Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ZION NEWS

A publication of
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Landisville, PA

2010 Issue 1 **"Ministry and Fellowship together, Christ forever."** **January**

The ministers of Zion: Every member of the congregation
Reverend Robert L. Hoover, Jr., Intentional Interim Pastor

FROM EPIPHANY TO EASTER

In John's Gospel, Jesus is the Word, who becomes a human being and, full of grace and truth lived among us. "The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out, (John 1:45 TEV)."

Sunday by Sunday and day by day we confess our faith in the Word; we celebrate the life, we rejoice in the grace and truth, and we reflect the light of Christ!

There are 5 Sundays remaining in the season of LIGHT:

January 17 – We will receive the presentation of the Mission Focus Team, (remember nearly 200 persons shared in Conversation week activities!); and Commission our CALL COMMITTEE! Members are: John Frick, Richard Kleckner, Kim Paternoster, Doug Rhoads, Crissy Rickert, Rachel Scamardella, and Karen Wright.

January 24– Pastor Thomas McKee, Secretary of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, will be our guest preacher and lead a forum discussion during the Sunday School hour on the topic: Calling a Pastor - Process and Prospects! Bring an Epiphany gift to worship – a few nails to share for Lent.

January 31 – Zion's Mexico Mission Team will share the LIGHT of LIFE experienced on their adventure; and Zach Weiss will bring greetings and share a "foretaste" of Summer 2010 at Camp Kirchenwald.

February 7– will feature our Centennial auction and pot-luck luncheon.

February 14 – the Festival of Transfiguration will conclude the Epiphany celebration with guest preacher Clifton Eshbach, Assistant to Bishop Hoover. Welcome Pastor Eshbach to Zion!

LENT begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17

LENT begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17 with traditional worship with ashes at 7:00 P.M. "Your Nail", a devotional aid, will focus our daily devotions. Get your copy from your mailbox. Pick up a nail for your pocket and purse on Sunday or on Ash Wednesday. Carry them through Lent in anticipation of Worship on Good Friday, April 2, when we will focus on the cross of Jesus; and the "Sins of the Saints" as the word for the day;

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ZION NEWS
Is published 10 times a year.

Joan E. Oberrender, Editor
Articles are due on the second Monday of the month.

Holy Week includes the days of Sunday March 28 through Sunday April 4. In 2010 set apart the only "8 day week" for GOD! The Easter Vigil this Year will be with the Hempfield Cluster Worship at the Holy Spirit Lutheran Church on Saturday April 3. Weekday worship returns to Zion in 2010!

Wednesdays in Lent will feature a "fasting-style" supper -- soup and bread, at 6:15 P.M.beginning February 24 through March 24. Worship will be set in the context of COMPLING, Prayer at the Close of the Day beginning at 7 P.M. with lay witnesses providing the inspiration for the evening. Volunteers to make soup are needed for March 17 and 24. Circle the dates for sharing fellowship at the table followed by the solace of prayer. Invite 3 (THREE) friends to join you for the EXERCISE of faithfulness in 2010.

The Call to Worship God fills my heart, but my head is full too. O Zion! O Zion! We have work to do. The months have quickly past. The Mission Focus Team is completing its work. A Mission statement and a slogan for Zion are forthcoming. The Call Committee will be commissioned on the 17th. The Congregation Profile is being finalized to be approved by council and the congregation. Soon an interview will be scheduled. A candidate's name will be given to Zion by Bishop Hoover. Pray for all parties to the CALL PROCESS especially our Bishop, the candidate and our committee.

Finally, my goals for the next four (4) months need YOUR ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT! First – that we achieve and average Sunday worship attendance of 200, and a consistent monthly offering equal to 1/12 of our annual Program Proposal/Budget. This will mean calling and visiting and writing notes to those who are absent from worship, and inviting family, friends and neighbors to join you for a Sunday worship with Zion. These weeks of preparation for calling your new pastor are very important for prayer, praise, fellowship and ACTION TOO!!

Secondly, we need to "PEOPLE THE TEAMS!" The Stewardship, Evangelism and Fellowship TEAMS need eager people to plan and implement the 2010 objectives. Ministries have been identified in the "Conversation Week" sharing. It is time now to form teams and get to work. On January 3 we heard the voice of Jesus from Luke's Gospel say to Joseph and Mary when questioned about his behavior, "I must be about my Father's business." Jesus has passed the torch to us. God is calling You and You and You . . . to take up the tasks of ministry NOW! I want to meet with those three teams early in February to look at the months ahead and to accomplish 3 things each by the Day of Pentecost: May 23, 2010.

THERE IS A PART FOR EACH MEMBER TO PLAY

- Read Romans Chapter 12 Right Now!
- Tell me today where you will serve.

Significant DATES to RESERVE:

1. Zion's Birthday #100 –March 14, 2010. ONE Service of worship at 10:30 A.M. Former pastors will be in attendance. Bishop Hoover will be Preaching/Presiding. Catered luncheon following worship by RESERVATION.

2. Mexico Mission Sharing/Luncheon, and a Camp Kirchenwald Preview on Sunday January 31 at both services of worship.

3. Seminary Sunday: with guest preacher President Michael Cooper-White of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg – February 21, the First Sunday in Lent.

Jesus has come among us to bring LIFE and LIGHT. SHNE with Holy Light because you have a SAVIOR and AN INHERITANCE – Eternal Life! The Word is our guide. Follow with friends.

