anyone is interested in assisting either of these ladies I'm sure they would very much appreciate the help.

For those of you who would like to help but are unsure how please contact Sarah Rabideau, Zion's Volunteer Coordinator, at 715.801.0150 or email her at mnvik_26@hotmail.com and she will point you in the right direction.

Karen Sylvester

Summary 2010 Annual Meeting

Zion's Annual Meeting was held Sunday, January 31, 2010 right after Worship Service. The meeting opened and closed with a prayer lead by Pastor Keith.

Council President Bryan Gutknecht conducted the meeting which was attended by 56 confirmed members.

The following individuals were elected by unanimous vote:

Church Council: Shawn Limberg, Pam Lund, Sarge Rudell, and Peter Thielen for 3-year terms, William Boerner for a 2 year term, and Rachel Kuhn as Youth Council Member.

Nominating Committee: Carole Boerner, Debra Harding, and Jacki Renne

Personnel Committee: Robert Peterson

In his verbal report to the congregation Pastor Kolstad lifted up for us what it means to be a congregation:

- 1) God brings us together as a congregation.
- 2) Jesus is here. The church is the body of Christ and congregations are a part of that body.
- 3) The reason God brings us together as congregations is to participate in God's mission in the world.
- 4) God has equipped us with all that we need for that mission.

He told us he had just found out that the Siebert Foundation said "no" to funding the Nicodemus project yet again. This presses him and us to trust the truth - that God has equipped us with all that we need for the mission that God has called us to do. He feels the bottom line in this is when we focus on God's mission as our reason for being, when we focus on that calling, we will discover that all those things that we worry so much about will fall into place.

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Summary 2010 Annual Meeting...(continued)

Pastor also gave us a couple quick thoughts about his sabbatical this year. He said he has been experiencing this like he has with most of God's callings in his life. It usually occurs like this: "The last becomes the first." Too often the very thing he says "no way" to is what God directs him towards. He said he's never really had a desire to go to Africa. But, he's been feeling drawn to this in all sorts of ways, and has been stunned by how the details have come together in order for it to happen. One of those important details is pastoral care; Pastor Rick DeBenedetto will officially be interim pastor. Craig Mansur will be back up, as well as other ELCA pastors in the area, and obviously our student Bill Retza will be working with Zion as well.

Pastor explained that during May, June and July he will be leading an English worship service at the cathedral congregation in our companion Synod in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He will also be learning about the Lutheran church there, and why it is growing like wild fire.

He thanked Ann Buscher for the display in the narthex and for taking the initiative with bulletin inserts entitled, "Zion's mission to Dar es Salaam." Pastor said, "I am your pastor. This will be our work there."

He ended with thanks to the staff and the congregation.

President Gutknecht pointed out all of the written reports contained in the Annual Meeting booklet. If anyone is interested in obtaining a copy of that booklet please call the church office at 735.7898 and request a copy.

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Summary 2010 Annual Meeting ..(continued)

Lastly, three resolutions were unanimously passed by the congregation:

Resolution 1; expressing our gratitude to God and our appreciation to all the faithful and dedicated people who serve him in and through Zion congregation.

Resolution 2; adoption of the 2010 general fund budget in the amount of \$196,598.

Resolution 3; expressing our profound gratitude to Pastor Keith and his family, Karen, Jacob, and Jacki for all the work they do for Zion Lutheran Church.

Karen Sylvester

Summary Church Council Reorganization Meeting

The Church Council met directly after the Annual Meeting to elect officer for 2010. By unanimous vote those elected were:

Karen Sylvester, President
Kathy Heimbuch, Vice-President
Heidi Beland, Secretary
John Radloff, Treasurer

By consensus the Council decided to pick committee assignments at the February Council Meeting.

Karen Sylvester



Wednesday evening services will focus on ***Favorite Lenten Hymns***. For five Wednesdays, we'll gather in church dining rooms for light suppers followed by a brief, informal time of worship at our tables. Each Wednesday activity begins at 6:00 P.M. and should last for about an hour. Here's a schedule of where we'll be meeting:

- ***February 24:*** Zion Lutheran Church.
Rev. Ron Helgerson will offer a homily on *It is Well with My Soul*.
- ***March 3:*** First Presbyterian Church of Menominee.
Rev. William Clyma will offer a homily on *Rejected and Despised*.
- ***March 10:*** Peace United Church of Christ.
Rev. Keith Kolstad will offer a homily on *Ah Holy Jesus! How Hast Thou Offended*.
- ***March 17:*** Pioneer Presbyterian Church.
Pastor Darrell Diers will offer a homily on *Were You There?*
- ***March 24:*** St. James Lutheran Church.
Rev. Craig Mansur will offer a homily on *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*.

