



News from Zion

Zion evangelical church - Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Zion@vistabeam.com

August, 2009

**GREBEL
Planning Meeting
August 12th, 9:00 a.m.**
(See Dave or Teri Erdman
with questions.)

COMMUNION
will be served
August 2nd
following
the 10:30 service.



From the pastor's desk . . .

"The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul." Psalm 19:7a NIV

"I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."

Psalm 119:15-16 NIV

Recently I learned that in the first six months of this year alone, in the state of New York, more than 8,000 pages of new laws were passed and enacted. Who could ever read so much or begin to comprehend it all? Who could ever love such a law or meditate on it as the Psalmist did the Law of God? I am so grateful that God, in his wisdom, gave his people a moral law that was both comprehensive and succinct. While the five books of Moses go into a fair amount of detail addressing various situations that the nation would face – all of Israel's laws were ultimately applications of the Ten Commandments given to Moses on Mt. Sinai. In Jesus' time, the Pharisees tried to add many more laws but Jesus boiled the Ten down to two – love God and love your neighbor. Really, the second of these is a living out of the one first and greatest commandment – *Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30)!* God's principles are so pure, so true, so all encompassing, we really don't need more than these. But we do need these - and now more than ever. Take a sense of accountability to God out of the mix and thousands and thousands and

thousands of pages of new laws will not be enough to govern our nation. Our founding fathers knew this. In fact, James Madison, the fourth president, known as 'The father of our Constitution' made the following statement: 'We have staked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.' The law of God as Madison pointed out is not merely to be heard and understood, but to be practiced. More than that, as the Psalmist said, it should be meditated on, rejoiced in, loved and lovingly put into practice. If that is true of God's law, how much more the Gospel by which we may be saved. The law and the Gospel are a sure and shining moral compass. They have been the sustaining faithful guide for centuries to Christian people of many nations. The Law and Gospel of God is the only North Star given by God to this world for navigation through life and by it all mankind will one day be judged. *"The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever."* Psalm 19:8b-9a NIV.

Pastor Garry



Please Take note . . .

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



2nd - Bud Acord - Muslims
9th - Tom & Alfreda Clause/
CHIEF
16th - The Hattan's/AWANA
23rd - The DeSouza's/FIM
30th - Gideon's International

It's never too late to have the newsletter emailed to you. 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.



LADIES GUILD PICNIC

- ◆ AUGUST 3RD AT 6:00 PM IN THE MINISTRY CENTER
- ◆ SPOUSES AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED
- ◆ MEAT IS PROVIDED
- ◆ BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT
- ◆ SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME CENTER
- ◆ BRING A PICTURE OF YOURSELF WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD!

(You could win a prize)

General Fund for June 30, 2009

INCOME:

Other Income	910.28
<u>Sunday Offering</u>	<u>13,210.16</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,120.44

EXPENSES:

Bldg. & Grounds	3,215.27
Ministry	1,411.88
Office	504.87
Special Expense	453.18
Staff Benefits	3,910.66
Staff Salary	6,211.03
Tax	898.58
<u>Utilities</u>	<u>2,223.13</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 20,399.66

TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE \$ (6,279.22)

**With vacations and time away from church,
we typically see a drop off in the giving to the
church. We would like to graciously and
courteously remind you to not forget the needs of
Zion during the summer months.
May God richly bless you in your giving!**

BOOK RECOMMENDATION FOR August. . . The Heavenly Man by Brother Yun

You've seen the headlines--- government crackdowns on Chinese house churches; mass arrests and human rights violations. . . . But this intensely dramatic autobiography makes it real! Learn how God took a young half-starved boy from Henan Province and enabled him to stand strong on the frontlines for Jesus, braving horrific opposition and impossible odds. Life-changing!



