

# News from Zion

zion evangelical church - scottsbluff, nebraska

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## ASH WEDNESDAY

February 17th ~ 7:00 p.m.

Combined 4C's Lenten Services begin at  
Plymouth with Pastor Andy speaking!  
See full Lenten Service Schedule on page 2

February, 2010

## Communion February 7th

Communion will be  
served after the  
10:30 service  
in the chapel



## From the pastor's desk...

### A Solid Investment

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."*

Luke 6:38 NIV



In these days of economic uncertainty we want to invest wisely for the best possible return, don't we? Well, let me challenge you with this thought – when we give to causes honoring to the Lord – we are investing very wisely indeed. I was very proud of our Church family for their generous offerings at the end of January to the people of Haiti – truly you were investing in life as you did so and in eternal life as the monies we sent will be used both to feed, clothe, heal, and bring the Gospel of Christ to those in desperate need. I was also very pleased and a little overwhelmed by the fruitfulness of our Birthday Gift to Jesus last December and am just now getting a chance to report to you what the Lord, through your generosity, may be about to accomplish. In December, we gave to the Gideon's a gift for the placement of Bibles. Every penny given will be used for exactly that purpose as all administrative and overhead costs of the Gideon's are covered by the Gideon members themselves. I felt good about that but I felt great when I read the Thank You note they sent us in January.

It reads:

**"The \$892 – you so liberally gave will provide 178 Bibles. Each Bible has the potential of reaching 2300 people in 6-7 years before being replaced. Thank you so much for your support of the Gideon ministry.**

**Scottsbluff Gideon Camp  
Alvin Asa, President"**

I did a little math to see just how many lives we may be about to touch. If each of the 178 Bibles we have placed does indeed touch 2300 people in hotels and hospitals and the various other places, then we will have impacted a total of 409,400 people for Christ in the next 6-7 years – all through one offering of only \$892. That's a pretty good return for your money, if you ask me! And it doesn't end there either. Dewey Brothers tells me that Gideon Bibles, when retrieved from hotels and hospitals, are not merely discarded – they are given to prison inmates and continue to touch innumerable lives bearing eternal fruit!

1 Corinthians 10:26 tells us, "for, 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.'" What a privilege that God would so use us when we share back to him what is already his in reaching so many with the Gospel of Christ!

Pastor Garry

## Please Take note...

Mission Prayer Partners  
for February, 2010...



7th - Tom & Sandi Hofmann/  
AWANA

14th - Jeremiah House  
21st - KCMR Radio

28th - Rick & Fairy Hattan/  
AWANA

GREBEL & COFFEE  
February 6th -  
7:30 -10:30 a.m.  
Pre-orders and help  
are welcome!



KCMR  
Appreciation  
Banquet  
February 25th



### FARM & RANCH EXPO

February 5th from 9-6  
February 6th from 9-4  
Mitchell Event Center  
Zion will serving the lunch counter.

We could use help with any donations of money  
or your time to work a shift.  
See Todd Neu, Jeff Reifschneider or  
Mark Buchhammer with questions.  
Sign up at the Welcome Center.

### 4C's Ladies Brunch

February 6th at the Gering Civic Center  
Gathering at 9:00 a.m.

Brunch begins at 9:30 a.m.

Cost: \$8 includes 2 kinds of quiche,  
fruit and coffee

Sign up by Sunday, 1/31 or call the  
church office by Monday 2/1.

### FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

*A Service of Musical Worship*



February 14th



If you have a musical talent (i.e. singing,  
duet, playing an instrument, etc.) that you  
would like to share with our Congregation,  
give the church a call - we'd love to add  
you to the schedule.

