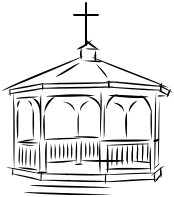


# ZION NEWS - August

(A monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church)



## The annual Zion Outdoor Worship & Family Picnic

Sunday, August 14th  
Whispering Pines Shelter  
Scott County Park  
Eldridge IA

Worship at 10:30am, with the Picnic and fun to follow.

For the Picnic:

- Sloppy Joes provided
- Please bring a salad/vegetable,
- a dessert,
- your own tableware, table cloth if you have one,
- lawn chairs, and Family & Friends!

*\*\*Note the Invitation included with this Zion News to be given to someone you'd like to join us!*



Wed., August 17th is  
Zion's 2nd Annual



## "Gettin' Ready for School" worshipSvc: Community Meal & Supply Give-away, with Blessing of Backpacks!



The Meal will be a school lunch fave—  
"Walking Tacos," served with drink & dessert.

Then the children of our guests will line up to receive a backpack filled with supplies, and finally receive a brief blessing to help them start off a great school-year!



Sign up to bring/do what you can on the list posted at the Zion office.

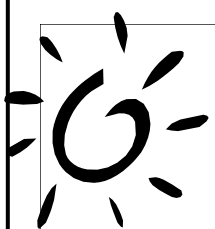
*Thanks be to God for the gift of Reaching out in Love!*

## BACKPACKS Needed!

A BIG Thank-you to all who have donated backpacks & supplies for our August Meal & Give-away. We now have 40—and we anticipate giving at least 150 away. So, doing the math, that means we need 110+ more Backpacks.



Can we do it, Zion?  
With hearts for service and hands for **helping ... Yes, WE CAN!**



## Worship with us this Summer!

Sundays at 9:00am

Aug. 7, 21, & 28 at Zion

Aug. 14 at Scott County Park

Whispering Pines Shelter  
(worship at 10:30am)

## Pastor Del's peace...

The morning after the community meal, James Hill was picking up his morning paper at one of the stores down the road. As he grabbed the news, he heard two men in front of him talking. One was facing an hardship and was having trouble finding a way to deal with his problem. The other man simply said to him, "Go to that church on Marquette and 8th, that church is all about the community..and they treat everybody well."

The evening before, Janine and I watched a man who had been in our facility during the afternoon as it was open for a cooling center. When someone attempting to make conversation with him asked him who he was, he replied, "I'm the pastor's assistant cook." Then he fell back to sleep in the comfort of the lounge amidst the activity of those preparing and setting up for the meal. I've never seen the man in my life. And apparently, he became preoccupied with other things because he never reported for duty. Yet, he was there. He enjoyed himself. As we watched him leave that evening, he looked rested, full and refreshed. He jumped on his bike, laden with what was probably the extent of his earthly belongings, looked back and said, *That was one of the best meals like this that I've ever had. You treated us really well. I appreciate it.*"

As neighborhood residents left, I heard several times, *Thank you so much for being here and all that you do for this area.*"

"... the king will say to them, *Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.*"

Remember that the expressions of appreciation weren't made to me as a pastor- I was in disguise- they were made to you (us) as a community of faith. We are known. We are known by those who seemingly best fit the Biblical description of the presence of Christ. And they know us as compassionate, welcoming and respectful regardless of their lot in life. Certainly, when we meet and share in our common meal with our neighbor we enter a sacred moment because Christ is present. We encounter the Lord.

I marvel that a year and half after thirty-some people first met in the church basement for a community meal that we've experienced such a growth and steadfastness in that ministry. That quiet timid little meal has blossomed now with children laughing and playing, mothers and neighbors interacting, one with another. I'm in awe of the amount of families served by the food pantry (52 on just one Monday). We have found our mission and ministry.



We have an extremely important purpose as a congregation. We are, for others, the physical presence of God's love and presence. I think our growing awareness of how to reach out and the growing awareness in the area that we "...all about the community," along with the leading of the Spirit of God are all converging to bring us into new and exciting scenarios.

