

Calendar

Monday, March 31

Tuesday, April 1

9:00 AM Braille
 1:00 PM Illuminations and Bulletin Deadline
 6:00 PM Executive
 6:00 PM ZECC Staff Meeting
 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Girl Scouts
 7:00 PM Leadership

Wednesday, April 2

8:00 AM Braille
 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Zion Quilters
 9:15 AM ZECC Chapel
 4:00 PM ASAZ
 6:15 PM - 8:00 PM Confirmation
 6:15 PM - 8:00 PM WAZ (Wednesdays at Zion)
 6:30 PM Living Faith
 7:00 PM Desert Voice

Thursday, April 3

9:30 AM Ladies' Bible Study - D.W.
 10:00 AM Staff Devotions/Meeting
 6:30 PM Festival Ringers
 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir

Friday, April 4

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scouts

Saturday, April 5

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Altar Care Cleaning Bee
 5:00 PM Informal Worship with Communion

Sunday, April 6

8:30 AM Traditional Worship with Communion
 9:40 AM Discovering the Faith Class - New Member Class
 9:40 AM Sunday School Education
 10:50 AM Contemporary Worship with Communion
 12:00 PM Elder Home Communion Visits



Nursery Schedule for April 6

8:30 AM Dan & Kinlin Schultz
 9:40 AM Peter & Amy Chase
 10:50 AM Kirk & Hope Ortloff



Today at Zion

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:40 a.m. Sunday School Education
 9:40 a.m. New Member Class
 10:50 a.m. Contemporary Worship

Summer Coffee: Starting this Sunday, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is serving coffee most of the spring and early summer. The proceeds will be matched by Thrivent and used for the Confirmation Dinner in October and the Senior Dinner in December.

Salad Luncheon, Style Show, and Quilt Auction is April 5

It's almost time for that grand LHS/CA-Bloomington tradition: the annual Salad Luncheon, Style Show, and Quilt Auction. This year's event, "Singing in the Rain," takes place on April 5, starting at 11:00 a.m. in the Dan Reuss Memorial Gymnasium at CA-Bloomington. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased in advance. Get yours from Linda Krienke.

Youth News

Thank you so much for the awesome support at the Easter Breakfast this year. The youth of Zion thank you for the good donations and the money donations for this annual meal. Thank you to Bonnie Shelton for her hard work and leadership with baking banana bread on Friday and baking and running the kitchen on Sunday. We hope you had an enjoyable time and invite you to come again next year. We also wish to thank our chapter of Thrivent Financial For Lutherans for their generous matching donation to help the youth attending our summer ministry events. It is an awesome blessing to be a part of such a wonderful congregation!

Greetings - for those of you who would like to help Zion's Youth Ministry raise some extra funds - here's a way that you can, without changing anything in your life - just how you search on the web - don't use Google, MSN or any other search engine - use Goodsearch.com. Here is the official weblink - that you can use and avoid the "searching for Zion Hopkins" and scrolling for the charity...

<http://www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=867860>

This will place Zion Lutheran Church - Hopkins, MN in the search charity immediately, therefore not adding to the sign in confusion. So far in a month and a half, we have raised over \$7 - if EVERYONE would use this link to do searches - we could raise LOADS of money for Zion's Youth Ministry. You can also shop at Goodshop.com and we can earn between .5 and 7% of your purchases - depending on the company or store. Any questions??? Just ask Lisa or check out the FAQ's on the website.

March 30, 2008

Illuminations

Zion Lutheran Church Weekly Update

241 5th Avenue ♦ Hopkins, MN 55343

952.938.7661 ♦ www.zionhopkins.org

Welcome to Zion

It is a joy to have you with us today. We pray that through God's Word and through the love of His people, you will be connected to God's love and be empowered to live as God's child this week.



ZION *a place to belong*

Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center

Our Vision:

To become an outreach center for Christ centered health and wholeness.

Our Mission:

To encourage one another to discover or rediscover a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Weekend Schedule:

Saturday Worship: Informal 5:00 p.m.