### LENTEN SERVICES - 2010

**Ash Wednesday, February 17, 7:00 p.m.**

at Plymouth with Pastor Andy  
Topic: Reversal of Sin (Romans 8)

**Sunday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.**

at The Federated Church with Pastor  
Garry  
Topic: Barriers Broken (Ephesians 2)

**Sunday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.**

at Emmanuel with Pastor Richardson  
Topic: Hope

**Sunday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.**

at Salem with Pastor Adams  
Topic: Salvation

**Sunday, March 14, 7:00 p.m.**

at Zion with Pastor Meter  
Topic: The Law Fulfilled

**Sunday, March 21, 7:00 p.m.**

at Emmanuel with Pastor Brown  
Topic: Victory



***Sympathies are extended to . . .***

*. . . Verna Schaffer on the passing of her bother, Willard Wamboldt of Torrington.*

*. . . the family and friends of Mary Huber.*

*. . . to Louise & Elmer Kniss and family and Betty Kraus and family on the passing of Lydia Simmons.*

***Congratulations to . . .***

*. . . Dewey & Betty Brothers on the birth of great-grandson, Cooper Gray, born 12/29/09 and weighing 8# 8 oz of San Diego, CA.*

**Valley Mobile Food Pantry**



February 26th at 1:00 p.m.

at the old Sun-Mart in Gering

**NEEDED:** canned goods, mac & cheese and any other dry goods



**BOOK RECOMMENDATION for February . . .**

**The Magnificent Obsession:  
Embracing the God-Filled Life**

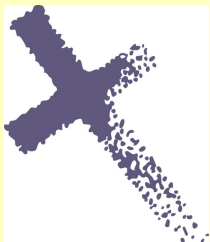


**By: Anne Graham Lotz**

Are you seeking your life's purpose? What's most important to you? Family, career, talent, possessions? Early on, Anne Graham Lotz, daughter of Billy Graham and president of AnGeL Ministries, decided that her life's purpose was to know God. In *The Magnificent Obsession* she shares from her journey and draws inspiration from the life of Abraham. He was the father of nations, and credited as a "friend of God", yet struggled as we all do. In the same way Anne Graham Lotz has sought to follow God despite her shortcomings. Join her on this faith-filled journey and embrace the God-filled life!

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**Zion Church** is invited to the Eagle Scout "Court of Honor" for Jake Douglas on February 27 from 2-4 p.m. here at Zion.  
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**Thinking of Lent**



Advent prepares us for Christ's birth; Lent prepares us for the glorious act of Christ's resurrection. Churches have special services during the weeks of Lent, but it's what each of us does regarding our spiritual life that makes Lent most meaningful.

Lent is a good time to read, study and inwardly digest the four gospels. (The word gospel means "good news.")

A college student decided to work his way through Matthew, Mark, Luke and John for his Lenten devotional time. Soon he was fascinated by the stories, such as the Pharisees and Sadducees trying to trap Jesus in debate. The brilliant Jesus handled every occasion with wisdom, leaving the authorities dumbfounded.

During his devotional time, the student was filled with laughter and amazement at the brilliant son of God, who was only in his 30s. Get to know the good news, and you'll understand the young man's amazement.



**PRESIDENTS' DAY**



Did you know you can now listen to Pastor's sermon from your computer?

Go to our website:

[www.zionscottsbluff.com](http://www.zionscottsbluff.com)

and click on News and Events.

Find the date of the message you'd like to listen to and click on that date. Be patient and it should load

## ~ AWANA NEWS ~

The AWANA Staff and I hit the ground running on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January. We were smaller in numbers - I'm sure because it was still the New Year's holiday weekend - but we had a great time at our **Staff Christmas Party** just the same, enjoying Mexican food, cheesecake and a White Elephant gift exchange. The White Elephant gift exchange is always good for lots of laughs. For several years Tom & Sandi Hofmann have been our guests and they have "jumped right in" with some great contributions. It is always fun to see the reappearance of some of our favorite gifts!

The following day, we went right into **Fun Fair**. A big thank you to Randy & LaRee Gompert for once again providing us with the games. Thank you, also, to those that provided candy for this event. In addition to playing the games, the clubbers were also provided a small snack of corn dogs, chips and soda. This is a great way to kick off the New Year after the Christmas break.

The T&T clubbers - as of this writing - have had two practices in preparation for their upcoming **Bible Quiz** competition on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February at Monument Bible Church. Please pray for our clubbers - that the "butterflies" will be calmed as they compete and that they will be able to think clearly to recall what they have memorized. More importantly than winning a ribbon/medallion, is that the kids have already won by hiding God's Word in their hearts! I know that there are several activities going on that day but it would be wonderful to have people from Zion come and support our clubbers. I guarantee that you will be blessed!!!

