

NEWS FROM ZION

ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH ~ SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA

FEBRUARY, 2012

ZION@VISTABEAM.COM
WWW.ZIONSCOTTSBLUFF.COM



Communion
will be served
February 5th



following the 10:30 service.

GREBEL & COFFEE

Saturday, February 4

7 a.m. - 10 a.m.

PRE-ORDERS and HELP welcome.

Sign up at the
Welcome Center!
or call **632-8125.**



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

The World at Our Doorstep

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20 NIV

As I write, we have just celebrated the Chinese New Year. The Chinese what? Well, the New Year, of course – doesn't your family celebrate that? Okay, I'm just kidding you a bit. The truth is every time I've seen the Chinese New Year on an American Calendar I've thought, "So what?" Why do we care on the other side of the world when they celebrate the New Year in China? Well, today I do care a little. As many of you know we have a Chinese foreign exchange student living with us until mid May. It's a golden opportunity for my family to welcome someone from another part of the world into our home, into our life, and share life, culture and faith. She really is precious and seems to have neither knowledge nor preconceptions of Christian faith good or bad, a blank slate. Jesus told us to go into

all the world with the Gospel, but today, in America, the world is coming to us. Over the last few years I have had opportunities to share Christ with Muslim's from Somalia, people from India, China and Mexico – and I never left the U.S.A. Staff in hotels, waiters at restaurants, and now, someone in my own home – Jesus has told us to go to all the world but we live in a time when we do not have to go far. I even remember sharing Christ with a Palestinian who was in Palestine while playing chess over the internet some years back when I still lived in Minnesota. I don't have time for internet chess anymore but I'll never forget sharing Christ with someone far away while sitting in my own home. As our world grows smaller, our opportunity grows greater and with it our responsibility to fulfill Christ's command. Just last week our mission secretary, Linda Peterson shared with me how a woman in the nursing home came up and asked her, "Do you have any more of those cards with the salvation poem written on them?" "Sure," she said, "Oh good," the woman replied, "I want to give them to my sons, that little card has changed my life!" By the way, we have lots of those little cards for you to pick up at our church mission table. Why not hand some out at the

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PLEASE TAKE NOTE...

Mission Prayer Partners
for February, 2012



5 - Community Christian School

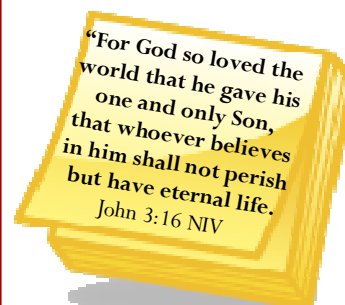
12 - Erin Kampbell/Avant

19 - Panhandle Love in Action

26 - Potter's Wheel

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.



*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
John 3:16 NIV*

(Continued from page 1)

shopping mall or at the gas station as you pay, a local restaurants with you tip; leave them in a hotel room or just hand them to someone you come into contact with, as Linda did? It's a simple way to share Christ. Back to where we started: there are millions in the U.S. and around the world without Jesus. For now, the world is coming to America; what will they take home from their experiences here? I know that for the rest of my life the Chinese New Year will have a new significance – somewhere across the globe will be a child who will have been one of my own children for a time, and hopefully she and those with her will have each had a clear opportunity to become God's kids as well. Please pray and get out there and share Jesus with the world at your doorstep today!

Pastor Garry

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Chili Feed & Silent Auction to Benefit

the Judy Kuxhausen Family

When: Saturday, Feb 18th

Time: 5-8 pm

Where: Zion Ministry Center

Cost: Free-will Donation

If you can help with donations or work a shift, there are sign up sheets at the Welcome Center. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated.

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FARM AND RANCH EXPO

Mitchell Event Center

February 3rd and 4th

9am-6pm on Friday

9am-3pm on Saturday



Zion is doing the lunch counter . . . come and enjoy a great meal. Plus take in the many booths and see your friends! Thanks to Todd Neu, Mark Buchhammer and Jeff Reifschneider and all the helpers for making our efforts a success.



Ash Wednesday, February 22nd - 7:00 p.m.

