

ZION News - January

A monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church

Vol. 2011 - Issue 1

January 1, 2011

Vote for our new
Zion Council &
Officers for 2011

The ANNUAL MEETING



All Confirmed
Members, please
Attend - YOUR vote
is important!

of the Zion Lutheran Church
Congregation will be

Sunday, January 23rd
immediately following the 9:00am worship service
in the Sanctuary



Copies of the Annual Report for 2010 will
be available in the Narthex as of Jan. 9th

Please note: There will be NO Sunday School that day.

OTHER JANUARY 'JEWELS' ...



Zion's monthly
worship Service /Meal
for the neighborhood &
community
Wed., January 19th
"Happy New Year"
Soup & Sandwich Supper
& Fellowship at 6:00pm

Budget Forums

For those who want a pre-
view of the Finance Ministry
Team's hard work on the
2011 budget to be submit-
ted at the Annual meeting.

Jan. 9th 10:15am

Jan. 16th 10:15am



ALL voting members
are encouraged to
attend one.

Thursday Church



Interactive services of Word
& Sacrament
5:30pm with Pastor Del
Casual. Comfortable. Church.



ALL are welcome!

Pastor Del deliberates ...*Prayer for New Year's Eve*

“Eternal Father, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in this new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event which you give us joy forever- the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.” (E LW p. 63)

The prayer for the New Year reminds us that we have been placed in a time and a space and our lives are full of events. This collection of time, space and events that we share as a congregation is our known world or cosmos as the ancients would name it. Though we may have dimensions of separate times, various space, and different events, as a called people of God, our worlds overlap and are shared at converging points. Collectively our world is quite big; frankly our cosmos can be complex, overwhelming, and dangerous. Honestly, we can lose our way.

Yet God gives us a map of our universe and provides us markers: “The heavens declare the glory of God!” asserts the Psalmist (Psalm 19:1) speaking of God’s overall presence. But for those of us who can’t grasp fully the glory of God (and no one can), God provides us coordinates that are much closer to our lives. As we journey through the world, our central mark is Baptism. In whatever complex, overwhelming and dangerous time and space we find ourselves in, we can stop and gather our bearings by reorienting ourselves in our Baptism.

Jesus links his cross to our baptism and St. Paul’s reflection on the depth of Baptism is recorded in the letter to the Romans: “...are you unaware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?” “Therefore we were buried with Him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in a new way of life. For if we have been joined with Him in a death like his, we will certainly be joined with him in a resurrection like his.” (Romans 6:4-5)

Luther encourages us to remember our Baptism daily. We may be perplexed with this exhortation: many of us were baptized as infants and can not

bring to mind images of that day, though we have reliable witness in the faith community. Yet, what Luther refers to is remembering in the Hebrew sense of the word. Remembering is to bring the past event into our current situation in such a way that it influences and informs our thoughts, motives and actions now. Emphasizing Paul’s wisdom: in our baptism, we are baptized into Christ Jesus and baptized into his death and being buried and joined with him by baptism into death, we are raised and joined with him in a resurrection like his, so that we too may walk in a new way of Life.

The past event we remember (bring to our present reality) is our baptism that is inseparably linked to the life, death and resurrection of Christ! Remembering our Baptism orients and reorients us in the midst of the twists and turns that life’s maze becomes.

Want a healthy, holistic New Year’s resolution? Begin each day by marking yourself with the sign of the cross that you received in Baptism. End each day that way also. And in between, do it more. Let the cross you were marked with in baptism be your sign, Jesus’ claim, and your lens as you journey through the world. Know who you are and whose you are in your world of time, space and events.

It’s an overwhelming world out there, but we can orient our lives to the Way.

Jesus said, I am the Way, I am the Truth,
I am the Life...” (John 14:6)

Peace,
Pastor Del

*Commended to God’s
eternal care ...*

Greg Arp
Dec. 10, 2010

JoAnn Wiggins
Dec. 17, 2010



Almighty God, source of all mercy... graciously tend those who mourn, that casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love...

Pastor Ritva writes...