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have our annual **Sports Day** meeting a little earlier in the day (from 2:00-4:00) due to the Super Bowl later on in the day. I am lining up a couple of high school Christian athletes to interview for the Council Time portion of our club meeting and the clubbers and staff wear their favorite sports team apparel in place of their uniforms.

This year Valentine's Day falls on a Sunday and I'd like to do something special for our clubbers . . . "stay tuned"!

The last Sunday in February, we will be inviting our grandparents (or adopted grandparents) to come to club with us to show them what we do for two hours each Sunday afternoon. If you have grandchildren in AWANA, please be looking for an invitation from your grandchild (ren) to join us for **Grandparent's Day** on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

## ~ Commander Commentary ~

**Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this. Psalm 37:4-5 (NIV)** Several years ago, AWANA started a program called "Commander College". It is a 2 ½ day course for com-

manders of AWANA programs to attend to improve themselves as commanders and in turn, improve their club, leadership, etc. through special speakers, "pow-wow" sessions with fellow commanders, etc. When it first began, it was just at AWANA headquarters in Chicago but has since expanded to other locations in order to provide opportunities for more people to go. My heart's desire was to attend a Commander College but I was having a hard time justifying the expense of not only the \$200 plus tuition but the gas, food and lodging expense to get to Illinois and back. WELL, this past summer we were told that Sidney, NE was going to be hosting a Commander College on January 21, 22 & 23, 2010!!! So, of course, the desire to go re-surfaced in me but I was still hesitant to ask my husband to allow me to go and spend around \$400.00 on tuition, gas, food and lodging expense. WELL, a few weeks before Christmas I received a phone call from Tom Hofmann and he told me that a gentleman that attended a Commander College was so blessed by it that he wanted to pay for anyone that wanted to attend at the Sidney location!!! WOO HOO!!! Tom asked if I would be able to go . . . well, DUH!!! Just kidding! I told him that I would just need to get the day off from work. WELL, in the meantime, along comes our Staff Christmas party and at the end of the evening, Martha Stricker makes the announcement that the staff was taking up a collection to help me with my expenses to attend Commander College. At our prayer time before club started a couple of weeks later, she presented me with a check for \$150.00!!! (Have I told those of you reading this that I have an amazing staff???) HOLD ON . . . I still have one more "well". WELL, when I went into the computer system for work to request Friday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> off as a personal day AND later realized that I didn't have to work that day as it is a Teacher Work Day! So I didn't even have to use a personal day to go!!! NOW, WHO but the **GREAT GOD** that we serve - **WHO IS IN CONTROL OF ALL THINGS** - could orchestrate all of these "WELL'S"??? ☺ God is SO GOOD and SO AWESOME!!! As of this writing, I will be leaving tomorrow (Thursday) after school and returning on Saturday evening. So I will have gone and returned by the time you read this. I am SO EXCITED and am looking forward to what I will learn to improve the Zion AWANA Club!

I pray that our Great God that is in control of all things will grant you the desires of your heart in 2010!!!

Cheryl Rose, Commander☺

**CIRCLE OF PRAISE**

February 20, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Sign up at the Welcome Center  
for what to bring.

**LADIES GUILD:**

The Guild met January 4th with fourteen ladies present. The Installation of Officers took place with Bridget presiding. The Officers are as follows: President - Wanda Henkel; vice-President - Peg Ross; Secretary - Helen Maier; and Treasurer - Jane Schlager.

Valentine boxes will be made for the college students and service personnel at the next meeting on February 1st. The ladies were asked to bring 13 of the same item for the boxes.

The 4C's Ladies Fellowship Brunch will be held February 6th at the Civic Center in Gering. The ladies can begin gathering at 9:00 a.m. and brunch will be served at 9:30. The cost will be \$8 which includes 2 kinds of quiche, fruit and coffee. Be sure to sign up by 1/31.

Secretary,  
Helen Maier

**MOPS at Night:**

MOPS @ night has had some great meetings and growing relationships with each other and God. This month we will be working on a service project. The hospital now has children taking chemo here in Scottsbluff, but has nothing for them to do during the hours of chemotherapy. Our MOPS moms are gathering activity books, colors, puzzles, games and other toys for 3 activity boxes to keep in the ward. Our moms are very excited to find a new way to serve these families.

