

The Zion Lamp



ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL
Decatur, Indiana

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path..”

Psalm 119:105

January, 2011

A GLAD AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. James 4:13-15.

What is it that is going to make this coming year a “glad and happy new year”? The book of James tells us that “we do not know what tomorrow will bring” and that we “are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.” The year 2010 is now nothing more than a mist that was there for a little time and is now gone. We will never be able to get that year back or that time. How many of your goals and resolutions were accomplished? How many of you did things any differently than you did in 2008 or 2009? Sadly, many of us have to admit that we have continued to do the same things that we have always done and now in 2011 we are planning on making the same goals and resolutions.

What is going to be different in 2011?

BEGIN WITH REPENTANCE

We don't have to continue to do the same things that we have always done. The Word of God tells us in Lamentations “The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” The mercy of God will not change in 2011 but it is there to give us a new beginning every day. In order for 2011 to be a “glad and happy new year” begin with repentance. Repentance is the realization that you have not done what is right in the eyes of God but have instead set yourself against him. In repentance we admit

our failure and seek God's aid and help through the Word of God and prayer to do and be different in the coming days. It is this repentance and reliance upon the Word of God that will make this year different and make you different.

ADD WORD, WORSHIP, WITNESS

In order to continue down the path of repentance and being and doing things differently in 2011 add in the study of God's Word either on your own at home or in a Bible study here at Zion (check the calendar in The Lamp). God's Word will be the power that enables us to make different choices, walk different paths and seek not to be opposed to the things of God. In 2011, step up your attendance at worship here at Zion. (We have numerous services—check the calendar.) In Worship, God comes to us with His grace, forgiveness and peace that passes all understanding. Worship is the opportunity for you to be with others who are seeking to follow after the Lord and make this “a glad and happy new year.” After all of this, add to your year a time of witness. Witness does not simply mean telling others about God and salvation, but opening our eyes to witness what God is doing in our lives by making us his new creations

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IMPORTANT CHURCH NEWS

PULSE MODERN WORSHIP SERVICE

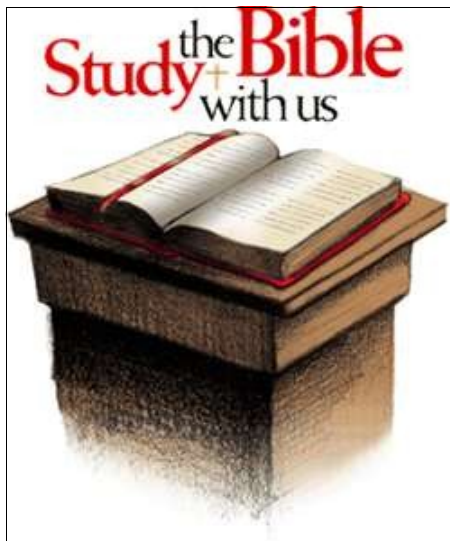
In January, PULSE services will be held at 7:00 pm on Saturday the 8th and on Saturday January 22. PULSE is a praise service with a band and music like that of Christian radio—yet we have all the important elements of our regular services. If you have not attended PULSE or you have some friends or family who are not familiar with our church, then PULSE is the perfect place to bring them to introduce them to Zion and the Christian faith.



GRACE BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Here are the upcoming meeting dates for the Grace Bible Study. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m.

January	6 20
February	3 17
March	3 17 31
April	14 28



QUARTERLY CHARITY for JANUARY- MARCH:

Camp Lutherhaven has been chosen as Zion's quarterly charity for January-March 2011. Since 1949, Camp Lutherhaven has been working to create faith building experiences for children, youth, adults and families. Located just a few miles north of Columbia City, the camp is most widely known for its summer camp programs, but actually is an all year ministry. Summer programs include various outdoor activities, Bible Study, devotions, and crafts for children as young as kindergarten (day camp), three-day camps for first to third grades and several different five-day camps for third through twelfth grade campers. Camp Lutherhaven also offers family work camps, and a Junior Servant program.

