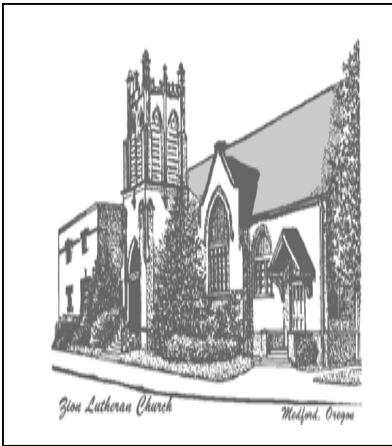


Zion Lutheran Church
516 W. 4th Street
P.O. Box 1051
Medford, OR 97501

The FOCUS

January/February
2011

Reaching out and sharing God's Love with all
...through worship, service, teaching, and caring.



A New Year's resolution

"I won't look back; God knows the fruitless efforts, The wasted hours, the sinning, the regrets; I'll leave them all with Him who blots the record, And mercifully forgives and then forgets. I won't look forward; God sees all the future, The road that, short or long, will lead me home, And He will face with me its every trial And bear with me the burdens that may come. But I'll look up into the face of Jesus, For there my heart can rest, my fears are stilled; And there is joy and love, and light for darkness, And perfect peace, and every hope fulfilled."
—Annie Johnson Flint
via *Gleanings*

Upcoming Dates to Remember

January, 2011

Saturday, 1st: New Year's Day
Thursday, 6th: The Epiphany of Our Lord
Sunday, 9th: Baptism of Our Lord; Epiphany Potluck
Monday, 10th: Mary Circle
Tuesday, 11th: Council Meeting
Tuesday, 18th: Sarah Circle
Wednesday, 19th: Esther Circle
Sunday, 30th: Annual Congregational Meeting

February, 2011

Sunday, 6th: Souper Bowl of Caring
Monday, 7th: Mary Circle
Tuesday, 8th: Council Meeting
Sunday, 13th: Valentine Salad and Dessert Potluck
Monday, 14th: Valentine's Day
Tuesday, 15th: Sarah Circle
Wednesday, 16th: Esther Circle
Monday, 21st: President's Day

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited
- until you try to sit in their pews.



If you're headed in the wrong direction,
God allows U-turns.

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Adult Bible Study: 8:15 a.m.
Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

President Pro Tem: John Winkler
Acting Secretary: Nancy Swan
Treasurer: Karen Thomas

Debi Bowman
"Bud" Charles Cullmer
Jeanne Hopkins
Rod Voss

STAFF

Pastor Cyril Hunkler, 659-2032
Office hours and times of visitations:
See weekly bulletins or call the Church Office.

Secretary: Penny Birger
Office hours: 9:00-1:00, Monday—Friday
541-772-4674

Email: office@lutheranswired.org
www.lutheranswired.org



Stu Dawson found that offering a little incentive greatly increased the enthusiasm for the family's nightly devotions.



HAPPY NEW YOU IN THE NEW YEAR!!!



HERE I AM!
I stand at the door and knock.
 If anyone *hears my voice*
 and *opens the door,*
I will come in and eat with him,
 and *he with me.*
 Revelation 3:20

Pastor Cyril Hunkler, 659-2032
 Office hours and times of visitations:
 See weekly bulletins or call the Church



Church Office Hours:
 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
 Monday—Friday.

God's Word urges us, in the words of a famous university president, to "MAKE NO LITTLE PLANS HERE!" Be a body, a person "Filled and flooded with God Himself, who is able by the action of His power at work within us to carry out His purpose and do superabundantly far over and above all that we dare ask or think--infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes or dreams" (Ephesians 3:19--20 AMP)!

As we think about the new year ahead, truly a blank check, a blank page that God may fill up with good things if we allow Him, what about sickness, pain, depression, financial concerns, politics, loneliness, etc? We know that challenges lie ahead as well as the good things of God, right? A close friend my age (young) who lost his loving and devoted wife a year ago reminded me that "We are not physical beings seeking a spiritual experience--we are spiritual beings in a physical world experience, an experience which, compared to eternity is so very brief!"

