

Zion Lutheran Church
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Stratford, WI 54484

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www.zionlc.com

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ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion's Good News

FEBRUARY
2009

The Theme for Lent this Year

Sundays: *"Stones"*

Wednesdays: *"40 Days with the
Lord's Prayer"*



You are WELCOME to our Lenten Worship Series
Wednesdays in Lent at 5:30 p.m.
Soup and Sandwich following at 6:30 p.m.
(Free Will Offering)



February 25—Ash Wednesday
Imposition of Ashes / Holy Communion
(List of Themes for Lent on Page 3)

Baptismal Anniversary Grandparent's Celebration

Celebrating last year's baptisms and
celebrating Grandparents with a
program in the Family Center
during fellowship. Everyone is welcome
for this celebration.



Lenten Journey

Looking outside at the frosted trees and the snow banks, it's hard to believe that we are already looking forward to the season of Lent. The last Wednesday of this month, we begin our journey into Lent. Lent is often experienced as a season of reflection, looking inward, soul-searching. It is a season of looking intently toward Jesus, and longing to go deeper in our discipleship.

Lent is also a season of community. We come together twice as much as usual, worshiping on Sundays and Wednesdays. We share a simple meal of soup and sandwich, and we look to our global brothers and sisters, as this year we collect funds for the Malawi feeding stations. This is a season of simplicity and pondering.

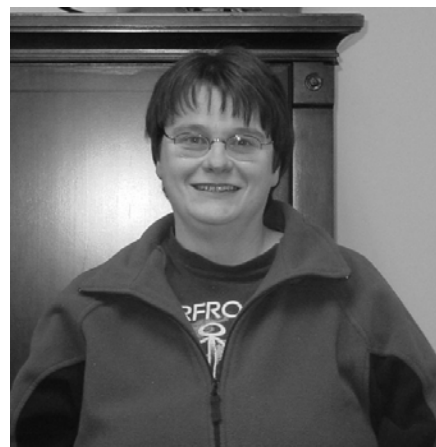
On Sundays during the season of Lent, we will follow the theme of "Stones." Each Sunday you will receive a stone to hold during the sermon. The scripture reading and sermon theme will relate to stones. Following the service, the stones will be placed in a cross form in the narthex which, at the end of the season, will be filled with epoxy and hardened. The cross will then be placed in the meditation garden for Easter.



Wednesday evening worship will be "40 Days with the Lord's Prayer." Beginning with Ash Wednesday, we will trek individually and together, through the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer. You will discover biblical and theological insights into this powerful text. Our confirmation youth will be working with their mentors, and younger children will receive a booklet about the Lord's Prayer. Each Wednesday we will hear those beautiful words of our Lord's Prayer in song.

When we experience the Lenten season with a depth of personal commitment, we emerge into Easter with a renewed sense of the gift and joy of living as Easter people. Come join the journey.

Pastor Sue Eidahl



Hi, My name is Kathy Busche and I have been a member of Zion for fourteen years. Zion has been a wonderful place for me to continue my faith journey. It has also been a great place to raise my family. My family consists of my husband, Bruce; six children, Lita, Angela, Shaun, Mindy, Jack and Rachel; three grandchildren; Tristen, Morgan and Chase, and one dog, Moose.

I work full time for the Marshfield Clinic in Plastic Surgery. My passion in life is truly gardening. My life is busy, but my faith in Jesus helps me focus. This is my second time on council. It is always challenging but rewarding.

God Bless,
Kathy Busche

2009 Lenten Preaching and Teaching Series

Wednesdays: "Stones"

Sundays: "40 Days with the Lord's Prayer"

- Feb. 25 - "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed by your name."
- March 1 - "Stones of the Covenant"
- March 4 - "Your kingdom come..."
- March 8 - "God's Law Engraved on Stone and on Human Hearts"
- March 11 - "Your will be done on earth as in heaven"
- March 15 - A Millstone as Metaphor for Punishment of Sin"
- March 18 - "Give us this day our daily bread"
- March 22 - "Jesus is Stumbling Stone to Unbelievers and the Rock of Salvation for Believers"
- March 25 - "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us"
- March 29 - "Jesus, the Living Stone Upon Which the Church is Founded"
- April 1 - "Lead us not into temptation"
- April 5 - "Jesus, the Foundation Stone for Life"
- April 9 - "But deliver us from evil"

Offering Designations

The offering for the Wednesday evening Lenten Worship will be designated for the following benevolences.