There are new faces among us and soon we will be calling them to membership. And we need more.

God has blessed us with a mission and ministry that closely reflects that of the very early church. The fact is, we need more workers in the field.

We all know those who avoid church because they see little relevance to life in sitting through a hour long (hour- fifteen, if Pr. Ritva's preaching) Sunday morning service. Those are precisely the people we can reach offering them an alternative worship experience: serving God through community. Sharing food was one of the marks of the early church and made Christianity relevant to real life. The community meals are one of the best ways to introduce those we know without a church into our midst and offer them a meaningful encounter with God.

We are a congregation pregnant with new life. It is time to embrace the birthing process. Pentecost is the season in which faith is planted, nurtured and tended for growth.

I want to reiterate Pr. Ritva's challenge: Instead of being a "normal Lutheran" that invites one person to church every twenty three years, let's be "abnormal" (or at least unique) Lutherans and commit to invite one person to church every twenty-three days. Every week and for some everyday, we pray "thy kingdom come." We pray that God reigns among us. Let's do more than pray about it. Let's just do it. Live as if it were so and it will be.

*Peace, Pastor Del*



Baptized into ...

Arynn Clay Obleton  
July 17, 2011

... new Life!



"... child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ ... forever!"

## Pastor Ritva rejoices in our "E"-efforts!

Do you remember way back to Lent? The months of March and April when many of us were studying *Unbinding Your Heart*?



We were learning about the "e" word—that which must not be named in mainline churches. Yes that's right *evangelism* ... ssshhh.... Did I really say it? So what happened?

Many of us were sent back into our rooms on our knees—to pray (see Matthew 6:6). We've been praying and asking God to show us how we can share the good news, and to give us the courage to reach out to those who need Jesus.

In *Unbinding Your Heart*, Martha Grace Reese described the church as a radio broadcasting the message of Jesus on different bandwidths to different audiences. She encouraged us to evaluating which bandwidths we were already broadcasting on, how we might improve and so forth.

That exercise led us to realize that we were already reaching out to persons who may not be Christian or Lutheran through our Neighborhood Ministries. As you can see from Pastor Del's article that ministry is growing. Let me add two stories to his.

**#1**—Earlier in the spring a woman came to see me in the office. She was a college-educated woman who because of illness lost her job and her home. 18 months ago she was living at the homeless shelter and came to our 1st community meal. It marked a turning point in her life. We treated her with dignity and respect; now she has an apartment and has even come to worship once.

**#2**—Wednesday evening at our community meal a gentleman approached me to express his gratitude for all that we have done for him. He has come to our meals many times. Last year we helped him with his rent. Awkwardly he reached into his pocket and took out

a \$5 bill, saying that it wasn't much but maybe we could use it to help someone like we helped him. He had tears in his eyes as he handed me the money.

Our Neighborhood Ministry is seriously "E"!!

Our Faith Formation team (formerly the Family & Youth and Education committees) decided that they were called to reach out to children, youth, their families and friends. They planned a series of summer events for which you have all received invitations and been encouraged to invite others:

- the ice cream social May 29th (~40 attended)
- the family bbq at the Babka's on June 25th (~40 attended in spite of the rain)
- the Swim Party on July 17th (73 attended)
- the upcoming August 14th family picnic at Whispering Pines Shelter in Scott County Park—invitations will begin to appear very soon!

We now have an "E-Team" (didn't have one of those before). That group is even now busily engaged in reaching out to members of our congregation whose presence we have missed. They are writing personal notes and making phone calls to let these brothers and sisters in Christ know that they are missed and they we would love to see them again.

The 2nd group of members covenanted to wrap the E-team in prayer. They know that reaching out to those who have drifted away from the church can be stressful and anxiety producing. So the prayer team members pray for God's Spirit to lead and guide, inspire and encourage the E-Team.

All of you can contribute to our "E" efforts by:

- PRAYING for the E-Team, the Faith Formation Team, and our Neighborhood Ministries
- INVITE, INVITE, INVITE!!