Paul writes some memorable words as an evangelist who voluntarily went through a long list of severe, oppressive hardships for the Gospel, yet, "...Though our outer person is progressively decaying and wasting away, our inner self is being progressively renewed day after day" (II Corinthians 4:16 AMP).

"BRAND NEW DAILY?" How? Jesus offers Himself every moment of every day!!! "I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears and listens to and heeds My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him/her and eat with him/her and he/she will eat with Me" (Revelation 3:20 AMP).

So, I do sincerely pray for a NEW YOU in 2011 as you allow Him to renew you in His loving, powerful Spirit!!!

Love,
 Pastor Cyril



MEMBERSHIP is a special way of saying, "I'll be here; I'm committed to participating in the mission of Zion to share Jesus and His saving grace with my/our world; Count me in!" If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Cyril. The opportunity will be given to celebrate membership monthly.

LEGACY-- a way to ensure that your faith will live on when you go to your heavenly reward is to remember Zion Lutheran in your will.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 p.m.	3	4	5
6 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Souper Bowl Sunday	7 Mary Circle 10:00 a.m.	8 COUNCIL MEETING Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.	9 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 p.m.	10	11	12
13 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany Valentine's Salad and Dessert Potluck	14 Valentine's Day	15 Sarah Circle Jackson Creek Pizza 6:30 p.m.	16 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Esther Circle 12:00 noon Choir Practice 5:30 pm	17	18	19
20 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service Youth Sunday 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany	21 President's Day Presidents' Day	22	23 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	24	25	26
27 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany	28	<p><i>The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time.</i> Abraham Lincoln</p> <p><i>If you have one eye on yesterday, and one eye on tomorrow, - you're going to be cockeyed today. - Anonymous</i></p>				

Pastor Cyril Hunkler, 659-2032
Office hours and times of visitations:
See weekly bulletins or call the Church Office.



Church Office Hours:
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Monday—Friday.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Second Sunday after Christmas	3	4	5 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	6 <i>Epiphany of Our Lord</i>	7	8
9 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> Epiphany Potluck 	10 Mary Circle 10:00 a.m.	11 COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m.	12 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	13	14	15
16 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Second Sunday after the Epiphany	17	18 Sarah Circle Elmer's Restaurant 6:30 p.m.	19 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Esther Circle 12:00 noon Choir Practice 5:30 pm	20	21	22
23 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Third Sunday after the Epiphany	24	25	26 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm 6:00 p.m.	27	28	29
30 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Annual Congregational Meeting 	31	<i>Patience is the greatest of all virtues - Cato the Elder</i> <i>Patience and perseverance have a magical effect Before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.</i> - John Quincy Adams				



January Activities

Epiphany

POTLUCK
January 9, 2011
After the Worship Service

"Come and Follow the Star"
And start the New Year
With good food, fun, and fellowship.

Bring your favorite "potluck" main dish, salad,
or dessert as well as your own table service.
Coffee, tea, and other drinks will be provided.

Please plan to stay for a few minutes after the potluck to help
take down the Christmas decorations.
Many hands make light work!

If you have any questions, contact Debi or Sandy.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
January 30, 2011
After the Worship Service

Please plan on attending this important annual
meeting, as we will be setting our course for the
year 2011.

See you there!!!

February Activities

Souper Bowl Sunday



To get joy,
We must give it,
And to keep joy,
We must scatter it.
John Templeton

Joy does not simply happen to us.
We have to choose joy
and keep choosing it every day.
Henry Nouwen

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY
February 6th, after the Worship Service.

