



News from Zion

Zion evangelical church ~ Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Zion@vistabeam.com

FEBRUARY, 2009

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 25th

Lenten Services begin at
Plymouth Congregational at 7:00 p.m.
Message by Pastor Dale Brown

COMMUNION

will be served
February 1st
following
the 10:30 service



From the pastor's desk. . .

Is Your Marriage Fireproof?

*"However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband."
Ephesians 5:33 NIV*

Is your marriage fireproof? Statistically today many marriages are definitely not, as one home after another is going up in marital flames. How timely that Sherwood Pictures should come out with a movie about a fireman who lives by the motto, "never leave your partner," at work while his marriage is collapsing in flames at home. It's a great story that for many strikes a nerve and offers some biblical and practical hope. It's been shown at the Nile and at the Midwest Theaters and on the evening of Sunday, February 15th you're invited to come watch it here at Zion at 7 pm for free. We'll provide the popcorn! Bring your spouse, bring your friends – it's a good movie!

When I saw it on a date with Bridget last fall – my desire was that our already wonderful marriage be even better and I wondered, "Are there any resources that have come out with this movie that can be used by

individuals and the church?" There are – *The Love Dare Journal*, that figures so prominently in the movie, is a real book and a dare worth taking – anyone who follows it, no matter how good or how bad their marriage currently is, will find biblically solid wisdom to improve their present relationship. I took the dare myself and both Bridget and I benefited and grew in our relationship as a result. You can find *The Love Dare* book at our own Bible Bookshop in Scottsbluff. There is also a six week follow-up class for Sunday Schools and home Bible study groups. At Zion, Dan and Linda Peterson are willing to lead just such a class during the Sunday School hour beginning February 22nd. If you are interested in being a part of the class please stop by the church welcome center or call the Church office to sign up. There will be a cost for materials but if the Bible Study is anything like the movie or *The Love Dare* book it will be well worth the investment of time and a few dollars.

Marriage and family are topics I am passionate about. I saw my own parents'

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Please Take note. . .

**Mission Prayer Partners
for February, 2009...**



**1st - Tom & Alfreda Claus/
CHIEF**

8th - Andree Trook/Africa

15th - 4C's

**22nd - Pastor Bhatti & Family/
Voice of the Martyrs/India**

ZION'S WEBSITE!



Check it out at:
www.zionscottsbluff.com

Grebel & Coffee

February 7th

from 8 - 10 a.m.



Pre-Orders welcome!

*Sign up to help with this
event at the Welcome Center.*

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marriage go down in flames when I was in high school and have seen it happen to the lives of many others since but I have also been grateful for the tremendous helps available in the Christian community in our time. So how's your marriage? I dare you to take the Love Dare yourself and I invite you to join us February 15th. Perhaps for some this will be the best Valentines gift ever!

Pastor Garry

The Ladies Guild is making preparations to send Valentine boxes to all our college students that are away at college at their February 2nd meeting . If you would like to help with this project, you will need to bring 10 items to fit into the boxes **by February 1st**.



Thank you for your help!



FARM & RANCH EXPO

February 6th & 7th - Mitchell Event Center

Zion Church has the lunch counter for those 2 days. If you would be interested in donating funds toward the supplies, please see Todd Neu. If you can help work a shift, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Anything you can do to help would be appreciated.



Attention Men: Set April 18th aside for **FREEDOM, THE CONQUEST '09,**

an event in Lincoln sponsored by Mission Nebraska. A \$25 pass includes a ticket to the Husker's Spring Game, a Conquest T-shirt, a 1-year Bible, worship led by the Katinas and challenging messages from Ron Brown and present and former Huskers. Brochures are at the Welcome Center as well as a sign up sheet.



LADIES: Reservations are due for the 4C's Annual Fellowship Dinner at the Gering Civic Center. Please sign up and select an entrée choice. Cost is \$15.25 and is payable to Zion Women's Guild. Please give your money to Donna Reifschneider. **Reservations due by 2/15.** There will be no late reservations accepted – so don't get left out - sign up soon!

