



Zion Lutheran Church Newsletter

*“Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.” (Psalm 125:1)*

February 2012

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Our Theme This Lent:

CREDO: “I Believe”

It's spoken at our Baptism, and each Sunday we confess it: the Creed. But what are we confessing? Our Wednesday Lenten services, (10:30 AM and 6:30 PM) will speak to that question.

February 22: ASH WEDNESDAY

February 29: The Father Almighty

March 7: Jesus, the Son

March 14: Jesus, the Crucified

March 21: Jesus, the Lord

March 28: The Holy Spirit at Work

 LENT

Pastoral Letter

Dear Zion,

The more I worship and read Scripture with you, the more I find myself organizing my life by the seasons of the Church (and less by months). Each season unfolds another part of Scripture and leads us more deeply into the truth of Jesus.

In a few days, the world enters a new month, February, but in the Church, we prepare for two far more important changes in time:

1) the grand finale of Epiphany and 2) the start of Lent.

During Epiphany we've been "getting to know Jesus" through the weekly Gospel readings that recount His earthly ministry. What a warm consolation for these wintry days! It all leads us to the Transfiguration, when His divine glory shined into this world. We celebrate the Transfiguration this year on Sunday, February 19.

Yet what is the glory of Jesus? It is His cross. He is the Lamb of God who came to bear the sins of the world. So from Transfiguration we pass right into Lent, with Ash Wednesday on February 22. That solemn season strengthens our faith by reorienting us to what's most important: Christ crucified.

Now there's a truth that cuts deep: we follow the Lord who accomplished His greatest work with both hands nailed in place. His sleep of death accomplished more than a million of our waking days, and His expiring groan carried more beauty and grace than all our words strung together. *Trusting* His suffering and death is the true work and will of God, and not the mighty, flighty plans of men.

I'm not sure what that says about things like stewardship, discipleship, fellowship, and all the other "-ships" that keep capsizing in today's church. Maybe it says that, if we focused less on them, and believed in the death of Jesus more, they'd be done already.

Hmm That makes me forget about February . . . and look forward to Lent.

Pastor Gjerde

In the Liturgy

Scripture Readings in Worship this February

Below are the Bible readings that you will hear at weekend worship during February. Read them before worship, and then return to them throughout the following week.

Sunday, February 5: Isaiah 40:21-31; I Corinthians 9:16-27; Mark 1:29-39

Sunday, February 12: 2 Kings 5:1-14; I Corinthians 10:19-11:1; Mark 1:40-45

Sunday, February 19: Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 13:12-4:6; Mark 9:2-9

Sunday, February 26: Genesis 22:1-18; James 1:12-18; Mark 1:9-15

What and Why?

~ a Q & A column on the liturgy ~

Why does Lent begin at a different time every year? Lent begins at a different time every year because *Easter* is held a different time every year. How is it calculated?

Since Jesus died and rose at the same time as the Jewish feast of Passover, Easter has typically been celebrated near the time of that feast.

To keep its celebration uniform across the Christian church, since 325 A.D. the date for Easter has been the first Sunday after the “Paschal Full Moon”—that is, the first Sunday after the full moon that falls on or after the vernal (spring) equinox. This dating keeps Easter in close proximity to Passover.

Since that full moon can occur at different times, so does Easter! And therefore, since Lent is the 40 days prior to Easter, Lent begins at a different time each year.

The Season of Lent In Brief

Time: 40 days prior to Easter, corresponding with Jesus’ 40 days of temptation in the wilderness.

Purpose: 1) to focus the Church’s life and devotion on the sufferings and death of Jesus Christ, and 2) to intensify Christian habits and discipline.

Color: Purple, the color of kings, as it is during this season that we prepare to celebrate our King’s victory, and also the color of suffering (think *bruises*), as it is during this season that we remember our Lord’s passion and death.

Symbols: ashes, a symbol of repentance; the Lamb of God, portrayed as slain; the cross, crown of thorns, and instruments of Christ’s torture.

From the Associate

As we close out the season of Epiphany with the image of Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration and go down the mountain to enter into the solemn discipline of Lent, let the holy habit of prayer become even more central to our lives as Christians.

Let us begin our day with prayer using words like, “This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!” These words are not meant to encourage us to walk around with a silly grin on our faces, but to point us to Easter; that each day is a new creation for the Christian, rooted in Christ’s resurrection. It is this new life in Christ, renewed each day as we remember our baptism, that leads us to rejoice and be glad.