Missional Planning Meeting

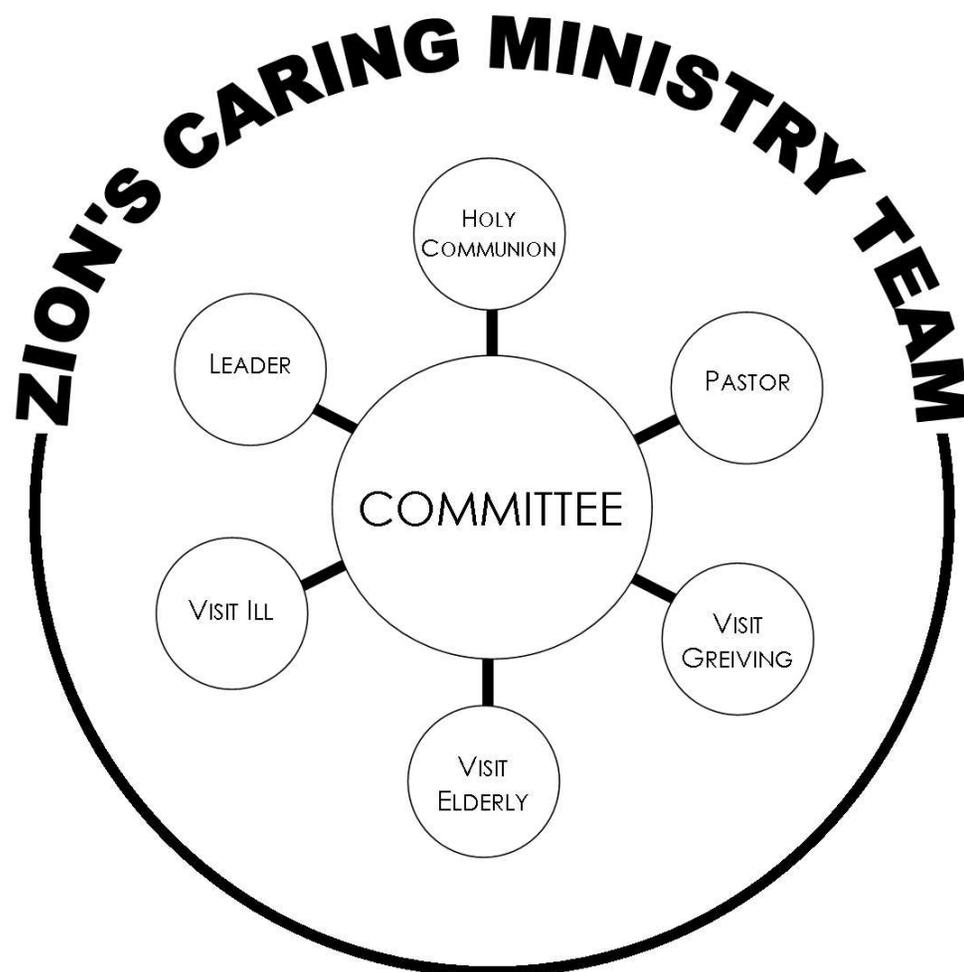
Missional Planning met Tuesday, February 02, 2010 and was told Zion's Directory is in the final stages of editing and should be available to the congregation soon.

The hospitality and assimilation ministry was discussed and an action plan was established. By consensus of those attending have decided to call the group "Zion's Caring Ministry Team."

Zion's Caring Ministry Team will:

- offer quality, Christ-centered, confidential care for those who hurt and need;
- help people know they are remembered and supported by their congregation in times of personal difficulty;
- give ongoing care for continuing needs long after the onset of a crisis;
- see themselves as active partners in the mission and ministry of the congregation finding all aspects of their lives enriched by the distinctively Christian care giving skills they learn and practice; and
- see itself as a caring body of believers actively involved in serving one another in love.

The organizational meeting for Zion's Caring Ministry Team will be Wednesday, February 24th at approximately 7:00 p.m. or directly after Soup Supper. For more information contact Sarah Rabideau, Zion's Volunteer Coordinator at 715.801.0150 or mnvik_26@hotmail.com.