At Plymouth Congregational Church

Pastor John Adams preaching

Sunday, February 26th - 7:00 p.m.

At Emmanuel Congregational Church

Pastor Rod Wetzig preaching

Sunday, March 4th - 7:00 p.m.

At Salem Congregational Church

Pastor Ted Meter preaching

Sunday, March 11th - 7:00 p.m.

At Federated Church

Pastor Dale Brown preaching

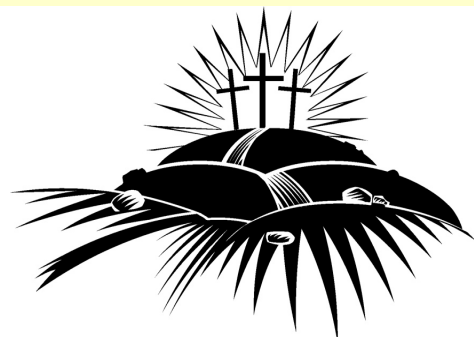
Sunday, March 18th - 7:00 p.m.

At Zion Evangelical Church

Pastor Doug Rupp preaching

Sunday, March 25th - 7:00 p.m.

At Salem Congregational Church



LENTEN SERVICES

General Fund for December 2011

INCOME:

Fund Raisers	\$	935.00
Other Income		18,670.36
Sunday Offering		24,200.00
<u>Uncategorized Income</u>		<u>5.46</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$	43,810.82

EXPENSES:

Bldg. & Grounds	\$	1,649.90
Fund Raising		179.83
Ministry		946.92
Mission Fund		80.00
Office		840.56
Staff Benefits		8,552.11
Staff Salary		5,461.95
<u>Utilities</u>		<u>1,377.62</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$	19,088.89

TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE \$ 24,721.93



DVD Recommendation for February . . .

COURAGEOUS...the latest movie from the makers of the movie *Fireproof!* Police officers Adam Mitchell, Nathan Hayes, and their partners are brave men well-equipped to deal with hardened criminals. But when they remove their badges, they face a more daunting challenge of fatherhood. As their children drift away from them, can these stalwarts find a way to defend and protect those nearest and dearest to them---and draw closer to God? Rated PG-13



Sympathies and condolences are extended to . . .

- . . .Helen Schlager on the passing of her sister-in-law, Shirley Schledewitz.
- . . .Chuck & Kathy Jay and family on the passing of their brother-in-law, Clyde Huck.
- . . .the many family and friends of Donna Reifschneider

Congratulations to . . .

- . . .Lucille Keller on her 88th Birthday!
- . . .Sid Henderson on his Birthday!
- . . .Ken Reifschneider on his 80th Birthday, Jan 13th!
- . . .Kayleigh Schadwinkel on being named the Star-Herald's All-Region Volleyball Player of the Year.
- . . . Andee Grentz for being selected to the 1st Team All-Region Volleyball Team.
- . . .Bob & Ruth Wobig on the birth of new grandson, Evan Daniel. Welcoming Evan are proud parents Brian & Katie Prokop of Lincoln as well as Aunt Sarah and Uncle Josh.



**CHECK THE KITCHEN FOR
ANY FUNERAL DISHES
THAT MIGHT BE YOURS.**



**COOP Receipt Total:
\$23,673.85**

**We are well on our way to
The next \$1,000 so keep your
Receipts coming!!**



KCMI Broadcast dates that are still available: April, May, July, November and December.

The cost is \$75. Call the church office at 632-8125 to reserve your month. You can give in honor or in memory of a loved one.




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

~ AWANA NEWS ~

We are up and running again in 2012 - "full speed ahead" - as we started with the **Staff Christmas party** on January 7th to enjoy some great Mexican food, pie and the **White Elephant gift exchange**. Lots of fun and laughter!!! (There is no doubt that we will see some of those gifts returning next year!!!) One that will not be thrown back into the mix again - due to the sentimentality of it - is the "electric" rolling pin that my daughter, Carli, received on her turn. Our former AWANA Events Coordinator, Tom Hofmann created it several years ago after there were one or two other fake "electric" items given as gifts. Maybe Tom should've tried to get a patent on it - ha!!! Great memories!!! (Pictures below: Carli with the "electric" rolling pin; Joan with her Justin Bieber stocking cap and Martha with her scary green-haired Ty guy!) ☺