Let us pray as we sit down to eat, remembering that all that we have is a gift of God’s bountiful goodness that opens our hearts to give Him thanks and praise.

Let us fill the hours with our Lord’s prayer. He has given us the words to pray that we might receive the blessings of God in our lives: His Name, His kingdom, His will, His bread, His mercy, and His salvation. Let us mark our day by seeking regularly these blessings.

Let us learn to pray constantly, keeping the Name of God before us at every moment of the day. Let us use words like, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” A simple prayer yet filled with the truth about who we are, sinners, and who God is, the One who became flesh for us that He might have mercy on us. When we are distracted, when we are tempted, when we are frustrated, the frequent praying of such words keeps the Lord before us and keeps our minds and our hearts focused on Him.

Let us close our day with prayer using words like, “Lord, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Sleep is the time when we are most helpless. How important it is as a practical and a symbolic matter to entrust our lives to God in such helplessness.

While we are commanded to pray always, let our prayer in this season be intensified as we approach the cross in humility, fear, and hope.

Peace be with you!
Pastor Gulhaugen

This Lent: Two New Studies

Sunday, 10:15 AM: “The Great and Holy Week”

Lent culminates in Holy Week, the week before Easter. What did Jesus do during that week? How does it speak to you today?

Each Sunday, we will study what Scripture tells us about that week, and how those events illuminate the work of God for sinners. We will also learn how the historical events of Holy Week shape the worship of the Church, and how they may deepen your daily devotion.



The study will be held every Sunday starting February 26, 10:15 AM in the church hall.

Wednesday, 12:30 PM ~ or ~ 7:15 PM: Listening to the Fathers

For eight Wednesdays, beginning February 29, we will study the Christian faith using the book, “A Summary of the Christian Faith,” written by the 16th Century Lutheran Father, David Chytraeus. This class is for those new to the Christian faith, new to the Lutheran Church, life-long Lutherans, and those who want to learn more about the faith.

The 12:30 PM class will meet after the soup lunch in the church hall. The 7:15 PM class will meet after vespers in the conference room next to the church office.

Weekly Bible Studies

Tuesdays, 9:00 AM: The Letters of St. John

John, the beloved disciple, wrote three letters (“epistles”) to the churches entrusted to his care. This class studies those three epistles, which give a bird’s eye view into both the situation of the early church and the essence of our faith today. (Church Hall)

Thursdays, 7:00 AM: Men’s Breakfast

The Old Testament books of Ezra and Nehemiah remind us that God does not abandon His people, but calls them back to Him in repentance and renewal. Around food and fellowship, this class examines both the history of Israel’s return from exile and how God calls His sinful children home today. Held in the church hall.

Children's and Youth Education

Confirmation Class meets every Wednesday in February. We meet in the church hall following vespers. A note regarding Lent: the midweek Lenten services are on the Apostles' Creed this year. All Confirmation students must attend the services.

For parents, children, and all God's people: Your experience of Sunday worship can be much richer when you intentionally prepare your hearts and minds to spend time in the presence of God and your brothers and sisters in Christ. For example:

- Pray together about Sunday morning on Saturday.
- Prepare for Sunday morning on Saturday, e.g., set the breakfast table, set out your Sunday "go-to-meeting" clothes, prepare your offering.
- Agree not to focus on household, marital, or work issues as you prepare for worship.
- Read the Sunday lessons before you go to worship.
- Go expecting God to speak to you in worship, especially in the sermon.
- Go expecting God to meet you in Word and Sacrament.
- Remind yourself that worship is not about you, but about coming into the presence of God to receive the blessings of His love and mercy.

Lenten Meals

Lenten meals will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. (after morning prayer) and from 5:15 pm until 6:15 pm (before evening prayer). The meal at midday will consist of soup, bread, dessert and a beverage. The evening meals will include a sandwich. A free-will offering will be taken. Here is the soup menu for each week:

February 22	Cheesy Potato (w/ tuna salad sandwich, p.m.)
February 29	Chicken Dumpling Soup (w/ hot ham sandwich, p.m.)
March 7	Beef Vegetable Soup (w/ grilled cheese, p.m.)
March 14	Minestrone Soup (w/ hot turkey sandwich, p.m.)
March 21	Chicken Rice Soup (w/ egg salad sandwich, p.m.)
March 28	Chili (w/ sub sandwiches, p.m.)

Any remaining soup may be purchased after the midday and evening meals. The price is \$2 for a pint and \$4 for a quart of soup. Please come, and bring a friend.

