

NEWS FROM ZION

ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH ~ SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA



MARCH, 2017

ZION@ZIONSCOTTSBLUFF.COM
WWW.ZIONSCOTTSBLUFF.COM



COMMUNION

Sunday, March 5

Communion will be served after both the services.



GREBEL & COFFEE



Saturday,
March 4th
7 am - 10 am

PRE-ORDERS and
HELP welcome.

Sign up at the Welcome Center!

Or call 632-8125.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

During February, our study of Luke focused on two emerging responses to Jesus' teaching and miracles. Jesus preached the good news that he was able and willing to bring forgiveness to anyone who repented and trusted in him. He confirmed this authority by doing miracles that validated his claims and drew the attention of many in Israel. Among those who heard these claims were people who recognized him as the Messiah and became his disciples. Also, among those who heard these claims were religious leaders from Jerusalem who rejected his claims and began plotting his death. As we get further into Luke, these lines that are being drawn will get more and more distinct. The stories will emphasize the truth that when it comes to the claims Jesus made about who he is and what he came to earth to accomplish, Jesus leaves no room for middle ground. He puts us in a place where we have to decide what we believe. Either he's the infinite and eternal Son of God who came to earth to give his life as the one and only hope for each of us to be reconciled to God or he's a liar who may have been somewhat of a deranged lunatic. Only those who are willfully ignorant of

his claims can view him as something in between.

As more and more people were choosing sides, by either embracing the kingdom of God Jesus was offering or holding on to the kingdom of this world by rejecting him, Jesus instructed his disciples concerning the reality of these two very different responses to his claims. He began by telling his disciples they were blessed even if in this life they were poor, hungry, sorrowful, and hated because their reward in the kingdom of God was more than enough to make up for a lifetime of difficulty. His promise calls for his disciples to develop an eternal perspective - to make decisions not merely based on how they will affect the rest of our earthly lives but based on how they will affect eternity. Jesus also told those who chose the kingdom of this world over the kingdom of God that they were under a curse and to be pitied. Even though they might have a life of wealth, comfort, pleasure, and respect here on earth, when the kingdom of God comes, they'll be on the outside looking in.

Jesus went on to instruct his disciples not to adopt the values of the kingdom of

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PLEASE TAKE NOTE...

Mission Prayer Partners
for MARCH 2017



- 5-Daily Bread
- 12-Camp Rock/DeVos
- 19-Hans Wilhelm
- 26-Samaritan's Purse



CELEBRATION BANQUET

March 4th - 6pm

All are invited to attend our celebration of the completion of the Ministry Center. Bring a dish to pass - meat and potato provided! Please RSVP as soon as possible.

this world but to adopt the values of the kingdom of God. His instructions were to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who spitefully use us. The idea is not to decide how to treat others based on how they treat us (adopt their values) but to treat others the way we would like to be treated (adopt Jesus' values). He instructed us not to judge or condemn our enemies but to act toward them as if the amount of mercy we showed them were the amount of mercy we hoped God to show us. Jesus' kingdom values are so different from the values of this world that they become hard to keep in mind and put into practice unless we have developed an eternal perspective. This is one of the reasons I love praying the Lord's Prayer with everyone on Sunday mornings. When we pray, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," it's designed to remind us weekly that our focus must be on the reality of true life that waits beyond this world. If we're going to have the type of impact Jesus wants us to have, it's vital we get beyond the values of this world (living for wealth, comfort, pleasure, and respect) and live instead for things that last beyond this life (the souls of people). We'll be challenged with this idea more and more as we make our way through Luke on Sunday mornings.

Andrew



General Fund for January, 2017

INCOME:

Fund Raisers	\$	812.00
Other Income		286.16
<u>Sunday Offering</u>		<u>22,497.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$	23,595.16

EXPENSES:

Bldg. & Grounds	\$	2,372.68
Fund Raising		199.31
Ministry		411.65
Mission		60.00
Office		674.23
Staff Benefits		241.52
Other Expense		0.00
Staff Salary		12,932.23
<u>Utilities</u>		<u>332.80</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$	17,224.42