Faithfully,
Pastor Hoover

PLANNING COUNCIL

David Dumeyer, President
898-8529 or ddumeyer@verizon.net
Marian Scott, Secretary – 898-8525

At its 14 December meeting, your council:

* Heard from Pastor Hoover that he has invited former pastors to preach during 2010.
* Offered no further amendments to the budget based on the informational meeting on Sunday. There was a suggestion that a revenue projection based on historical giving patterns might be helpful.
* Heard positive feedback from council and staff on the Mission Focus cottage meetings.
* Appointed Cathy Benedict to be the Christian Education Team Leader for 2010.
* Set December 27 as the date for commissioning new council members.
* Reviewed and revised the information on the constitutional and by-laws amendments.
* Appointed the following members to the columbarium committee:
  Burnell Hostetter (3-year term);
  Richard Heim (2-year term); and
  William Piper (1-year term).
* Created the new Information Technology Team under the Evangelism Ministry Area for two purposes: (1) to evaluate Zion's current IT system and make recommendations for its improvement; and (2) begin to envision how IT can be used to reach into the community and the world. Members will be named at the January meeting.
* Reviewed the list of vacant positions within the ministry team areas: Finance, Parish Fellowship; Property; Seasonal decorator under the Worship and Music Team; Stewardship Team, and Zion Youth Ministry (ZYM). Council is interested in suggestions for these positions.
* Authorized the transfer of the Endowment Fund Financial Secretary duties from Burnell Hostetter to Lisa Nelson.

Council generally meets every month on the third Monday of the month, unless otherwise changed. Members of the congregation are welcome to attend the regular meetings. (January & February meetings will be on the fourth Monday due to holidays.

ZION'S CENTENNIAL

Donna Dumeyer - 898-8529
Joan Hostetter – 898-7132
"Serving Christ for a Century"

DID YOU KNOW??

In August and September 2006 Zion sent two mission trips to Biloxi, MS

2005 – 2007 Zion members purchased the parament sets reflecting the seasons of the church year.

January 14, 2007 – The 48 niche columbarium and memory garden were dedicated.

February 2007 – Our mission team made another trip to Biloxi, MS

June 2007 – Our mission team went to Slidell, LA

October 2007 – Zion started the Landisville Community Meal Program

February 2008 – Our mission team went to Ocean Springs, MS

June 2008 – Our mission team went to New Orleans, LA

June 2008 – The Hempfield Food Pantry program moved to Zion

2008 – We refurbished the entrance to the original church building and renovated the bell tower.

ATTENTION ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS

This year we are asking our altar sponsors to be church visitors. Following services on Sunday please take your flowers to friends or relatives who you know would enjoy them. If you'd like you could also visit one of the shut-ins with the flowers or someone who has recently been ill.

We all need to be deliverers of the word. Spread the word by sharing your visit and flowers.

HEMFIELD AREA FOOD PANTRY

Jim Bear, Board President – 285-4854 or poppopbear@comcast.net
Diane Gerlach, Public Relations – 898-7266 or dlsgerlach@comcast.net

"No one should be hungry!

During 2009, the Hempfield Area Food Pantry was overwhelmingly blessed! The Hempfield community and communities outside the Hempfield area supported this ministry beyond any expectations**. The Lord has confirmed to us over and over again that this food ministry supported by Zion through the use of our facility is serving Him as we feed His people. Thank you!**

Thank you to the many members of Zion who continue to contribute food items and money to the pantry on a weekly basis. Food collection boxes are located in the narthex and in the hallway at the rear entrance. Food items always needed are cereal, peanut butter, jelly, and fruit juice. More thanks and appreciation to the Zion volunteers who serve clients, pick up food/bread, serve on the board, prepare the donated bread for distribution, and in many other ways: Marie Adams, Al and Connie Alsedek, Jim Bear, Lisa Bernhard, Jeanette Bomberger, Bruce and Diane Gerlach, Joanne Grim, Jim and Millie Gundel, Weidler and Gloria Grube, Doug and Connie Grow, Arlene Miller, Janet Musselman, Joan Oberrender, Dick Olson, Thelma Pearson, and Ted Symonds.

Want to join our volunteer list? You are invited to visit the pantry on a Monday or Wednesday, between the hours of 10 AM and 1 PM. This will give you the opportunity to observe the pantry in operation. You will have the opportunity to "shadow" one of the workers before you commit to becoming a volunteer. **Volunteers are always welcome** to pick up bread and bakery items in the morning from Weis in Columbia and Weis on Stony Battery Road. Call Joan in the church office.

HAFP is a "faith-based" supplemental food pantry blessed to be the recipient of regular food donations from many area churches: Chiques United Methodist, Church of God of Landisville, Hempfield Church of the Brethren, Landisville Mennonite, Wheatland Presbyterian, Hempfield Brethren in Christ, Hempfield United Methodist, Holy Spirit Lutheran, Salem United Church of Christ of Rohrerstown, and Wayside Presbyterian. In addition to food donations, many of the churches support the pantry with regular financial contributions. Many community organizations, businesses, and individuals also contribute to the success of the pantry. HAFP has brought many churches, businesses, organizations, and individuals within the Hempfield area and outside the Hempfield area together to help people who are experiencing difficult times.

