

The Mountain Top **Messenger**

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 3 Zion Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod MARCH 2012

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

It seems like yesterday that the vacancy began but in reality it's been close to six months! If you have not heard, Pastor Kelto has returned the call. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. God will send the right man to serve Zion according to His plans not ours. A new Call list will be formulated and at the proper time a call will be extended.

Mid-week Lenten services will continue to be held on Wednesdays at 6:30pm until Holy Week. All are encouraged to attend. It was a real blessing to see so many at the Ash Wednesday service. After the service Diane and I picked up a few groceries at a local store. It must have seemed strange to see some of the other shoppers as we walked the aisles with a black cross on our foreheads. Many looked at us but no one said anything until we got to the checkout line. The cashier remarked, "I thought they were tattoos!" She then realized it was Ash Wednesday. I invited her to come to worship at Zion the next Sunday.

Our Monday morning Bible class continues to grow in number. When we get one more attendee we will have to find a new place to meet. We finished Genesis and are in chapter 17 of Exodus. We also study at least one other topic during the hour. The Sunday morning Bible study continues with the Luther's Small Catechism. I am always open to any questions that anyone has so don't be afraid to ask. I don't always know the answer but in time I will find it! The last question I was asked was about the reason for the color purple during the Lenten Season.

I'm getting to know more people every week. The problem for me is that sometimes I might forget your name. I apologize if I have offended anyone; please forgive me. I'm also learning some of the family relationships and with that some of the history of Zion. There is so much to learn in a short time but I have no regrets. Thanks again to everyone who has helped me during the vacancy, it makes my serving you much easier.

So what's next? After Easter will come Junior Confirmation and then Vacation Bible School, which a leader is still needed, please consider helping VBS. Preliminary planning has begun and will continue to see that everything gets done in an orderly fashion. I am also considering starting another Adult Instruction class so if you know anyone that might be interested please let me know.

Most importantly, it is my responsibility that each member of Zion is nourished spiritually through Word and Sacrament. As the Bible tells us, "Love the Lord with all you heart, your mind and soul." Jesus loved us first and always will. The Lord does bless us in so many ways and He asks us to share His love. God's blessings to all.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Hyvonen

Zion's Ministry Staff and Church Officers



E-Mail: zionashland@ hotmail.com

Church Office
.....715-682-6075

LFOJ Child Care Center
Administrator, Karyn Leino..... 715-682-6075
Little Friends of Jesus Child Care Center
715-682-5185
President, Chuck Chronis715-682-0070
Elder Chairman, Darryl Warren.....715-492-0488

NEW MEMBERS

Zion would like to welcome into
our membership the following:



Chris Bolz [by confirmation]
Renee Nichols [by transfer Immanuel –
Mellen, WI]
Robert Allen Guski [by confirmation]
Donald Moreland [by confirmation]
Lauri Moreland [by transfer St. Paul's –
Ridgeland, WI]
Steven Todd Nesheim and Debra Elmore-
Nesheim [by transfer St. Michael's –
Bloomington, MN]



Time changes

Spring ahead

one hour for March 11th

Stewardship Thoughts

The third principle of stewardship life from LCMS is: God's stewards are saints and sinners.

Christians recognize that they fight sin and its consequences everyday and at the same time live out what the Lord has declared them to be through the cross.

The way stewardship is presented to believers and received by them is important. The approach should not appeal to their sinful nature or selfish interest, but carefully distinguish between Law and Gospel and approach always in faith active in love.

"You were taught to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." Eph. 4:22-24

From your Stewardship Committee

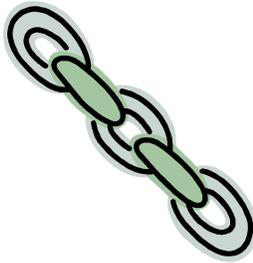
NEED A PRAYER?

Zion Lutheran Church has two active prayer chains—a daytime and an evening chain. If you would like to have the chain activated to pray for a specific need, please call Marge Douglas at 682-2160. If you reach the answering machine, please leave a message, but then call the church office at 682-6075 and give the request to the church secretary and the chain will be activated. The Prayer Chain members are asked to keep all prayer requests confidential and not discuss them with others, but caller discretion is advised.



PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain needs a few more links to be added. Please consider being one of the links for the prayers that are so needed nowadays. It doesn't cost anything, no training involved, no expert knowledge needed. It couldn't be easier. So please give Madge a call at 715-682-2160 and be added onto the chain.



Scrapbooking and Other

Friday, MARCH 16th 5-10:00pm

If you need space, time, or inspiration to get caught up on organizing photos, getting your photos in albums, scrapbooking, cardmaking, or any other projects you may have, come join us in the church basement, Friday night. You will have plenty of space to spread out to work. You will also have the opportunity to see what others do with their pictures to give you ideas. Soda, water and punch are provided. Please bring a snack to share. There is a \$5 fee. Please RSVP to Jodi Truchon if you are interested in coming. (jotruchon@yahoo.com or 866-267-8749) Thank you! Jodi

SPRING—March 20, 2012

On the first day of spring—the vernal equinox—day and night are each approximately 12 hours long (with the actual time of equal day and night, in the Northern Hemisphere, occurring a few days before the vernal equinox). The Sun crosses the celestial equator going northward; it rises exactly due east and sets exactly due west.

Whiles visiting other Churches please bring back bulletins and newsletters to our office. It's nice to get some new ideas that others use.

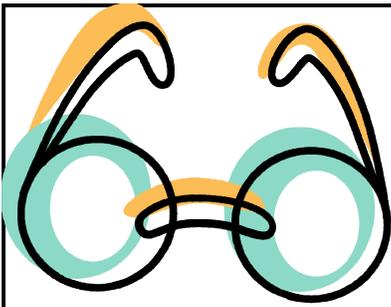
www.zionashland.org—Website

The newsletter is once again online. Please visit the website. Give the office any feedback on what we can change or add. Thanks!

LWML Celebrates \$100 Million in Mites

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) has gathered \$100 million in mites since the founding of the organization in 1942! By the grace of God, faithful supporters from across the nation have given their mites to achieve the LWML's ongoing mission goal. This amazing total combines funds from the forty districts and the national level of the LWML.

Supporters today are linked with the founders of LWML who gathered in Chicago nearly 70 years ago and have supported Christian outreach in 42 countries on five continents through the years.



North Wisconsin District LWML Mission Trip Nicaragua Eyeglass Clinic 2012

Do you have any used eyeglasses? A mission trip, scheduled for November 2-10, 2012, focuses on providing used eyeglasses to poverty stricken Nicaraguan people whose lives are diminished by impaired vision. Your used eyeglasses can be used to support this mission. A box for collecting the eyeglasses can be found in the Narthex. The eyeglasses will be brought to the LWML District Convention in June. If you are interested in making the mission trip, information can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

CAMP LUTHER BREEZE

Camps and activities are listed in their monthly "Breeze" on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

LWML/Mary-Martha ladies will be selling out all the greeting cards currently on hand on March 4th in the conference room. All monies will be given to the Youth Gathering project. Since there is no longer a resource to purchase low-priced boxes of cards they will no longer be available.



Please help us find 400 new campers! Yes, we have 400 Every Kid to Camp awards available for children from your congregation or community that haven't been to camp. Just send us their names, addresses, and phone numbers and we will get you the certificates in the mail. The program is for youth grades 3-8 who haven't been to our summer camps. Certificates are for our 5-day Pathfinder, and Trailblazer programs only. Please find at least two children from your congregation. Thanks for your help!



Children's Ministry

I don't think there is one person who can argue against the importance of children's ministry. Sunday School and VBS are giant foundation blocks for our kids. We have been able to provide these programs with the help of many of you. But, we are in need of two vital positions. Dawn Reardon, who has been Sunday School Superintendent for the past years is stepping down at the end May. Dawn, thank you for your time and talent that you have provided. You stepped in when no one else would. We need that "special person" again. Try it for one or two years. There are many people who will guide you on your way. Another position we need is a lead person for VBS. If we don't get someone soon, there won't be any VBS this summer and that would be a shame. So please call the office and speak with Lynn if you would like to discuss either of these position further.

Thank you from the Education Board.