We continued to "roll" through the weekend as staff and clubbers gathered at The Playhouse Rollerskating Rink & Fun Center on Sunday, the 8th. The clubbers had a great time of rollerskating, rollerblading, riding scooters and playing in the inflatables. Thank you, Pastor Andy, for giving the devotion and reminding all of us that we still have SO MUCH to learn from God's Word to stay on the right path. (Great message as we begin the New Year!) I thought we had gotten by without any injuries but then I found out on Facebook that one of my LIT's had sprained her wrist. ☹ Hope you are back to 100% soon, Alex!!!

(Pictures below: Our youngest "rollerskater" and future Puggle ☺ - Emily and Pastor Andy giving the devotion.)



Now we are in the "practice, practice, practice" mode as the T&T girls & boys prepare for **Bible Quiz** on the 4th of February at Monument Bible Church and T&T and Sparks teams will be competing in **AWANA Games** on March 17th at WNCC Cougar Palace!!! Go, Zion!!!

The first Sunday in February (5th) will be our annual **Sports Day** where the kids and staff dress up in their favorite team colors - not necessarily one of the colors of the Super Bowl teams. We usually have Scottsbluff, Gering & surrounding town's school colors represented, soccer teams, favorite professional teams, etc. *Please remember, Staff & AWANA Families that this is the day when we change our club time to 2:00-4:00 just for this club meeting so that club is over before the Super Bowl begins.

The last Sunday in February, we will be hosting special guests - our **Grandparents!** (The clubbers can also invite fill-in grandparents if their grandparents don't live here locally.)

~ COMMANDER COMMENTARY ~

- As I think about the upcoming month of February and the holiday that we celebrate - Valentine's Day, I cannot help but think about the **GREATEST DEMONSTRATION OF LOVE** that EVER WAS or EVER WILL BE (Romans 5:8)!!! God's "valentine card" to us is found in John 3:16. That "card" didn't come to us in paper form but

(Continued from page 4)

in flesh. The Son of God loved us SO MUCH that He left His Heavenly home and died on a cruel cross for our sins. Our AWANA Staff strives to "give that Valentine message" to our clubbers every Sunday afternoon at club - all club year - not just in February!!!

I feel overwhelmingly blessed by the love & favor that God has shown me, as Commander & Zion AWANA Club through the AWANA Staff, through Zion Congregation and through friends & family outside of our church. These demonstrations of love have come in the form of: (1) Donations of time as the Staff come each week and commit 2-3 hours to serve in club. Some of my Staff give up more time than that throughout the week preparing Gospel messages for the clubbers, working three hours to put down a new AWANA game floor, helping me prepare for Bible Quiz on Sunday afternoon before club, setting up the Share Board before club so that the clubbers can spend their shares, a "tech guy" that comes to my rescue every time I have a computer/printer problem before club starts and a church secretary that graciously allows me to use her office on Sunday afternoons. (2) Monetary donations - we are given everything from a quarter for dues to a recent one time donation of \$1,000.00 - some of those donations come in memory of a loved one, because a child or grandchild is in our club, from a bonus check at work, from an inheritance or "just cuz". For whatever reason or in whatever amount, it is humbling to be entrusted with the responsibility of using it to further God's Kingdom! (3) Gifts of PRAYERS! Thank you so much for joining our club in prayer as we committed our precious little Sparky, Morgan, to the Lord recently as she spent time at the Shriner's Hospital in Minnesota having tests run and surgeries performed on her back. It was such a joy and praise to have her roll into the Ministry Center this past Sunday in her little wheelchair with a smile on her face that lit the room!!! This is just one of MANY answers to prayer that we experience in our club and I cannot express to the Zion Congregation, families & friends how much those prayers are appreciated!!!

