

# The A to Z from Zion

"Where God Meets YOU!"

March 2010

## *Special points of interest:*

- Midweek Lenten Worship  
March 3, 10, 17 & 24 - 7pm
- Lenten Soup Suppers  
March 3, 10, 17 & 24  
5:30 pm
- "This Emotional Life"  
Saturday, March 6, 13 & 20  
10:00 a.m. - URT
- Food Distribution @ LVC  
March 6 & 20 - 12:00 pm
- 1st Communion Workshop  
for 6th Graders - March 13  
9:00-11:30 am



## What a Year!

### 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

*<sup>6</sup>Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup>Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."*

**What a year 2009 was!** What a blessing! What a continuing celebration in the Lord Jesus. He has called us to be His family (the church) and to share His message of salvation by God's grace. Here at Zion we continue to gather, learn, and grow in our service to the world and each other.

The totals are in and you the members of Zion gave above and beyond our financial need for 2009. A total of \$444,753 was given and the budget was set at \$441,156. Our CD from the Church Extension Fund matured and we used the \$49,000 to cover the costs of Pastor Ryan's home improvements, office renovations, and the new carpeting and organ improvement (which is in process). A total of \$493,753 was available to cover all the costs of ministry and facility which was \$481,642, this means that \$12,111 was placed in savings to use this year. What a blessing in this year of economic challenge! But the story of God's blessing continues as \$60,940 was given to the church at large for missions and outreach, both here in Holland and throughout the world. Over 12% of our gifts we shared in God's work to the world.

Zion rejoices for 2009 brought Pastor Ryan and Amie to be with us. It revitalized our education and youth ministry. It improved our facility and it brought new faces to be with us as we said good-bye to some long-time friends. God is truly blessing us here as we gather to worship and grow through our study, and reach out in His service. We are His disciples of 2010 giving and caring, loving and praying, reaching and sharing.

Thank God for you and your presence, you and your activity, and you and your generosity in Christ. Let us move forward as our Lord leads. Let us worship as He blesses us and let us seek His will in all our lives. What a family! You are Jesus' to the world. Let us celebrate and rejoice in this Lenten season.

*Pastor John*

## “When You Fast”

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus addresses a variety of different issues in a variety of creative ways. But, when it comes to fasting, one thing he already assumed: people fasted.

Now I know fasting is not as commonly talked about as, say, prayer, bible study, or giving to others, but it always comes to the forefront during Lent. In fact, there is somewhat of a strange cultural phenomenon in which people who barely know the story of Jesus give up something for Lent. I have friends who do not step foot in a church but once a year, and yet they still give up something for Lent. Why is that?

I'm sure there are many reasons. Certainly people use Lent as a thinly veiled excuse to diet, but that's not all bad either. Personally, I think the wide appeal of fasting from something during Lent has to do with the way we know the world to be. While we are inundated with messages to have more, buy more, be more, somewhere deep down we know that the only true fulfillment comes from somewhere other than purchasing an item that will break or manufacturing an ex-

perience that will soon fade. True fulfillment in life comes from somewhere outside of us.

Jesus knew that at the heart of what it means to be human is to give, and he gave everything he had to restore a broken world. He gave his life in service, washing feet, suffering, and ultimately, dying to bridge the chasm between us and God. Jesus gave up everything, and Jesus gained everything. He gave up his comfort, his royal privilege, his eternal “immunity idol,” and his life to take away our sin, our brokenness, the rebellion in our hearts, and he gained the whole world being reunited to Him.

With the words, “When you fast,” Jesus invites us to share in his life by giving up things for the sake of discipline and faith growth. No, we don't earn brownie points with God by giving up brownies for 40 days, but in small ways we come to know what loss feels like. When we voluntarily give up things we enjoy, we share, in some small way, in the life of Jesus, in the way of the cross. And we begin to see the blessings in fasting.