Holy Communion is celebrated the first and third weekends.

Sunday Worship: Traditional 8:30 a.m.
 Contemporary 10:50 a.m.
 Education Hour 9:40 a.m.

Wednesdays at Zion (WAZ): 6:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Confirmation, Adventure Club, Sr. High Bible Study, and Adult Bible Study

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 (952)938-7661

Visit us on the web at www.zionhopkins.org.

Zion Early Childhood Center (ZECC)

A nurturing and loving environment for the growth and development of your child.

Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 (952)938-7661 ext. 21

When Last We Gathered

Attendance - March 20	253
Attendance - March 21	202
Attendance - March 23	587
Sunday School - March 23	6
Tithes & Offerings - March 23	\$18,124.34
Building Fund - March 23	\$2,535.83
Missions - March 23	\$600.95



Prayer Page

Jesus said, "If two of you agree down here on earth concerning anything you ask for, My Father in heaven will do it for you."

Matthew 18:19

Requests for prayers may be submitted in writing, phoned into the church office (952-938-7661) or by email at www.zionhopkins.org. Prayers may also be submitted to the prayer chain by calling Al Reich, 952-960-4352. Anniversary, birthday, wedding and thanksgiving prayers will normally be included for one week. Medical and special concerns may be included for longer as needed. *Please take this newsletter with you* and remember the following people in your personal prayers this week:

Special Concerns: Serving in Iraq: Lt. CMDR Jay Johnson (brother of Dave Johnson), Eric Emery, SPC Ryan Butler (son-in-law of Gerry & Chris Formo), PFC Nathan Ruth (son of Linda Ruth), SPC Thomas Miller; Paul Hassing (brother of Brad Hassing), John Kaminski (nephew of Joan Gilmore), and the U.S. Military.

Medical Concerns: Bev Mueller (daughter of Darlene Mueller), Marietta Nordstrom (mother of Dan Nordstrom and grandmother of Derek Nordstrom), Mike Lovel, Melbourne Carrigan, Nikki Laub, and Gerri Loder (mother of Chris Ahlman).

Thanksgiving: Birth of Ariail Marie Lowder (daughter of Amanda Hassing & Jim Lowder and granddaughter of Brad & Teresa Hassing), and the 10th Wedding Anniversary of Gary & Bonnie Shelton.

Zion Member Families: Each week the Ministry Leadership Team at Zion (pastors and staff) meet to coordinate the many different ministries here at Zion and to pray for individual families. This past week we prayed for Duane, Cynthia, Katie & Anna Proell; JoAnne Quast; Hollie Quirin; Claire Rabus; and Gerda Ralls.



Flowers are given by Gary & Bonnie Shelton in honor of their 10th Wedding Anniversary.

Life Thoughts

March 30 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

Easter hope lies not in some good man who taught of peace and love. Easter hope lies not in some man who died for a good cause. Easter hope lies not in some man who was raised from the dead. Easter hope lies in the words of Thomas, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). That makes Easter hope a sure and certain hope!

Zion's Happenings

Spring Food Drive: Spring has sprung, trees are budding, changes are abounding. Something that is not changing is the need for donations to our area food shelves. As things are getting tighter and tighter for many, the food shelves are seeing an increased need for food items and/or cash donations. From March 29 to April 13, the Human Care Board is having its Annual Spring Food Drive. There will be a basket by the office door for you to drop food items during the week. If you would prefer to make a cash donation (remember for every dollar received the food shelf can purchase \$5 of food.), please do so by putting your check or cash in a pew envelope and mark it "Food Drive." Items needed include canned/preserved meats, canned/boxed fruit juices, chili, stew, chow mein, combination meals, hot and cold cereals, Ramen noodles, ready-to-eat soups, broth, crackers, dry pasta, dry rice, dry beans, spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese, boxed potatoes, pancake mixes & syrup, canned fruit, peanut butter, jam/jelly, jello/pudding, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bath soap, shampoo, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning products, laundry and dish detergents.