In closing, my prayer would be that all of you have accepted God's precious "Valentine" to us! Because . . . without the reconciliation to God that trusting in Jesus gives us, you cannot experience the peace of knowing that "GOD IS IN CONTROL"!!!! ☺

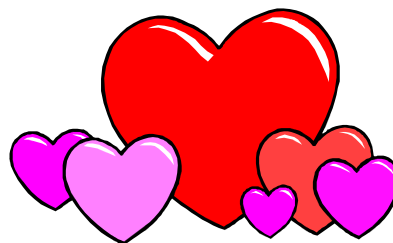
Cheryl Rose, Commander ☺

Jeremiah House:

On Tuesday, Jan 17th, we prepared four large pans of homemade Macaroni and Cheese with little Smokies, Dinner Rolls, Peaches, Green Beans and Pudding Cups. I don't think there was any plate of food thrown away. The kids really ate. It was so cold that the count was a little less. We probably served 70 people. There were four adults that came in for a meal. We had one pan of Macaroni and Cheese left so we gave it to a few families. We had a lot of help serving. Three came from the Christian School and two teachers from China. The kids were trying to learn how to say **Please, Thank You** and **Welcome** in Chinese. The kids gave us a big loud Thank You in unison. Brian commented that the meals at the Jeremiah House were a different quality than the soup kitchens. He said we put a lot of caring into our meals. We like to think we do. We have caring people that have made the meals possible. Brian said he would put a little 3 minute Power Point together, to show at Zion, so you all have an idea what the Jeremiah House is about. Next month, we will have our annual Pizza Night.

Serving for the Lord,
Terry Martin

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Did you know you can now listen to and/or see our church service 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.



ZION MISSIONS:

We have much to praise God for this year and every year. *1 Corinthians 15:57 "But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ?"* The members of Zion Church are a great example of giving of their financial resources to further the work of the Lord! *Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth?"*

We have exciting opportunities to serve our Lord Jesus Christ right where we live. God calls us His ambassadors and witnesses. God desires for us to be His representative in our homes, work places, neighborhood, schools and church. He also asks us to serve Him in our community. Please pray and ask Him to lead you to serve Him locally. Here is a brief list of areas to serve:

Zion Sunday School
Youth group
AWANA
Choir
M.O.P.S.
K.C.M.I.
Jeremiah House
Bible Studies
Love In Action
Camp Rock
C.E.R.T.
Nursing Home Volunteer
RWMC volunteer
Operation Christmas Child
Food Pantry
CAPSTONE
Foster Care
Grandparent to various schools
TeamMates
Salvation Poem distributor
Gideons
Habitat for Humanity
F.C.A.
Community Christian School
Potter's Wheel

Be sure to regularly check out the Mission Board and table in the foyer for updates from our missionaries.

Serving through Missions,
Linda Peterson

Happy New Year from MOPS at Night!

The year 2011 was a great one for our group! We spent our time together getting to know each other, developing friendships, and celebrating our roles as mothers! We spent a great deal of time enriching our mothering skills through our MOPS International Curriculum and the wonderful guest speakers that we had. We were fortunate to hear advice on many topics of motherhood from managing finances to taking time for ourselves by finding a hobby that suits us. We spent an evening learning how to knit which many of our moms have now added to their list of hobbies! Pastor Schick joined us at our Christmas celebration and shared so many wonderful things with us that night, as we spent some time in God's word. God truly continues to provide for this group, and He has allowed us to create a community of moms that help each other fulfill the unique needs that come with raising small children.

Our group had our first meeting of 2012 on Jan. 10th. We treated our moms to a much needed pampering and spa night. We enjoyed hearing Bridget Schick speak to us, and we spent some time relaxing and reconnecting after our Christmas break. I am so excited for the things we have planned for the rest of this year! We have many great speakers lined up which will be so beneficial to our moms. Once a month, beginning on January 24th, we are inviting moms of elementary aged children to join our meetings so that they too may experience this community and receive great tools to help them in their mothering role. These meetings will have speakers and activities that are relevant to mothers of both preschools and school aged children. I can't wait to see how God will use our ministry to impact these mothers of elementary aged children just as it has with our mothers of little ones! We are also planning a night in February where our husbands can join us to see the friendships that we have made, and hopefully develop some of their own with the other men that are with us that night. It is so important to have the support of our husbands, and this night will give them an opportunity to see what we do at MOPS while enjoying a "date-night" with their wives. There are so many great things to look forward to this year at MOPS!

