



# Zion Lutheran Monthly

January 2011



## NEW LOOK, SAME CHRIST

The January Newsletter comes out in December?

Who ever heard of such a thing!

We wanted to have this month's newsletter out in time for Christmas. Why? Maximum readership. In other words, we want all of our guests and visiting family to have a copy of an up-to-date newsletter to take with them. And why have a newsletter telling you about things that have already happened, when you can have a newsletter telling you all about what's coming up!

And there is a lot that is going to happen in January! We'll be taking pictures for a new church directory, presenting a 5-year plan for the church and school at the voters' meeting, and getting started on our summer mission trip (LIMiT) to Minnesota. And maybe not as exciting, but we'll be using a new bulletin design that is easier to follow and contains the weekly Zionotes (AND saves the church some \$\$\$).



This time of year is as busy as it is special. And, for the first time, I am "doing Christmas" as a married man. Alissa and I have been running this way and that since before Thanksgiving, trying to get done what needs to get done. I can't even begin to imagine how busy bigger families must be.

The same Christ who was born in the manger, worshiped by angels and magi, feared by evil kings and believed on by shepherds is the one who also said: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." What sets "God with us" apart from everything else this Christmas season is that he is the one who puts no additional demands on our attention, but stands at our side, never "too busy" to be with us and never too distracted by the season to make good on his promise to never leave and never forsake, but always to be your advocate to the Father.

A very blessed Christmas and New Year to you.

In Christ,  
Pastor Duncan

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Alissa and I would like to thank the congregation for their generosity and support. Your gifts mean a lot to us; your continued friendship and fellowship even more.

-Pastor Duncan

Thank you so much for the thoughtful Christmas gift to the staff. We love serving the congregation and very much appreciate your generosity.

-Rhonda, Paula,  
& Darren

# Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances



I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. As we begin 2011, we ended this past year with a positive cash flow for the first six months of our fiscal year. As of January 1, 2011, we are **estimating** \$4,700.00 cash on hand. All bills through December have been paid.

November <b>Income</b>	\$ 29,904.00
November <b>Expenses</b>	<u>27,305.00</u>
Favorable to Income	\$2,599.00



We thank Our Lord and Savior for all of our blessings that have been given to Zion in 2010. We continue to pray that we are able to grow our outreach ministry and that we can maintain this positive financial picture for 2011.

~ Bob Schmidt, Chairman

## Notes From the Preschool

The wondrous Spirit of Christmas is still with us as we head into a new year. Our lives are changed through Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection. Sin is forgiven and we spread the Good News and glorify and praise God.

Our children at school praised God and spread His Word in song at their delightful Christmas Celebration, Happy Birthday Jesus! About three hundred students, parents, relatives, and friends attended the annual Christmas Program on December 16. The children practiced daily and did an outstanding job to the delight of the audience. After the program, the fellowship hall was very crowded with families sharing the joy of Christmas, stories of their outstanding children, and delicious cookies.

We were delighted to have Pastor Duncan in attendance. He is showing a much needed interest in your preschool. His presence in the school and at school functions is going a long way in knitting the church and school together. Thanks Pastor!



We thank the school board and their families for all the help they gave in serving the refreshments at the program. And please thank the school staff for the extra time they gave in making the program possible. We would not be able to have

a program without them. Thank the children's families for supplying dozens and dozens of cookies. And, of course, thank you "kids." You were great!

We are now looking toward the second half of the school year. Registration will be underway within a few weeks for the coming 2011/2012 school year. The church and school will have first chance to register before we open to the general public. If you are interested in your child attending preschool next year, watch the Sunday bulletin for the time-frame to register.

Happy New Year, keep warm, and praise God.

In His Service,  
Carole Davis, Director

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Lois Klemash     | 12 Ronald Valentino  |
| 3 Frank Ivanca     | 13 Debra LaJeunesse  |
| 4 John P. Eckels   | 14 Barbara Oechslein |
| 5 Gloria Godfrey   | 14 Shirley Bicusky   |
| 6 Decklan Pasquini | 14 Dustin Geregach   |
| 7 Tom Bicusky      | 16 Jacob Hartman     |
| 7 Luke Lemonovich  | 16 Marylou Neill     |



- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 18 Vickie Buzzell       | 24 William Schrag      |
| 20 Carol Schrag         | 27 Molly Oelschlager   |
| 22 Jacqueline Herschaft | 28 Alissa McLellan     |
| 23 Tim Sheldon          | 29 Sara Gielarowski    |
| 23 Don Oelschlager      | 31 Lillian DallaPiazza |
| 24 John DeRosa          |                        |



The committee decided on focusing on seven (7) key focus areas:

1) Outreach, 2) In-reach, 3) Youth Ministry and Early Childhood Program, 4) Worship Service, 5) Stewardship, 6) Technology, and 7) Church and Parsonage Facilities.

**Outreach** - Build and expand the outreach program around the existing programs and services.

**In-Reach** - Build and expand the in-reach programs by utilizing the existing Interaction committee.

**Youth Ministry and Early Childhood Program** - Develop a vision to expand and improve the current programs and services. Develop new programs and services offering to take advantage of existing staff and facilities.

**Worship Services** - Maintain traditional worship services while exploring new ministry options and worship service trends.

**Stewardship** - Develop proactive personal and financial stewardship programs.

**Technology** - Proactively leverage technology to improve overall ministry.

**Church and Parsonage Facilities** - Develop a proactive 1, 3 and 5-year maintenance facilities and building plan.

The above focus areas are in support of Zion's purpose and mission to carry out the Great Commission of our Lord, preaching and teaching the Word of God to all creation; to bring the lost to faith in Christ; to establish and strengthen the saints through Word and Sacrament; to equip them for ministry in the priesthood of all believers; to encourage them to works of charity; and to send them out into the world.