During the month of December, the pantry served 187 different households. One hundred ten of those families were served more than once during the month. This included 308 adults (18+), 251 children, and 62 seniors (60+) for a total of 621 people.

The pantry serves an average of 1,499 people per month. Presently, there are **461 families registered to receive food** from the pantry once a week. The vast majority of these families are residents of the Hempfield School District. We continue to serve some families in need of food who live outside the geographic boundaries of the district.

The Central PA Food Bank Endowment Fund **donated a commercial refrigerator** to the pantry in December. This refrigerator will provide better storage for fresh foods and also be more energy-efficient as it replaced two "home" refrigerators in the pantry. In turn, the pantry re-gifted the donated refrigerators we no longer needed to a food pantry just getting started in Lancaster City at the Alpha and Omega Church.

During January, the Central PA Food Bank **selected Zion to be the facility for conducting a Food Pantry Safe Food Course and a ServSafe Course.** Seven of our pantry volunteers attended the safe food course on January 12. Joanne Grim (representing Zion) will attend the all day ServSafe course to be held on January 27.
As reported in an earlier newsletter, the **pantry received its own 501 (c) (3) status as of July 29,**

2009. This non-profit status opened up avenues to apply for grants and other programs to help to support the pantry. It also provides a tax deduction for any contributions written to "Hempfield Area Food Pantry, Inc." During the recent holiday season (Thanksgiving through New Year), the monetary contributions received for the pantry surpassed all expectations the board imagined. Our Board, the many dedicated volunteers, our equipment, our centrally located facility….all confirm this ministry to "carry on" a well-managed, client-food choice pantry in the coming years. **We are thankful of where God has led Zion on this journey and grateful for the response to His call from each and every one of you who have walked the journey with us.** As one client commented recently….."Zion is a beacon along with all the community churches, a witness to the community!"

Special thanks to the **Women of Zion for the coordination of the 120 "Christmas bags" filled** and distributed to the children of pantry clients prior to the Christmas holiday. Thank you to all of Zion's members who contributed the many handcrafted and purchased items to fill the bags.

Hempfield Area Food Pantry was the **recipient of grant money from the Lancaster County Community Foundation**. The grant money will be held on account for us at the Central PA Food Bank to be spent for food items not regularly donated. The grant money follows the regulations of providing good food for our children and is designated for the purchase of specific food items. All monies granted to HAFP need to be expended by June 30, 2010.

Congressman Joseph R. Pitts, along with two staff members Bob Kane and Tom Tillett, **visited the pantry on January 7**. Our pantry was recommended to Congressman Pitts to include on his tour of various food pantries in his 16th district. The pantry received his thanks and congratulations for being very organized, clean, a good location, and our commitment of service to our clients. Congressman Pitts' compliments, encouragement and support are another confirmation that the HAFP is committed to following the command of our Lord to "feed my sheep."
As always, "God is good all the time….all the time, God is good!" HE continues to bless and encourage this ministry of Zion and the Hempfield area. **The pantry is grateful to Zion for the use of our facility** for this outreach ministry to those in our communities who are experiencing difficult timese God is good!!!!!!

WOMEN OF ZION

Millie Gundel
898-2313 or mgundel112@gmail.com

The Women of Zion thank each of you who donated so generously to our Christmas Gift Bag Project. We were able to give gift bags to 120 children of our Food Pantry clients.

We are looking forward to Christmas 2010 and are already knitting/crocheting hats and scarves and buying small toys and gifts so we will be prepared for next December. Our goal is to place a hat in each gift bag for the children ages 3 - 12. This project is a special way in which we can reach out to our community and to the children who appreciate being remembered.

We continue to meet on the 2nd Monday of every month to work on ongoing projects. Come, join the fun and fellowship.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Barb Wildasin – 945-7530

ZION'S YARN MINISTRY – will begin on Sunday, January 17 at 1:00 p.m.

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Various charity projects will be worked on or you can work on one of your own projects. We'll decide at this meeting how often and when we will meet.

Come, join the fellowship.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Denise Haun, chairperson – 898-1578 or dmhaun@verizon.net

"Proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance." Acts: 28:31

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
February 17, 2010
7:00 p.m.

Bishop's Reflections on Ash Wednesday

Dear Co-laborers with Christ,

The words are familiar, perhaps too familiar: "…we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves…" In one form or another, they are and have been a common element in most of our traditional liturgies of confession and absolution. They are stated publicly, in the context of congregational worship, often by rote. Perhaps, even during the brief silence for reflection and self-examination, we do not actually unpack the depth of our powerlessness before sin.

Lent is a season of somber reflection, contemplation and repentance in which the words of confession may take on special emphasis. I would suggest that, especially at the beginning of the Lenten season, we might claim the opportunity to sharpen our focus on repentance. While we are all familiar with the practice of corporate confession, it is not widely known that the Lutheran Church also allows for individual confession and absolution.

It is a common perception that in his attempt to reform the church, Martin Luther advocated the abolishment of all individual or private confession before a priest. This is not accurate; for Luther himself in his "Brief Exhortation of Confession" in The Large Catechism, clearly states, "…when we do not find ourselves sufficiently strong in faith, we may at any time and as often as we wish lay our complaint before a brother (pastor), seeking his advice, comfort, and strength. So if there is a heart that feels its sin and desires consolation, it has here a sure refuge when it hears in God's Word that through a man (pastor) God looses and absolves him from his sins."