CALL COMMITTEE - Regretfully Pastor Kelto has declined the call to Zion. Contact with the District Office has already been made. Since the process is almost starting anew, anyone on the Call Committee can step down and anyone wishing to be included on the committee should contact one of its members or call the office. One of the most important things a congregation can do during the call process is to offer fervent and frequent prayers that God will graciously send a faithful and caring Pastor to care for his people in the congregation!

PBS series to feature Lutheran Indian Ministries

Lutheran Indian Ministries of Brookfield, Wis., will be profiled in the upcoming 17th season of "The Visionaries," an award-winning public-television series hosted by actor Sam Waterston. Lutheran Indian Ministries is a ministry of the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S., an LCMS Recognized Service Organization.

Beginning in December, PBS stations across the country will air the six-part documentary series focused on nonprofit and public-service organizations worldwide.

The episode featuring Lutheran Indian Ministries (LIM) will be uploaded to PBS stations Jan. 6. The stations then have the option of airing the episode right away or waiting until all six "Visionaries" episodes are uploaded (by Jan. 20) and slotting the programs according to the stations' own schedule

The LIM episode is titled "Growing Native Leaders" and will highlight the efforts of LIM to raise up leaders from Native American communities. The goal of LIM is to reach American Indian, Alaska Native and First Nations (Canadian) people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, disciple them in their faith, recruit leaders and provide opportunities for Lutheran theological and leadership training to nurture, strengthen and empower them for service in the church and their communities.

According to LIM Executive Director Rev. Dr. Don Johnson, "God has given people of all cultures, all tribes and all nations certain inherent abilities...they simply need to be afforded an opportunity to develop those to be useful servants in their own world."

To learn more about Lutheran Indian Ministries, go to www.luthernindianministires.org. For more information about "The Visionaries", visit www.visionaires.org.

Zion Lutheran Church

Council Minutes - February 20, 2012

The February 20, 2012 meeting of the Church Council was called to order by President, Chuck Chronis who also opened the meeting with prayer.

ROLL CALL: President, Chuck Chronis; Elder, Darryl Warren; Trustee, Jim Johnson; Financial Secretary, Mary Koosmann; Education, Dawn Reardon; LFOJ, Cheri Tamke; Treasurer, Todd Vyskocil; Secretary, Becky Sapper

MINUTES: Motion by Warren, second by Johnson, to approve the minutes of the January 2012 Council meeting as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Johnson, second by Koosmann to approve the Treasurer's Report as given. Motion carried.

AGENDA: Motion by Johnson, second by Reardon, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS: Motion by Johnson, second by Warren to approve the board reports as given.

Elders: *Reviewed names for transfers.*

Trustees: *Continued preventative maintenance of Church and LFOJ buildings and assisted in the move of LFOJ's office.*

Financial Secretary: *Will issue new members giving envelopes and will audit checking account as requested.*

Education: *Held first meeting with new board members. Dawn will continue as chair until May.*

Little Friends of Jesus: *provided orientation to the new LFOJ board members.*

Pastor's Report: *New members will be received on February 26, 2012. Pastor attended circuit meeting February 9th. St Paul Marengo and Cable are calling a new candidate from seminary in St. Louis.*

OFFICIAL ACTS: Motion by Sapper, second by Tamke to accept the official acts. Motion carried. Motion by Warren, second by Koosmann to accept the new members. Motion carried.

Baptism: Zoe Mae Wright (02/05/2012) and Don Moreland (02/26/2012)

Deaths: Agnes Schutte (02/16/2012)

New Members by Adult Instruction: Donald Moreland, Chris Bolz and Robert Guski (02/26/2012)

New Member by Transfers: Steven & Debra Nesheim, Laurie Moreland, and Renee Nichols (02/26/2012)

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion by Warren, second by Koosmann to give the Treasurer a \$500 discretionary check limit for non-budgeted items.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. President's job description was reviewed and added to the by-laws.

B. An ad-hoc Capital Budget Committee was created which will include Treasurer, Memorial Committee member, Trustee and at least 2 other church members. The goal of this committee will be to create a capital budget plan to address short-term (1 year, 5 year) and long-term (10 year, 20 year) capital needs of the church and budgetary requirements to address those needs. Capital needs could include items such as bell tower, roof, parking lot, organ, etc.