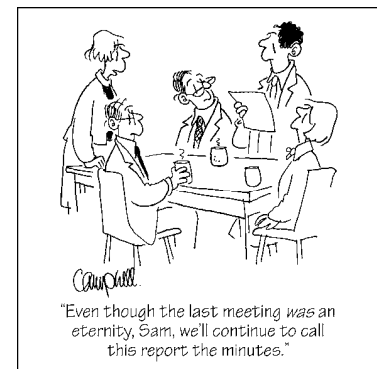
On this day, when many of us will be feasting as we
enjoy watching the Super Bowl, our children and
youth will take a special offering of spare change
placed in empty soup bowls, to benefit local food
banks and homeless shelters.

Salad and Dessert Potluck
Sunday, February 13th
After the Worship Service



Bring your favorite dishes
(Salads and desserts only),
As well as your own table service.
Coffee, tea, and other drinks will be provided.

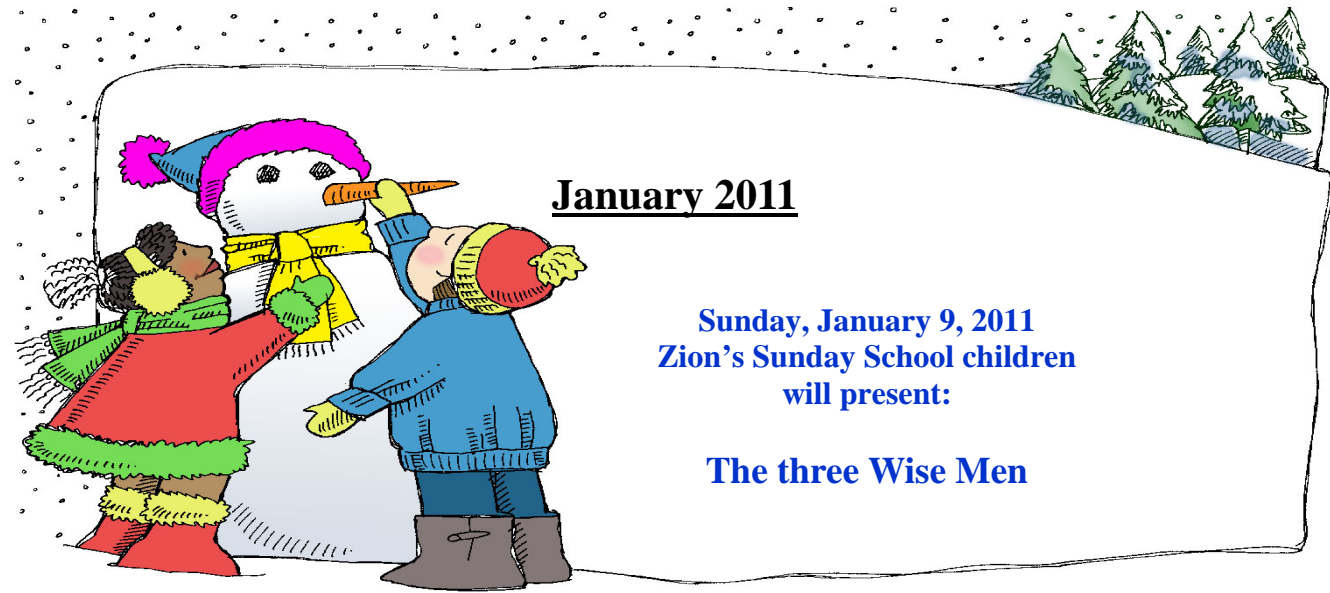
If you have any questions, contact Debi or Sandy.



"Even though the last meeting was an eternity, Sam, we'll continue to call this report the minutes."



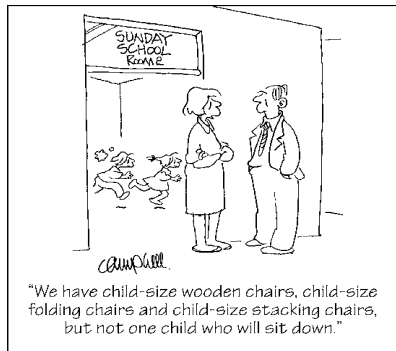
"We don't dispense it, sir. We just minister to it."