Luther made clear that individual confession and absolution before a priest or pastor was not a prerequisite for receiving the Sacrament; and that in private confession, it was neither necessary nor possible to enumerate all of one's sins. But Luther felt strongly that individual confession before a pastor was a means of hearing the sweet words of comfort and consolation in the absolution granted through the grace of God.

The Lutheran Book of Worship Occasional Services and Evangelical Lutheran Worship Pastoral Care include an order for Individual Confession and Forgiveness. A parishioner troubled by particular sins or offenses may make an appointment with his or her pastor for Individual Confession and Forgiveness. Prior to the liturgy, it is helpful for the penitent to speak with the pastor concerning those things about which the parishioner is troubled, and pastoral conversation and advice may precede the liturgy. It is not necessary to try to remember every sin or offense and include these in individual confession; only those sins which have caused deep grief and sorrow need be offered at this meeting. Requests for forgiveness of other sins are to be included in the Order for Confession and Forgiveness at Sunday services and in personal daily devotion.

The process of individual confession is entirely confidential. The Office of the Keys grants to the ordained pastor the privilege of conveying the forgiveness of God to the penitent in this liturgy. It is important to know that the confession is protected from disclosure by the pastor to whom it is confessed.

The unique atmosphere of the Lenten season gives us the opportunity to reflect upon this ever-present opportunity. As Lutherans, we need not hesitate to use the liturgy for Individual Confession and Forgiveness when our hearts are burdened by the depth of sin that grieves us deeply.

Faithfully, your bishop,
+B. Penrose Hoover

ZION NURSERY SCHOOL

Diane Fry, Director – 898-0920
Council Rep: Angie Maurer – 892-6624 or chick25@verizon.net

As of this writing, January 6, 2010, the students of our nursery school have enjoyed their Christmas holiday and are now back at Zion ready to start the second half of the school year. Our return to the classroom brings a new level of attentiveness which is quite evident among our students who now have a heightened quest for knowledge.
Along with the learning of our ABC's and numbers, songs can be heard from our classroom like "Jesus is a friend" and "Jesus loves the little children" just in time for the loving month of February.
Come and experience the love and quest for learning. Registration is now open for the 2010-2011 school year. Register your child now. If you would like information pertaining to our school and its classes please call 898-1392.

2-day class	3 and 4 year-olds
Tuesday and Thursday	9 – 11 AM

3-day class	4 and 5 year olds
Monday, Wednesday and Friday	9-11:30 AM

The Giant A+ School Rewards program is still in full swing. We earned $782.57 for the month of December with a grand total this year so far of $1,821.64. This is the highest amount we have ever earned for this time period. Please help our school by continuing to shop at Giant and maybe this year we will earn the most ever. Even though we have your bonus card number, it does not mean anything unless you make purchases at the store. I am still taking new bonus card numbers. Drop them off at the nursery school room or call 898-1392. I will take them up until March 13, 2010 when the program ends. Thanks for all your support up until now.

Happy Valentine's Day!
Diane

Registration is currently open to church members for the 2010-2011 school year for Zion's Nursery School. Please call soon to reserve your spot in the school. 898-1392

CARE MINISTRY

Judy Traup, Chairperson
898-0625 or traup201@comcast.net

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

CARE MINISTRY SUPPORT

Women of Zion – Millie Gundel 898-2313 or mgundel112@gmail.com
Men of Zion – Randy Miller 898-8526 or randy.miller@can.com
Young Mothers of Zion - Cheryl Russell 892-3676 or Ca529hs@peoplepc.com
Senior Ministry/Transportation/General Help – Diane Gerlach 898-7266 or dlsgerlach@comcast.net
Health Ministry Coordinator – Mary Hetrick 898-3162 or psuocn@comcast.net
Meals for Members Ministry - Jennifer Barley 392-6854 or Barley10@comcast.net
Wedding Coordinator – Nancy Price 394-0773 or nbprice14@comcast.net
Funeral Coordinator – Diane Gerlach 898-7266 or dlsgerlach@comcast.net

REMINDERS

Please notify the church office (898-2911) when you hear news about members who are ill, having day surgery, hospitalized, in need of a visit, a note or card, or help of any kind. Most times this is the only way (due to the Privacy Act) that we become aware of members situations and needs.

If you (or someone you know) would like to schedule home communion, call the church office (898-2911).

THANK YOU.....

...Marie Adams, Dennis Dezort, Dave and Donna Dumeyer, Bruce Gerlach, Joanne Grim, Millie Gundel, Pastor Hoover, Joan Oberrender, Judy Traup, and Jim Shelley for assisting with the service and luncheon on December 17. This special Christmas service and fellowship time is enjoyed and appreciated by our seniors!

...Zion members for contributing cookies to the reception for the Hempfield Singers following their concert to a "full house" on December 20. Thank you also to Marie Adams, Joanne Grim, Joan Oberrender, and Diane Gerlach for coordinating this fellowship event.

(W)holy, (W)holy, (W)holy
Health, Healing and Wholeness Article

"The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 'This applies to the Levites: from twenty-five years old and upward they shall begin to do duty in the service of the tent of meeting; and from the age of fifty years, they shall retire from the duty of the service and serve no more. They may assist their brothers in the tent of meeting in carrying out their duties'." (Numbers 8:23-26a, NRSV)

One might assume that in the case of the Levites, forced retirement was meant to foster younger leadership – young men could begin to serve while still under the guidance of the temple elders. Or perhaps, it was due to the physical requirements of hauling the tabernacle and its furnishings through the wilderness. Regardless, God seemed to know that a healthy retirement requires some sort of advanced planning.