Thank you for all of the support that you gave our group this past year. We appreciate you all!

Courtney Long



SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday school is off to a good start for the New Year. In checking the classrooms, the attendance has been very good. We have a new 3rd grader and 2 new 6th graders. We are so happy to have Becky here from China. She is living with Pastor Garry and Bridget and attending CCS. We welcome you Becky to Sunday School and hope you make a lot of new friends. We have been working on dates for VBS and will announce those dates next month as well as our Easter events. We are always looking for substitute teachers. If you are willing to fill in and help, please let us know. Thank you for being so faithful in bringing your kids to Sunday School. I have seen the adult classes full, too. What a great example to your kids.

God bless,
Sharon, Robin, Deb



*Zion Church is invited to the 80th
Birthday Open House
for
Wilma Buchhammer
on Sunday, Feb. 19th
from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
in the Ministry Center.*

KCMI Banquet
February 16th - 6:30 p.m.
Gering Civic Center
Music from Jacque Cox
Zion has a limited number of
free tickets available.
Call the church office - 632-8125



PUZZLE

A Love Letter

In the New Testament, John writes a letter about God's love and the love we should show to other people.

DIRECTIONS: Working from left to right, write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's. Then read about love, from 1 John 4:11-12, NIV.

lives 3	in 3	us 3	Since 1	and 3	God 1	so 1	loved 1	his 3
us 1	love 3	we 1	if 2	also 1	is 3	made 3	we 2	ought 1
to 1	love 2	love 1	one 1	complete 3	one 2	another 1	in 3	us 3
another 2	God 2							

1 John 4:11-12, NIV

Answers: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

February, 2012

Zion Evangelical Church Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>"Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." I John 4:11-12 NIV</p>			<p>9:30 Staff Meeting</p> <p>6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Choir 7:00 Brothers Bible Study 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study</p>	<p>7:00 Junior High Youth 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.</p>		<p>GREBEL & COFFEE 7-10 a.m.</p> <p>AWANA Bible Quiz</p> <p>← Farm & Raubb Expo →</p>
<p>8:30 Worship & Praise 8:30 S.S. @ Heritage 9:15 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 Prayer Team IV 9:30 S.S. @ Zion & Emerald Ct 9:55 Take Twenty/Brothers 10:30 Worship & Praise 10:30 KCMi Broadcast 11:30 Communion/Chapel 2:00 Awana/Sports Day</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>7:00 Guild 7:00 Over 40 Basketball</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 12:00 Men's Bible Study 12:00 Women's Bible</p> <p>7:00 Church Board Mtg.</p>	<p>6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Choir 7:00 Brothers Bible Study 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>7:00 Junior High Youth 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.</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. 9:55 Take Twenty/Brothers 10:30 Worship & Praise 3:30 Awana 4:15 Vespers/Residency</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>7:00 Over 40 Basketball</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life 12:00 Men's Bible Study 12:00 Women's Bible</p> <p>6:00 MOPS at Night</p>	<p>6:30 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Choir 7:00 Brothers Bible Study 7:30 8th Grade Confirmation 8:00 Senior High Bible Study 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>6:30 p.m. KCMi Banquet</p> <p>7:00 Junior High Youth 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.</p>		<p>5-8 p.m. Judy Kuxhausen Fundraiser Chili Supper</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. 9:55 Take Twenty/Brothers 10:30 Worship & Praise 1-3 p.m. Wilma Buchhammer 80th Birthday Open House 2:00 Vespers/Beverly 3:30 Awana</p>	<p>8:00 Noodle Making 10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>7:00 Over 40 Basketball</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p> <p>5:00 Jeremiah House</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday Service at Plymouth 7:00 p.m.</p>		<p>Valley Mobile Food Pantry 1:00 p.m. Old Sun Mart - Gering</p>	<p>Scout's Blue/Gold Banquet</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. 9:55 Take Twenty/Brothers 10:30 Worship & Praise 3:30 Awana /Grandparents Day 7:00 Lenten Service/Emmanuel</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>7:00 Over 40 Basketball</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p> <p>6:00 MOPS at Night</p>	<p>7:00 Junior High Youth 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.</p>			