Have you ever noticed that from time to time there is a little black box or two on the altar? Have you ever wondered what is in those black boxes? Why do the pastors hand them to certain women at the end of the service? What do they do with the little black boxes?



Well...those little black boxes are communion sets. Each one contains a small bottle of communion wine (or grape juice), a container of communion wafers and a set of either glass or plastic communion cups like the ones we use in the trays on Sunday mornings. The women who come forward to receive those boxes are *lay Eucharistic ministers*. They are lay persons commissioned by the congregation to take Holy Communion to members who are shut-ins, reside in nursing homes and other care centers, hospitalized or recuperating at home. In this way these members are **able to participate in Zion's Word and Sacrament ministry.** They remain part of our communion and fellowship even though age, infirmity or illness prevents them from joining us on Thursday evenings or Sunday mornings. **Instead we bring Christ's presence to them.**

Zion's lay Eucharistic ministers are part of a group we call the Caring Connection. Any and all confirmed members are eligible to serve on this ministry team. Training includes spending a couple months accompanying and observing one of the "veterans" doing the monthly communion visits before being sent out solo. Each member of the team is assigned 3-4 visits each month, rotating through the visitation list. Lay Eucharistic ministers will normally spend anywhere from 20-60 minutes with a shut-in depending on the person's physical, emotional and spiritual needs. The visit will include sharing conversation, Holy Communion and prayer (not necessarily in that order). Hence Lay Eucharistic ministers need to be able to give about 6 hours of their time each month in carrying out their duties, and be willing to attend a de-briefing meeting once every 2 months. Ideally we strive to ensure that our shut-ins receive a visit from one of the pastors quarterly.

I find great personal satisfaction in working with the Caring Connection, and even more in visiting our elder brothers and sisters in Christ. It is in this capacity that I have had the privilege of knowing and those saints who now dwell in light eternal – Edna Danielson, Carl and Edith Meier, Vivian Herzberg, Herbert Maley, Ray Butcher, John and Harriet Solbrig, Agnes Shadle, and Lois Beadel. In serving these saints and those who are on our current visitation list I have gained a deep appreciation for our liturgy, the way that it is imprinted on the minds and hearts of these long time members, and how it lifts their spirits to be connected to us through the shared presence of Christ in bread and wine.

Our team of lay Eucharistic ministers is led by Gail Abbs. Barb Grady has served on the Caring Connection

for many years and is currently taking a wee sabbatical as she recuperates from shoulder surgery. Over the last year Joyce Smith and Lisa Zosulis have retired from this ministry. Two new members have joined the team: Cary Scott and Char Engstrom. It is for that reason that we have set aside Sunday, January 16th to commission our 2011 team of lay Eucharistic ministers.

I hope that you will join us for this service and in honoring those who are willing to undertake this very special ministry.

If you are interested in serving as a lay Eucharistic minister, or know of someone who would like to be added to our visitation list please contact Gail Abbs (386-7926) or one of the pastors.

May Christ's presence comfort and strengthen all of you in the New Year.

Pastor Ritva

Adult Learning in January ...

Sunday-morning "Faith Talks"

this month will give way to a variety of events:

- Jan. 9th & 16th Zion Budget Forums
- Jan. 23rd Zion Annual Meeting
- Jan. 30th Special Family Event *(watch for more!)*

... but wait! Adult Education is not just for Sundays ...

"Immersed in the Word"

classes continue on Monday mornings at 10:30am in Room 8 with Pr. Ritva, 'diving more deeply' into our scriptures. ALL are welcome!



6th-7th & 8th CONFIRMATION

Grace, peace and joy in Christ to you all. ... we're "back in the Chapel" on Wednesday, Jan. 5th at 6:15pm with Pr. Del, Pr. Ritva, and gramma-Jay Eldredge.

NOTE TO PARENTS: Although Pastors & gramma Jay have a good handle on the teaching part, we still need parents to be present and help with small group time during, or even just to 'sit in' and experience what your kids are experiencing.

We can't promise it, but we're pretty confident you won't go through any traumatic 'confirmation flashbacks' - so do join us!

Growing



in Faith ...