How well one adjusts to this new phase of life depends on a number of factors. Dr. George Valliant, professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School likens it to being in 4th grade – "cooperative play, helping others, having friends, and learning are all important. Problem is that by this age, we've forgotten how to play." There may be much more than a grain of truth to his statement, because it appears that those who strongly identify with their occupation, often have some difficulty adjusting to life without a time clock.

Taking time to cultivate a network of friends outside of work relationships, can be immensely helpful in getting through the initial retirement adjustment phase. If you are one of those who used his/her job as an escape from family issues, this time may be particularly stressful. Spend time with your spouse, but don't overwhelm them by expecting him/her to meet all your social needs – this is an adjustment for him/her as well. Meet friends for coffee, join a Bible study, organize a regular round of golf – allow yourself to have fun! Is there an activity that you've always wanted to try, but never had the time? Engage the creative side of your brain – it can lead to re-discovery of who you are! Have you always had a desire to play the piano, or learn to paint? Do it now!

During retirement, physical activity is more important than ever. Consider participating in a formal fitness program – golfing, dancing, swimming – or walking 20-30 minutes at least 3-5 times-a-week – any and all will go a long way toward establishing or maintaining healthy behaviors. Strength training exercises [weights or resistance several times a week, have been recognized for their value in decreasing stress, improving balance, and increasing endurance and flexibility. Good dietary habits: limiting fats, sugar, and salt, in conjunction with drinking at least 8 glasses of water per day, and getting regular sleep, all contribute to living a full and productive life.

Plan your time and set some personal goals. What do you want to accomplish on a typical day? It is human nature to waste time when you have lots of it! Get more involved in your community; volunteer at your local hospital, the local chapter of the Red Cross, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, help establish or maintain a community garden, spend time weekly at a soup kitchen, or delivering Meals-on-Wheels. Do you have a special gift or talent? Use it to teach others! Do you enjoy working with numbers/business – help your fellow retirees with tax preparation, or offer to serve as treasurer of a club or organization to which you belong. Help raise funds for a favorite charity or community group. Find out what it is that you enjoy doing, and do it!

Get to know yourself spiritually. Consider attending a guided retreat. Engage the services of a spiritual director. Study scripture. Sign up for seminary courses either locally or on-line. Explore a variety of prayer forms. Learn more about God as you simultaneously learn more about yourself.

Psychologist Abraham Maslow theorized that we progress through different phases of development as we age. For the healthy adult in later stages of life, one's goal becomes reaching our full potential as an individual, or self-actualization. This involves letting go of old routines to make way for the next phase of life. It involves continual learning. Retirement is a great adventure – time to take a fresh look – to reassess in body, mind and spirit. In the words of Robert Fulghum, "Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw some and paint and sing and dance and play and work everyday… And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out in the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together." (Source: All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten) Blessings to you as you pursue this wonderful, new phase of life!

Debbie Best, Program Coordinator
Diakon Family Life Services,
Training & Consultation

A JAR OF

Love and Appreciation

Sometimes we forget to show love and appreciation to people who are closest to us. Use this fun craft to let everyone in your family know how much you care.

What you need:

- Plastic jar with lid
- Heart-shaped foam pieces
- Heart-shaped stickers
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or crayons

What you do:

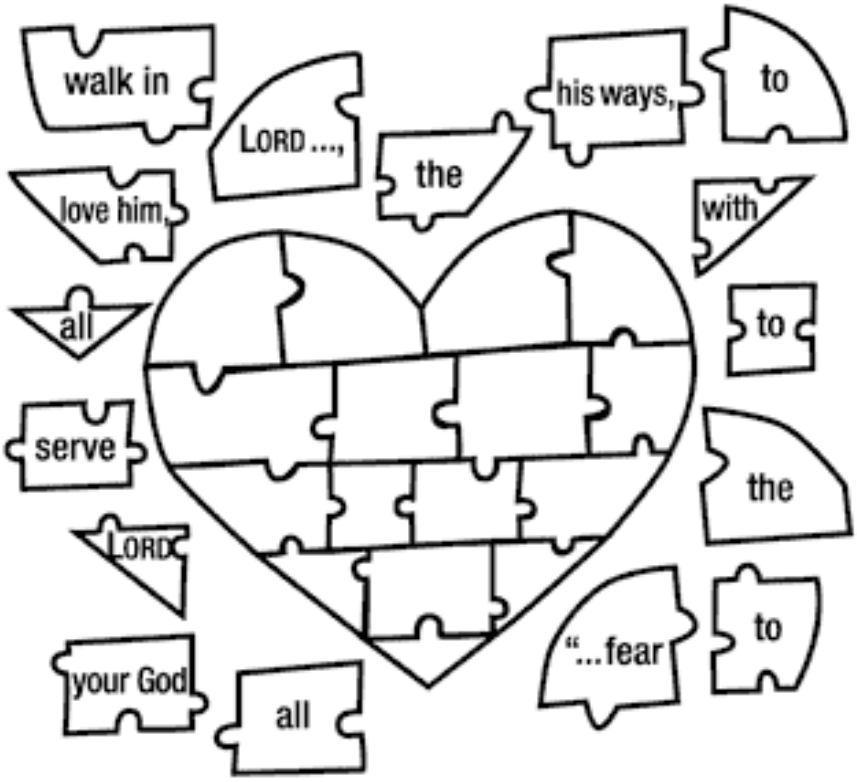
1. Decorate the jar and lid with heart-shaped foam pieces and stickers.
2. Cut out 2" or 3" heart shapes from the construction paper.
3. On each paper heart, write what you appreciate and love about your family and each member. Have all family members do this, too.
4. Place the heart messages inside the jar. Fold them in half, if necessary.
5. On each day in February, pull out one heart and read the message aloud to the family.
6. Notice the changes in your family when everyone feels loved and appreciated!