*Blessings from Pastor Ritva*

### Fall forecast from Zion's EDUCATION ministry ...

Zion's Festival of Beginnings will be on Sunday, September 11th, with the start-up of Sunday morning learning and fun for:

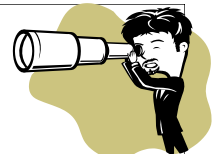
children age 3 through 5th grade (see the 'Sunday-School Scoop' on the next page),

Youth in grades 6-12, the Adult/Family 'Faith-Talk' series,

and (don't forget) TGIS fellowship *complete with coffee & goodies for all!*

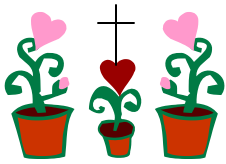


Watch for more details. Let's get excited about continuing to grow in faith together!!



## Let's Talk LEARNING, YOUTH, FAMILY, FUN and FELLOWSHIP!

### SUNDAY SCHOOL 'SCOOP'



This year's Sunday School theme is  
**"Our Faith in Bloom."**

Mark your calendars, and plan to join all of Zion for the Festival of Beginnings on September 11!

Sign-up sheets for leaders and shepherds will soon be posted across from the church office. There will be opportunities to work with children from preschool on up to fifth grade. Unless we hear differently, we are counting on all who have helped in the past to share your time and talents again! And, we also urge others to consider leading lessons or assisting on Sundays of your choice. Only a little guidance from a SPARK Team member is needed to get you started.

If you have any questions, please contact one of us. We look forward to nurturing faith together!

SPARK Leadership Team

Linda Baustian, Anne Flynn, Ellen Heritage



Informational Meeting  
 for all interested Youth &  
 their Parents  
 Sunday, August 28th

10:15am in the Zion Roseburg Chapel

Gathering Dates: July 18-22, 2012  
 (including travel July 17-23, 2012)

Gathering Location: New Orleans

Eligibility: All Youth entering 8th-12th grades  
 in Sept. 2011

Requirements: Attendance at monthly meetings  
 & fundraising events

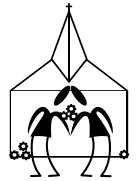
Cost: \$315 per person\*\*

(\$150 nonrefundable deposit due October 9, 2011)

\*\* Additional costs for transportation, hotel & meals t.b.a.  
 Any questions? Talk to Pr. Ritva or call the Zion office.

### Confirmation & Youth

Confirmation for grades 6-8 (*it's fun!*) will begin on Wed., Sept. 14th, 6:15pm in the Chapel to embark on (*it's fun!*) adventures with the 'new & improved' Here We Stand Confirmation (*it's fun!*) ministry curriculum— complete with new student handbooks. *Did we mention we have FUN, too?* See all 6th-7th-8th graders then!



### Music and more ...

Mid-week Activities  
 begin again soon

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - Fall will be here before we know it, and our activities for children, youth, and adults will resume:

Adult Choir, for high schoolers and older, rehearses on Thursdays, 6:30-7:30. This choir provides special music for the 8:30 Service each Sunday. If you have questions about this choir, please contact Dr. Keith Haan.



Handbells II, a handbell choir that plays more difficult music, rehearses also on Thursdays, 7:30-8:30. If you have questions about this choir or are planning to ring, please contact Rosie Bates at [355-9170](tel:355-9170).

And for the younger set, Chapel Choir and Cherub Choir rehearsals will be on Wednesdays at 6:15pm, **along with our "Alleluia" program.** **Cherub Choir** is for children 3 years old through 1st grade, and **Chapel Choir** is for 2nd - 5th graders. These choirs sing once or twice a month, sometimes together and sometimes separately.

The Alleluia program is for Chapel-Cherub kids, and includes stories, activities, and crafts based on the SPARK curriculum. We begin at 6:15 (note the new time) and end at 7:30 to parallel Confirmation times. On that first Wednesday, we invite families to join us for ice cream sundaes at 7:00. Parents are invited to relax in the downstairs lounge during choir/Alleluia time to talk with other parents and enjoy a cup of coffee.