Outdoor education programs are available to school groups and to home schooled children on a regular basis. Confirmation Retreats are also offered to complement the educational efforts of home congregations. Some less known programs offered at Camp Lutherhaven are its various retreats: Couples Retreats, Men's Retreats, Family Winter Retreats, Home School Moms' Retreats and Women's Retreats. Details on all of these programs and camps can be found at www.lutherhaven.org.

Since the time of the economic downturn, Camp Lutherhaven has been especially challenged financially. Staff cuts were made, and although scholarship funds have been available for campers — last summer there were more requests for financial assistance than there were funds available.

The Board of Stewardship is encouraging more people of our congregation to participate in the fantastic faith building programs available at Camp Lutherhaven. We would like to collect funds in the next few months to be used for camp scholarships. Once we see how much money is collected, we will take applications for scholarships from our own membership (if someone wants to go but has financial hardship). If no financial need is apparent from within Zion—funds collected will be sent directly to Camp Lutherhaven for their scholarship program. Please remember to keep this ministry in your prayers.

Concordia Lutheran High News —

New Scholarship Available to Incoming CLHS Students

Beginning Fall 2011, incoming freshmen to Concordia Lutheran High School may apply for a new scholarship: The Cadet Scholarship. Based on leadership and character, students receiving a Cadet scholarship must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and must fill out a scholarship application.

To keep a scholarship, students must maintain a 2.0 or higher GPA at Concordia at the end of each academic year, remain in good standing with tuition payments and maintain a record of positive behavior.

Coats and Sweaters Half-Off at Thrift Shop

Ring in the New Year with savings at the Concordia Lutheran High School Thrift Shop January 21-29. Stop in for the Half-Off Coats and Sweaters Sale (some exceptions may apply). The shop is located at 3436 N. Anthony Shopping Center and shop hours are Monday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

6th-12th Grade Ice Skating on January 9

Come and go ice skating with your Zion friends. We will be going to Headwaters Park at 3:00 p.m. and returning about 6:00 p.m. The cost for entry is \$5.00 for those 14 and older and \$3.00 for those 13 and under. If you need to rent skates the cost is \$2.00. Please meet at Zion at 3:00 p.m. and we will all head out to Headwaters Park. If you would like more information, please contact Pastor Phil at 701-7177.

ZION LUTHERAN TALENT SHOW

Do you play an instrument? Do you sing? Do you dance? Do you do magic tricks? Do you have a talent that you would like to share with others? There will be a Zion Lutheran Talent Show on February 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the Zion gym. Please contact the church office to sign up for the talent show.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- ◆ \$13,500 total "Filling in the Gap" contributions
- ◆ (\$21,000) shortfall at the end of 11 months
- ◆ \$84,000 balance in checking account as of 11/30
- ◆ \$3,800 funds received for the 11th street demolition project
- ◆ This year Zion was able to be of significant help to families within our congregation who have been impacted by the economic downturn. The funds were paid out of a designated account which was originated for the specific purpose of helping members who are experiencing serious financial problems.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Thanksgiving meal for congregation: cost of meat approximately \$245.00

- ◆ Stewardship is paying for this and the balance in their ministry funding plan is \$250.00
- ◆ Rolls were donated by the Voshell family.
- ◆ Butter pats were donated by the Herman family
- ◆ Paper products were donated by the Powell family.

Advent Dinners:

Will be covered by Board of Youth

- ◆ Balance of \$770.00 in Leadership
- ◆ Balance of \$245.00 in Servant Events
- ◆ Balance of \$564.00 in Junior Youth Group

CHURCH AND AREA NEWS

SNEAKER SERVICE—WEDNESDAYS AT 6:00 PM

The sneaker service will resume on January 5 at 6:00 pm. Come join us for a casual service in the middle of your busy week. Sneak in—there’s always room for more!