From the Kantor

As the Season of Light draws to a close on February 19th with the Transfiguration of Our Lord, we begin our journey into the penitential season of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, February 22, the hymns that we sing remind us that we are dust and unworthy before God. Our Communion Hymn, “When in the Hour of Deepest Need”, green hymnal #303, expresses our dilemma.

*When in the hour of deepest need
We know not where to look for aid;
When days and nights of anxious thought
No help or counsel yet have brought;*

Stanzas two and three provide the remedy for the burden of our sin and guilt.

*Our comfort then is this alone:
That we may meet before your throne
And cry to you, O faithful God,
For rescue from our sorry lot.*

*For you have made a promise true
To pardon those who flee to you,
Through him whose name alone is great,
Our Savior and our advocate.*

The text of “When in the Hour of Deepest Need” was written about 1547 by Paul Eber, a German professor and pastor. Despite a permanent physical deformity resulting from a fall from a horse at age twelve, Eber graduated from the University of Wittenberg in 1536 where he studied with Martin Luther and Phillip Melancthon. Throughout his years as an esteemed professor and pastor, Eber maintained a close friendship with Melancthon and assisted him in his work. Among the Wittenberg poets, Paul Eber is considered to be second only to Martin Luther.

Ginni Giese, Kantor



John Schubring

Zion Lutheran Church

**March 18, 2012
3:00 p.m.**

**Free-will Donation
Reception to Follow Concert**

Zion Lutheran Church is pleased to present John Schubring as the Fifth Guest Artist in our Organ Concert Series on Sunday, March 18 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Schubring is Director of Music and Organist at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Greendale, Wisconsin. His program will include works by Bruhns, J. S. Bach, Brahms, Ritter, Dupre, Kagel and Alain.

Since Mr. Schubring is a son of the congregation, this event is a special occasion for the Zion family. John is the son of Zion parishioners, Larry and Marilyn Schubring. While at Zion, he studied organ with Nancy Siebecker, and played many services at Zion.

We are delighted to have John at the console again and look forward to seeing you on March 18th!



Mission and Outreach

Monthly Mission Emphases:

- **Crossways Camping Ministries — Goal: \$2,000**
- **Hope Pregnancy Resource Center, Wausau — Goal: \$1,000**

Crossways Camping Ministries is an association of Lutheran congregations throughout the state of Wisconsin for the purpose of ministering to people of all ages in ways congregations can't do individually. Approximately 180 congregations relate to Crossways in some way, either through use of the camps facilities and programs, financially or both.

Crossways owns, maintains, and operates three camps and retreat facilities in Wisconsin, Imago Dei Village—Clintonville, Pine Lake Bible Camp—Waupaca, and Waypost on Mission Lake—Hatley.

Crossways teaches all who come to one of the camps about stewardship of life, the creation we have been given, service to those not as fortunate as we, and doing the work of God through sharing our resources.

More information will be on the Mission Bulletin Board in the church hall, northwest wall, in February. Please help support this mission!

Hope Pregnancy Resource Center Hope PRC moved to 210 McClellan Street, Suite 310, in downtown Wausau on September 1, 2011, and recently opened an additional center in Antigo, Wisconsin, at 618 Fifth Avenue on November 29, 2011. Hope PRC: educates people about pregnancy options, provides confidential pregnancy testing and verification; empowers women and men to build healthy relationships; welcomes women and men to meet confidentially about abortion issues; provides medically accurate information about pregnancy options. Hope's abortion recovery ministry has helped people of all ages find freedom through God's forgiveness and healing. Brian T. Whitaker serves as the Interim Executive Director since May 9, 2011. An ordained pastor, Brian had already been serving as a member of the Board of Directors. He is available to give brief talks about Hope PRC. Hope's 10th annual fundraising banquet "Acts of Hope" will be held Tuesday, April 17 at the Stoney Creek Inn, 1100 Imperial Drive, Rothschild, with guest speaker Eric Ludy. Call 715-843-4673 for advance tickets or for more information. Please consider your financial support to this caring ministry

Zion congregation met the 2011 mission donation goal of \$36,000, creating blessings for many!! THANK YOU! An important note: your participation in Zion's fundraisers was huge in helping us reach our goal. They include a percent of profit from Strassenfest, Christmas Tea, Salad Buffet, Spaghetti Dinner, Christmas Cookie Sale, Bread Baking, and Lenten Soup Lunches, etc. Our TIME, TALENT, and TREASURE is at work. The mission goal for 2012 is \$36,000. Please see the monthly emphases for 2012 on the next page. newsletter.