Handbells I, a handbell choir for 5th graders and older, rehearses from 7:30 - 8:15 on

Wednesdays and will also begin rehearsals in September, when Confirmation classes begin. If you have questions about these groups, would like to help with the Alleluia activities, or are planning to ring with Handbells I please contact Rosie Bates.

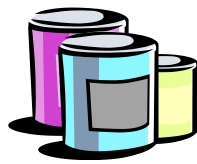


"All God's critters got a place in the choir!"  
 Hope to see you there.

# Janine's jottings ...

## THANK YOU!!

A huge THANK YOU to the Legacy Committee for the generous gift of \$5,000 to the food pantry as well as thank you to all who have also graciously given to the pantry over the last few weeks. Monthly when the pantry purchases food from the Food Bank it costs approximately \$1200-\$1500. Each time we purchase food for the pantry at the food bank we save approximately \$2,000, thus this is a very cost effective way to utilize our dollars. Please continue to consider contributing to the food pantry fund as your generous gifts enable us to keep this vital ministry to the community going. Again thank you to all who support the pantry whether financially, picking up food at the food bank, stocking shelves, distributing food or praying for the ministry; your commitment allows us to keep the doors of the pantry open.

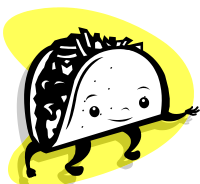


## Food Pantry News

Ah, "those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer..." are here. This phrase from a song only partially describes the activities at the food pantry. It's summer, but the days of summer for the pantry have not been lazy; in fact a better description would be crazy. We are as busy as ever serving the many families in our community in need. We regularly pick up food at the food bank, stock shelves and distribute food to those in need. Although pantry life hasn't been lazy it continues to be a rewarding experience for those who help. When I watch and listen to those who work at the pantry stocking shelves and preparing food boxes I see smiles, hugs and hear words of encouragement and support to each other and to those the food pantry serves. What a gift to be part of a ministry that shares so much; not just food but caring and compassion. Zion through this ministry we reach out in love to our brothers and sisters in need. This ministry is a visible demonstration of the love of Christ. **Hunger does not take a summer vacation.** Please remember the work of the food pantry during this time of relaxed schedules and time away to refresh.

## worshipService Dinner:

**"A Neighborhood Back to School Picnic and Backpack Giveaway"** Mark your calendar for **August 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00**. Our August Dinner will be a celebration of the new school year. We'll share a meal of "walking tacos", deserts and fellowship out on the lawn. After dinner the



children will have the opportunity to receive a backpack filled with school supplies. Then we will move to the sanctuary where Pr. Del will offer a blessing for each child and teacher that they may all have a safe and successful school year. So check out the sign up sheets on the glass wall at the office and see where you might be able to help. Come and join in the fun and fellowship.



As we prepare for the August **worshipService Dinner and backpack giveaway** we are hoping to have enough supplies and backpacks for 150 children. As many of us know getting children ready for school can be an expensive endeavor. So, we want to help by providing some of the basic things that a child needs to start the school year off right. We are asking for donations of: backpacks, pencils, pens, loose leaf paper and notebooks, glue sticks and bottles of glue, crayons and markers, pocket folders, pencil boxes, scissors, rulers and erasers (you can find more detailed supply lists on the Hospitality Table). If you are interested in making a donation or have a question feel free to stop and talk with me. Donations can be dropped off at the office or left in the boxes by the Hospitality Table. **Finally, if you would like to help get the backpacks ready we will be filling them with supplies on Monday August 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.**

*God's Peace. Janine*

## "SHARING KITCHEN" Meal Help

Zion's Social Ministry team is looking for help with the next "Sharing Kitchen" meal we will be providing & serving at the Salvation Army Family Shelter on

### Saturday, August 13th

Cooks begin at 3:00pm; servers meet here at 5:15pm to take the food to the shelter & serve at 6:00p.