Just for KIDS

Our first love

In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.



... your heart and with all your soul ..."

Answer:
" ... fear the LORD ..., to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ... "

ZYM NIGHTS AT ZION

January 17 & 31 February 14 & 28
March 14 & 28 April 11 & 25

Mexico - After a week of service during Christmas break in Ensenada, Mexico – 18 participants returned home. It was unlike any other service project ZYM had ever participated in. We ran the gamut of things from playing with children, running an after school program, painting, putting in a shower and wash table and picking up trash. We ate authentic Mexican food, participated in two worship services (in Spanish), jumped into the Pacific Ocean, visited the marketplace and all around had the time of our lives. You can still check out the blog at http://zymhempfield.blogspot.com to read about our experiences and check out pictures.

On Sunday, January 31 we will have a luncheon following the second service. This will be a time for participants to share their stories and pictures with you. Please sign up in the narthex. Our menu will consist of simple Mexican dishes such as tacos etc.

Super Sunday – That time of year is fast approaching, as nearly everyone's attention is turned toward the championship game of the football season. Yet as we gather with friends and family to watch the big game we know that there are so many people in our community and throughout the world that don't have enough to eat. During February 7 worship services ZYM will be collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations. Our food items will be going to the Hempfield Food Pantry, while money will be sent to help the wider hunger concerns of the world through the ELCA. This year we are also challenging the other Landisville youth groups to see who can raise the most food items for the Pantry. The winning youth group will get a pizza party from Hot Z. Although you can donate nearly anything, the Pantry requests that we ask specifically for cereal, canned juices, peanut butter and jelly.

Other events that day include the 4th annual Flag Football Classic in the field behind the Roger's house from 2 – 4 PM. Though sponsored by ZYM anyone regardless of age may play. In the evening members of ZYM are invited to the Hetrick home to watch the big game from 6 - 10. Participants are asked to bring a food item or drinks to be shared by all. A 6' sub will be provided. Please sign up for either the Flag Football classic and/or Super Bowl party on the ZYM bulletin board.

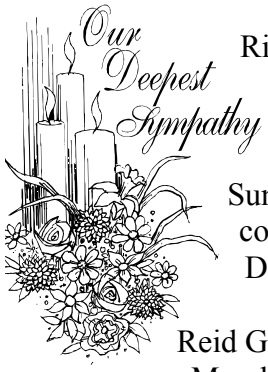
Sr. High Bible Study – Our Lenten discipline of gathering together to view and discuss the Nooma videos will run on Wednesdays from February 24 through March 31 at 7-8 PM. It's a short 10-15 minute DVD with topics such as comparing our selves to others, is God listening?, are we too busy and more. Following the DVD we take time to share what we saw in the video and how the topic relates to our faith life. We finish up with some time to hang and snack. It's an easy and painless way to focus on your relationship with God. No games, no candle prayer, no distractions just you, your friends and God. If you're interested email bob.hollinger007@comcast.net or sign up on the ZYM bulletin board. Please encourage your friends to come.

A host family is needed who is willing to open their home up for the Bible study in Lent. Traditionally about 8-14 students participate. All that is needed is a DVD player, a TV and room for those participating (and yes sitting on the floor is fine). Even if you don't have students in ZYM we could certainly use your help. Please prayerfully consider this great opportunity and give Bob a call at 468-5014 or email bob.hollinger007@comcast.net.

Thanks

OUR ZION FAMILY

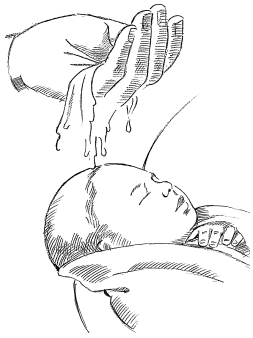
1	Jim Paternoster
	Jeff Quinn
3	Bill Barry
	Meghan Brady
	Rachel Grube
4	Evan Benedict
	Harry Musselman
5	Alec Martin
6	David Dumeyer
8	Jack Dean
	Matt Rickert
10	Rachel Scamardella
13	Gabrielle Contino
14	Mary Cupach
15	Ed Blough
16	Bill Grove
17	Craig Kimbark
19	Michael Adams
20	Kurt Wildasin
	Marlin Zimmerman
21	Ava Gunzenhauser
	Marissa Martin
	Jeff Thompson
22	Marian Scott
23	Doug Rhoads
24	Jesse Landis
	Megan Smith
25	Kacey (Kohlman) Moore
	Devin Leibley
	Amy Thompson
26	Jessie Snavely
27	Brad Sherwood
28	Aiden DiNardi



Rick Long's father passed away on Friday, November 27.