Zion Lutheran Church Monthly Mission Emphases 2012

January	\$ 2,000	Lutheran Social Services, Northern Wis. and upper Michigan
February	\$ 2,000 \$ 1,000	Crossways Camping Ministries Hope Pregnancy Resource Center, Wausau
March	\$ 2,000 \$ 1,000	Lutheran Bible Translators—The Plugers Crossways International
April	\$ 3,750	Greater Wausau Christian Services, Wausau
May	\$ 1,000 \$ 1,000 \$ 1,000	Women’s Community, Wausau Lutheran Seminary—Novosaratovka, Siberia, Russia Lutheran Campus Ministries
June	\$ 2,000 \$ 1,000	Lutheran Bible Translators—The Plugers Homme Home, Wittenberg and Wausau
July	\$ 1,000 \$ 1,000	Habitat for Humanity, Wausau Open Door, Wausau
August	\$ 1,000 \$ 1,000	Bishop’s Resource Fund Neighbor’s Place
September	\$ 2,000 \$ 1,000	Lutheran Bible Translators—The Plugers New Tribes Missions—Kirk and Mary Thornton
October	\$ 2,500 \$ 1,000	Lutheran World Relief Salvation Army, Wausau
November	\$ 2,500 \$ 1,000	Lutheran Disaster Relief Christian Radio, Schofield and Milladore
December	\$ 3,750	Greater Wausau Christian Services, Wausau
Other	\$ <u>500</u>	
Goal:	\$36,000	

A written article will be in each month’s newsletter highlighting the different mission emphases. The articles are written by members of Zion’s Mission Team.

From Zion's Missionaries in Zambia

Dear Members of Zion Lutheran Church

“We have received word of your generous offerings to the ministry of Bible translation in Zambia. We are so blessed to receive our reports each month and to be able to know by name and congregation all of the fellow believers who help to make this ministry a reality. Thank you for being apart of this work.

Foundations are being laid and relationships are forming so that the Nsenga speaking community can begin the process of translating God's word into the language of their hearts.

Please continue to pray for our family and for the Nsenga communities that there would be few road blocks to the progress of this work.

We look forward to keeping you up to date through emails and newsletters. We also welcome correspondence by mail.

Plugers
Box 560135
Petauke, Zambia

God's blessing to you all!”
By His grace
for His glory,
The Plugers

Zion is Having a Souper Super Weekend!

The Zion mission team requests that you bring canned soups to services the weekend of February 4 and 5, Super Bowl Weekend. A basket for donated soup will be at 3 locations:

Main Entrance (Grant Street)
Lobby Entrance (Sixth Street)
Side Entrance (Between Church & School Bldgs.)

The Neighbor's Place and the Salvation Army Pantries will receive this offering. Zion is joining with many other churches in this effort.

Many Thanks!

News and Events

80+ Birthdays in February

- February 6 Edward Sell, 307 Lakeview Dr., Wausau 54403
February 10 Doris Preisig, 605 Bernard St., Wausau 54403
February 13 Laurel Rouse, 600 Schmidt Ave., Rothschild 54474
February 14 Adair Lewis, 5250 Saber Dr., Merrill 54452
February 25 Elaine Mueller, 405 S 11th Ave., Wausau 54401

Zion's Library — Check it Out!

Stanley, Gerard Joseph

“He Was Crucified: Reflections on the Passion of Christ.”

Written by a medical doctor and professionally illustrated with paintings by the Masters, it describes the physical and mental anguish of Jesus as he approached his death on the cross.

Zion's Library is located in the conference room next to the church office.



Pictured from left: Adeline Fandrey, Ruth Hochberger, Joan Koch, Pat Hollander, Lori Torkko, Laverne Steffen

Thank you to everyone who made our 2011 Christmas Tea a success! This is our first year of having it in the church hall and it seemed to work well. Special thanks to Evolutions in Design for the beautiful decorations and to Thrivent Financial for matching funds. Our profit was \$698 with Thrivent giving us \$700. Money was disbursed as follows: \$200 Salvation Army, \$200 December 23, 2012 Radio Broadcast, \$500 Boiler Replacement Fund, \$100 Lutheran Bible Translators, \$398 to the Altar Guild for the Restoration of the Needlepoint Kneelers. Thanks again to all!

Christmas Tea

From the Archives — One Step Along the Path

The work on the Zion archives is slowly progressing. The master organization has been planned and tasks have started on several categories. One task of high priority is to transcribe the contents of the official acts books (six in all) into the computer. The pastor of a Lutheran congregation has always been required to record all official acts performed each year in a book.