This is a great way for families to serve together and a precious lesson for our children in living out Jesus' teaching on "as you do it for the least of these, you do it to me."

Please contact Mary Lou Kelley if you are able & willing to help this month. *You'll be so glad you did!*



# Small Groups ... Special Interest ... and Such



**Zion's O.W.L.s**  
**(O.lder W.iser L.utherans)**  
**60+ Fellowship**

The OWLs are having our last 'summer fling' on **Thursday, August 25th at 11:30am.**

We're flyin to the Blueport Junction restaurant on West River Drive in Davenport for some great grub and good times.

Call Grace Haller (324-8463) or Phyllis Beck (391-7518) by Aug. 23 if you'll be joining us.

## *"Warmest" Birthday blessings*

to our Zion Seniors who will celebrate in August!

- 8/03 Gail Abbs
- 8/09 Jim Koen
- 8/11 Harold Bell
- 8/12 Ellen Housley
- 8/21 Carole Bishop
- 8/23 Wayne Parker



## **Morning Book Review - August 15 - 9am**

Book: Sing Them Home  
 by Stephanie Kallos



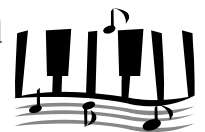
Summary: Sing Them Home is the All-Iowa-Read book for 2011. It is a haunting, complex story of a family shaped by tragedy, full of vivid characters and intriguing secrets. The book is available in paperback. Start reading - it's 540 pages. If it doesn't grab your interest right away, keep reading, it should hold your interest as you continue.

Availability: Check local libraries and bookstores, or your electronic devices for a copy.

## *'A Fine Love Story'*

**Free concert— August 22nd, 6:00pm at the Davenport Library (6000 Eastern Ave).**

The final in a 3-part series/exhibit on Jewish songwriters (1910-1965). Come hear Zion's **Jonathan Turner**, along with Susan McPeters & Brian Nelson, sing well-known Broadway and film songs.



## *Figures & Financial Facts:*

|  |   |                  |
|--|---|------------------|
| Regular Budget offerings                           |   |                  |
| received JULY 2011                                 | = | \$ 25,333.02     |
| JULY 2011 Actual Expenses                          | = | \$ 24,587.38     |
| Covered by Legacy funds                            | = | \$ <u>NONE!!</u> |
| <i>per Legacy Committee &amp; Council approval</i> |   |                  |
| Current month status +/-                           |   | + \$745.64       |



## **Congregational**

### **Budget Forum ...**

Zion's Council & Finance ministry team

Invite all interested members to a

### **Informational Forum**

**following worship on**

**Sunday, August 21st (10:15am)**

for the sole purpose of examining our 2011 Budget and its status at the mid-year point.

*Thank-you, Zion family, and  
 Thanks be to God!*

## ALTAR FLOWERS 'GIVING' - AUGUST

Aug. 7 - OPEN  
 Aug. 14 - Gail Abbs  
 Aug. 21 - OPEN  
 Aug. 28 - OPEN



**Want to give flowers (or an alternate offering) but not sure how? Instructions sheets are available in the hallway underneath the flower chart.**

Remember, you can give flowers for the altar –or– an alternative offering to one of Zion’s special funds (ie: Brown Bag, Scholarship fund, etc.) in lieu of flowers. On such Sundays, we will have 2 lovely green plants adorning the altar.

## USHERS - August 2011 (One svc @ 9:00am)



Stu Goldsmith, Gene Rome,  
 Dave Babka, Dave Wright

### We urgently need Ushers -

for Sunday worship services. Our list is running thin - yet help from all ages is welcome! If you are available to usher, please indicate your willingness on a pew card or contact Bud Kelley.