KCMI Listener
Appreciation Banquet
February 5th - 6:30 pm
The banquet will be at the Gering Civic Center, with doors opening at 6:00 p.m. with music by *Acacia*. The Banquet is **free** but you need a ticket. Tickets are available in the church office. See Barb or call the church office if you are interested in attending.

PRE-ORDER BAKE SALE

The Guild will be doing a PRE-ORDER Bake Sale, making noodles, butterballs and Angel Food cakes. You will need to sign up at the Welcome Center **by Thursday, February 12th as no orders will not be taken after that date.** Noodles and butterballs will be \$3.50 and Angel Food cakes will be \$7.00. Any and all are encouraged to help and participate.

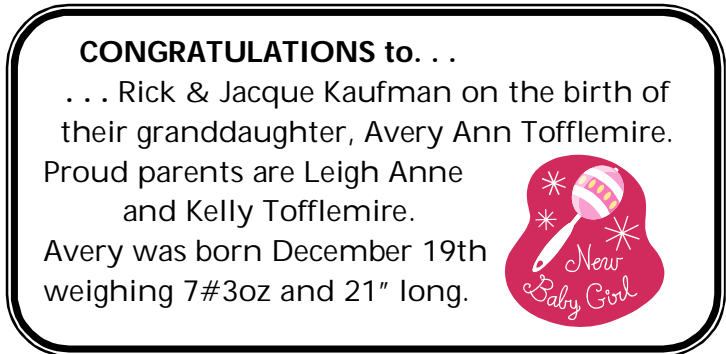
Supplies needed : eggs, flour, powdered sugar and butter. Please sign up at the Welcome Center by February 15th if you can help with any of these supplies.

WORK DAYS: Noodles - February 19th at 5:00 p.m.
Butterballs - February 26th at 5:00 p.m.
Angel Food Cakes - April 2nd

PICK UP DAY: Saturday, April 4th from 8a.m - Noon

CONGRATULATIONS to. . .

. . . Rick & Jacque Kaufman on the birth of their granddaughter, Avery Ann Tofflemire. Proud parents are Leigh Anne and Kelly Tofflemire. Avery was born December 19th weighing 7#3oz and 21" long.



General Fund for December 31, 2008

INCOME:

Special Income	282.00
Other Income	5,480.33
<u>Sunday Offering</u>	<u>16,660.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$22,422.33

EXPENSES:

Bldg. & Grounds	2,222.26
Ministry	842.15
Mission Fund	90.00
Office	375.49
Special Expense	800.00
Staff Benefits	9,970.85
Staff Salary	6,032.76
<u>Utilities</u>	<u>1,424.38</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$21,757.89

TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE \$ 664.44



We are continuing to take your COOP receipts to reach our goal of \$100,000.00.

**Our receipt total is: \$91,387.26
Keep them coming!**



CRAFT NIGHT -

Please join us for Craft Night on Monday, Feb. 16 at 6:30. Bring your knitting, quilting, scrap book or any UFO and enjoy the fellowship. Questions--Claudette Schmidt, 635-1149.

JEREMIAH HOUSE:

This was to first meal we served after the Christmas break. Cindy and Armond, and Helen Meier handled the meal as I was ill. Thanks to them for taking over with short notice. Brian Hale is in charge

Jeremiah House. I will be ordering new tables for the kitchen area from Mission money, my co-workers donations and a Kiwanis Group. Brian will be accepting their contributions at their meeting, January 26th.

Serving with joy,
Terry Martin



LADIES GUILD:

Wanda Henkel opened the meeting. Two hymn's were sung. Prayer requests were taken and prayer was given by Peg Ross. The secretary and treasurer's report were given. We have a balance of \$1525.91 in our account. Correspondence received was passed around for the group to read. Peg Ross named the individuals that received birthday, anniversary and sympathy cards from the Guild.

In old business, the Moravian Love Feast was discussed. Peg made a motion to do it again next year, Kathy seconded it. Motion carried. 33 Christmas plates of goodies were made and distributed on the same day.

New Business- a sign-up sheet was passed to those that are going to the 4C's supper in Feb. The price is \$15.25. The repairman came and checked the dishwasher water heater in the kitchen. The charge was \$71 for repairs. It was noted that the circuit breakers need to be regularly checked to make sure they are on in the kitchen.