SUNDAY SCHOOL 'SCOOP'

On December 19, through scripture and song, Zion's Sunday School shared the message of the surprising love surrounding Jesus' birth. Everyone, from preschool through high school, did a wonderful job! Special thanks to all families for your support, to Zion bakers for providing food for the fellowship hour, and to those who offered helping hands when there was something to be done!

During [January](#), SPARK learners will begin lessons from the New Testament. We'll start by reading about John the Baptist and Jesus' disciples. The children will have hands-on experiences with these

stories in their Bible skills/Bible games, drama, music, art, and science workshops.

There will be NO [Sunday](#) School on January 23 due to Zion's annual meeting.

We have been blessed with the help of many but are always eager to welcome more adults willing to share their faith, time, and talents with Zion's youth. Please continue to check the bulletin board across from the office and sign up to lead workshops or serve as "shepherds." We are happy to help you get started if you have questions.

New Year blessings to all!

Linda, Anne & Ellen (SPARK Leadership Team)

Reaching



out in Love...

Neighborhood Ministry

THANK YOU ZION FOR ALL YOU DO!



Thank you to all who helped in December with the **worshipService Dinner**. What a great way to celebrate the birth of our Lord with a party for friends and family. The food was fantastic and the fellowship and song was great. All who took part had a wonderful time and isn't this what the season is about, sharing the love of God with those around us. Thanks to all for bringing food, setting up and cleaning up, providing music and for simply being present. You are Blessed to be a Blessing.

Another thank you Zion for your generous gifts of time, food and money to the annual **Christmas Ham Hop!** Through your generosity we were able to provide 70 households with Christmas food baskets. This gift of food allowed many families to know that they would have a festive meal for the Holiday. Those who received this gift were very grateful and shared hugs and Christmas greetings; one family even returned with a Christmas card with greetings to the whole congregation. Zion, again you have helped to make the Holidays more cheerful and less stressful for those in need. Thank you for sharing with others some of the blessings God has provided to you. A Blessed New Year to All.

In the coming months Neighborhood Ministry will be very busy. Here are a few things you will want to place on your calendars ...

Food Pantry: One of the big events that will be taking place during the next few weeks is moving the Food Pantry and the counseling services provided by Family Empowerment Services, Inc. to the church. We are excited about this move as it will provide us with more user friendly and efficient space. Also with the move there will be more space for our pantry guests to be more comfortable as they wait for their food boxes; they will be able to

wait in a dry warm place rather than outside. Be watching for information about the move as we will need volunteers to help move shelves and food and for restocking shelves. The more hands the lighter the load. Also remember on Mondays and Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 the pantry can always use a few helping hands to fill bags, stock shelves and greet people, so please consider joining us.

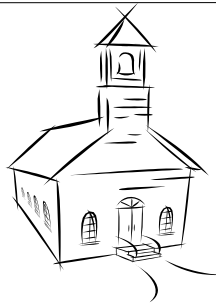
Zion worshipService Dinner "Happy New Year" will be January 19, 6:00-7:00; a simple meal of soups, sandwiches, salads and desserts. We will need salads, buns for sandwiches and the fixings for lunch meat and cheese sandwiches and of course people to help with set up, clean up, serving and greeting our guests. Check for signup sheets on the office "glass wall," and watch the bulletins for more info. Join the fun and fellowship of this Zion and neighborhood event.

The monthly **worshipService Dinners** take place every third Wednesday, and the planning team meets the Tuesday following the dinner at 4:15. This team works together to come up with meal ideas and if there will be a particular theme for the evening and if we will provide activities for the adults and children. All are invited to participate in this planning and we only meet for about 45 minutes. Feel free to join us any time.

Mark your calendars for the **Easter Ham Hop**. This is when we provide food baskets to our friends and neighbors in need so they may have a happy Easter dinner. Easter is April 24th so from April 1-17 we will be gathering food items for the baskets. More information will come as April gets closer. Zion what a gift you are; you give so much to both the community and to each other. You give monetarily, you give of your talents and gifts and you give in quiet ways you don't even think about like opening a door for someone, giving the person in the checkout line a smile or giving a hug to your neighbor. These can be simple things, but they mean a lot to those around you. Thank you for all you do.