Lord Jesus, give us new eyes this Lent to see your cross more clearly, give us new legs to follow you to Calvary, and give us new hearts that are willing to give everything to follow you. Amen.

*Pastor Ryan*



## Upcoming Youth Mission Trip Fundraisers

- Soup Supper March 17
- Pop Can Drive – anyone at Zion is welcome to donate their pop cans. Just bring them in and put them in the bag entrance down the hallway past the Nursery and Children's Library.
- Used Ink Cartridges – Yes we can get \$\$ for them, except Epson brand.
- Student Auction – coming up in April, you will get the chance to bid on one of the high schoolers to do whatever you want for a few hours. Have them babysit so you can have a fun night, or put them to work in the yard. You choose. Look for details to come.

**Anxiety** **Depression** **Fear** **Happiness** **Relationships** **Marriage**

**This Emotional Life**  
**Saturday, March 6, 13 & 20**  
**10:00am-12:00pm**  
**with lunch following**

***Childcare Provided***

Join **Joseph Byrd** and **Troy Foster** in the Upper Room Theatre for three sessions based on PBS's "This Emotional Life" - a video series on how following the model of Christ's journey to the cross, we can live in a new expectancy and understanding of how God made us to function more wholly. Please sign up by the kitchen window.



## From Our Deaconess



Why did I become a deaconess? In 1985 Kathy went off to college, and Bob was talking about retiring in ten years. I felt, I would need something to do. My mother was a deaconess after World War I and continued her deaconess ministry throughout her life, even though once she was married, she could no longer call herself a deaconess. That rule only changed in the U.S. in the 70's or 80's. Bob had to sign my application for the deaconess program, giving his permission in 1986. Some of you might remember Project Compassion in the 80's. A deaconess and an intern came to Trinity in Tinley Park and gave a program. As I listened, I felt that the deaconess program would be something I could do.

I started my first courses in the summer of 1986. I have taken classes at several universities, including the University of Chicago, but very few of the teachers were as caring and helpful than the professors at River Forest. Most of my classes were theology classes, followed by deaconess classes and field work. We needed 150 hours at an institution or church. Since I was teaching full time, I needed a place close to Orland Park. I was assigned to Oak Forest Hospital with long-term care facilities. This was a whole new world for me. I lived in a suburb and taught at a high school without any diverse ethnicity. At Oak Forest Hospital, I was in the minority. I was assigned to Rehab, which had a good name in the area. A third of the patients were older black men who had amputations because of diabetes, or were recovering from a stroke. Another third were young men with gun shot wounds. The others were a motley group among them prisoners from Cook County Jail.

I had never met people like this and certainly not talked to them. What a place to put a German Lutheran, surrounded by many Baptists?? God knew I needed a place like that to open my eyes and my heart. On Sundays there was a Catholic and Protestant service. Most residents had to be wheeled to the chapels. At my first Sunday service I had to read a prayer and follow up with the Lord's Prayer. When I entered the chapel, all I could see were gurneys and wheelchairs and it was very noisy. One lady could not talk, and she would play her tambourine when the spirit moved her. The service did not resemble the service at my church in Tinley Park. Lots of - Praise the Lord - Amens - Hallelujahs and the tambourine. By the time it came to read the prayer, I was stressed and confused. The Pastor had written the prayer for me and the first line of the Lord's Prayer. My mind went blank, I had forgotten the Lord's Prayer. Thankfully Pastor Mock fed me the next line. The next Sunday I had to write my own prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer, which I typed out, but I never needed it again. What did I learn at Oak Forest Hospital? God's children are not only white German Lutherans!! The rest of the chaplains and priests were very kind to me and always answered my questions and supported me. I think that is very important in ministry.