At the next meeting in February we will be doing the Valentine Boxes for our students in college. We will need 10-11. Donna Reifschneider and Barb Steffensen are in charge of the meeting.

Sharon Lemley will head up the funeral dinner calls. Barb Steffensen will be her back up. It's spring kitchen cleanup time and our goal is have it done by Palm Sunday. MOPS will be doing cabbage burgers this spring.

It was decided to do noodles and butterballs by pre-orders this spring. Sharon Lemley made a motion and Helen Maier seconded it. We will make noodles Feb 19th; Feb 26th will be butterballs and April 2nd will be angle food cakes for Easter. Cut off for ordering items will be Feb 12. Price for noodles and butterballs will be \$3.50 each. Cakes will be \$7.00.

A video on Solomon's Temple was our devotion for the evening and the officers were hostesses.

Teri Erdman, Secretary

~ **AWANA NEWS** ~

There has already been a lot of things happening here at Zion's AWANA club since the first of the year. Beginning with . . . The **Staff Christmas Party** on the 3rd. We had some wonderful Mexican food to begin our party complimented by several flavors of cheesecake from which to choose. This is the first year that I can think of that we've had a couple of Mexican soups. Pretty tasty! We also had our annual White Elephant Gift Exchange. For those of you that do not know what this is, it is when each person that wants to participate brings a gift - usually a "gag" type gift but there have been some fairly nice gifts come through also. Each person draws a number from the basket to determine the order in which they will get to choose a gift. When it is your turn, you have the option of stealing a gift from someone that's already opened one (except - obviously if you are the first one to go) or picking an unopened gift. Normally, there is a limit put on how many times a gift can be "stolen" but this year I was "sweet-talked" into not having a limit by a certain young lady that will be leaving for Africa soon. So, needless to say, the two most popular items that were constantly "flying around the room" were a couple of those rare nice gifts - 2 Hickory Farms gift sets. It got "ugly"☺ there for awhile! It has become an annual tradition to have Tom & Sandi Hofmann join us for the evening as they are here in the Panhandle area to begin the Coaches meetings for the AWANA Games competition. We are happy that they are able to come be a part of our craziness!!!

The following evening, January 4th was **Fun Fair** for the clubbers. A BIG THANK YOU as always to our AWANA friends from Bayard, Randy & LaRee Gompert, who are so gracious to deliver and set up their "carnival-type" games for our use. Thank you, Staff, for helping with the set up and take down and for working in the kitchen. The best thing of all that happened during Fun Fair is that we had one of the T&T girls put her trust in Jesus!!! That is SO AWESOME!!!

T&T Girls Slumber Party - Thank you to Andrea Trook, the Director of the T&T Girls and her leaders for planning a very fun and enjoyable Friday evening on January 9th into Saturday morning the 10th for the T&T girl clubbers. I was recruited for the evening and helped drive the girls to the YMCA to climb the climbing wall. The girls were all given at least three

chances to climb up the wall. Some were a little more cautious than others but they all did a great job and were in good hands. One of the young men that "anchored" (I don't know if that's the correct terminology for wall climbing.) the girls as they were climbing the wall was a former clubber from about ten years ago. I was challenged to try the climbing wall and of course my competitive nature "reared its head". For my first time on the wall, I was put on what I think was the hardest part of the wall and only got halfway up before I had a "panic attack". So later on I tried an easier route to the top and am happy to report that I made it!!! WOO HOO!!! When we got back to the church we played a couple more games - one tested whether the girls would be able to be on the reality TV show, "Survivor", someday by eating some weird foods . . . or should I say trying to gag them down! (Baby food dinners - I can't believe I fed my own 3 children those nasty smelling baby foods!) There was hominy and red beets - more nastiness! There were a few good things for the girls lucky enough to pick the bag they were in - peanut butter and crackers, marshmallows, cottage cheese with raspberries and pancake syrup.) The girls were real troopers and did a lot better than I expected. (Andrea said that she wanted to play this game because it was one that they played at Youth Group here at Zion in her Jr. High years.) The other game they played began by each of us telling Andrea something about our self that no one else would know. She wrote the info for each girl and leader/adult on an index card and then the cards were mixed up and distributed. We sat in a circle and each read what was on our card and then had to try and guess who the person was. We found out some very interesting things about some of the people playing. Who of the leaders in T&T girls do you think has a black belt in Karate??? How about the leader that has killed chickens with her bare hands??? There were also a couple of girls that could be on "Survivor" now as we found out they have eaten creepy crawly things. We ended the evening by falling asleep to the "Enchanted" movie. (Yes, we actually did get some sleep!)