C. Discussion on church organ was tabled until next month.

ADJOURN: Motion by Johnson, second by Koosmann to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

LITTLE FRIENDS OF JESUS

Website: lfoj.org

Email: lfoj@zionashland.com

Volume 3

February 2012

Tid-bits from Administration

Parent/Staff Open House

Monday, Feb. 13th has been set as the date of our parent/staff open house. As part of our licensing requirements, we are offering a formal opportunity for parents to meet with their child's teacher to discuss any questions or concerns.

A sign-up sheet to schedule an appointment is located on the bulletin board in the main entrance of the daycare center. Staff will only be available if an appointment has been made. If this day, or the times available do not work for you, please let us know so we can coordinate another time.

Children's Records

It's that time of year again, where Amy goes through our children's records to make sure all forms are present and information is up-to-date. Due to the number of forms required for each child, combined with the number of children enrolled at our center, this is a major task. We appreciate your prompt consideration in completing your child's paperwork to ensure we meet state licensing requirements.

The Season of Lent

Lent begins February 22nd. The season of Lent is often observed as a time for Christians to examine our lives, and strengthen our faith as we prepare for Easter.

If you do not have a church home, please consider joining us Wednesday evenings at Zion. Soup and sandwiches are served in the basement at 5:00 p.m., with worship set for 6:30 p.m.



Totville News

Happy February everyone! We have a fun month ahead in the Infant/Toddler room. We will be doing projects for Valentine's Day, as well as more winter activities.

Our stories for this month will be:

- * *God Tells Me What To Do*
- * *Someone Calls My Name*
- * *Stronger Than A Giant*
- * *Where Lions Are*

Last month, we welcomed two new friends to our room. **William W.** and **Amelia W.** are brother and sister, and started coming full time at the end of January. Welcome William and Amelia!

We have two birthday girls this month. **Sawyer W.** turns one on February 17th, and **Emily K.** turns one on February 25th. Happy First Birthday Girls!

Just a reminder, please make sure your child has warm outside clothes everyday, as we love to spend as much time outside as possible. Also, please make sure there is an extra set of clothes at daycare. Sometimes snow pants aren't enough to keep us dry outside, and our pants get wet.

God Bless,
Cassie



Love your **Neighbor**

Learner Lane

For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16
What a wonderful gift of love! I hope everyone has a great Valentine's Day.

For the month of February, our Bible stories and themes will be:

Jan. 30th Animals

Adam Names the Animals, Genesis 2:18-20

Feb. 6th Night

Jacob's Dream, Genesis 2:18-20

Feb. 13th Rain and Snow

Elijah and the Cloud, 1 Kings 18:41-46

Feb. 20th Wind

Jesus Stills the Storm, Mark 4:35-41

Feb. 27th We Thank God for the World He Made

David Sings About God's World, Psalm 8

Welcome to our new friends, **Noah H.** and **Cooper G.**, who joined the Learner room in January.

Happy birthday to **Gabe K.** who turns 5 on February 6th, and a belated birthday wish to Noah H. who turned 4 on January 11th.

Also, just a friendly reminder to be sure to label all your child's outdoor clothing and slippers. Thank you!

Ms. Carolyn

School-Age Scoop

We average about seven to eight children after school each day. That is a decline from the big numbers we have seen in the past. Openings are available in our school-age program if you know of someone needing care.

In February and March, there will be a number of vacation days coming up. We know as our school-agers get older, it's no longer "cool" to have to go to daycare. Lately, we have only had one or two school-agers coming on days off. Due to low enrollment, the school-agers mix upstairs with the Learners. Hopefully, as we enjoy some long weekends, the kids will want to come see their friends. We are trying to plan some fun days, especially during spring break.

Preschool News

Happy February everyone!

Time sure flies when you're having fun, and our preschoolers have been doing just that! We are looking forward to another month filled with fun activities.

As we begin our month, we be headed to the farm. I know one little boy in particular has been waiting all year for this theme! Our Bible story for the week is about the parable of the lost sheep. Our monthly chapel visits are scheduled for the 6th and 7th.

We'll also be celebrating Valentine's Day with a class party. Children are welcome to bring valentines and/or candy to share. A class list of names is on the back of this month's calendar. We'll be asking for your help in making valentine holders. More info to come on that! Our Bible story for the week will talk about Jesus command to love one another. Just a reminder, there is no preschool on Friday, Feb. 17th or Monday, Feb. 20th.