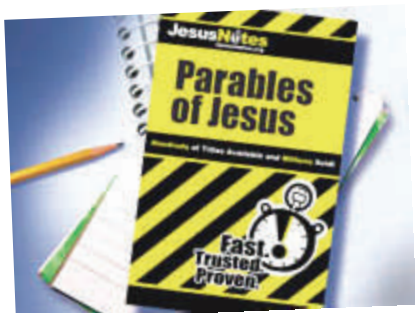
More next month!!

In Christ,

*Deaconess Erna*

# YOUTH PAGE

High School/Sr. High [Sundays, 6-8pm] –



## March

7 – Parable of the Treasure and the Pearl

14 – Parable of the 2 Sons

**Wednesday, Mar. 17 Soup Supper** – All students going on the mission trip must be there to help. It is a fundraiser.

21 – Parable of Jesus and the party

28 – Afternoon Service project [still being planned]



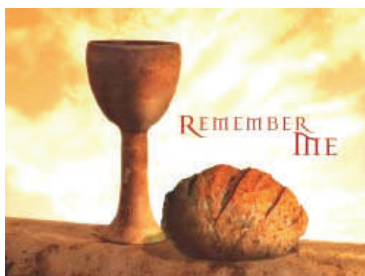
## Mission Trip

The deadline for signing up and getting your deposit in was February 28. If it passed you by and you're interested, find me ASAP. We will start doing some fundraisers in the very near future. The first is the Soup Supper, March 17.

Also, we will be planning a spring cleanup *student* auction. Yes, that means you will auction yourself out to the highest bidding member for your hard work and your time! It will be a great way to get to know other people of Zion and earn money for the trip.

## Middle School/Jr. High Ministry –

March 13 – 6<sup>th</sup> grade Communion Workshop with parents. 9:00-11:30am



Confirmation still begins at 6pm during Lent. We have shortened class and then participate in worship. Be sure to stay current with your Home Journals. Find that 5 minutes a day to spend with your family talking about your day, opening God's Word, and praying together. It really makes a big difference!



### *Birthdays*

March 1	Wilma Jacobsgaard Nicole Mullins Nancy Nauta
March 2	Eleanor Clarke
March 3	Allan Oberstadt
March 4	Eric Poindexter Lyle VanderMeulen
March 6	Lois Bell
March 7	Tom Gehringer Donald Klein
March 9	KayAnn Deubner Bob Musch
March 10	Joyce Porter Taylor VanDuinen
March 11	Renia Siwy
March 12	Damon Potter
March 13	Candice Haberkorn
March 14	Barrie Blood Adrian Llanes Michele Zeilinger
March 16	Denise Kamps
March 17	Stephanie Alsup Justin Collison Sherry Fry
March 18	Paul Berning
March 19	April Conant
March 20	Rick Doud Ronald Kobes Cayden Moore
March 23	Dirk Carlson
March 24	John Carlson Kim Stevenson
March 25	Zoë Fry
March 29	Lisa Foy
March 30	Christopher Hebel
March 31	Roxanne Selby

### *Anniversaries*

March 1	Max & Lynette Bush
March 2	Tom & Ann Mason
March 12	Steven & Kristine Dibble
March 21	Martin (Sr.) & Kathe Freeman
March 28	Mark & Brenda Schout Steve & Nancy Wessels

**If we missed your name or have wrong information, we must be missing information in our computer. Please leave your birth date or anniversary date in the office.**

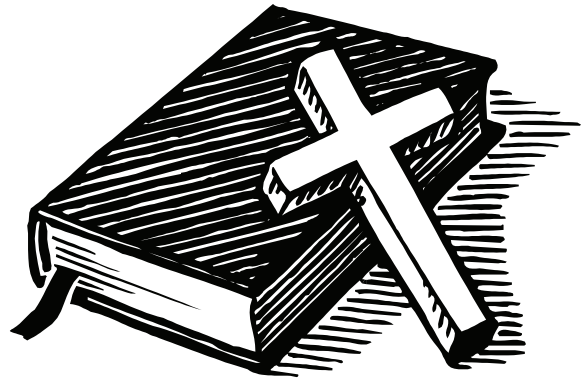
### ***KUDOS!*** to ...