Peg Rodgers passed away on Sunday, November 29. Pastor conducted her graveside service on December 4.

Reid Graybill's wife June passed away on Monday November 23.



Emma Kathleen Golihew received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, January 10. Her parents are Justin and Stephanie (Ressler) Golihew. Emma was born September 28, 2009.

Lucille Dyer
1771 Linnwood Ave.
Lancaster, PA 17603

Sarah Jane Frantz
623 Marian Ave
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Anna Mary Herr
Oak House #220, Box 5093
Lancaster PA 17606

Harry Hoffman
300 St. Mark Ave #603, Lititz, PA 17543

J. Carl Nolt - Lakes Manor Apt A104
300 Willow Valley Lakes Dr
Willow Street, PA 17584

Homestead Village Westview
1800 Circle Dr, Lancaster, PA 17603
Evelyn Cramer - Room 421

Mennonite Home
1520 Harrisburg Pk, Lancaster, PA 17601
Sylvia William - Parkview Room 102

St. Anne's Home
3952 Columbia Ave, Columbia PA 17512
Gini McLanachan
Helen Holahan

Oak Leaf Manor
2901 Harrisburg Pk Landisville, PA 17538
Anna Koser, Room D-9
Betty Sebelist

Serving in Iraq/Aphganistan

Stephen Bennett – Karen Wright's brother-in-law
Bryan Young - Richard & Sandra Kleckner's cousin
Eric Remaly – Dave and Donna Dumeyer's nephew

Serving in Aphganistan
CHRISTOPHER MERCADO
G Btry 4/319th AFAR
173rd ABCT FOB Airborne
APO AE 09354
Email: mchristopher55@yaoo.com or christopher.a.mercado@us.army.mil

'TIS THE SEASON FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Looking for ways to get on top of your finances in 2010? Especially in uncertain economic times, it is more important than ever to create a plan to get out of debt and prepare for the future.

So how do you get started? And how do you stick with it? Here are five basic rules to follow from Thrivent Financial Bank.

Rule #1: Know where your money is going.

This is perhaps the easiest, yet most overlooked rule. Look for online tools that can help you keep track of all of your financial accounts as well as your inbound and outbound payments. Half of the battle is understanding where your money goes each month so you can determine what changes you might need to consider.

Rule #2: Control your spending.

The best way to avoid debt is to stay out of it in the first place. Your best shot at doing so is making a habit of spending within your means. For example, many people make purchases that they can't afford today because they assume they will pay it off later with an anticipated pay raise or bonus. We always think that we're going to make more money next year, but it doesn't always work out that way. That's not to say you need to give up all the little extras or extravagances in your life. "Ask yourself the questions: 'Do I really need this, and is this important to me?' If the answer is no or maybe, don't buy it.

First, see where you're spending your money. Examine your bank accounts, and find places to cut. Once you see where you're spending, you can start cutting out nonessentials—like eating out, entertainment and pricey $3 coffees—which you probably won't miss too much.

Second, be proactive. For example, if you have a cell phone, call your provider and see if they have any better options for your budget; call the cable company and do the same thing; and call your insurance company to find out if you're getting the best rate possible. Every dollar counts. Also, get organized. If every month you're surprised by how much money you spent, then you need to consider tracking your spending much closer. Last, request a copy of your credit report every year. It's free, and it will give you a good snapshot of what debt you have outstanding.

Rule #3: Start saving.

Saving sounds simple but it is hard because money is so easy to spend and there's no question we live in a "gotta have it now" society. But if we have learned anything from the recession it's that it's time to slow down on spending and start saving.

First, map out a savings plan. Get an idea how much you can afford to save and put that away. Also, scrutinize your spending. A good rule of thumb is to have three to six months of income saved up. It sounds like a lot, but you might need that if you lose your job.

The key is to get started saving any amount. Whether it's $20 a month, $20 a paycheck, whatever it is you can set aside, get in the habit of saving. Start a savings account. Maybe it's the most basic one if you can't meet a minimum balance requirement, but develop the habit of making some sort of regular deposit into that account so you can begin to build emergency reserve savings.

Rule #4: Reduce bad debt. Manage good debt.

In today's tough economy, everyone is looking to keep spending down, and what's becoming more and more challenging for a lot of people is controlling debt.

Debt consolidation can be a smart move for those families that still have equity in their homes and haven't consolidated before. However, this is not a good idea for those who have gone the refinance

route before. People get into the position of not having any equity because they keep paying off their debt with it. Eventually, you'll run out of equity and might be in a precarious position should you lose your job or miss even a single mortgage payment.

For some people—those who took out mortgages when rates were higher—it might make sense to completely refinance a first mortgage as opposed to taking out a home equity loan. There are several things you'll need to consider, such as mortgage rates and how long you've had your first mortgage.
In addition, since mortgages require closing costs and other fees, unless you can drop a full percentage point from what you're already paying (for example, taking a six percent loan down to a five percent loan), it may not make sense for you.
If you're not a candidate for refinancing, there are still strategies you can use to get out of debt. First, pay off one credit card at a time by making higher-than-minimum payments and avoiding new charges. Once that card is paid off, take the money you were spending on it every month and roll it into a larger payment for another card. .

Rule #5: Protect your assets.

