



News from Zion

Zion evangelical church · Scottsbluff, Nebraska

July, 2010

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www.zionscottsbluff.com

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS:



- 1) Ken & Donna Reifschneider
3310 Verbena Dr. ~ 6:00 p.m.
Sign up at the Welcome Center
- 2) Dan and Linda Petersons
1201 Primrose Dr. ~ 7:00 p.m.
Bring a dessert.

Communion ~

July 4th

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



From the pastor's desk...



Questions about Heaven

As we wrapped up our recent series at church on heaven, I spent a little time at the end of each service taking questions about heaven. Here are a few that came to me either during or after the services that I thought the larger congregation might enjoy hearing:

Q.: Will we walk or fly in heaven?

A.: I believe we may do both! When we think about the resurrection body which we will receive when Christ comes, a key verse is 1 John 3:2:

"Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."

Like him – as Christ became in his resurrection - so will we become. We know that Christ's resurrection body was physical – in fact, it was his dead body raised to life again – but better. Jesus walked and ate and drank, talked and was seen, heard and touched – so he was no ghost. Yet, he was not limited physically in the ways we are. He could appear in one place, then disappear and show up somewhere else. He was taken up physically when he left this earth into the air and we are told in 1

Thessalonians 4:17 that when he returns we will be caught up to meet him in the air! I don't know if flying will be a regular habit but I do know there will come at least one day when the Bridegroom of the Church will literally sweep us off our feet and who knows – it could just become a favorite way of getting around!

Q.: Will we wear clothes?

A.: Good question. We expect paradise will be restored (Revelation 2:7) and we all know Adam and Eve didn't wear a thing in the original Garden of Eden. I believe we will wear clothes because throughout the book of Revelation we see that the glorified people of God will wear white robes (Revelation 7:9, 13, 15, & 22:14). Certainly these robes have a symbolic function – the righteous deeds of the saints and the cleansing of the blood of the Lamb) but they seem to serve a literal function as well. Jesus was certainly clothed when he appeared in his resurrection body and clothing is something we are told we will long for spiritually as we wait our resurrection bodies (2 Corinthians 5:2-4). Yet even those awaiting resurrection bodies are spoken of as clothed in Revelation 7:9. Robes, of course, were the only kind of clothing used in John's day so whatever people were wearing in glory he described as robes. I would not be surprised, however, if a great variety of fashions and even

(Continued on page 2)

Please Take note...

Mission Prayer Partners for July, 2010

4th - Jon & Michelle Feister/
Camp Rock

11th - Don & Nataline Osman/
LEAD Global

18th - KCMR Radio

25th - Bruce & Julie Powell/
Wycliffe



Get your newsletter first and in color if you receive it via email. Just drop us a note at zion@vistabeam.com and we'll put you on our email list. Give it a try for one month... if you don't like it, we'll happily switch you back.



colors appeared in the new Jerusalem for while white has a symbolic function of purity and preparedness for the marriage of Christ and his Church, God has made all the colors of the rainbow and I expect to see all the colors I have known on this earth and perhaps a few more in resurrection glory!

Q.: Will we see loved ones who have died, especially children and infants?

A: This one strikes close to my heart. As many of you know we experienced a miscarriage a little over a year ago. While I don't know if we'll meet them all grown up or as children, I am sure those precious little ones are waiting to meet us and perhaps even pray for us. Here's why: King David lost a son in infancy. After mourning and pleading for the child's life David consoled himself and countless believers through the ages with these words:

"But now that he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."
2 Samuel 12:23 NIV

In terms of the righteous dead having some awareness of what's happening here on earth, Revelation 6:10 tells us that the martyrs in heaven will continue to call out to God for justice on the inhabitants of the earth. Hebrews 12:1 also tells us regarding those who have gone before us that they are a bit like people in the sands watching a race below and cheering us on. So, they probably do have some awareness of us and do appear to cry out to God concerning various things still happening on earth. That said, we should never pray to anyone in heaven except God. First because we are to worship God alone (Revelation 19:10 & 22:9). Second, because only God is everywhere present, all seeing and all knowing. Just because those in heaven may have some awareness and concern over what's happening here on earth does not mean that they can see, hear, and know everything that is going on. Nor should we imagine that they are somehow still here with us. David said, "He will not return to me." But rather, "I will go to him." Praise God, those who have died have forever left this troubled world and those in Christ have gone on to enjoy their heavenly home (Hebrews 12:22-24).