Feb. 25 (Ash Wed)	General
March 4	L.S.S.
March 11	Missionary
March 18	Crossways
March 25	World Hunger
April 1	Mission Partners

The Un-coin Folder

The Lenten un-coin folder in your February newsletter is for you to put coins in for each day of Lent, or you can put in a set amount of your choice. The money collected from the Lenten envelopes will be given to Lutheran Social Services (LSS). Please hand in your un-coin folder by April 5th (Palm Sunday).

Baptismal Anniversary Celebration—February 22nd

Zion's baptismal anniversary celebration begins with a baptismal renewal litany and presentation of a remembrance gift during the 8:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, February 22nd, for all who were baptized in 2008. After worship, we will celebrate with grandparents and students in the Family Center. If you had a child baptized in 2008, watch your mail for additional information.

Come Share Your Heart With Your Grandchildren at Grandparents' Day 2009

Date: February 22, 2009

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Zion Family Center

Events include:

- Games
- Trivia
- Bingo
- Keepsake Picture
- Songs
- Puppets
- Crafts
- Food/Beverage



Our celebration has a new look and an exciting fun time will be had by all. Everyone is welcome to come.

Bulletin Choices

It is nice to have choices, and now you have some when it comes to the weekly bulletin. You may pick up a paper copy bulletin from the ushers like you always have, or you may want to just use the screen in front of church. Extra announcement pages are run and sitting on the back table if you want to just have the weekly announcement sheet to take home. And now for those that can't see as well as they used to, we have large print paper bulletin for your use. Just ask the usher for a large print bulletin. If there is anything else we can do to make your worship better, please let us know.

Lutheran World Relief Lenten Project

As our Lutheran World Relief project for this Lenten season, we are collecting for the Food Security Project and Feeding Centers in Malawi. Some parts of Malawi did have an adequate harvest but it was regional, so the Feeding Centers remain vital. There will be a jar in the narthex and the Gathering Space for any donations toward Malawi's Feeding Stations.

Statements

Your 2008 contribution statements are finished and available in the narthex. You may pick them up at your convenience. If you have any questions, you may call the church office.

Zion's Puppets Entertaining People Squad News

Practice Schedule:

Wednesday, February 4 at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, February 11 at 6 p.m.

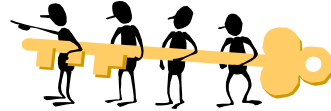
Wednesday, February 18 at 6 p.m.



Council Minutes



With The 4 Keys



Caring Conversation

One day or more each week, eat dinner together as a family with the TV turned off and talking to each other as a family.

Rituals & Traditions

Participate in Ash Wednesday services with your family.

Family Devotions

Prayer for the month: Dear Father in heaven, help us to be open to inviting others to come and see what you do in our church, in our lives, and in our world. Give us eyes to see you in our midst and give us courage to name your presence among us. Amen.

Family Service

Be kind to the people you meet by offering them a smile, a greeting or a gesture as you pass by. Explain to your children that "We love, because God first loved us." (1 John 4:7-8)

Zion Lutheran Church Council met on Monday, January 19, 2009. President Rhonda Thompson called the meeting to order. Pat Emon led devotions and Pastor Sue led the leadership training.

- Secretary Report M/S/C
- Treasurer Report M/S/C
- Thank you cards were received from Marge Redetzke, Pastor Sue, Patti Swenson, Wendy Drexler, and the Spring Family
- Pastor Sue was happy about the education seminar she attended in Minneapolis.
- Jan has been helping plan the trip for the Youth Gathering. We will host the local National Youth Gathering Group.
- Council members are to sign up for a retreat in Eau Claire.
- Council reviewed bylaws.
- Council will serve Soup and Sandwich on March 4th.
- Kathy will do article for February newsletter.
- Council members to update member lists.
- Baptismal Journey seminar will be held at Zion on Feb. 21st.
- Marge Redetzke will gather a group to do the financial audit.
- All council to update e-mail addresses to Wendy.
- Karen Polege needs information about Zion for an essay.
- M/S/C to adjourn
- Next meeting will be held February 16, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Kathy Busche

Building Update

Payment Date	Start Balance	Payment Amt	Interest Paid	Principal Paid	Ending Balance
1-2-09	\$814,514.54	\$ 6,285.19	\$4,192.93	\$ 2,092.26	\$812,422.28
1-21-09	\$812,422.28			\$18,500.00	\$793,922.28
Total monthly principal payments				\$ 34,046.68	
Total of extra principal payments				<u>\$135,500.00</u>	
Amount of principal paid 6/1/07 - 1-21-09				\$169,546.68	
MIF Checking acct balance as of 1-21-09				\$ 20,106.74	