While we are on the T&T Girls subject, I would like to thank Margaret Hancock for agreeing to step back in as T&T Girls Director to finish out this club year! I appreciate it very much! Remember to keep Andrea Trook in your prayers as she leaves for Africa on February 8th.

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Congratulations to our **January Clubbers of the Month** - Sparks: Paige Schneider, Jarrod Beamon & Quinton Janecek; T&T: Anna Schick & Jacob Pieper and Trek - Chad Nagasawa. Great Job, Clubbers! Keep up the hard work!

Looking ahead to February, we have Sports Day on the 1st which is also Super Bowl Sunday. Bible Quiz is on the 7th for the T&T clubbers. And, we will be inviting in the clubber's grandparents at the end of the month on the 22nd. I will be sure to let you know how these events went next month.

Also, as we think about February and the holiday that we celebrate, let us always be reminded of the One that demonstrated the greatest love of all by sending His Son, Jesus, into this world to die for our sins. Thank you, Jesus, for the love you extended to us in your obedience to your Father's Will!!!

I know that I get to sounding like a broken record but I cannot thank the Zion church family enough for their encouragement, prayers and financial support for our AWANA program. Thank you for showing your love in this way! May God bless all of you richly!!!

Don't Forget . . . GOD IS IN CONTROL!!!

Cheryl Rose, AWANA Commander



MISSIONS:

At the present time, Andrea Trook is getting ready to take off for Africa in early February. What a brave young lady to go to the unknown to spread the word of our Lord to many. Andrea has received good support from our Church family. Andrea is very appreciative to all. Please keep Andrea in your thoughts and prayers as she works with children in Africa. May the children receive special blessings but also Andrea for her devotion to her mission.

Praying for Andrea's safe travel,
Terry Martin



MOPS Update

After a break for Christmas, the MOPS group starts up with the first meeting of the semester on January 27th. We have a fun night planned with a video segment by Elisa Morgan who will be speaking about "The Relationship Adventure". After learning more about relationships we will spend time in small group discussion sharing what we learned from the video. Our craft for the night will be "Scratch and Sniff" Valentine's. It should be a fun night and we look forward to seeing our moms after the long Christmas break.

During the spring semester we will have a "Parent's Night Out" where we plan to watch a Christian comedian and have a dessert bar. We have some great speakers lined up for the spring including Elsie Gregory who will be sharing about living in a "House of Mirrors" and Jilly Bean will come and share the gospel message with our moms. Jilly Bean has visited our Awana groups previously and hearing her message is truly a blessing.

As we continue on our "Adventures in Mothering" I look forward to what God has in store. We pray that God blesses our group and that we are able to reach out to the moms that He wants us to reach. Even though our numbers are sometimes small, we pray that God uses our time together to bless each and every mom at our meeting that night.

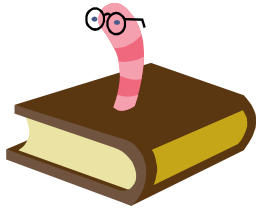
Jenn Jackson, Coordinator
308-436-2554
jeffnjenn@im4god.org

Sunday School:

We hope everyone had a happy New Year. We have been so excited to see our Sunday School rooms filled with kids. What a great New Years resolution to bring your kids to hear the word of God. We will be getting you dates for our Easter season and by next newsletter we will have a Bible School date for you to mark your calendars. Please feel free to visit your child's Sunday School class anytime.

God Bless
Sharon, Robin, Amy



BOOK RECOMMENDATION FOR February. . .