Valley Mobile Food Pantry

August 28th at 1:00 p.m.

at the old Sun-Mart in Gering

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



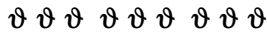
Sponsored by: The Valley Evangelical
Pastor's Fellowship

" We are well on our way to the next
" \$100,000 in receipts. We have collected
" \$71,637.03. We are getting closer and
" closer! Please keep those receipts coming!
" "



Kim Schanaman is looking for anyone interested in helping in the Nursery. Call her at 672-6433 or email her at kimschanaman1918@hotmail.com

LADIES GUILD: *We'll see everyone at the Picnic on August 3rd at 6:00 p.m. Sign up at the Welcome Center by this Sunday, Aug. 2nd so we know how many to plan for. Bring a salad or dessert and a picture of yourself as a child. You might even win a prize! See you there!*



Tuesday, August 25th at Oregon Trail Park in Gering from 6:00 - 8:00pm. We will have carnival games for the kids and it's a perfect time for the Dad's to hang out, too. Sloppy Joe's will be provided. Bring a side dish and the whole family.

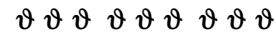
Hope to see ya there!
Andi Hale

MISSIONS:

Our Mission Sunday will be November 1st this year. I am in the process of lining up our guest speaker. We have invited George Miller from Buffalo, NY. George Miller shares his ministry through his music. George Miller has had many trips to different parts of the world to spread the Good News. We are looking forward to his visit.

We are happy to send three, possibly four, to Camp Rock. Please say a prayer that each of the kids open their hearts to the Lord.

Serving for the Lord,
Terry Martin



SUNDAY SCHOOL:

July 12th was our Sunday School/Church Picnic. What a wonderful time of fellowship for the young and old. We had inflatables for the kids to play on, a wonderful carry in lunch, a great concert by Shoutin' Time and an ice cream social after the concert. It was such a joyous time to spend a day with Christian friends in God's house. We are looking forward to our fall schedule coming up and we will be ordering the fall Sunday School curriculum soon. We have been doing some fun projects with the kids this summer. Please check out all our Sunday School classes - we welcome you to any of them. Have a great rest of the summer.

Sharon, Robin & Amy

Our KCMJ Broadcast for AUGUST is given in loving memory of Shirley Schmidt from husband Wally and daughter Janet. Thank you for sharing in this ministry.

MOPS @ Night

MOPS is off to another great year with some new and exciting changes! I am Andi Hale and I will be the new coordinator for the next couple of years.

We will now be meeting TWICE a month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 6:00 to 8:00pm. One will be a more formal meeting with speakers and the other will be an activity based, more relaxed evening. We offer MOPPETS club for the kids, so bring them along.

Our kick-off registration Family Picnic will be

Sympathies and condolences are extended to . . .
 . . . Gary & Gay Loose and family on the passing of Gary's brother, Larry Loose.
 . . . the family and friends of Marion Keller.
 . . . Margaret Huck and family on the passing of Margaret's brother-in-law, Samuel Huck.

Congratulations to . . .
 . . . Jeff & Rhonda Schledewitz on their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

~ AWANA NEWS ~

Although we have not had Kick-Off yet for the 2009-10 club year, several staff members and I have got the first event "under our belts". On Monday, July 20th, we joined Tom & Sandi Hofmann and Paul Harkness as well as other leaders from area AWANA clubs here at Zion for a **PCDL** (Pastor-Commander-Director-Leader) **meeting**. We talked about giving our clubs an "Extreme Makeover" - complete with all kinds of tools, hardhats, etc. for props . . . so I guess I could've said above that we have the first event "under our tool-belts"!!! ☺ (Ha! Forgive me, it is 2:00 a.m. and I am a little goofy!) Anyway, it was a very fun meeting with information that we can put into action this club year - but DO NOT want to "makeover" the Foundation that our clubs are built upon - the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ. I have to report to all of you that I felt so touched to be a part of a "first" that Sandi Hofmann experienced as we shopped together for refreshment items at Wal-Mart before the meeting. Even though she lives in eastern Nebraska, it was with me here in Scottsbluff's Wal-Mart in western Nebraska that she first discovered square plastic (gallon) ice cream containers!!! It was a moving moment!!! (I know you are thinking that I am touched alright but not in an emotional way!!! Okay, I have moved from goofy to giddish!!!)