We are also having our MOPS & POPS night on February 23rd. It will be a fun night for the moms and dads to get together and have some fun. We will be playing games and of course some good eats! If you are mom, from pregnancy through Kindergarten kids, PLEASE join us. We would love to have you!

Andi Hale

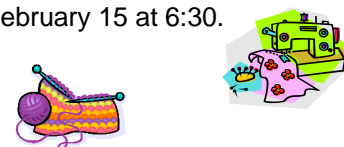
**As part of an internship, our MOPPET Intern from Summit had to write and update at the end of the semester for our newsletter. Her update follows:**

The 2009/2010 MOPPETS started off back in September and we haven't looked back yet. With an average of 15 to 17 kids a night things can get a little crazy in the back rooms. But we have had fun anyways. This year, we have ten junior high to high school students helping out. Without their help things would not go as smoothly as they have; so just a quick thank you to those kids willing to help out. We have four classes that we work with. The kids have been great. There are never any problems when it comes to playing games or keeping things going with a lesson. Since the theme this year is Planet Mom, we have come up with little ideas to help mom out at home. It's been a lot of fun to see our volunteers work with the kids. Some of our volunteers have had the opportunity to teach a night or two. I hope that they are having as much fun as I am. These preschoolers are a special bunch of kids and I have enjoyed working with them and learning from them.

Kelsey Gudahl - MOPPETS Intern

**CRAFT NIGHT**

Come join us for Craft Night February 15 at 6:30. Bring a project of your choice.



**Jeremiah House**

After serving last Tuesday, we found that there are less kids than before. We served around 50 people. We also found that donations of food are down. We depend on food donations to serve this ministry. Everyone is being asked to give to many things for Zion activities. We are always in need of hamburger and meat. If anyone has extra hamburger in their freezer, we could use one or two pounds. If anyone would like to pick up a gallon can of fruit or vegetables, it would be welcomed. Any little bit will help. We are grateful for the help in the past. We have very kind and generous people at Zion.

Serving for the Lord,  
Terry Martin

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**Missions -**

In the past month we have all seen what missions can do in a disaster. Many, many missionaries left for Haiti immediately. There was an outpouring of supplies, money and spiritual gifts from all walks of life. It truly is a reminder to be thankful for what we have. Zion took up a collection and received about \$1500.00. More is coming in and is welcomed. **(Editor's note - Since this was written we have received in excess of \$2900.)** It was sent to World Relief. All of us have the victims in Haiti in our prayers. Be in thanksgiving for our families being safe and together. We are not exempt from disaster; we can pray for our well being in the years to come. Keep our missionaries safe so they are able to help these people in need.

With a grateful heart,  
Terry Martin



**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** We hope your New Year has gotten off to a good start. We are already looking towards our spring and summer activities. Easter is fairly early this year on the 4th of April. The Easter Egg Hunt will April 3rd. We are hoping to have Vacation Bible School June 15-19. We will confirm this in the next newsletter. We appreciate your help and will let you know as we go what some our needs might be. We appreciate the parents and our church family and all they do to help our Sunday School.

Love in Christ,  
Sharon, Robin & Amy

P.S. If anyone wants a copy of the Sunday School Christmas program on DVD, please see Steve Schlager.

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**YOUTH:** I continue to be really pleased with how things are going this school year with both our junior and senior high ministries. We have made very few changes from first semester to second semester. One small change I made has to do with the subject matter for our junior high lessons during our Thursday night outreach. During Christmas break, I spent some time thinking about the students who come every Thursday night and realized there were some basic lessons about God they needed to consider before some of the things we were discussing would make sense. So far this semester, I've been happy with how well the students have responded to these lessons. The first night back, I only got through about a third of the lesson because the students had so many questions they wanted answered. Not only have the lessons gone well so far, but we have also has an increase in the number of students on Thursday nights in January.