## Greeters for August 2011

One svc— 9:00am

|      |                                  |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 8/07 | Merle Dittmer                    |
| 8/14 | Outdoor service at Scott County! |
| 8/21 | Carole Feeney                    |
| 8/28 | Ellen Heritage                   |

**We need Greeters! Call Grace Haller (324-8463) to help us.**

## August COMMUNION Set-Up/Clean-Up



|      |                          |              |
|------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 8/07 | Darrell & Kathy Longlett | (glasses)    |
| 8/14 | NO Communion—Outdoor svc |              |
| 8/21 | Kealey family            | (intinction) |
| 8/28 | t.b.a.                   | (glasses)    |

August LINENS Care:

THANKS!

## TELLERS - August (One svc at 9:00am)

8/07 Chuck Dau, Dave Wright, Lois Kershaw  
 8/14 John & Roxeann Ford, Jim & Sherry Koenigs  
 8/21 Stu Goldsmith, Delores Smith, Doug Kline  
 8/28 Mark & Beth Meyer, Mike Hamann, Gene Rome



## Lectors— August 2011

One svc @ 9:00am

|         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| Aug. 7  | OPEN                       |
| Aug. 14 | Mary Schnack (outdoor svc) |
| Aug. 21 | OPEN                       |
| Aug. 28 | OPEN                       |

## ACOLYTES - AUGUST 2011

(One svc @ 9:00am)

Aug. 7 - Brian Sanders, Anthony Howland, Bailey Hermann  
 Aug. 14 - Outdoor Svc—*be there for FUN! :)*  
 Aug. 21 - Jake & Courtney Hamann  
 Aug. 28 - Mara Kealey, Hannah Tegtmeier,  
 Christian Elliott

## Communion Assts. - AUGUST

Aug. 7 at the altar rail  
 Aug. 14 None: Svc of the Word  
 Aug. 21 OPEN: Need 2  
 Aug. 28 OPEN; Need 2



## Council Highlights

Excerpts from July 12, 2011

(Full copy of Council meeting minutes posted across from the Church office)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Kirkeeng, Sue Keller, Jody Kealey, Gene Rome, Jenny Winn, Dave Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Ford

OTHERS PRESENT: Pastor Del Preston, Pastor Ritva Williams

Jody Kealey opened the meeting with “The Purpose of Monuments” from Portals of Prayer.

MSC—Minutes of the June 14 council meeting be approved as printed.

MSC - The parochial report, including the transfer of membership for Dean and Deb Meyer, be approved.

### PASTORS’ TIME

MSC - A Congregational Forum on budget and financial matters be held following worship on August 21.

MSC - The Pastoral Report be accepted

### REPORTS:

#### Faith Formation

Following worship on August 28, Pastor Ritva will be leading an informational meeting about the 2012 Youth Gathering to be held in New Orleans.

#### Finance

MSC - The financial reports for June be approved as submitted.

#### Global Mission

Zion’s first gift in support of Haiti’s Menno School has been sent to Beyond Borders.

#### Hospitality/Social Ministry

The team is reviewing welcome packets and making plans to encourage greater use of nametags on Sundays.

#### Property

Gene Rome recognized those who have been tending to Zion’s yard work (Dona and Carey Noble, Pastor Del, James Hill) and John Williams for his help with plumbing issues

The annual maintenance check of the elevator will be done by Kone.

#### Stewardship

Council reviewed a draft of the letter to be included with second quarter reports of giving.

#### Legacy

The Legacy Committee has approved:

\$5,000 to the Food Pantry as an “emergency fund” to keep it running through the summer months;

\$ 2,500 to the Anniversary Committee for communications and celebratory banners.

#### Anniversary

The committee is considering ideas for a special 150th year project.

### OLD BUSINESS

The option for on-line giving will be removed from our web page due to lack of use & fees attached.

### NEW BUSINESS

Four students have submitted scholarship applications. Approval of scholarships will be discussed at the August meeting, following an appeal to the congregation for additional scholarship funds.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by Sue Keller

\* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \* ✝ \*

*Zion gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following Memorial gifts*

In loving memory of **Burdette “Bud” Hagen** from Kent & Sue Cherryholmes family