Lenten Services for 2017

THEME: Pastor's Choice

March 1, 2017

Ash Wednesday

Time: 7pm

Church: Plymouth

Preaching: Pastor Ted Meter

March 5, 2017

Time: 7pm

Church: Hope

Preaching: Pastor Todd Seay

March 12, 2017

Time: 7pm

Church: Emmanuel

Preaching: Pastor Andrew Griess

March 19, 2017

Time: 7pm

Church: Zion

Preaching: Pastor Bill Marietta

March 26, 2017

Time: 7pm

Church: Salem

Preaching: Pastor Jeremy Skaggs

April 2, 2017

Time: 7pm

Church: Federated

Preaching: Pastor Garry Schick



CIRCLE OF PRAISE: Circle of Praise met February 11 with 34 people enjoying an evening of food, fellowship and games. Host were the Schmidt's and the Kling's. The next meeting will be Saturday, March 11, with Ray's and Kautz's hosting. Please sign up to help the hosts better plan for the evening.

CIRCLE OF PRAISE
Saturday, MAR 11/6pm
Bring a covered dish to share.
Program: 'Going on a Cruise'
Sign up at the Welcome Center
HOSTING:
Kautz's & Ray's



WELCOME TO ZION MISSIONS
2017

Giving to missions supports missionaries world wide and local Christian ministries like KCMI radio, Camp Rock, and the Valley Food Pantry.

Giving is easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Find a mission that you would like to support.
2. Make your check out to Zion Missions
3. Place the name of the mission (or missions) you would like to support on the memo line of your check.

List of Zion Missions

Samaritans Purse	Jews for Jesus
KCMI	Our Daily Bread
Voice of the Martyrs	World Outreach (Wilhelm)
Lead Global	New Tribes Mission (House)
AWANA	Camp Rock
FIM (De Souza's)	Gideons
Valley Food Pantry	CHIEF
Bible Living Missions	CRU (Riveras)
Zion Sunday School	Zion Youth

THANK YOU TO ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Blessings,
Peggie Ross,
Missions Secretary



Congratulations...

- ...Pastor Taylor on his Birthday, 2/16!
- ...Amelia Griess on her Birthday, 2/21!
- ...Wilma Buchhammer on her Birthday, 2/21!
- ...Duane Heimbouch on his Birthday, 2/21!
- ...Dorothy Richard on her 88th Birthday, 2/21!
- ...Brian and Jodi Rupp on their 25th Wedding Anniversary!
- ...Zion Church on collecting \$100,000 in COOP receipts!! Way to go!!!
- ...the Kautz Family on the birth of Oliver Gregory Kautz, Feb 19th, weighing 9# and 22" long.
- ...Duane & Betty Heimbouch on their 60th Wedding Anniversary 2/24!
- ...Violet Harris on her Birthday, 3/2!
- ... Jake Kautz on his 91st Birthday, 3/10!


Sympathies and condolences to...

- ...the family and friends of Esther Margheim.
- ... Donna & William Trout and family and Nicki Brand and family on the passing of sister, Patricia Linnett.
- ...Broc and Dani Brown & family on the passing of Broc's grandmother, Betty Jane Schwartzkopf.

FAMILY NIGHT ...
Monday, MAR 20th at 6:00 p.m.
Bring an Italian dish to share.

All are invited!

The KCMI Broadcast for March is given by Betty Bauer in memory of Kimberly Bauer's Birthday and George R. Bauer.
Thank you for sharing in this valuable ministry. Please call the office if you are interested in sponsoring a broadcast in honor or in memory of someone...June & Aug are available.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

With the nice weather we are having, it is hard to not think **SPRING**. However, next week is **March**, and that always has us looking towards **Easter**, the most wonderful holiday where **God** sacrificed His son **Jesus** to die on the cross that we might all have **eternal life**. What a message we have to tell our children! There is hope in **Jesus Christ**.

Please mark your calendars for **April 15th** at **1:00pm** for our devotion and **Easter Egg Hunt**. We will meet in the sanctuary where **Pastor Taylor Boltjes** will be doing a short devotion followed by the **Easter Egg Hunt**.

We are making plans for our **Vacation Bible School** to be held on **June 5-9**, ages **4 thru** just finished **6th grade**. It is such a joy to work with **Pastor Taylor** as he has such enthusiasm and love for **Jesus** and the teaching our kids...plus he has great ideas. Our theme will be "**Over the Moat**". We will be celebrating and looking at **medieval times**. This is something very different for us, and we are so excited. If any of you have any empty sparkling cider bottles, we would appreciate it if you could save them for us. We will be using them for **crafts**.