January 2011

**Sunday, January 9, 2011
Zion's Sunday School children
will present:**

The three Wise Men



February 2011



February 6, 2011, the Sunday School children will be making valentines for our shut-ins.

Judas Asparagus

If you need a laugh today, then this should do it! HILARIOUS!! A child was asked to write a book report on the entire Bible. This is amazing and brought tears of laughter to my eyes. I wonder how often we take for granted that children understand what we are teaching??? Through the eyes of a child:

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell

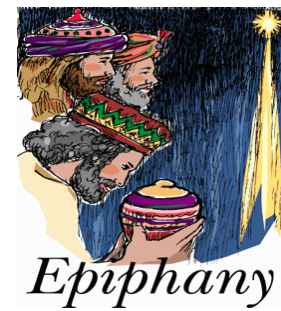
In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one, but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden.....Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars. Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something. One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He

asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check. After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat. Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable. God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother. Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot.. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.. After Solmon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There were

also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them. After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was.') During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him. Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Gemans on the Mount. But the Democrats and Republicans put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead. Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution..

*Author unknown
Thanks, Lila for sending this to us!!*



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



January 2011

	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
Jan 2	Ellen Cullmer	Bud Cullmer	Jeanne Hopkins	Hailey Schwenn
Jan 9	Linda Mustain	Dres Thiel	Lila Gast	Steven Rader
Jan 16	Youth	Brady Williams & Paul Hansen	Sandy Knutson	Zack Williams
Jan 23	Rod Voss	Jerry Thomas	Myrtle Petruck	Hailey Schwenn
Jan 30	Nancy Swan	Bud Cullmer	Jeanne Hopkins	Steven Rader



February 2011



	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
Feb 6	Karen Thomas	Jerry Thomas	Lila Gast	Zack & Brady Williams
Feb 13	Diane Lewis	Jerry Lewis	Myrtle Petruck	Hailey Schwenn
Feb 20	Youth	Brady Williams & Paul Hansen	Sandy Knutson	Zack & Brady
Feb 27	Linda Mustain	Dres Thiel	Jeanne Hopkins	Steven Rader

**Please call Karen at 541-664-4433 if you are unable to assist at the scheduled time!
Thank You**



Bulletin Folders:

Month of January:
Jeanne Hopkins
Month of February:
Bob & Barbara Simmons



January & February:
Debi and Sandi

NEWS Notes



The jokes, cartoons, and items sent to me for use in The Focus are greatly appreciated, but please also send info on sources and/or authors of printed items (except jokes and cartoons), as I must give credit in order to put the item, stories, etc. in our newsletter.
Have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas, and a joyful New Year!
Penny

Newsletter
DEADLINE
February 18th



If you no longer wish to receive The Focus newsletter, please let us know. Just drop a note via email (office@lutheranswired.org), call Penny in the office (541-772-4674), or just drop by during office hours.



- A reminder that Pastor's sermons are recorded on tape weekly and will be sent to any who request a copy, just for the asking.

Prayer requests: If you would like to be included in our speedy email alerts to prayer needed, please send an email to office@lutheranswired.org and mention that you'd like to be included on the list. That's all you need to do.



TOPS
(Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

TOPS continues to welcome new members and is great support for losing weight. Anyone interested is invited to come and check out the group.

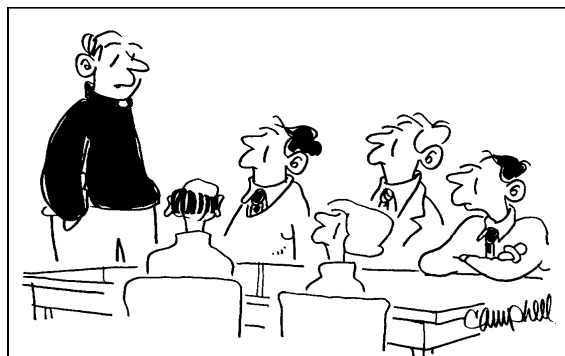
We meet Saturdays at Zion, 9:00 — 11:00 a.m.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact:

Debi Bowman: 541-646-6300

or

Sarah Felder, Leader: 541-326-5360



"An added source of income would be nice, Sims, but I doubt that the Department of Agriculture would pay us for not reaping what we sow."