**Ethan Coster** for a job well done leading the Bible Study with **Pastor Ryan**

To give **KUDOS!** to a special person or group for the next A to Z, submission forms are on the bulletin board in the hallway. Place completed submission forms inside the envelope on the bulletin board, please. Thank you!

## Bible Readings for March 2010

1. Psalm 86; Proverbs 20
2. Isaiah 2:1–4:1; Luke 4:31-44
3. Isaiah 4:2–6:13; Luke 5:1-26
4. Isaiah 7; Luke 5:27-39
5. Isaiah 8; Luke 6:1-26
6. Isaiah 9–10; Luke 6:27-42
7. Psalms 87–88
8. Isaiah 11–12; Luke 6:43-49
9. Isaiah 13; Luke 7:1-17
10. Isaiah 14–15; Luke 7:18-35
11. Isaiah 16–17; Luke 7:36-50
12. Isaiah 18–19; Luke 8:1-18
13. Isaiah 20–21; Luke 8:19-39
14. Psalm 89
15. Isaiah 22; Luke 8:40-56
16. Isaiah 23–24; Luke 9:1-17
17. Isaiah 25–27; Luke 9:18-36
18. Isaiah 28; Luke 9:37-62
19. Isaiah 29; Luke 10:1-16
20. Isaiah 30–31; Luke 10:17-42
21. Psalm 90
22. Isaiah 32; Luke 11:1-23
23. Isaiah 33; Luke 11:24-36
24. Isaiah 34–36; Luke 11:37-54
25. Isaiah 37; Luke 12:1-21
26. Isaiah 38–39; Luke 12:22-34
27. Isaiah 40; Luke 12:35-48
28. Psalm 91
29. Isaiah 41; Luke 12:49-59
30. Isaiah 42; Luke 13:1-9
31. Isaiah 43; Luke 13:10-21



**March Memory Verse:** *Psalm 91:2 (NIV) I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."*

**Life Quote from Lutherans for Life ([www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org))**

"Next time you worship, don't be afraid to look around you. You may see Jesus in the face of a child, or the smile of a teen, or the tears of a friend. You might understand the value of life through the rhythm of a breathing tube, or the unfolding of a walker, or the chatter of a toddler. Above all, your life will be given value through the means of grace—gifts from the God who created us, redeemed us, and continues to sanctify us. Come to the Source of Light—then go out and let it shine!" *Karen Frohwein, Lutherans For Life of Iowa*

# ATTENDANCE

**Attendance for February 2010:** Our average Sunday attendance in January was 239 (two Sundays). Average attendance in February 2009 was 249 (two Sundays).

We continue to invite all to come and join in celebration. Are your friends here? Invite them to join us.



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE for LENT

Wednesday Evenings at  
7:00 p.m.

March 3, 10, 17, 24



### Seniors of Zion

Plan now to join in  
Worship, Communion and a Fellowship Luncheon  
April 1, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.

Chef Martin Freeman Sr. is preparing our lunch. Please let the church office know, or sign up on the Seniors Bulletin Board in the church hallway, so he may prepare enough for us all.



## Lenten Soup Suppers Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

- |             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| February 24 | ZLCW     |
| March 3     | Council  |
| March 10    | Elders   |
| March 17    | Youth    |
| March 24    | Trustees |



## A Note From The Lakeshore Pregnancy Baby Bottle Campaign

*Dear Friends at Zion Lutheran,*

*Thank you for standing with us for life through your participation in our recent Baby Bottle Campaign in your church. Your efforts raised \$260.53 to help our ministry reach women and babies with God's truth and love. God bless you and thank you again!*

*Lakeshore Pregnancy Center*

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

*Member of the Lakeshore Zone LWML*

**ZLCW Book Club** meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us on March 16 to discuss the book A Walk in the Woods by **Bill Bryson**. **Steve Wessels** will be joining us to share his photos and his experiences hiking the Appalachian Trail. See **Cindy Fox** with any questions.