SOUP SUPPER
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2010

SUPPLIES NEEDED

(2) gallons of Milk for soup base

Milk—(8) gallons

Bars—15 pans

French Bread— 15 loafs

Crackers (Oyster) 7 packages

& (10 boxes of crackers)

*Any questions in regarding donating any of this supplies for our
soup supper, please contact Sarah Rabideau (801-0150).*



This year we are offering three different Spring plants. If you would like to give one of these plants in loving memory of someone, in honor of someone, or to the glory of God, please check off the plants you prefer, the wording you would like, and amount enclosed. Return the form to the church office, place in the offering plate or by mail along with your contribution. Monday, March 22 is the deadline date.

I (We) would like to place one or more of the following plants for Easter Sunday.

_____ Lily _____ Tulip _____ Hyacinth

_____ Daffadil (All flowers will be approximately \$15.00)

Wording:

_____ In Loving Memory of: _____ In Honor of:

Given By: _____

Number of Plants: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Envelope # _____

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY 2010



Zion's Youth Ministry Committee is inviting you to join us for the Easter Breakfast on April 4, 2010. Serving will begin at 8 a.m. So plan to come early before our service at 9:30 a.m. for Easter fellowship, fun, and of course, food! How the free-willing offering money for the Easter Breakfast will be used will be announced at a different time.

Please sign up below by Sunday, March 28, 2010 to help us plan.

Yes, We plan to attend the Easter Breakfast!

_____ No. of Adults _____ No. Children
 (Under 8 years of age.)

I/We can help:

_____ Set-up at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 3rd.
 _____ Cook, beginning at 7 a.m. Sunday, April 4th.
 _____ Serve Food from 8—9 a.m.
 _____ Clean up after the breakfast

Name _____

Telephone _____

February 1
 Wendy Suchovsky

February 2
 Bernard Gabriel
 Eric Lebick
 Randy Schroeder

February 3
 Michelle Kuhn

February 4
 Agnes Larson

February 5
 Drake Koenigs
 Jacob Tipple

February 6
 Heidi Beland

February 7
 Leo Kaufman
 Kristine Race
 John Riley

February 8
 Luther Kelly
 Jon Strutz

February 9
 Jared Harding

February 10
 Janet Cook
 Kevin Knopik

February 11
 Erik Breuer
 Arden Kuhn
 Brad Romenesko

February 12
 Troy Cording
 Joyce Johnson
 LeeAnn Martin
 Katie Somers

February 13
 Brandon Brooks
 Emily Limberg
 Justin Olson

February 14
 Jeffrey Tipple
 Nathan Vincent

February 15
 Rose-Marie
 Christenson

February 16
 Tom Hayward
 Eric Powers

February 17
 Kerry Strutz

February 18
 Tracy Nowak
 Jerry Poquette

February 19
 Colton Nelson
 Bill Tipple

February 21
 Hans Aschim
 Randy Pecard

February 22
 Nick Kehoe
 Baylee Zuraski

February 23
 Muriel Riley

February 25
 Jacqueline Kass
 Robert Lebick

February 26
 Barb Clarke
 Rachel
 Rosenfeldt

February 27
 Scott Gressel

February 28
 Vern Cramer
 Bradley Hruska

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH 2010

March 1

Charles Nord

March 2

Helen Baumann
James Bruce
Janice Faucett
Roberta Peterson
Gerald Sylvester
Gary Wesmer

March 4

Joseph Harris
Shirley Swenson

March 5

Carolyn Jensen

March 6

Michael Bretl
Diane Race
Troy Schutt

March 7

Ryan Francour

March 8

Julie Williams

March 9

Ralph Backman
Dakota Corey
Susan Goldsmith
Olivia Kuhn

March 10

James Gould
Sandra Peterson

March 11

Cassandra Bauer
Sarah Heider

March 15

Steve Hoheneder

March 16

Sally Nelson

March 17

Patricia Peterson

March 19

Noreen Anderson
Ernest Brooks
AJ Corey
Karen Dettman
Calvin

March 21

Emily Despins
Pat Reines

March 22

Ed Maxwell

March 23

John Koch
Marlene Koch
April Peterson

March 24

Bryan Nelson
Halle Nelson

March 26

Nathan Klein
Kurt Oleson

March 28

Tyler Race

March 29

Martha Aschim
Sarah Gaudes
Jacki Kolstad

March 30

Aimee Powers

March 31

Michael Bruce
Shirley Lueskow