Blessings for a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Janine



President's piece... A Year in Revue

- As we say goodbye to 2010 at Zion, there are many things to be proud of.
- Our youth started out the year with a bake sale with the proceeds going to help the people in Haiti. Their earnings were matched by the formed Legacy Fund.
- As a congregation we enjoyed the sounds of the newly rebuilt pipe organ.
- We came off a budget year in 2009 with nearly a \$30,000 deficit. 2010 will show a dramatic improvement. We are still running a deficit of approximately \$11,000.
- The monthly Wednesday evening meals have been a huge success in reaching out to our neighborhood and promoting Zion's outreach ministries. The Hope House has continued to help hundreds of people each month through your contributions and the help of everyone who has volunteered. Our monthly support of the Sharing Kitchen continues to provide a wonderful meal to the homeless. Thank you Mary Lou Kelly for all you do for that project. Please volunteer at any or all of these great ministries. You will be greatly rewarded.
- All of Zion's committees have been working hard. Property has repaired the Good Shepherd window, repaired a roof leak, replaced the worn out carpeting going to the balcony, ordered hand rails for the alter area, and many more jobs that I have not mentioned.
- Matt Swanson provided and installed the benches in the courtyard area of the church near Marquette Street. They look great and are a nice touch in making Zion a more inviting place.
- A new digital sign should be coming soon. It will be a beacon in the night attracting more attention to our church. Do you think Darrell and the others will miss going out in the cold and changing the messages?
- Zion has a new website! It keeps getting better as time goes on. Check it out at www.ziondavenport.org.
- I could go on and on, but rest assured the committees have made Zion the Church that it is today! If you have not been part of one, please consider it for 2011.
- Zion Lutheran Church is a great place to worship.

God's Blessings are at work here!

Mike Hamann, Council President

For Our Seniors ...



O.W.L.'s

(Older Wiser Lutherans)

Hope all are keeping warm during 'hibernation' season. We're working on cookin' something up for February, so stay tuned.

In the meantime, have a safe, happy, and blessed beginning to the new year!

Grace & Phyllis, ZIP planners

Happy "New Year" Birthdays to these

Zion Seniors who will celebrate in January!

- 1/02 Nancy Bell *(newest Senior-baby!)*
- 1/07 Audrey Ernst
- 1/10 David Kollman
- 1/20 Grace Haller
- 1/20 Mary Lou Vikdal
- 1/24 Shirley Bradley
- 1/28 Rod Behr



Small Groups ... and Such ...

Women's News ...

At our October Women's board meeting it was announced that 5 care packages had been sent to those with Zion ties serving in the military. At our annual ZLCW Christmas brunch, a thank-you letter was read from Sgt. John Schmidt, grandson of Zion member Henrietta Schmidt, acknowledging receipt of his package. We all were touched and thought **the congregation should be able to read it, so here is John's letter** (address included if you wish to send him a note yourself):

*Hello from Eastern Afghanistan. Thank you very much for the supplies and goodies. They were much appreciated and very well used. We have no post exchange or local outlet to get these things so support such as what you have shown us is priceless. I hope all is well back home. I figure it's beginning to get kind of chilly in Iowa, as it always does in October. Here the temperature is dropping fast. The base we live on is up in the mountains so close to the border we can see **Pakistan**. We're a few months into our year-long tour, and the homesickness is starting to set in. Yet we believe in our mission and why we came here. My unit is the 734th Agri-business Development Team, with the 101st Airborne located in Kunar Province. Our job is to travel our section of the country, helping educate, train, and assist farmers in Afghanistan. They do have quite a lot of crops and livestock here, but we have been working to increase their yield, teach new ways to process and store their harvest, and raise better herds of animals. They are an interesting people so we can only hope this all takes. Thank you again for the package and support. These bring smiles to all of us here, and really do help us make it through. I hope to meet you ladies in person when I return home. God bless you.*

*Stg. John Schmidt
734th ADT
Camp Wright, Asadabad
APO AE 09310*



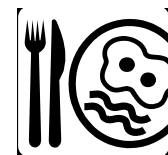
Address Changes for your Zion Directory

Rome, Gary & Sue 2130 Belle Ave
Davenport IA 52803
(phone: 320-2506)

Gletty, Doris Apt. #146
(same street address)

Treiber, Sarah (Salli) 3434 Towne Pointe Dr
Bettendorf IA 52722

Attn: Zion Men



ALL MEN OF ZION are invited to a monthly Breakfast, Bible study, and fellowship on the third Saturday, this month on January 15th, at 8:00am at the Hickory Gardens restaurant in Davenport.