**Thank you for continuing to save** eyeglasses, Spartan UPCs (trimmed to 1/4 inch) and pop can tabs. We continue to donate food, etc. for the less fortunate. Two grocery bags were delivered to Community Action House in February. We continue to gather food, personal hygiene products and paper products.

**Our Missionaries in Africa** (Rev. Chuck & Karen Tessaro) for Lutheran Bible Translators: Check the bulletin board in the hallway for updated letters and e-mails. Remember to pray for their safety, good health and joy as they serve the Lord where God has placed them.

**ZLCW Cards for Shut-ins** - *Special:* We will meet Tuesday, March 9 & 23, Thursday, April 8, and \*Tuesday, April 20, 12:00-2:00 p.m. at **Hope Gleason's** house. Card craft and refreshments. (*\*This is our day for our appreciation class - we make four different cards for us to take home and use.*)

**Quilters** - Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. **Ada Lange** .

**Altar Guild** - **Marilyn Oberstadt**

**Ladies Monday Bible Study** - 9:30-11:00 am. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Library, **Paula Capizzi**

**Let's Go Out to Lunch!** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. **Eileen Johr** (Check the "Weekly Happenings" for time and place.)

**Knitting/Stitching Group** - 6:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall. **Pam Olson**.

### *Coming in March ....*



**“Labor of Love” Nights**  
**Keep your eyes on the Weekly Happenings for Details!**

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

For March - 8:45 AM

**Elders**

*Bob Musch & Tim Gort*

**Ushers**

*TBA*

**Sound**

*Kent Esmeier (March 7)*  
*Chris Hebel (March 14)*  
*Paul Pohanka (March 21)*  
*Dean Ihle (March 28)*

**Transportation**

*Kent Esmeier (March 7)*  
*August Overway (March 14)*  
*Reed Sneller (March 21)*  
*Greg Wiley (March 28)*

**Readers**

*Bob Musch (March 7)*  
*Char Norris (March 14)*  
*Ed Gasper (March 21)*  
*Elizabeth Johnston (March 28)*

**“Bagel Bringers”**

*The Pohankas (March 7)*  
*The Greenlunds (March 14)*  
*The Podgorskis (March 21)*  
*The Poindexters (March 28)*

**Altar Duty**

*Cindy Sneller (March 7)*  
*Nancy Fody (March 14)*  
*Nancy Wessels (March 21)*  
*Sharon Hamlin (March 28)*

**Pew Police**

*Eileen Johr (Week of March 7)*  
*The Bascom Family (Week of March 14)*  
*LaVerne Wise (Week of March 21)*  
*Myrna Prins (Week of March 28)*

**Please notify the church office of any changes - Thank you!**



**Put Your Faith Into Action** - Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief: The supply of kits has been depleted in the Maryland warehouse since the Haiti disaster. Replacements are needed to continue helping in other areas also. Check the Mission Table in the Fellowship Hall for exact items needed. Kits will then be assembled and mailed to the nearest LWR warehouse. LWR's approximate cost to handle and ship one health kit overseas is \$2.65. Help yourself to a *Be Involved* booklet from the table to be more informed. Bring any items by the end of March. Thank you for any help you can give.