We actually do have a couple more events scheduled for the month of August. I have finally scheduled the reward party for all of the clubbers that completed a handbook (or equivalent to) for the 2008-09 club year. We will be gathering at the Trails West swimming pool (by Riverside Zoo) on Sunday, August 9th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Tomorrow I will be sending out 44 invitations for the party so those of you that qualified should have already received yours by the time you read this. That number of 44 does not represent the total amount of clubbers that completed handbooks this past club year, though, because of having more than one in a family on quite a few of the flyers. If I counted correctly, we had 61 club-

bers and two leaders that completed handbooks. Included in this count are the Puggles that although they do not have handbooks, there are large, take home picture cards with activities on the back that they do with their parents through the week. I am very proud of the clubbers and staff!!! That is almost 75% of our clubbers that completed a handbook. WOO HOO!!!


Staff: I am scheduling our **picnic and planning meeting** for the 2009-10 club year for Tuesday, August 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the Oasis. Please look for an invitation with all of the details to be coming to you soon. Also, Hattan's and Hofmann's have scheduled an area **Basic Training** here at Zion on Saturday, September 12th from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. I would urge those of you that have not recently attended a basic training to please make plans to attend. We will have a sign-up at our picnic/meeting.

Kick-Off is scheduled for Sunday, September 13th at 3:30 p.m. with Staff Dedication that morning in the 10:30 a.m. service. Flyers will go out to the clubbers and their parents sometime during the middle of August. If anyone has names/ addresses of kids that you know do not attend AWANA, please give me that info and I would be happy to send them and their parents an invitation.

Well, time is marching on and I'd better get a few hours of rest tonight!!! I pray that you are all having a wonderful, safe summer enjoying all of God's very best!!! I also want to say that I am sure thankful that God Is In Control whether we have four hours of sleep or eight!!! Good Night!!!

Cheryl Rose, Commander

(P.S.: I hope that my dad does not read this as I am always getting into trouble with him about not getting enough rest. Yes, even at 45 years of age, I am still struggling with that "Children Obey Your Parents" commandment!!! For those of you that do read this, please do not tell him!!! He is not as quiet as you all think!!! HA! Just kidding! ☺)



The Water of Life

To beat the summer heat, we're often refreshed by a cold drink. Complete the puzzle below for a reminder of what Jesus offers us when we thirst.

KEY:
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

"

19+4	10-2	10+5	10-5	18+4	1+4	20-2	8+1	12+7	
18+2	1+7	10-1	20-2	18+1	20-0	26-1	6+6	5-0	10+10
4+4	8+1	8+5	1+2	10+5	15-2	1+4	0+1	7+7	1+3
26-3	7+1	20-5	2+3	21+1	6-1	19-1			
21+2	9+0	18+1	10-2	7-2	15+4	10+2	7-2	17+3	
6+2	11-2	11+2	20+0	2-1	9+2	8-3	22-2	11-3	2+3
3+3	22-4	5-0	1+4	3+4	7+2	9-3	9+11	14+1	8-2
23-3	12-4	8-3	21+2	4-3	20-0	10-5	20-2	13+2	4+2
5+7	12-3	9-3	6-1						

Revelation 22:17, NIV

Answer: "Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life." Revelation 22:17, NIV

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!

A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in some way to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results:



God is like, **BAYER ASPRIN**,
He works miracles.

God is like, **a FORD**
He's got a better idea.

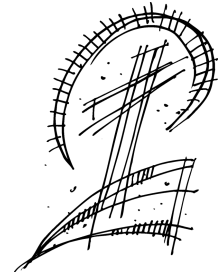
God is like, **COKE**
He's the real thing.

God is like, **HALLMARK CARDS**
He cares enough to send His very best.

God is like, **TIDE**
He gets the stains out that others leave behind.

God is like, **GENERAL ELECTRIC**
He brings good things to life.

God is like, **ALKA-SELTZER**
Try Him, you'll like him.



God is like, **ALLSTATE**
You're in good hands with Him.

God is like, **DIAL SOAP**
Aren't you glad you have Him? Don't you wish everyone did?

God is like, **the U.S. POST OFFICE.**
Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from His appointed destination.

God is like, **SCOTCH TAPE**
You can't see Him, but you know He's there.



God is like, **CHEVROLET**
... the heart beat of America.