Bring your Bible — and a guest if you know someone who'd like to come!

Call Tom Handlen (391-0825) if you are interested but have not attended before.



Morning Book Review

Date: **Monday, January 17th, 9:00am**
Place: **Zion's Dengler Lounge**
Book: **Where River Turns to Sky**
by Gregg Kleiner

A first novel for this author, who was age 16 when he wrote it. Eighty-year old George promised his best friend he'd never let him die alone in a nursing home, but because he was away fishing — he did. Guilt-stricken, George buys a broken down mansion in Oregon, paints it fire-engine red, and begins looking for other old folks to share it with him. It may be hard to imagine a group of cranky, debilitated, full-of-vinegar octogenarians raising a ruckus in a sedate Oregon town, but they do just that!

Check the library or bookstore, get a copy, and JOIN US!

A Few Words from Stewardship

Have you submitted a "Commitment card" of giving for Zion's ongoing ministries of worship, growing in faith, and reaching out in love for 2011?

Please get one at the "Welcome" table in the entry and turn it in ASAP. *Many Thanks to all who have turned in the 75+ cards so far!*



Figures & Financial Facts:

Regular Budget offerings Dec. 2010	= \$ 23,531.02
DEC. 2010 Actual Expenses	= \$ 23,913.73
Covered by Legacy funds	= \$ 382.71
<i>per Legacy Committee & Council approval</i>	
Current month status +/-	+ \$ 0.00

Year-to-Date Report (12 months)
Regular Giving rec'd Jan-Dec 2010 = \$ 285,865.39
Budget Expenses Jan.—Dec. 2010 = (294,094.23)
Drawn from Legacy funds = \$ 11,239.52
Current Y-T-D Surplus/(Deficit) \$ 3,010.68

ALTAR FLOWERS 'GIVING' - JANUARY

- Jan. 2 - OPEN
- Jan. 9 - OPEN
- Jan. 16 - OPEN
- Jan. 23 - OPEN
- Jan. 30 - OPEN



Thank you to all who gave Poinsettias & Wreaths for Christmas services! If you haven't yet picked up your plant, please do so as soon as possible.

The new flower chart for 2011 is posted now. Please sign up for a Sunday -or- an alternate offering, to the fund of your choice in lieu of flowers.

USHERS - January 2011 (One Svc - 9:00am)

Steve & Sue Keller, John Kincaid,
Anthony Howland

Attn: Ushers ...

WE NEED MORE OF YOU!! Please ask someone you think might be interested in the easy job and let Bud Kelley know so he can call them with details.

Communion Assistants - JAN. (One svc—9:00am)



- Jan. 9 - Tom & Opal Handlen
- Jan. 16 - Mary Schnack; *need 1 more*
- Jan. 23 - Dona Noble; *need 1 more*
- Jan. 30 - Bud & Anita Hagen



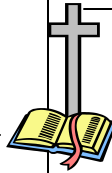
TELLERS - January 2011 (One Service - 9:00am)

- 1/02 - Chuck Dau, Lois Kershaw, Dave Wright, Eva Hammond
- 1/09 - John & Roxeann Ford, Lisa Zosulis, Birdine Tucker
- 1/16 - Stu Goldsmith, Delores Smith, Doug Kline
- 1/23 - Mark & Beth Meyer, Mike Hamann, Gene Rome
- 1/30 - Birdine Tucker, Lisa Zosulis, Jerry Grady

Greeters for January 2011 (One Service 9:00am)

- 1/02 John & Roxeann Ford
- 1/09 Bob & Judy Blomgren
- 1/16 Bob & Judy Blomgren
- 1/23 Denny & Lisa Boever
- 1/30 Deb Hughes

We NEED GREETERS! Call Grace at 324-8463 if you can help out with this EASY and FUN ministry of hospitality!