# March 2010

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

	<b>1</b> 9:30 - MLBC	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:15 - MBB-Russ' North 9:30 - WBC 11:00 - Quilters 5:00 - Prayers 5:30 - Soup Supper 6:00 - "Worship Upside Down" Conf. Classes/Kids Kamp Bell Choir <b>7:00 - Lenten Worship</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30 - Knit/Stitch Group	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10:00 - "This Emotional Life" - URT 12:00 - Food Dist. at LVC
<b>7</b> <b>Third Sunday in Lent</b> 8:45 - Liturgical Worship (with Holy Communion) 10:00 - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:15 - Contemporary Worship 6:00 - Sr. Youth @ the "greenhouse"	<b>8</b> 9:30 - MLBC	<b>9</b> 12:30 - Zion Stampers 7:00 - ZLCW Board	<b>10</b> 6:15 - MBB-Russ' North 9:30 - WBC 11:00 - Quilters 5:00 - Prayers 5:30 - Soup Supper 6:00 - "Worship Upside Down" Conf. Classes/Kids Kamp Bell Choir <b>7:00 - Lenten Worship</b> 7:45 - Choir	<b>11</b> 10:00 - ZAP Bible Study 6:30 - Knit/Stitch Group	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 - 1st Communion Workshop 10:00 - "This Emotional Life" - URT
<b>14</b> <b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> 8:45 - Liturgical Worship 10:00 - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:15 - Contemporary Worship (with Holy Communion) 2:00 - Sr. Youth Service Project	<b>15</b> 9:30 - MLBC	<b>16</b> 7:00 - ZLCW Book Club	<b>17</b> 6:15 - MBB-Russ' North 9:30 - WBC 11:00 - Quilters 5:00 - Prayers 5:30 - Soup Supper 6:00 - "Worship Upside Down" Conf. Classes/Kids Kamp Bell Choir <b>7:00 - Lenten Worship</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30 - Knit/Stitch Group	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10:00 - "This Emotional Life" - URT 12:00 - Food Dist. at LVC
<b>21</b> <b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> 8:45 - Liturgical Worship (with Holy Communion) 10:00 - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:15 - Contemporary Worship 6:00 - Sr. Youth @ the "greenhouse"	<b>22</b> 9:30 - MLBC	<b>23</b> 12:30 - Zion Stampers	<b>24</b> 6:15 - MBB-Russ' North 9:30 - WBC 11:00 - Quilters 5:00 - Prayers 5:30 - Soup Supper 6:00 - "Worship Upside Down" Conf. Classes/Kids Kamp Bell Choir <b>7:00 - Lenten Worship</b> 7:45 - Choir	<b>25</b> 10:00 - ZAP Bible Study 6:30 - Knit/Stitch Group	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 8:45 - Liturgical Worship 10:00 - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:15 - Contemporary Worship (with Holy Communion) 6:00 - Sr. Youth @ the "greenhouse"	<b>29</b> 9:30 - MLBC	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:15 - MBB-Russ' North 9:30 - WBC 11:00 - Quilters	<b>LVC - Lakeshore Vineyard Church</b> <b>MBB - Men's Bible Breakfast</b> <b>MLBC - Monday Ladies Bible Class</b> <b>URT - Upper Room Theatre</b> <b>WBC - Wednesday Bible Class</b> <b>ZAP - Zion's Active People</b> <b>ZLCW - Zion Lutheran Church Women</b>		

**Zion Lutheran Church**

“Where God Meets YOU!”  
77 West 32nd Street  
Holland, MI 49423

**Office Hours: Mon-Fri. 9:00am-4:00pm**  
Phone: (616) 392-7151  
Fax: (616) 392-7180  
E-mail: zionlutheran@tds.net

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Visit Us on the Web!

[www.hollandzionlutheranchurch.com](http://www.hollandzionlutheranchurch.com)

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***Worship Schedule***

*Sundays - 8:45 & 11:15 am*

***Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes***

*10:00 am*

***Our Staff***

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. John Westra

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Ryan Winningham

**Celebration Ministries/Spiritual Direction:** Joseph Byrd

**Secretary:** Althea Hudson

**Summer Deaconess:** Erna Schmid



***Miriam Clare Linde***

**Born:** January 12, 2010  
**Baptized:** February 14, 2010  
**Parents:** Christopher & Kendra Linde  
**Sponsor:** Jill TenHarmsel