In God's Love,
Sharon, Robin, Malissa

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WOMEN'S MINISTRIES:

The ladies gathered **Feb 5th** for their meeting with **12 ladies** present. Prayers were given and the **Treasurer's** report was read. The **4C's Women's Brunch** will be **Feb 25th** at the **Civic Center**. **Andee Musonda** reported that the donations for the **Valentines** for the college students was a success! It was decided to proceed with a **Soup Supper** on **March 18th**. There will be **Potato, Chicken Noodle & Butterball** and **Chili soups**. More details will follow so watch the bulletin. **Elaine** shared a reading from **Helen Steiner Rice** and the meeting adjourned. Hostesses for the evening were **Alex Stricker** and **Andee Musonda**.

YOUTH: Hello Church Family!

I hope everyone is having a pleasant start to their year as the holidays slowly come to a close. I hope **Valentines Day** did not disappoint and was somehow a pleasant reminder of the unfailing love of **Jesus** shown in the **Gospel**. Love is certainly worth celebrating when we remember that "by this we know love, because He laid down His life for us" (**1st John 3:16**). I just wanted to take the time to update you about the workings of **Scottsbluff Zion's Youth** programs as well as to ask for prayer in regards to this great work I am able to do.

Each program is continuing well from what I can see and understand. The **High School Bible Study** has stabilized at four regular students every **Wednesday night**. We have arrived at the point in **1st Samuel** where **Israel** has passed from the period of the **Judges** to the time of the **Kings**. **Saul** is **Israel's** first king and has been established. Sadly, the presence of a king was due to **Israel's** desire to have a human ruler that would replace **God** as their sovereign. The people were either unconvinced of **God's** ability to protect them from their enemies, or they wanted a government where they were protected from trouble and didn't have to submit to the **Lord**. **God** is gracious to them, however, and will use this new kingship to accomplish his purposes and bring glory to himself.

Junior High Youth Group has also been going very well. We recently took a break one **Thursday night** from our **apologetics** study in order to discuss the difficult suicide that took place in their lives recently. Few situations raise more questions about the truth of the **gospel**, the nature of **salvation**, and the issues of **morality** than the sudden death of someone young. We discussed the difficult subject of **bullying**, which seems to have been the cause of this young person taking their own life. This was certainly more somber than our usual discussions, but very good questions were asked and things were said that needed to be put on the table. It is amazing and comforting that **God's** wisdom, power, and goodness extends even over tragedies like this and he is able to bring good things out of it. At very least, I know that it gave an opportunity to talk about the love of **Jesus** in a context that would make my kids consider it deeply.

Sundays are always packed with activity and teaching. In **Junior High Sunday School** we are still exploring the story of **Gideon** (which happens to have a lot attached to it). We recently reached the conclusion that we are in the desperate position of not being able to change our own hearts. We are slaves to our sin in the same way that **Gideon** was a slave to believing what he thought more than who **God** is. We have also been reminded of the lovely

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and amazing promise that, although we are not able to break our own chains, the Lord is our Hero who is ready, willing, and able to free our hearts from their slavery. Awana has also been endlessly enjoyable, albeit slightly taxing on the “theology muscles”. We have begun to discuss the nature of Jesus (most recently the fact that he is fully God and fully man). This subject seems to have unstopped the flowing tides of questions that these kids have either never asked or never had answers for. Questions like, “How can Jesus be God’s son and God himself at the same time?”, “When Jesus prayed was he talking to himself?”, as well as various question about the nature of the Trinity have all been asked. I hope my meager knowledge has been sufficient to truthfully answer these questions where I am able and to display humility when I am unable to provide answers. I can say, however, that few things make me so happy as kids asking good questions. The presence of questions points to young minds that are thinking through the truths of Scripture.