Lectors— January 2011 (One Svc - 9:00am)

- Jan. 2 Joe Obleton
- Jan. 9 Tom Handlen
- Jan. 16 Dona Noble
- Jan. 23 Linda Baustian
- Jan. 30 Anita Hagen

January COMMUNION Set-Up/Clean-Up



- Jan. 2 Darrell & Kathy Longlett (glasses)
- Jan. 9 Mary Lou Vikdal (glasses)
- Jan. 16 TBA (intinction)
- Jan. 23 TBA (glasses)
- Jan. 30 TBA (intinction)

January Linens Care: TBA

THANKS!

ACOLYTES - JANUARY 2011

- Jan. 2 THANK You, Mara Kealey!
- Jan. 9 Samantha Longlett, Kaleigh Rhodes, Christian Elliott
- Jan. 16 Grace Geering, Daniel & Rachel Crable
- Jan. 23 Jake & Courtney Hamann
- Jan. 30 Allison Grady, Hannah Tegtmeier, Jake Airgood



THANKS BE TO GOD FOR EACH OF YOU and the dependable leadership you give to our worship. If you cannot serve when assigned, please try to switch with someone or get a sub for your 'shift.'



MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO GAVE

the Poinsettias, Wreaths, and Trees which adorn our worship space to the Glory of God.

POINSETTIAS

Given by

Kathy Anderson & Sharon Nielsen

memory of grandparents: John & Jenny Johnston –and- Karlo & Annamarie Rindler

Kathy Anderson & Sharon Nielsen

memory of parents: Laverne & Marianna Johnston

Dave & Libbie Babka family

memory of Ralph Kershaw & Jeff Kershaw

Kent & Sue Cherryholmes family

honor of Kinnick Cherryholmes

Carolyn Crable, children &

memory of Margaret Dietrich: mom, grandma, & great-grandma

Larry & Kathy Goodknight

honor of our Grandchildren: Creighton, Seth, Lily, Miles & Naomi

Eva Hammond

memory & honor of Loved Ones

Steve & Nancy Howland

memory & honor of Loved Ones

Allen Huss

memory of Dolores Huss

Dennis, Janine, Seth & Hannah Johnson

memory & honor of Loved Ones

Lois Kershaw

honor of Grandchildren

Darrell & Kathy Longlett family

memory of parents: Dorothy & Floyd Longlett –and- Art & Louise Stebens

Chris & Sharon Lorenzen

memory & honor of Loved Ones

Alice Lynch

memory of Mother

Mark & Beth Meyer

in thanks for God's blessings

Steve & Dianne Rasmus

honor of our Children

Steve & Dianne Rasmus

memory of Allen Vikdal

Gene & Donna Rome

memory of our Parents

Cary Scott

memory of Mel Scott

Birdine Tucker

memory of Harry Tucker

Mary Lou Vikdal

memory of Allen Vikdal

Mary Lou Vikdal

in thanks for Pr. Del, Pr. Ritva, and Janine

Mary Lou Vikdal

to the glory of God

Pr. Ritva & John Williams

memory of Walter Williams



WREATHS



Given by

John & Roxeann Ford family

memory & honor of Loved Ones

Kent & Sue Cherryholmes family

honor of Dan Cherryholmes & Esther Keller

Larry & Kathy Goodknight

memory & honor of Loved Ones

Mike & Cindy Hamann family

memory & honor of Loved Ones

Seth & Hannah Johnson

honor of Grandma Salo's 90th birthday

Steve & Dianne Rasmus

to the glory of God

Gene & Donna Rome

honor of our Grandchildren

Mary Lou Vikdal

honor of children: Dianne & Steve; Karen & David;

Pr. Ritva & John Williams

Yvonne & Lou; David & Allison –and their families

honor of grandson, Cole Williams

TREES

Given by

Mary & Rich Schnack

Thanks be to God for God's work through our Zion family!

* ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ * ✝ *