CHILI COOK-OFF

The second annual Zion Chili Cook-off is coming on February 5, 2011, beginning at 7 p.m. Get out your chili meat, practice your recipes and get ready to see who has the best chili this year at Zion. Please contact the church office to enter your chili. Even if you put beans in it, you’re welcome to enter!

Thank you from the Bohnings

Mr. & Mrs. Bohning would like to give a hearty thank you to all who helped move them to their new home on Thursday, December 30. We couldn’t have done it alone. Your cheerful faces made the work easier.



Receive The Lamp by EMAIL - We at Zion are trying to reduce the number of newsletters that we mail out each month. We currently mail out over 500 newsletters each month. We would like to reduce that amount by at least 20-30% because it would not only save us postage, but paper, ink, and wear on our copy machine. If you would like to receive The Lamp by email, please call the church office or contact Pastor Phil at pphifer@ziondecatour.com.

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

IRA decisions! — Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) is sharing with you another stewardship investment opportunity through individual retirement accounts (IRAs). Roth IRAs can provide tax-free income for you now and in retirement—and for your beneficiaries after your death. Roth IRA contributions are made after-tax and any taxable income resulting from a Roth conversion is taxed in the year of conversion.

Tax Relief for 2010 Conversions — The law provides a special tax rule for 2010 conversions. If you have a traditional IRA and want to convert it to a Roth IRA you have the option to pay the entire tax for 2010, or spread the taxation over 2011 and 2012.

If you are ready to open an IRA or rollover eligible 401(k) or 403(b) plans to LCEF, call 1-800-843-5233. IRAs invested through LCEF feature: No startup or annual maintenance fees; competitive interest rates. Now paying 3.29 APY for 5-year Fixed Rate Term Note (Nov. 2010); low required opening balances; and they are easy to begin with the LCEF Information Representatives. Don’t go another year without opening an LCEF IRA and let your retirement savings help support the ministry of the Church. Note: Before making any decisions, always speak to your financial or tax advisor. UMB Bank, n.a. serves as the custodian of the LCEF IRA program. LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. The offer is made solely by LCEF’s Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks.

QUILT WORK FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF TO BEGIN AGAIN

It’s time to start knotting quilts again for World Relief. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall beginning on Tuesday, January 11 and every Tuesday thereafter from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please plan to stop by and help with this worthy project.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