Q.: One last question this brings up is whether people will be recognizable in glory and whether we will communicate with them.

A.: Again, I believe the answer is yes. Firstly because John was able to distinguish individuals and nationalities as he scanned the throng in glory (Revelation 7:9; 11:9; 14:6). Secondly because when Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus in his transfiguration they were certainly recognizable even to the disciples who had not previously met them and they were communicating with Jesus and presumably each other (Luke 9:29-31). God himself lives in eternal

relationship as Father, Son and Spirit. . . and God created us to be in relationship both with himself and each other. In fact, the only thing "not good" about the original Garden of Eden was when man was there alone – just Adam, God and the animals. The whole thing wasn't completely good until Eve showed up there too! Certainly the greatest joy of heaven will be meeting our Lord face to face (Revelation 22:3-4), but I expect other precious relationships and even new relationships will be experienced there too. Heaven and the resurrection do not hold less for us than the good we have known in this life but rather it holds the best that was intended for this life and much, much more!

Thanks for such great questions – you really got me thinking!

Pastor Garry

WOULD YOU HELP OUR PASTORS?

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

Please have someone call the church office at 632-8125 and let us know.

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!



Congratulations to . . .

- . . . Josie Griess on her 2nd Birthday.
- . . . Gracie Schick on her 3rd Birthday.
- . . . Pastor Andy on his Birthday.
- . . . Pastor Andy and Janae on their Wedding Anniversary.
- . . . Clyde & Lora Massingill on their 48th Wedding Anniversary.
- . . . Harold Greeb on his Birthday, June 11th.
- . . . Harold Schreiner on his 85th Birthday.
- . . . Beverly Ludwig on her 70th Birthday.
- . . . Sharon Woznick on her Birthday, June 18th.
- . . . Jerry & Farrell Becking on the birth of granddaughter, Adyson Lee Becking, 7# 3 3/4 oz and 21" long. Proud parents are Josh and Megan Becking along with great-grandmother, Lydia Becking.
- . . . Eugene & Mildred Minch on their 60th Wedding Anniversary June 25th.

Sympathies and condolences are extended to :

- . . . the family and friends of Marie Heigel.
- . . . the family and friends of Janae Harris Kenney.
- . . . the family and friends of Mary Stobel.
- . . . the family and friends of Claude Fegler.
- . . . Kerri Arnold and Allesandra on the passing of Kerri's step-mother, Shirley Arnold, of Spokane, WA.

THANK-YOU . . .

A big thank you to the ladies who provided pies for the Festival of Hope on Saturday, June 19th. We took in over \$700 for the sale of pies. Some of the pies were sold by the whole pie, some by the slice and some were auctioned. Thank you all for your help with this event that will help many.

*Pat Stricker and
Joyce Kautz*

Dear Zion Church,

We would like to thank you for letting us use the church for our graduation party. That was very kind of you!

Sincerely,
Jacob Douglas, Spencer Smith,
Jordan Lockwood and
Brock Lemons

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- AWANA NEWS -

During the summer months, there is not much "AWANA News" but I do have a couple of upcoming dates to mention. (Two for the staff and one for the clubbers.):

Sunday, July 18th is the date that I set up with the YMCA Trails West Camp to use their swimming pool for our **Reward Party**. This party is only for the clubbers that started and completed a handbook in this past club year (or completed the equivalent of one full handbook, i.e., halfway through one handbook and through the first half of next handbook). All of the Staff is also invited in appreciation of all of their hard work throughout the club year. I will be sending invitations out the first week in July. So PARENTS, if your clubber(s) does not receive one - and you know they qualified - please call me at 631-9466!!!