BENEVOLENCE

	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Actual (1-25-09)</u>
LSS	\$1,800.00	\$ 65.00
Missionary	\$3,500.00	\$127.00
Crossways	\$1,900.00	\$135.00
World Hunger	\$4,000.00	\$108.00
Mission Partners	\$ 750.00	\$ 35.00

PARISH EDUCATION

Please note this year we have added to the snack list beverages for the parents to bring. Snack/Beverage providers need to be here by 8:45 a.m. to deliver snack/beverage to the classroom by 9:00 a.m. We are also requesting the providers to stay in the snack/beverage area until 9:15 a.m. for any late student arrivals that may need snack/beverage. Cleanup kitchen is also part of the snack/beverage provider's duties. Each snack provider to bring enough snacks for 60 students and beverage provider to bring enough beverages for 120 students. Please take snacks down to the old kitchen.

February 1 Jenny Weiland Family
Bev: Keith Ehrike Family
February 8 Chuck Gliniecki Family
Pat Wrensch Family
Bev: Dan Thompson Family
February 15 Neil Burrows Family
Bruce Busche Family
Bev: Ricky Timm Family
February 22 Grandparents' Day
Baptismal Anniversary



Sunday School Calendar

February 1—Baptismal Journey for Grade 2 on "Baptism"
February 8—Baptismal Journey for Grade 4 on "The Lord's Prayer"
February 22—Grandparents' Day Celebration and Baptismal Anniversary

Acolyte Training

During January, 15 fourth graders and 1 fifth grader completed acolyte training. They are: Olivia Burrows, Rachel Busche, Kaitlyn Doll, McKayla Foley, Jadyn Gebelein, Taylor Grell, Samantha Griesbach, Brock Holopka, Cole Hoffmann, Samantha Manecke, Julia Nikolai, Courtney O'Neil, Clare Thompson, Cassidy Welch, Brooklyn Zawislan, and Sara Dasler. Acolyte duties are to light the candles before worship and put them out at the end of worship. They also help distribute communion. Each time a new acolyte is scheduled they will be paired with a more experienced acolyte who will act as a mentor for them. New acolytes begin by serving at a service without communion, then advance to kneeling communion, and then walk-through communion.

Disciples For Christ

Our January Disciples for Christ meeting was a potpourri of activities. We began with a devotion encouraging us to reflect on our relationship with God and accepting the gift of forgiveness. Next we spent time planning for our service project to take place next month. We will be preparing a meal and serving about 70 "seasoned members of our community". And we closed by answering a wide array of introspective questions with our disciples sharing some of their likes, dislikes, and goals for the future.



Confirmation Electives 6:00—7:30 p.m.

February 18—"I'm Not OK—You're Not OK—
But That's OK"

Confirmation Core Class 6:00—8:00 p.m.

"Sacraments"

January 28, Feb. 4, 11

Confirmation Mentors

A yearly part of the Confirmation program is picking a Lenten Mentor. Here is some information that will help.

- Confirmation students, choose a mentor (someone who you know regularly attends worship).
- Write your mentor's name next to yours on the sheet posted in the narthex.
- Meet with your mentor after worship either on Wednesday night or Sunday morning, six times during the Lenten season.
- Question sheets will be on the table in the narthex. (Turn them in where you turn in your sermon notes).

The J Team

Wednesday, February 25, at 3:15 p.m.

Game—Holey Door

Devotion—Take It Away

Activity/Service Project—Set up for Ash Wednesday Service

Snack Schedule is Manecke and Thompson Families and Beverage is Miller Family.

Cancellations

Events at Zion will automatically be cancelled when Stratford Schools have been cancelled.

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Chuck and Julie Gliniecki upon the death of Julie's grandmother, and Chuck's father, Charlie Gliniecki.

Our sympathy goes out to Marvin Hager upon the death of his brother, Warren Hager.

Baptism

On Sunday, January 11th, Jaegar Louis Ormond, son of Les and Kristi Ormond, received the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Jaegar's baptismal sponsors are Jen Ormond, Pat Johnson, and Mike Johnson. Jaegar was born on May 1, 2008.

On Sunday, January 25th, Alex John Mueller, son of Ron and Laura Mueller, received the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Alex's baptismal sponsors are Amber Leffel & Jay Leonhardt and Bob and Traci Leffel. Alex was born on November 24, 2008.