I am glad that we are a church that has children and young adults in it, aren’t you? That leads mention a burden that I have recently either acquired or realized I have always had. I love children and young adults (which I suppose is a good feature if one is going to be a Youth Pastor). I have noticed that the young generations are a hungry group. What I mean is that they want truth. They are looking for it. The problem is that these poor kids are bombarded with every version of “truth” that this deceptive world is able to contrive. They hear the messages of the internet, music, video games, movies, their peers, and the philosophies that have built our modern world. Many of these things are not bad in and of themselves. I am an advocate and not a denouncer of technology and media. In fact, media presents a varied mission field full of young people that is ripe for harvest. All it requires are diligent missionaries that are ready to dive into a different culture, learn a new language, and develop a love for a species of people that desperately need it. They are drowning in information, and their inability to see what way is correct calls for immediate and studied action on our part. They need US. The need ALL of us. They need spiritual fathers and mothers that, far from desiring to “whip the young people into shape”, have developed a need to see these kids matured into Christ’s kind of people. They need teachers, guides and shepherds. In a word, they need love. I ask that you pray for me as I am daily struggling to do well by this vast mission field. Pray that I use the tools that this modern world has given me to accurately communicate the message of Jesus to the youth in a way they can understand. Pray that, when they understand, they would embrace it with sincerity and passion. Pray also for the generations that they would have compassion on these shepherdless sheep and would heed Jesus’ call to make disciples of them. Lastly, pray for the kids themselves. They suffer dangers, fears and temptations that have manifested themselves in ways never before seen. Pray that Jesus would be pleased to make them his own and that we would see a generation that hates nothing more than sin, and loves nothing more than the Lord.

Thank you for your time,
Pastor Taylor Boltjes



~ AWANA NEWS ~



We started off February with **Sports Day** on the 5th. Our meeting time changed from 3:30 - 5:30 to 2:00 - 4:00 - just for this meeting - so clubbers could be at club but also be back home/to their destination to watch the Super Bowl with their families!!! Clubbers/Staff wore sports gear in place of their uniform and caps were also allowed. We had AYSO soccer shirts, Husker attire, A LOT of Denver Bronco stuff AND for the first time in my 34 years of having Sports Day at a club meeting (at least that my failing memory is recalling!!!), we had a very handsome Trek clubber come in Rodeo gear - Chance Rahmig, you rocked it!!! As I told clubbers, it definitely requires A LOT of athletic ability to compete in rodeos!!! Another uniform I am quite sure we haven't had before is for Ninjutsu - which Taylor Boltjes was sporting!!!☺ Our Sports Day meeting is also when I interview our senior student leaders -

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this gives them the opportunity to share with our clubbers how their faith has carried them through their middle/high school years - in their academics or through their participation in a sport, theater, choir, band, etc. One of my interviewees fell through when we realized that she and her family would just be docking from their family cruise that weekend - I'll catch up with you another time Miss Baily Kreider!!! ☺ So, in addition to interviewing Austin Rhamy, I asked Teddy Musonda to give us a coach AND player perspective as he coaches soccer as well as plays on an adult men's soccer team. Austin is planning on staying around Scottsbluff for two more years and attending WNCC, facilitating community service projects, etc., he desires to live in different parts of the U.S. while doing this work in the future in addition to being interested in travelling to Zambia with Teddy!!! It was very interesting to hear from our soft-spoken Teddy . . . what a godly young man!!! I'm so glad God directed me towards Teddy being part of the interview!!! He shared about trusting in the Lord as a teenager, how his heart turned toward mission work as his "life work" and how he and his father had a really strained relationship for about four years as his father did not approve of Teddy's decision. Teddy shared how he has been made fun of by his co-workers here in the U.S. because he will not take part in their "after hours" activities. Teddy's heart's desire is to go back to Zambia and resume mission work. He said that he's realized that they have tried to do this outside of God's timing and that he is at peace knowing that God still has something here for him to learn/do.

We are now looking forward to having our Grandparent's visit on the 26th of February and to a bunch of "**March Madness**" fun. I have invited one of our AWANA Missionaries, Paul Harkness, to share with us for **Grandparent's Night** and due to circumstances not completely out of my control (a.k.a., as "human error"), Grand Prix has been moved to March 26th. We will have a **Pit Party** on Saturday, March 18th in the Trek room in the Sunday School wing from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Clubbers and their families can come/go as they please during that two hour time frame to have some help cutting/sanding/painting their cars. I am SO THANKFUL for Art & Pam DeVos volunteering to head up this event!!!

In closing, I am thankful that God continues to demonstrate **HIS CONTROL** - whether in the "minor-ness" of my crazy calendar scheduling conflicts OR to an amazing young man who wants nothing more than to go back to his home country to share the good news of Jesus to his fellow Zambians!!!