What is God calling *you* to share by way of ministry?
Please pray about our continuing ministries here at Zion. Are there any changes or new things that we want to do as individuals or as a congregation?

Pastor Cyril

All Zion Ladies' Circle, Group, and Committee Heads!!
Please turn your annual reports in to Penny before Friday, January 14th.

(I am thanking you in advance for your extra special effort to help me with this! Penny)

Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.



When you get to your wit's end,
you'll find God lives there.

The good Lord didn't create anything
without a purpose,
but mosquitos come close.

To All Members and Friends:
Friendly Reminder!

Do you have household items you no longer need, want, or use?

We have posted an information sheet on the bulletin board from *Quality Consignment* in Medford. Anyone wishing to may take items there for re-sale.

If you would like to make use of your unused items to support Zion, just tell *Quality Consignment* to credit Zion's account and they will send us your proceeds from the sale. *It's that easy.*

A list of acceptable items for re-sale has been posted on the bulletin board.

Thank you for supporting Zion !!

The Sin

Two elderly, excited Southern women were sitting together in the front pew of a church listening to a fiery preacher.

When this preacher condemned the sin of stealing, these two ladies cried out at the tops of their lungs, "AMEN, BROTHER!"

When the preacher condemned the sin of lust, they yelled again, "PREACH IT, REVEREND!"

And when the preacher condemned the sin of lying, they jumped to their feet and screamed, "RIGHT ON, BROTHER! TELL IT LIKE IT IS... AMEN!"

But when the preacher condemned the sin of gossip, the two got very quiet. One turned to the other and said, "He's quit preaching and now he's meddlin'."



Mary Circle
January and February 2011

Meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m., in the Church Library for Bible study and fellowship.

Monday, January 10th
Monday, February 14th

If you have any questions, contact Nancy Swan at 541-770-1689 or Diane Lewis at 541-772-1710.

January

2nd:

9th:

16th:

23rd:

30th:

February

6th:

13th:

20th:

27th:

As of newsletter publication these were the only dates taken for the January & February Coffee Hours and flowers. Please let Penny know if you can fill in any of these dates. Thank you

"Remember that January is the eraser God uses to provide a new beginning."
—Author unknown

Gracie Allen and her husband, George Burns, were for years one of the class acts of radio and television comedy. Rise Samra of Hallandale Beach, FL, passed along "Gracie Allen's Recipe for Roast Beef":

"One large roast of beef.
One small roast of beef.
Take the two roasts and put them in the oven.
When the little one burns, the big one is done."

Sarah Circle
January and February 2011

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month
6:30 p.m.

For dinner and Christian fellowship

Tuesday, January 18th
Meet at Elmer's Restaurant
2000 Biddle Road, Medford
6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 15th
Meet at Jackson Creek Pizza
317 East Main St., Medford
6:30 p.m.

All ladies are invited to join us!

If you have any questions, contact Karen Thomas at 541-664-4433.

January

2nd:

9th: Bonnie Proper

16th:

23rd:

30th:

February

6th:

13th:

20th:

27th:

'Twas the month
after Christmas

*was the month after Christmas,
and all through the house,
Nothing would fit me,
not even a blouse.
The cookies I'd nibbled,
the eggnog I'd taste
At the holiday parties
had gone to my waist.
Every last bit of food
that I like must be banished
Till all the additional ounces
have vanished.*

*Now I'm hungry and
no longer a riot.*

*Happy New Year to all
and to all a good diet.*

—Author unknown

Esther Circle
January and February 2011
Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 12:00 Noon. The meeting place varies each month.

Wednesday, January 19th:
At Zion
Hostess, Myrtle Petruck

Wednesday, February 16th:
At Zion
Hostess, Doris Evans

If you have any questions, contact Lila Gast at 541-830-8219.