Service of Thanksgiving

A service of Thanksgiving was held at the Funeral Home for Warren Hager on Saturday, January 17th.

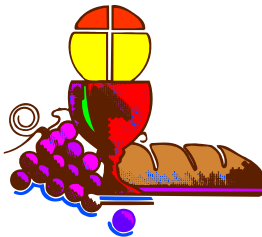
Thank You

I would like to thank the Parish Education Department for awarding me with the Church Scholarship this year. I would also like to thank the congregation for giving me the chance to help out by teaching Sunday school. I will be using the scholarship money to help pay for my tuition for my second semester at UW Marshfield Wood County. I just want to thank everyone again for the scholarship. It is really helping me fund my education.

Aric Miller

First Communion Classes

First communion classes are offered for youth who have, together with their parents, made a decision to take communion. If you would like your child involved in First Communion classes please sign up in the narthex or call the church office by **March 8th**. Classes will be held on Sunday's March 15th and 22nd during Sunday school (9 a.m.) and March 21st at 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. First Communion will take place on Sunday, March 29th at 10:15 a.m.



Fair Trade

Wow! The Fair Trade Ministry Team is seeing RED! It's Valentine's Day soon! Come try our new coffee, 'Love Buzz' at fellowship on Sunday, February 8th, and visit our Fair Trade table afterwards to purchase some. We will have 'Love Buzz' in drip and whole bean and two new chocolate bars: Organic Orange Dark Chocolate and Organic Dark Chocolate with Cocoa Nibs. And to wrap up that Valentine gift, June is making some very sweet gift bags! So forget the roses, but 'Love Buzz' coffee and a sweet bag to put it in! And for all those grandparents visiting on February 22nd for Grandparents' Day, stop and visit our Fair Trade table. There is always something available. On behalf of Lutheran World Relief, we want to thank everyone for supporting this ministry. In this time of world financial crisis those small farmers in third world countries really thank you for your support.



CHURCH LIBRARY



Fortress Introduction to the History of Christianity in the United States, by Nancy Koester. c2007. Call number 12/Ko.

A very readable and brief introduction to the development of the Christian Church and its many denominations from colonial times to the present.

Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World by Joanna Weaver. c2000. Call number 6/We.

This book addressing the busyness of everyday life is based on the Biblical story of Martha and Mary found in the book of Luke.

Defeating Depression, by Howard W. Stone. c2007. Call number 6/St

A self-help book for people who suffer from depression and for the families and friends who care about them.

New Member Sunday

New members will be installed on Sunday, April 26th, for anyone wishing to join Zion. Please mark your communion card or call the church office (687-4110) if you are interested in joining at this time.

Campbell's

Clip and save UPC's and beverage caps from participating Campbell Products or send in the whole label and we will clip them, but make sure the UPC code is on the label. We cannot use anything that does not have the UPC code on it



The eligible products that can be saved are:

Campbell's soups	UPC	
Campbell's Tomato Juice	UPC	
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	UPC	
Campbell's Chunky Soups	UPC	
Campbell's Supper Bakes Meal Kits	UPC	
Campbell's Select Harvest	UPC	
Campbell's Beans Products	UPC	
Campbell's Gravies	UPC	
Campbell's Foodservice	2 code numbers from outer case	
Market Day	UPC	
Franco-American	UPC	
Pepperidge Farm	UPC	
Swanson	UPC	can and carton
SpaghettiO's	UPC	
Prego	UPC	
V8	cap	
V-Fusion	cap	
V8 Splash	cap	

If any questions on an item, send it in and we will check it out.

Please also save:

- Festival Food receipts. These are sent in quarterly. We receive 1 % of the receipt, minus all alcohol and smoking products.
- Computer Ink Cartridges, Cell Phones and Laser Cartridges
- Aluminum can pull tabs—these are taken to the Ronald McDonald house.

Thanks to those who generously give these items to Zion.

Baptismal Journey

Zion Lutheran Church is having a Seminar on Saturday, February 21st from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for hands on experience of the process we call "The Baptismal Journey".

The day will consist of

- An overall picture
- Personal stories from children, youth and adults
- Booths containing each phase of the journey plus special events and activities
- Power Point of Zion's Journey
- Lunch (fee will offering)
- Question and answer time

When people visit Zion, they are impressed by the number of children and young people they see. Children and youth are the church of today. Being the church means a number of things. First and foremost, it means we are children of God. Baptized in water we walk wet among God's people and proclaim the Word to those who have not heart. Zion has develop4ed, refined and searched for ways to explore and learn more about the baptismal journey we as Lutherans participate in.