One last thing I always like to remind people of in the month of March is that **NOTHING** in our lives is because of **LUCK . . . GOD'S HAND IS IN IT!!!**

Cheryl Rose, AWANA Commander



FEBRUARY, 2017

ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S. @ Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 Communion/Chapel 9:30 Prayer Team IV 10:30 Worship & Praise 10:30 KCVI Broadcast 11:30 Communion/Chapel 3:30 AWANA 5:30 Sr High Fellowship 7:00 Lenten/Hope/Seay</p>	 <p>10:00 Bible Study/Village 7:00 Women's Ministries</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/WelCove 12:00 Men's Bible Study 2:00 Bible Study/Golden Living 2:00 Women's Bible Study/Roth 7:00 Church Board Mtg</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday 1:00 Valley Food Pantry 7:00 Lenten Service/ Plymouth/Meter 7:00 Choir 8:00 Worship Team 8:00 Sr High Bible Study</p>	<p>Happy Birthday, Violet Harris! 6:30 KCVI Appr. Banquet 7:00 Jr High Youth 7:15 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Jr High Youth 7:15 Adult Bible Study</p>		<p>GREBEL & COFFEE 7-10AM CELEBRATION BANQUET 6PM</p>
<p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S. @ Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 Prayer Team V 9:30 S.S. @ Zion/Emerald Ct. 10:30 Worship & Praise 3:30 AWANA 4:00 Vespers/Residency 5:30 Sr High Fellowship 7:00 Lenten/Emmanuel/ Griess</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village 7:00 MOPS @ Night</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/WelCove 12:00 Men's Bible Study 2:00 Bible Study/Golden Living 2:00 Women's Bible Study/Roth 6:00 MOPS @ Night</p>	<p>1:00 Valley Food Pantry 7:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir 8:00 Worship Team 8:00 Sr High Bible Study 1:00 Valley Food Pantry 7:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir 8:00 Worship Team 8:00 Sr High Bible Study</p>	<p>7:00 Jr High Youth 7:15 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Jr High Youth 7:15 Adult Bible Study</p>	 <p>Prep day for SOUP SUPPER</p>	<p>Awana Pit Party 9-11am SOUP SUPPER 5-6:30</p>
<p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S. @ Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 Prayer Team I 9:30 S.S. @ Zion/Emerald Ct. 10:30 Worship & Praise 3:30 AWANA 4:00 Vespers/Residency 5:30 Sr High Fellowship 7:00 Lenten/Zion/Marietta</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village 6:00 Family Night 6:00 pm</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/WelCove 12:00 Men's Bible Study 2:00 Bible Study/Golden Living 2:00 Women's Bible Study/Roth 6:00 MOPS @ Night</p>	<p>1:00 Valley Food Pantry 7:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir 8:00 Worship Team 8:00 Sr High Bible Study 1:00 Valley Food Pantry 7:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir 8:00 Worship Team 8:00 Sr High Bible Study</p>	<p>7:00 Jr High Youth 7:15 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Jr High Youth 7:15 Adult Bible Study</p>		<p>GREBEL & COFFEE 7-10AM</p>
<p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S. @ Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 Prayer Team II 9:30 S.S. @ Zion/Emerald Ct. 10:30 Worship & Praise 3:30 AWANA/Grand Prix 5:30 Sr High Fellowship 7:00 Lenten/Salem/Skaggs</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/WelCove 12:00 Men's Bible Study 2:00 Bible Study/Golden Living 2:00 Women's Bible Study/Roth 6:00 MOPS @ Night</p>	<p>1:00 Valley Food Pantry 7:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir 8:00 Worship Team 8:00 Sr High Bible Study</p>	<p>7:00 Jr High Youth 7:15 Adult Bible Study</p>		<p>GREBEL & COFFEE 7-10AM</p>

Zion Evangelical Church

Date: Saturday, March 18

Time: 5:00 - 6:30pm

CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP

POTATO SOUP

CHILI SOUP

Relish tray included

Zion Ministry Center

3617 5th Avenue

Scottsbluff, NE

308.632.8125

TICKETS:

\$7.50 - 12 years & older

\$5:00 - 5-11 years

Free - 4 years & under

Supper
dinner
soup