February is Dental Health month. We'll learn about good oral hygiene from Dr. Brushwell (a cartoon rabbit created by Colgate). We'll also be showing off our pearly whites, as we walk to the nursing home to visit our "grand-friends".

The last week of our short month will be focused on prayers, as Jesus teaches us to ask God for help. Our 4/5 year olds have been very active in praying at Jesus time recently, making prayer requests, or asking questions about prayer. It's great to see their faith deepening as they are growing. If only we adults were as willing to believe as these small children do!

Preschool progress reports have been handed out to our 4/5 year old parents. Any parent with questions or concerns should schedule an appointment at the center's upcoming open house. If the day or times do not work for you, please let us know, and we can pick another time.

Ms. Amy and Ms. Julie

MARCH Servers for Worship Services

Our Servers for our Worship Service are very important. We ask that if you are unable to serve on your designated date, please find someone else to take your place. We really appreciate your help in this matter!!

ELDERS

Mar. 4 Mike Cashman & Chuck Chronis
 Mar. 7 Rick Williams
 Mar. 11 John Pruss & Doug Warren
 Mar. 14 Chuck Chronis
 Mar. 18 Darryl Warren & Rick Williams
 Mar. 21 John Pruss
 Mar. 25 Chuck Chronis & John Pruss
 Mar. 28 Mike Cashman



Our Prayer Concerns MARCH

Mission

Zion Lutheran Church

Little Friends of Jesus
 Childcare Center



Thanksgiving

To all of you who have worked faithfully and joyfully to serve our Lord by serving others and often go unnoticed by all but our Heavenly Father.

Nursing Home & Assisted Living Resident

Roger Basina
 Ed & Elna Torkko
 Corrine Tolliver
 Alice Hansen
 Sharon Johnson
 Margaret Mahoney



Shut-in's

Ron Nevala
 Walt Schutte
 Gloria Mills
 Clarence & Madge Houle
 Lois Hein

Local & US Concerns

Local & US Concerns

(fulltime and/or
 deployed military)



Steve Sorenson, son of Dave & June Sorenson, U.S. Navy, stationed in San Diego, CA

Aaron Aschenbrenner, son-in-law of Lynn & Chuck Ladd, stationed in Chipewa Falls, WI



March
 11th
 Time
 Change
 Spring
 Ahead

MARCH Acolytes

Mar. 4 Eric Bochler & Dylan Williams
 Mar. 7 Kaitlyn Thimm & Jacob Pruss
 Mar. 11 Riley Heglund & Carolyn Gurske
 Mar. 14 Ben Cashman & Maggie Reardon
 Mar. 18 Brooke Sapper & Cooper Tamke
 Mar. 21 Briana Klobucher & Alexis Warren
 Mar. 25 Jordan Thimm & Sydney Vyskocil
 Mar. 28 Dylan Williams & Tiffany Houle

GREETERS FOR MARCH

Greeters should arrive by 8:40am/6:10pm

Mar. 4 Francis & Alice Balmer
 Mar. 7 Ethel Guss & Penny Mattson
 Mar. 11 Nick & Jule Jarvela
 Mar. 14 Rick & Sandy Nutt
 Mar. 18 Scott & Becky Sapper
 Mar. 21 Ron & Brenda Schwiesow
 Mar. 25 Scott & Tami Thimm
 Mar. 28 Jim Johnson & Todd Vyskocil

MARCH Ushers

Ushers should arrive by 8:40am/6:10pm

Mar. 4 Patrick Colgrove & Todd Vyskocil
 Mar. 7 Nick Jarvela
 Mar. 11 Brett Heglund & Larry Hildebrandt
 Mar. 14 Jim Johnson
 Mar. 18 Andrew Pruss & Loren Munson
 Mar. 21 Rick Nutt
 Mar. 25 Logan Tamke & Scott Sapper
 Mar. 28 Brian Klobucher

MARCH ALTAR GUILD

Linda Klobucher 746-2064 Lori Hebert 292-2122
 Pam Gendron 682-9614 Briana Klobucher