Just as an "FYI": When I called the director of the Trails West Camp the first part of June to schedule our party, they had not even filled the pool due

(continued on page 4)

BOOK RECOMMENDATION for July . . .

"BRINGING UP GIRLS"

. . . by Dr. James Dobson



Help your daughters meet the challenges that come their way and become the healthy, happy, and successful women you want them to be. Based on research done by Dr. James Dobson and written in his down-to-earth and good-humored style, **Bringing Up Girls** will do for parents of girls what **Bringing Up Boys** did for parents of boys.

**We are still recycling
printer cartridges and
cell phones - just bring
them to the church
office...**

**...and we will
do the rest!**



to the level of the North Platte River. So, we need to pray that it goes down or we may not even be able to have our party in July . . . stay tuned!

Wednesday, July 28th at 7:00 p.m. there is a **PCDL** (Pastor/Commander/Director /Leader) **Meeting** scheduled here at Zion. This is a great time for the staff from the NE Panhandle/Eastern Wyoming area churches to gather for a time of fellowship and to be informed of what is in store for the upcoming club year, etc. Please plan on attending! It is a real informal, fun time!

Looking ahead, I am tentatively planning our **Staff Picnic/Prayer & Planning meeting** for Wednesday, August 18th at 6:00 p.m. STAFF: Please put this on your calendar and watch for further details.

I have also been working with the Commander/Wife of the Evangelical Free Church in Gering to join together for a couple of events during the summer. Due to my personal schedule, we aren't having much luck. We are hoping that we might be able to put a float together for the Scotts Bluff County Fair to hand out information about AWANA and club meeting times for our clubs for the upcoming year. I will get more info out in the bulletin/power point as the plans come together.

As I am writing this, there is yet another thunder/lightening/rain storm along with a tornado watch. And guess what? I am not in Minatare! I am at my sister's house in Omaha! Why am I telling you this? Because no matter where we go, there are always going to be storms in our life. BUT ALSO, no matter where we go, our Heavenly Father is ALWAYS there to be IN CONTROL of those storms - to calm us and give us a peace that surpasses ALL understanding! I pray that you are all having a wonderful and safe summer!

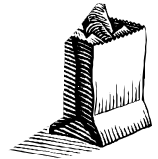
In Christ,
Cheryl Rose, Commander

CIRCLE OF PRAISE:

Circle of Praise met on Friday, June 11th at the Church. Hosts were Teri & Dave Erdman and Shirley and Mike Bauer. We enjoyed good food and fellowship. The program was "Taking a Trip Through the Valley". Those who attended had to identify the different places that Teri and Dave had taken pictures of. It surprising how much we didn't know! A fun time was had by all. Watch the newsletter and church bulletin for the next gathering of Circle of Praise.



COOP Receipt Total:
\$23,275.42



We are almost 1/4 of the way to our goal of \$100,000 in receipts.



Thanks to all who continue to bring in their receipts regularly.



General Fund for MAY, 2010

INCOME:


Fund Raising	1,016.00
Other Income	476.92
<u>Sunday Offering</u>	<u>14,875.50</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$17,532.42

EXPENSES:

Bldg. & Grounds	590.10
Fund Raising	169.15
Ministry	1,609.91
Office	487.13
Staff Benefits	3,680.87
Staff Salary	6,682.83
<u>Utilities</u>	<u>1,707.64</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$14,927.63

TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE **\$ 2,604.79**

Did you know you can now listen and/or see our church service to on your home computer? Go to our website:
www.zionscottsbluff.com
and click on LISTEN ONLINE.
Find the date of the message you'd like to see or listen to and click on that date. Be patient while it loads.