Pastor Krienke's Retirement – Late last year Pastor Krienke announced to the congregation that on August 10, 2008, he will formally retire. After almost 29 years of faithful service to our Lord, Jesus Christ and Zion Lutheran Church, Pastor Krienke will step down as Associate Pastor of Zion. We will be having a "thank you for your service retirement celebration" on that day with many special events. The Board of Elders is asking any individual(s) who would like to be part of the Celebration Steering Committee to contact any Elder, the church office or Pastor Neal by Monday, March 31st.

New Member Reception and Potluck: On Sunday April 13 in the 10:50 service, Zion's new members will be received into the congregation! We are encouraging you to bring your best home cooking to the potluck and your warmest smile to greet and welcome them. This is such a fun and neat way to have time to visit with them and show our welcome. Start thinking about what you will bring!

Table Talks – What's So Great About Christianity? Pastor Neal will be leading a new Bible Class series beginning Sunday, April 20th at 9:40 am in the Fireside room (#104). Each week he will lead a lively discussion based on the book *What's So Great About Christianity?* by Dinesh D'Souza. Can an intelligent, educated person really believe in the Bible? Or do the atheists have it right? Has Christianity been disproved by science, debunked as a force for good, and discredited as a guide to morality? Dinesh D'Souza, is a former White House domestic policy analyst, is currently the Rishwain Research Scholar at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. We will use his book as a basis for our discussion during the next several weeks. Grab a cup of coffee and join your friends around the table for a lively session each Sunday.

Hi Ladies! How's the date of April 12 working for you? How about taking a break and come to the Women's Retreat April 12 from 8:30-2:30 here at Zion? Registration forms are ready and are found in the Welcoming area. Come to the retreat and be refreshed, renewed and encouraged in this journey of faith! The cost is \$10 and includes lunch! Earlyn Manlay of Liberia is the retreat guest speaker. The Liberian Church Praise and Worship Team (Robbinsdale) will be with her also! If you are so inclined, gently used items for kids (baby to age 16) in villages, orphanages, refugee camps in Liberia will be collected only the day of the retreat. Registration deadline is April 7. Questions? Call Carolyn 952-935-5909, Nancy 952-935-9445, or Karen 952-935-4356. Invite friends to come, they'll be glad you did!

Ladies, please plan on attending the LWML Spring Rally on Tuesday, April 15th, at Victory Lutheran in Eden Prairie. Dessert and registration are at 6:30 pm and the rally starts at 7:00 pm. Our speaker is David Berg, Shakopee Women's Prison Chaplain. Also, a former offender is sharing her experiences. The cost is \$4 and first timers are free. If you plan on riding Zion's bus or have any questions, please call Joan Gilmore at 952/936-9185.

Emma Krumbree's Bus Trip: Young at Heart is going to eat at Emma Krumbree's in Belle Plaine Thursday, April 17. The bus is leaving Zion at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to go. The bus holds only 25, so call early. Alice Anderson (952)938-5144.



Living the Vision begins in three weeks. On April 20th we will begin our three year debt reduction & building improvement campaign. Following the 10:50 AM worship service, we will join together in a celebration of thanksgiving for our many blessings with a potluck dinner. Music will be provided by Bob Parker and Katie Wareham with Rev. Donald Johnson, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, as the guest keynote speaker. All members and family are invited. Bring a dish to pass and get ready to rejoice and thank God for our many blessings! Please take time to **sign up for the cottage meetings** (sign up sheets are on the table in the Gathering Area). The cottage meetings are designed so each member will get detailed information on what **Living the Vision** hopes to accomplish, and for fellowship with each other as Christians. At the cottage meetings members will be asked to make a prayerful financial commitment toward the goals of **Living the Vision**.

Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF) is having their Annual Spring Salad Luncheon April 26 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to bring their favorite salad for the gathering and it's a nice way to entertain your friends. Please join us for a pleasant Saturday as we get together to share recipes with everyone! Expert quilter, Ann Zenke, is our guest speaker and she will share many quilting ideas and helpful hints. Watch for more news! Tickets are available in the Gathering Area.