1ST KIMBERLY BOWERS
NATHAN CACIANO
DONALD CHRISTIANER
AMANDA GASE

2ND MARLENE ETZLER
RUTH KUNKEL
JOAN ROOP
LYDIA ROOP

3RD JOSHUA BROWN
MEGAN MCKEE
LYLE SHAFFER

4TH CAROL BITTNER
BRITTANY COOK
MICHAEL DRYSDALE
LINDSEY HUFFINE

5TH LORI VETTER
JOSEPH MENDEZ
CYNTHIA POWELL

6TH LORI COLLIER
RIKKI CRISWELL
MORGAN HUSS
MELISSA ZESER

7TH ZACHARY MCKEE

8TH DAVON BULTEMEIER
TAMARA HOLLOWAY

10TH DEBORAH COOK
TERESA ETZLER
STEPHEN JUENGEL

11TH MONICA HUFFINE

12TH EVAN CAFFEE
RICHARD CONRAD
RYNE NORBY
KARTER WITTWER

13TH ASHLEY GOTSCH
LESTER HARTMAN
KENNETH KETZLER
JOHN MCCLAIN

14TH VIRJEAN BOWERS
NATHAN PYATT
BRYCE ROOP
JENNIFER STARLIN

15TH KATHLEEN ANDRUS

16TH LUKAS MARBACH

17TH ANN HILL

18TH EMERSON BROWN

19TH MICAYLA QUINONES
DANIELLE SCHEUMANN
LANCE WILLIAMSON

20TH DIANNA BULTEMEIER
ALEXIS ELLSWORTH
DARREL SCHEUMANN
ANDREW STIMPSON

21ST ALICE BITTNER
SHELBY BLUHM
SUSAN CALLOW

22ND DEREK THIEME

23RD JESSICA BRAUN
STEVEN HILL
RUTH HUTKER
KATHY MONROE
BONNIE REIDENBACH
CAYDANCE RUMPING

24TH KATHERINE AUGUST
JULIE MCKEE

25TH JAMES BEERY
KROSBY BUTLER
MARYANN COWANS
MARLENE FAST
DEBORAH PORTER
BRIELLE THIEME

26TH MACKENZIE FUNK
JOHN GROSE IV

27TH CYNTHIA DELONG
RUSSELL STONESIFER

28TH MARY ANN AUGUST
LAURA BRANTLY
KRISTI JAUREGUI
DREW KONKLE

29TH JOHN HUNTER
JASON LENGERICH
ANNE NEUMAN-AFFOLDER

30TH DEREK AUGSBURGER
ADAM BUSSE
NEVEAH KELLEY
REAGAN PYATT

31ST SEAN COOK
WALTER KUKELHAN
JOANN WETZEL

ANNIVERSARIES

3RD JEREMY & JULIE-MARIE BROWN

5TH KIMBERLY & ROMAN SILVA

9TH PAUL & EILEEN MILLER

13TH DANIEL & AMANDA CREEK

16TH ROBERT & CHARMAINE HOFFMAN

19TH JOSHUA & SARAH KNAPKE

23RD HERMAN & PHYLLIS EVERETT

29TH WALTER & LORNA KUKELHAM



ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL NOTES

“BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN HIS MIGHTY POWER”—EPHESIANS 6:10

Zion Lutheran School exists to offer a Christ-centered, child-focused, quality Lutheran education to all children, empowering them to be bold disciples of Jesus.

WHERE DOES YOUR JOY COME FROM?

“Joy to the world, the Lord is come!” We hear those words from carolers, from the lips of children, and from our own voices. The word ‘joy’ is used in Christmas carols, on Christmas cards, and in worship.

What brings joy to you? Is it a gift from a family member or friend? Is it possibly reuniting with a long lost friend or a family member not seen for some time? Is it finding that special gift for spouse or child?

As Christians we know that this is not the true joy of Christmas, nor is it the focus. Even though all of the above bring a temporary enjoyment, we know the best holiday gift is our Savior born for you and me. “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

The real joy of Christmas is only found in Christ, our Lord and Savior. We emphasize this everlasting joy with family, friends, children and young adults. We keep the focus on Jesus in our church services and chapels, in our Day school and Sunday school classes, and in our prayers for each other. As Christians, we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus not just during Christmas but each and every day thereafter.

January Calendar

5	School resumes, JV Girls & Boys BB, Varsity Boys BB (home)
8	Recycling 9:00-11:30 a.m., Girls & Boys Basketball vs. LSU (home)
9	Ice Skating 3 p.m.—grades 6-12, JV Boys BB @ St. Joe Tourney
10-21	NWEA Testing
11	Zion Spelling Bee, JV Girls & Boys BB vs. Holy Cross (home)
12	JV Boys Basketball @ Woodburn
13	Varsity Girls & Boys Basketball vs. St. John-Emm. (home)
17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. School in session (make-up day)
19	JV Girls & boys basketball vs. LSU @ Bethlehem
21	JV Girls basketball @ Bethlehem — Ossian Tourney
22	JV Girls basketball @ Bethlehem — Ossian Tourney, Varsity boys LSAA Tourney
24	Varsity Girls LSAA Tourney
27	Grades 3-4 to Shrine Circus



RECYCLING DAY—Zion Students will once again be collecting newspapers, magazines and aluminum cans from 9 am until 11:30 a.m. on *Saturday, January 8* at the Zion Parking lot. Also accepted are empty printer cartridges, old cell phones and pagers, Campbell’s Soup Labels, Community Markets/Our Family UPC labels and Box Tops for Education. Proceeds from recycling go toward the Washington, DC trip in May of 2012.