SUNDAY SCHOOL -**Vacation Bible School 2010 "The County Fair"**

Bible School is one of the most rewarding and fun things we do here at Zion. It's wonderful to see these kids laugh, run, play and to be excited to celebrate Jesus every day they are here. The weeks lessons really taught them about the Fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. The kids enjoyed crafts while the older kids even canned their own pickles and freezer strawberry jam and made butter. They all deserved a 'blue ribbon'. Our mission project for the week was KCMI. Some the kids even got to do a live radio broadcast! We challenged the kids that if they raised certain amount of money by Friday, Pastor Garry and Pastor Andy would be in a pie eating contest. . . with their hands tied behind them. They met the goal and the fun began. Be sure to check out our bulletin board in the Sunday School wing for the pictures. We are so thankful to everyone who helped; who donated snacks and the Ladies Guild for donating all the canning jars. I would also like to thank the staff: **Pre-school/Pre-Kindergarten:** Mickie Janecek, Shaylah Schadwinkel, Mikayla Kreider, Allison Stricker and Keeley Gloria; **Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades:** Wendy Powell, Ashley Robbins, Carli Rose; **3rd-6th grades:** Cheryl Rose, Robin Schadwinkel, Tommy Rose, Kayleigh Schadwinkel and Kayla Schanaman; **Devotions:** Pastor Andy; **Baby sitting:** Kamilah Rupp and Janae Griess; **Snacks:** Alexandra Stricker, Lorraine Hein and Shirley Ruppel; **Game time:** Zach Pieper, Mark Pieper and Deb Pieper; **Sound:** Adam Harris and Chris Brenning. I would like to thank Barb Kautz for helping with everything. Thanks to the parents and grandparents who faithfully brought their children everyday.

Our biggest challenge to the kids and the question we asked them was, "Do you know where you'll spend eternity?" We pray that every person reading this article knows that they'll be spending eternity with Jesus if they have personally accepted Him as their Lord and Savior.

Please join us for Sunday School every Sunday. Watch for upcoming details on our Sunday School Picnic.



God Bless Your Summer!
Sharon, Robin and Debbie

The nursery is in need of helpers! If you would be interested or have questions, please contact Andee Musonda at 635-7865.

**The Importance of Sunday School**

What a joy to see bright, happy children! But what a tragedy to see so many destroyed by drugs, crime, the occult, pornography! How can we reach them **before** it is too late?

The age-old advice of Solomon was: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Psalm 22:6) Psychologists today agree that the years of childhood are crucial in forming the rest of one's life. It is in childhood that most destinies are settled.

This is why Sunday School is so important. Sunday School offers a golden opportunity to help shape boys and girls in their formative years to become what God would have them be. Under the loving direction of Christian leaders, children are given the chance to learn the values and habits that will follow them the rest of their lives.

Sunday School is important because it is based upon the Bible, the inspired Word of God. As a famous American lawyer once said to the U.S. Congress: "The Bible is our only safe guide. So long as we take it as our instructor for conduct and character, we will go on prospering in the future as in the past. But the moment we relegate it from our lives, a catastrophe will come to us such as we have not known before."

Millions of American children received no Christian instruction last year. Instead, we read alarming statistics on the increase of juvenile crime, teenage alcoholism and drug addiction, pregnancy and abortion among unmarried teenage girls. In rejecting God's Truth and the moral absolutes of the Bible, we are indeed

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

heading for catastrophe.

But a tragedy in your home can be averted. As a U.S. judge once said when a 16-year old girl was brought before him: "Why didn't the parents of this child keep her in Sunday School? Sunday School girls do not come to see me."

The Sunday School is important to you and your family because there the life-changing message of Jesus Christ is proclaimed: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Your family will find a warm welcome at Sunday School. Together you can learn from God's Word. What better future can you provide than the eternal inheritance that only Jesus Christ can give.

***Don't take a break from God;
God never takes a break from you!***

The Sunday School Officers

**Prayer Alert - Christians Taken
Away in Handcuffs, Cameras
Confiscated, for sharing the
Gospel on U.S. Soil.**

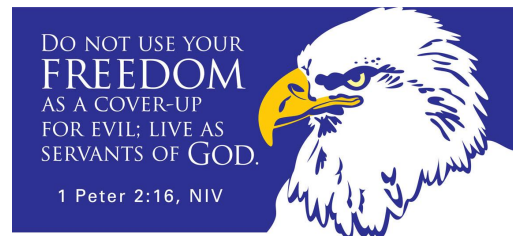
The *Detroit Free Press* reports that four Christian missionaries who were trying to share the Good News of Christ to Muslims were arrested and jailed Friday for disorderly conduct at the Arab Festival in Dearborn.