We have also had a bigger group joining us for our senior high prayer and fellowship meeting on Sunday nights. The last time we met we had students who had to eat their meal standing in the kitchen because there was not enough room at our large dining room table. We did change one thing on Sunday nights this semester. Each week one of the students now is volunteering to share one Scripture that is important to them. It's been good for our group to give the students the responsibility to get the discussion started each week. I absolutely love the interaction between the students on Sunday nights both during our meeting and after the meeting while we spend time together informally. I continue to be overwhelmed at what a privilege it is to serve as the youth pastor at Zion.

Thank you for all of your continued prayers and support!

Andy

### HAVE A HEART

Valentines of every size and description adorn store windows and other places of business this time of year. The holiday has become a time for love to be enthroned as a virtue, with the heart symbolizing the romance of our lives.



But the heart symbolizes not only love, but life itself! Without a heart, our bodies cannot survive.

Consider God's words to Samuel: "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for

the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NRSV).

The heart — that inner countenance — shows what we really are. Samuel was to seek one of the sons of Jesse to be the new king. David, even though he was the weakest physical specimen, was the one selected. His heart was great.

Love looks deeper than outward appearances, and we can thank God for that. Don't be swayed by mere valentines — have a heart!



**We are still recycling printer cartridges and cell phones - just bring them to the church office...and we will do the rest!**



Our COOP receipts total so far is \$42,651.21! We are well on our way toward our next goal of \$100,000 in receipts. Thank you for your help!



### General Fund for December, 2009

#### INCOME:

Other Income	4,084.94
Uncat. Income	6.80
Sunday Offering	14,121.50
<u>Fund Raising</u>	<u>1,040.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 19,253.034</b>

#### EXPENSES:

Bldg. & Grounds	982.67
Fund Raising	203.25
Ministry	1,357.13
Office	474.71
Special Expense	413.00
Staff Benefits	7,814.13
Staff Salary	5,023.52
Tax	936.16
Uncat. Expense	20.00
<u>Utilities</u>	<u>796.40</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 18,020.97</b>

**TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE \$ 1,232.37**

#### 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; therefore our only way of knowing you're in the hospital is if we are notified by you or your family.

***Our sincerest desire is to be there for you during your hospitalization.***

Thanks for your help with this!

**Zion Evangelical Church Calendar**

**February, 2010**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <b>FEBRUARY</b> 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team W/Office 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise 11:00 KCM1 Broadcast 11:30 Communion 2:00 AWANA Clubs/Sports Day	10:00 Bible Study/Village  7:00 Ladies Guild	10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life  12:00 Men's Bible Study  6:00 MOPS at Night	9:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Biblical Hebrew 6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Brother's Bible Study 7:30 Choir Practice 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team	7:00 Junior High Youth 7:00 FPU	5  ← FARM AND RANCH EXPO →	6 Grebel & coffee 8 A.M.  9:00 Awana Bible Quiz 9:00 4C's Ladies Brunch
7  8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team W/Office 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise 2:00 T&T Games Practice 3:30 AWANA 4:45 Vespers/Residency	10:00 Bible Study/Village  6:30 Craft Night  	10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 12:00 Men's Bible Study 5:00 Jeremiah House	12:00 Biblical Hebrew 6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Brother's Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team	7:00 Junior High Youth	19  Circle of Praise 6:00 p.m.	20  Circle of Praise 6:00 p.m.
8:30 Worship & Praise 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team W/Office 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise 2:00 T&T Games Practice 3:30 Awana Clubs 4:45 Vespers/Residency	10:00 Bible Study/Village	10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 12:00 Men's Bible Study 6:00 MOPS at Night	12:00 Biblical Hebrew 6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Brother's Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team	7:00 Junior High Youth	26 Valley Mobile Food Pantry 1:00 p.m. Old Sun Mart - Gering	27 Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jake Douglas 2-4 p.m.
8:30 Worship & Praise 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team W/Office 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship & Praise 2:00 Sparks/T&T Games Practice 3:00 Awana Clubs/Grandparent's Night 7:00 Lenten Service/Emmanuel/ Richardson	10:00 Bible Study/Village	10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 12:00 Men's Bible Study	12:00 Biblical Hebrew 6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Brother's Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team	7:00 Junior High Youth	5	6 AWANA GAMES 1:00 P.M.