SCRIP- Cari Shaffer (724-7753) or Tina Augsburger (547-4610) are the Scrip contacts. Kroger cards may be reloaded at the store and gift cards purchased there with the Kroger card.

ZION'S SERVANT SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY

Altar Guild	Lillie Bleeke, Lorraine Griffiths				
Offering Cntrs.	Starr Bell, Paul Neaderhiser, Barb Neaderhiser				
First Service – 8:00 AM					
Date	January 2	January 9	January 16	January 23	January 30
Acolyte	A.J. Bienz	Makayla Green	Benton Griffiths	Allyson Norby	Daniel Gunsett
	Jeremy Razo	Rachel Girod	Cody Crump	Alexyss Norby	Emily Gunsett
Greeters	Lonnie, Lisa, Derek & Cody Crump	Lonnie, Lisa, Derek & Cody Crump, Bev Case	Lonnie, Lisa, Derek & Cody Crump, Bev Case	Darvon & Judy Light, Lonnie, Lisa, Derek & Cody Crump	Lonnie, Lisa, Derek & Cody Crump, Bev Case
Elder	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann
Organist	Carl Risch	Carl Risch	Carl Risch	Carl Risch	Carl Risch
PA System	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann	Randall Hormann
Ushers	Mike Busse, Bob	Mike Busse, Bob	Mike Busse, Bob	Mike Busse, Bob	Mike Busse, Bob
	Busse, Terry Witte	Busse, Terry Witte	Busse, Terry Witte	Busse, Terry Witte	Busse, Terry Witte
	Dave Gunsett, C.J. Shaffer,	Dave Gunsett, C.J. Shaffer,	Dave Gunsett, C.J. Shaffer,	Dave Gunsett, C.J. Shaffer,	Dave Gunsett, C. J. Shaffer,
	Rob & Matt Voshell	Rob & Matt Voshell	Rob & Matt Voshell	Rob & Matt Voshell	Rob & Matt Voshell
	Michael Bluhm	Michael Bluhm	Michael Bluhm	Michael Bluhm	Michael Bluhm
Second Service – 10:30 AM					
Acolyte	Ben Fullenkamp	Jacob Hall	Noah Quinones	Sydnie Williams	Makayla Friedt
	Cole Bussel	Kyle Wittwer	Zach Thomas	Rebekah Phifer	Taylor Andrews
Greeters	Dave & Gloria Butcher, Stewart & Dianna Spiegel	Dave & Gloria Butcher, Stewart & Dianna Spiegel	Dave & Gloria Butcher, Stewart & Dianna Spiegel	Dave & Gloria Butcher, Stewart & Dianna Spiegel	Dave & Gloria Butcher, Stewart & Dianna Spiegel
Elder	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming
Organist	Carl Risch	Carl Risch	Carl Risch	Carl Risch	Carl Risch
PA System	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming	Greg Fleming
Ushers	Phil & Mark Juengel	Phil & Mark Juengel	Phil & Mark Juengel	Phill & Mark Juengel	Phil & Mark Juengel
	Randall Hendricks,	Randall Hendricks,	Randall Hendricks,	Randall Hendricks,	Randall Hendricks,
	Mark Braun,	Mark Braun,	Mark Braun	Mark Braun	Mark Braun
	Larry & Nick Irwin	Larry & Nick Irwin	Larry & Nick Irwin	Larry & Nick Irwin	Larry & Nick Irwin

Serve

The Lord

With Gladness!

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, SHARING CHRIST

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**A GLAD AND HAPPY NEW
YEAR (CONT.)**

REPEAT THE PROCESS

There are going to be times this coming year when it seems like everything is continuing on just as it has in years past. It is at this time that we go back to repentance, back to the word, back to worship and back to witnessing. God's mercy will still be new every morning and giving to us a fresh start as we continue to rely

upon the grace of Christ. After all is done in 12 months we come to the beginning of 2012 and we will look back on this year as being "a glad and happy year" filled with blessings of God.

VOTERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Voters' Meeting will be in February, 2010.