If you are interested in joining us that day please make your reservations by calling 715-687-4110 or email: janicelee@zionlc.com

We are looking for people to help with the booths on that day. If you would be interested in helping out all or part of that day, please call the church office.

Confirmation Camp

Part of Zion's Confirmation program is to attend Confirmation camp. Camp this year will be held June 14-19 at Waypost, which is ten miles south of Hatley. Information will be sent to students who have not attended camp. Registration is due by March 8th. If anyone else is interested in going to crossways Camp, there are brochures in the narthex describing the summer 2009 programs.

Scholarship

The Parish Education Team will be awarding a \$500.00 scholarship to a 2009 high school graduate. If you are planning on furthering your education and if you or your parent(s) are members of Zion Lutheran Church, you are invited to apply for this scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded upon enrolling in the second semester of the first year of post-secondary education. Letters have gone out to all seniors.

Blood Pressure Screening

At the Stratford Community Hall 9:30—11:00 a.m.
2nd Wednesday of the month

Blood Pressure Check and Glucose Testing

Fourth Tuesday of each month, from 1:30-3:30
at the Stratford Library by a nurse.
The blood test requires a 2 hour fast. Free of charge.
Call for information

Steak Feed

The Stratford VFW will have its monthly steak feed
on the first Tuesday of each month.

Community Outreach Meal

St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer will serve a free meal on the 4th
Tuesday of each month, from 5:00—6:30 p.m.

Pasta Dinner

Wednesday, February 11
St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Stratford 4:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Large salad bar, homemade chicken noodle soup, spaghetti, lasagna, Alfredo, corn bread, beverages, and desserts.
Adults: \$7.00, Children (K-6): \$4.00 , Preschool—Free
Matching Funds from Catholic Family

All You Can Eat Breakfast

Eagle's Club in Marshfield will have a breakfast on Sunday, February
15th, from 8 a.m. until Noon. Menu includes buttermilk pancakes,
scrambled eggs, French toast sticks, seasoned potatoes, sausage links,
rolls and gravy, applesauce, coffee, milk and juice. \$6.50 for adults,
\$3.75 for children 5-12, and free for children under 5. This event is
sponsored by the L & N Hardwoods Relay for Life Team with proceeds
going to the American Cancer Society. Tickets are available from
Nancy Schoenherr, Denise Marg, Kari Schoenherr, or Cory Wiesman.

The Luck of the Irish

9 Pin Tap to benefit American Cancer Society
Sunday, March 15th, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., at Rose Bowl Lanes in Marsh-
field. Pre-register by Feb 28th. Cost includes 4 hours of bowling,
shoes, and fun. \$40 in advance for 5 people. To register, contact Rose
Bowl at 387-1114 or call Linda at 486-3011

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

Church Office Hours:
Monday—Friday
7:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Rhonda Thompson
V. Pres.: Blaine Aschenbrenner
Secretary: Kathy Busche
Treasurer: Rod Huther
Evangelism: Pat Emon
Parish Ed: Wendy Spaeth
Property: Dan Schrameyer
Stewardship: Ellen Leick
Worship: Denise Marg
Youth: Patti Kuyoth

PASTOR: Sue Eidahl

Home Phone: 687-4381
E-mail: eides@zionlc.com
Parish Associate: Janice Lee
E-mail: janicelee@zionlc.com
Secretary: Wendy Drexler
E-mail: wendy@zionlc.com

CHURCH OFFICE:

715-687-4110
FAX: 715-687-3541
WEB SITE: www.zionlc.com

WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.

Sunday School—9:00 a.m.

INDEX

Page	
1	February Events
2	Pastor Sue's Letter
3	Council Member, Kathy
3	2009 Lenten Series
4	Offering Designations
4	UnCoin Folder
4	Bapt Ann / Grandparents Day
5	Bulletins
5	Lutheran World Relief Project
6	Connecting Home & Congregation
6	Building Update
7	Council Minutes
8	Parish Education
9	Parish Education
10	Pastoral Acts
10	First Communion Classes
11	Fair Trade
11	Library
12	Items to Save
13	Baptismal Journey
14	Community Events
	Inside Pull Out
	• Calendar / Serving Schedule

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The 21st of each month.

ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE

Thursdays by 9:00 a.m.

WEEKLY E-MAIL

Goes out early Monday morning.
email janicelee@zionlc.com
to get it

Please keep the office updated:

- Address changes
- Births
- Deaths
- Hospitalizations