The first official acts book of Zion, covering 1874-1900, has been transcribed. It gives a window into the early Zion. It included 1098 baptisms, 415 confirmations, 186 marriages and 318 funerals. There were 12 infant baptisms in the first year and 199 in the first ten years. In 1875 the first confirmations were conducted for 12 youths 13-15 years old. Over the first 10 years 50 were confirmed. The first marriage was conducted on November 1, 1874, 30 in the first 10 years. There was one burial in the first year and 56 in the first ten years. Growth increased rapidly in the next 17 years into the beginning of the next century.

In the ‘you never know’ category:

Recently I was sorting board members, I found between pages in a three ring binder a small piece of paper torn from a 1968 TV Guide. Marked in the listing for 10:30 a.m. on October 27 was:

7 CHURCH SERVICE — Lutheran

Color Pastor Hanson conducts services for Zion Lutheran Church in Wausau. (Live: 60 min.)

Note: Channel 12 had a taped repeat of Notre Dame vs. Michigan State football.

If you would like to help work on the archives, contact Gloria at 715-842-1358. There is a wide variety of tasks to be done.

Gloria Brauer, Zion Archivist

Building a Grace Based Marriage

Join us March 2-3, 2012 at Highland Community Church, 1005 N 28th Ave., Wausau; Friday 7:00—9:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 am—2:00 p.m. The cost is \$49 per couple, \$25 single (by February 11); \$59 per couple, \$30 single (after February 11). Lunch is provided on Saturday, Please pre-register by February 11th, 715-842-0944 or www.cfdevelopment.org. Want to sponsor a table? Call today. It's a wonderful gift for adult children.

Memorials & Other Gifts Received

- In memory of Lester Schwarm, Adele Blair gave a gift to Zion's Archive Fund.
- In memory of Lester Schwarm, Lois Freiberg, sister and Lon and Sue Freiberg, nephew, and Rita Falk gave a gift to the Dale Hansen Fund.
- In memory of Lester Schwarm, Marty and Janet Dettmering gave a gift to the Organ Fund.
- In honor of Lynn Budnik, a gift has been given to the Dale Hansen Fund from Roland and Arvilla Wendorff.
- In memory of Carl Hunsicker, a former member of Zion and fishing buddy, a gift was given to Greater Wausau Christian Services from Richard Baker.
- In memory of Wayne Dettmering, brother of Marty Dettmering, Orlin and Delores Kottke, Annette and Terry Lach, Al and Judy Draeger, Janet and Marty Dettmering, and Friends of the Wayne Dettmering Family gave a gift to the Organ Fund.
- In memory of Wayne Dettmering, Rita Falk, and Don and Edna Moore gave a gift to the Dale Hansen Fund.
- In memory of Wayne Dettmering, Adele Blair and Ruth Draeger gave a gift to the Altar Guild.
- In memory of Walter Gruling, a gift was given to the Zion Archive Fund from Robert and Esther Gruling.
- In memory of June Ebersold and Tony Fox, Marty and Janet Dettmering gave a gift to the Dale Hansen Fund.
- In memory of Barbara Nesbitt, Dick and Dianne Ames gave a gift to Radio Broadcast Fund.

Bread Baking January 20, 2012

Sold 70 loaves at \$3 each, \$210; supplies were \$29 resulting in a profit of \$188. Missions received \$28 and the Boiler Repair Fund \$160. Thanks to the kitchen helpers, Marion Zahrt and Steve Kroening. Bread baking will be done the last Friday of each month this year February through October.

Bread Baking Results for 2011 (10 months)

Sold: 796 loaves plus donations; money disbursed to Carpet Fund: \$210; Boiler Fund: \$1,842; Missions: \$363. Job well done. Thank you Phyllis Bliese and all of her helpers.

Concordia Guild

Members of Concordia Guild will meet on Thursday, February 2nd at the Hiawatha Restaurant, 713 Grant Street, Wausau at 6:00 p.m. for "Cook's Night Out." For questions, call Lori at 715-848-5651.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
709 SIXTH STREET
WAUSAU WI 54403-4791

NON-PROFIT ORGN
U.S.POSTAGE PAID
WAUSAU, WI
PERMIT NO. 66

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Come—Worship the Lord!

- Sundays 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
- Saturdays 5:15 p.m.
- Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Where you can reach us:

Church — 715-848-7286

Childcare — 715-845-7404

Fax — 715-848-7286

Email — zion@dwave.net

Web: zionlutheranwausau.com

A member of Lutheran CORE