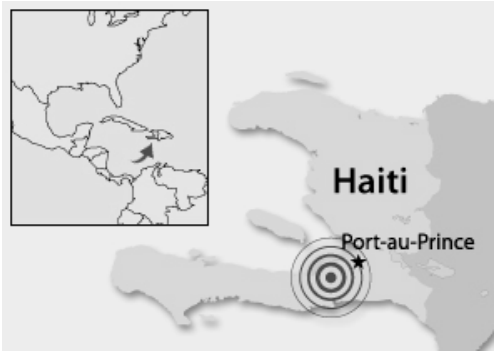
The new year is a logical time to take a hard look at how you are protecting your assets through auto, home, life, disability and health insurance policies. Are you and your property adequately covered? As your premiums come due you should shop around to see if you can get a better deal from another insurer. You also might consider taking higher deductibles to lessen your expenses. With life insurance you should double-check your beneficiaries. Are they still the people you want to receive a payout? If not, contact the insurance company for a change of beneficiary form.

Lisa Nelson, CFP®, is a Financial Consultant with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, a not-for-profit, Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping approximately 2.6 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. This column was prepared by Thrivent Financial for use by this representative. She can be reached at 653-7188.

HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

The Situation:
On January 12 at 4:53 p.m., a magnitude 7.0 earthquake rocked the island country of Haiti, primarily impacting its capital of Port-au-Prince and its nearly two million residents. It is believed that over three million citizens of Haitis are effected. The epicenter of the quake was centered approximately 10 miles west of Port-au-Prince. Offices, hotels, houses and shops have collapsed. Over 30 aftershocks ranging from 4.2 to 5.9 have already been recorded.
The city is without electricity and the telephone network has been overloaded with calls making it impossible to reach friends and family.
The presidential palace is in ruins and many churches have been destroyed. Hospitals that were not directly impacted by the quake are overflowing and the search for survivors is intense. Already one of the poorest countries in the world, this catastrophe will exacerbate the suffering felt by many already living with hunger and poverty.

ELCA Response:
The ELCA, through the Lutheran World Federation, is already responding to the critical needs of survivors in Haiti. Thankfully, the LWF offices and staff on the island were spared in the earthquake, making it possible for work to begin immediately. Staff there will focus their immediate efforts on issues of water safety and sanitation, assisting with medical triage, and providing emergency sheltering for the many who are now homeless. The ELCA has long-standing relationships in Haiti through several organizations and the Lutheran Church in Haiti.
In anticipation of your generous gifts, ELCA Disaster Response has authorized $250,000 for immediate relief assistance in Haiti, with the possibility for an additional $500,000 as the full scope of this disaster continues to become clear. Your gifts are needed now to make this type of rapid response possible.



While volunteers, especially skilled workers, will likely be needed in the coming months, the situation on the ground is still far too chaotic – no water, no power, few roads, and very limited communication – to support volunteers traveling to the area in the immediate days.

Bible Readings *for the* Month

Sunday, January 31
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

Monday
Psalm 56
1 Kings 17:8-16
1 Corinthians 2:6-16

Tuesday
Psalm 56
2 Kings 5:1-14
1 Corinthians 14:13-25

Wednesday
Psalm 56
Jeremiah 1:11-19
Luke 19:41-44

Thursday
Psalm 138
Numbers 20:22-29
Acts 9:19b-25

Friday
Psalm 138
Numbers 27:12-23
Acts 9:26-31

Saturday
Psalm 138
Judges 3:7-11
Luke 4:42-44

Sunday, February 7
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Monday
Psalm 115
Judges 5:1-11
1 Corinthians 14:26-40

Tuesday
Psalm 115
1 Samuel 9:15—10:1b
1 Timothy 3:1-9

Wednesday
Psalm 115
Isaiah 8:1-15
Luke 5:27-32

Thursday
Psalm 1
Jeremiah 13:12-19
Acts 13:26-34

Friday
Psalm 1
Jeremiah 13:20-27
1 Peter 1:17—2:1

Saturday
Psalm 1
Jeremiah 17:1-4
Luke 11:24-28

Sunday, February 14
Transfiguration of Our Lord
Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43]

Monday
Psalm 35:11-28
Exodus 35:1-29
Acts 10:9-23a

Tuesday
Psalm 35:11-28
Ezekiel 1:1—2:1
Acts 10:23b-33

Wednesday
Ash Wednesday
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 *or*
Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thursday
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Exodus 5:10-23
Acts 7:30-34

Friday
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Exodus 6:1-13
Acts 7:35-42

Saturday
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
John 12:27-36

Sunday, February 21
First Sunday in Lent
Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

Monday
Psalm 17
1 Chronicles 21:1-17
1 John 2:1-6

Tuesday
Psalm 17
Zechariah 3:1-10
2 Peter 2:4-21

Wednesday
Psalm 17
Job 1:1-22
Luke 21:34—22:6

Thursday
Psalm 27
Genesis 13:1-7, 14-18
Philippians 3:2-12

Friday
Psalm 27
Genesis 14:17-24
Philippians 3:17-20

Saturday
Psalm 27
Psalm 118:26-29
Matthew 23:37-39

Sunday, February 28
Second Sunday in Lent
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17—4:1
Luke 13:31-35

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
85 EAST BRANDT BLVD
LANDISVILLE PA 17538

Distributed 1/14/2010
Time Valued Material

"Ministry and Fellowship Together. Christ Forever."

February 17, 2010
7 p.m. Worship Service