. . . is a book we have recommended before. . .

The Love Dare by Stephen Kendrick and Alex Kendrick.

Too many marriages end when someone says "I don't love you anymore." The Love Dare discusses how such a statement reveals a lack of understanding about the fundamental nature of true love. This 40-day guided devotional experience will lead your heart back to truly loving your spouse while learning more about the design, nature and source of true love. Each reading includes Scripture, a statement of principle, the day's "dare," and a journaling area and check box to chart progress. Dare to take The Love Dare, and see your marriage change forever.

Note: See Pastor Garry's article this month for more information concerning this resource.

Dates for sponsoring the 2009 KCMJ broadcasts are available. Cost is \$75. Call the church office at 632-8125 to reserve your month. Months that are still available are March, April, May, October and November.

YOUTH -

I always call the last few weeks of the year "Christmas break" because students are out of school and we do not run our regular weekly activities at the church. However, with how busy that time of year can be, I am not sure calling it a break is quite appropriate. During Christmas break, I was able to spend some time with family members who were in town. For several of them it was the first chance they had to meet Josie, so it was a really special time at our home. I began the new year serving at winter camp at Camp Rock as a dorm leader. It was the best attended winter camp they have had it quite some time, and the main speaker did an excellent job of challenging the students to take their relationship with God seriously. The last part of my "Christmas break" was a new experience for me. I was called on Saturday night to be warned that I would likely need to lead the services the next morning because Pastor Garry was feeling ill. I

learned again that doing ministry means being prepared for anything and that God always gives you the grace to handle whatever work he calls you to do.

Now that the students are back in school, we are back to our regular weekly activities. As I said last month, we don't intend to make too many changes to what we are doing each week. One exception is that we lost our song leader for our junior high outreach on Monday nights. This is requiring just minor adjustments to our nightly schedule. Another thing that's new this month is that our senior high Bible study group has finally finished 1 Peter and is beginning to make our way through 2 Peter. Also in February, we will be taking a group of junior high students skiing at the end of the month. Please pray for a safe and fun trip for these students and pray for our students to continue to grow in their faith as they attend our weekly activities.

Andy

**WOULD YOU HELP OUR PASTORS?**

If for some unfortunate reason you are admitted to the hospital, please:

#1) Have someone call the church office at 632-8125 and let us know.

#2) Be sure to tell them at the hospital that your **church affiliation** is Zion Evangelical Church. (Your name is *supposed* to go on a list for the Pastors to see but many times that does not happen.)


Please understand that the hospital will not call the church or notify us of your hospitalization so many times our only way of knowing you're in the hospital is if we are notified by you or family. Our sincerest desire is to be there for you.

Thanks for your help with this!

February, 2009

Zion Evangelical Church Calendar



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team II/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise/Council Installation 11:00 KCMJ Broadcast 11:30 Communion/Chapel 2:00 AWANA Clubs/Sport's Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Village 6:30 Camp Rock Skating 7:00 Jr. High Youth 7:00 Ladies Guild</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 7:00 Church Council Mtg.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Brothers' Bible Study 7:30 Choir Practice 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>5</p> <p>KCMJ Appreciation Banquet 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>←KNEB Farm & Ranch Expo →</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Awana Bible Quiz GREBEL & COFFEE 8-10A.M.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team III/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise 3:30 AWANA 4:45 Vespers/Residency</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Village 7:00 Jr. High Youth</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Brothers' Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Happy Valentines Day</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team IV/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise/ 2:00 Vespers/ Beverly 3:30 Awana Clubs 4:45 Vespers/Residency 7:00 Movie: Fireproof</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Village 6:30 Craft Night 7:00 Jr. High Youth</p> <p> PRESIDENT'S DAY</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 5:00 Jeremiah House 5:00 Pack Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00 Brothers' Bible Study 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Noodle Making 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team V/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise 3:30 Awana Clubs/Grandparent's Day</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Village 6:00 4C's Ladies Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Jr. High Youth</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 6:30 MOPS @ Night</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study Lenten Service 7:00 Plymouth Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Butterball Making 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Junior High Ski Trip</p>