January

January Birthdays

4th Barbara Simmons
 8th Tina Grant
 11th Trinity Reid
 12th Bud Cullmer
 15th Jeanne Hopkins
 19th Lila Gast
 22nd Bob Simmons
 23rd Rod Voss
 27th Marion McMeen
 29th Virginia Stanfield



Shut Ins:

Ed Andren
 Vonnie Fichtner
 Myrtle Hoover
 Gloria Hannaford
 Evelyn Phelan

Note About Prayer List:

We will be reviewing names monthly on the prayer list. Names will be removed unless we are informed that they still need to be on the list.

Thanks for your help in keeping our prayer list up to date.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Anniversaries

January:

February:

1st Neil and Virginia Stanfield

Sick/Surgery/Other:

Ariel	Dan McCormick
Brandyn Bowman	Lisa Mustain
Debi Bowman	Doug Pierce
Kathy Carboni	Helen Platzke
Bob Cordova	Joy Proper
Diane Cordova	Jeannine Reddell
David Cullmer	Shantil Reid
Steve Dutton	Trinity Reid
Mike Felder	Ashley Roberts
Karen Fredenberg	Clayton Schneider
Steve Fredenberg	Max Shott
Ilse Hargrave	Virginia Stanfield
Pastor Cyril Hunkler	Karen Thomas
Marie Hutchison	John Van Slack
Dale Janzen	Bud Van Vrimm
Jenna Jenkins	Lisa Williams
Jenny Lewis	
Patrick Lewis	



Thank You!

The family of Edith Christiansen wishes to thank the many friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, and family who gave so generously to Zion's Memorial Fund in her memory.

February

February Birthdays

1st Edie Pyle
 12th Kayleena Long
 14th Val Aho
 16th Evelyn Phelan
 17th Sandy Anderson
 20th Beryl McCollough



Andrew Bates
 Jonathan Bowman
 Alex Bustard
 Andrea Castagnato
 Michael Chamberlain
 Donald Fichtner
 Chaplain Mark Gilderhus
 Chad Hoover
 Justin Schneider



How to Have a Perfect Pastor (or, what is a perfect pastor?)

A recent survey has compiled all the qualities that people expect from the perfect pastor:

Results of a computerized survey indicated that the perfect pastor preaches exactly 12 minutes.

He frequently condemns sin but never upsets anyone.

He works from 8 a.m. until midnight and is also a janitor.

He makes \$60 a week, wears good clothes, buys good books, drives a good car, and gives about \$80 a week to the poor.

He is 28 years of age, but he's been preaching for 30 years. He is wonderfully gentle and handsome.

He gives himself completely but never gets too close to anyone to avoid criticism.

He speaks boldly on social issues, but must never become politically involved.

He has a burning desire to work with teenagers, but he spends all his time with senior citizens.

He makes 15 daily calls to parish families, visits shut-ins and the hospitalized, spends all his time evangelizing the unchurched, and is always in his office when needed.

JESUS

There were 3 good arguments that Jesus was Black:

1. He called everyone brother
2. He liked Gospel
3. He didn't get a fair trial

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Jewish:

1. He went into His Father's business
2. He lived at home until he was 33
3. He was sure his Mother was a virgin and his Mother was sure He was God

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Italian:

1. He talked with His hands
2. He had wine with His meals
3. He used olive oil

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was a Californian:

1. He never cut His hair
2. He walked around barefoot all the time
3. He started a new religion

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was an American Indian:

1. He was at peace with nature
2. He ate a lot of fish
3. He talked about the Great Spirit

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Irish:

1. He never got married..
2. He was always telling stories.
3. He loved green pastures.

But the most compelling evidence of all - 3 proofs that Jesus was a Woman:

1. He fed a crowd at a moment's notice when there was virtually no food
2. He kept trying to get a message across to a bunch of men who just didn't get it
3. And even when He was dead, He had to get up because there was still work to do

Can I get an AMEN!!

(Thanks for this contribution, Debi!)