The police chief confirmed that four arrests were made, saying "They did cause a stir." The four, who are part of a Christian group called Acts 17 Apologetics, were released on bail. According to eyewitnesses, the four were handing out a booklet containing the gospel of John on the festival grounds -- which were primarily tents and booths set up on the public streets of Dearborn. The would-be evangelists were surrounded by green-shirted security personnel hired by the Festival, who taunted the four and gave shouts of "Allahu Akbar" when they were arrested.

Prior to the festival (attended predominantly by Muslim Arab-Americans), a U.S. district judge in Dearborn issued a ban on groups distributing literature on sidewalks and local officials required a five-block distance for anyone wanting to distribute literature. The four were within the festival grounds. David Wood, one of the four arrested, has said, "There are certain elements of Sharia law being adhered to in Dearborn." The four now have legal representation.

PRAY:

- That Christians will stand against any form of diminishment of our freedom of speech and of religion.
- That Christians will engage to defend their rights to share the gospel in America.
- Pray that Sharia law will not be allowed to flourish in America.
- Pray that the charges against the four will be dropped and that they will be exonerated



ENJOY YOUR FREEDOM

Because many Americans have never known other circumstances, it's easy to take our liberties for granted. The Israelites knew firsthand the oppression of slavery. Yet when God finally led them out of Egypt, they had problems adjusting to their newfound freedom. Fearful and rebellious, the Israelites grumbled against their leaders, Moses and Aaron, saying they would've been better off as slaves in Egypt.

Our freedom as Christians cost Jesus his life. But we, too, often find it easier to fall back into sinful habits. In Galatians 5:1, Paul offers this encouragement: "For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (NRSV).

We're no longer bound by sin and death. That "independence" is worth celebrating every day!

Valley Mobile Food Pantry



July 23rd at 1:00 p.m.

at the old Sun-Mart in Gering

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




Sponsored by: The Valley Evangelical
Pastor's Fellowship

Zion Evangelical Church Calendar

JULY, 2010



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S. @ Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 S.S. @ Zion & Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team I/Office 9:55 Take Twenty/Pastor Amos 10:30 Worship & Praise 11:00 KOMI Broadcast 11:30 Communion/Chapel 6:00 4th of July at Reifschneiders 7:00 4th of the July at Petersons 4TH OF JULY	"Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God." 1 Peter 2:16 10:00 Bible Study/Village	10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 7:00 Church Council Mtg	9:30 Staff Meeting 7:30 Worship Team 8:15 Senior High Bible Study	Zion Softball 7:30		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Camp Rock ~ Junior Boys						
11 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/Office 9:55 Take Twenty/Dewey Brothers 10:30 Worship & Praise 4:45 Vespers/Residency	12 10:00 Bible Study/Village	13 10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life	14 8:15 Senior High Bible Study	15	16	17
Camp Rock ~ Intermediate I						
18 8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S. @ Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 Prayer Team III/Office 9:55 Take Twenty/Dewey Brothers 10:30 Worship & Praise 2:00 Vespers/Beverly 4:45 Vespers/Residency	19 10:00 Bible Study/Village	20 10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life Zion Softball 7:30	21 8:15 Senior High Bible Study	22	23 Valley Mobile Food Pantry 1:00 p.m. Old Sun Mart - Gering	24
Camp Rock ~ Intermediate II						
25 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/Office 9:55 Take Twenty/Dewey Brothers 10:30 Worship & Praise	26 10:00 Bible Study/Village	27 10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life	28 Awana PCDL Meeting 7:00 8:15 Senior High Bible Study	29	30	1
Camp Rock ~ Senior II						