- To proclaim the word
- To reach the lost
- To equip the saints
- To send the saints into service

The above material will be presented and discussed at the January 30, 2011 Voters meeting.

~ Bob Schmidt, Chairman

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# NEW in 2011



**Dear Friends,**

We are excited to announce that we are going to create a new pictorial directory of our church family. The directory will help us to connect the names with the faces. It will be an ideal outreach tool and will capture the history of our church congregation.

Please participate! All we ask is that you have your picture taken by the professional Photographer and meet with a Portrait Consultant at the church. For the next several weeks, we will be making appointments before and after services and meetings at the church. Please sign up as soon as possible to get the best appointment to fit your schedule.

- ⇒ Every participating family/household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free directory and a complimentary 8x10 Custom Natural Portrait.
- ⇒ You will come to the church only once for photography and for portrait viewing.
- ⇒ The program is available at no cost to the church budget.
- ⇒ You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time. If you do so at the time of your portrait sitting, you will receive a 20% discount.
- ⇒ If you wish to purchase extras, the portraits come with a 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.
- ⇒ Whether you decide to dress formal or casual, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

**The Scheduled Dates for Photography and Portrait Viewing are:**

**Tues, January 25; Wed, January 26; Wed, February 2; Thurs, February 3.**

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 412-221-4776 or [secretary@zlcg.org](mailto:secretary@zlcg.org)

~ Pastor Duncan

# Service Participants for January

Greeters & Acolytes			
DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
December 31	7:00 pm	Gielarowski Family	Joshua Gielarowski
January 2	8:00 am	Gene & Sharon Koop	Joshua Gielarowski
	10:30 am	Janet Hickey	Ben Ackerman
January 9	8:00 am	Carl & Karen Bauer	Sara Vallelunga
	10:30 am	Harris Family	Molly Oelschlager
January 16	8:00 am	Larry & Janet Zreliak	Missy Radovich
	10:30 am	Eric & Michelle Hunsberger	Ryan Harris
January 23	8:00 am	Clara Hayes	Anthony Vallelunga
	10:30 am	Michelle Jenkins & Family	Ben Ackerman
January 30	8:00 am	Bob & Bernice DeBoe	Joshua Gielarowski
	10:30 am	Bill & Susie Bishop	Sydney Harris
February 6	8:00 am	Wayne & Kathleen Conn	Sara Vallelunga
	10:30 am	Wayne & Barb Oechslein	Mia Case

<b>ELDERS</b>	Jay Anderson & Tom Erbrecht
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Elsie DallaPiazza, Jean Endler, & Mary Hutula
<b>USHERS @ 8:00 am</b>	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, & Ron Meier
<b>USHERS @ 10:30 am</b>	Robert Oelschlager, Richard Quinlan, & Ross Chilcott

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the Church Office (412) 221-4776) of the change.

## FOOD BANK UPDATE:

It is a great joy to have such an outpouring of generosity from the members of Zion congregation for the needy children of the area. On behalf of the Bridgeville Area Food Bank (BAFB), we thank everyone who participated in the Christmas Angel Tree project. May those who gave and those who received be blessed with knowing that Jesus is the best gift of all.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in giving food throughout this past year. It has helped many families within our community.

There has been an increase in need for the food bank with the recent financial crisis and layoffs. We are experiencing many new households signing up for assistance. At the November distribution we had twenty new households register.

If you wish to help out, we accept all non-perishable items each month. You may place these items in the church narthex. In addition, an "item of the month" will be suggested as we combine efforts with other area churches to collect what the BAFB calls extras. These items normally are not purchased on a regular basis by the BAFB but are much needed supplies for individuals and families.

~ Barb Oeschlein

## Upcoming 2011 Food Bank "items of the month":

January	Soup
February	Cereal & Breakfast food
March	Fruit (canned and dried)
April	Rice, noodles, & beans
May	Picnic supplies
June	Paper products
July	Fruit juices and drinks
August	Crackers
September	Personal Hygiene products
October	Baking supplies
November	Meats and proteins
December	Hot drinks

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

7	Mark and Laurie Coleman	2006
20	Michelle and Gary Jenkins	1990
26	Susan and John Stone	1974
28	Jim and Marylou Neill	1967
31	Darren and Jennifer Elikier	1998



# Zion Lutheran Church

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**The Rev. Duncan McLellan**



# Youth News



Mark your calendars for June 25 – July 1!!

The Youth (and any willing adult chaperones) will be going to Lutheran Island Camp in Henning, Minnesota for a week of work, play, fellowship and ministry! Sure to last a lifetime, the memories we make will help us grow and apply our faith. There are several surprises along the way you're sure to like.

Details to come...

Cost: \$275 + gas. (Yep, we're DRIVING... ROAD TRIP!!!)



Start the New Year right ... **at CHURCH!**

Join us for New Year's Eve service on December 31st at 7:00 p.m. Beginning Sunday, January 2nd, we will be premiering a redesigned Sunday bulletin which will integrate Pastor's weekly ZioNotes. We hope you will enjoy this newly styled service bulletin.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### FOOD BANK

Collection for this month's Bridgeville Area Food Bank drive is Sunday, January 9. The "item of the month" is soup. You are also welcome to help at the Food Bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 and 12:00 at Bethany Presbyterian Church.

Schedule your portrait sittings for our new Church photo directory. Available dates are January 26, 27, February 2, 3. The times are 2:00 to 9:20 p.m. The portrait sitting will take approximately one hour and will take place in the fellowship room. If you would like to volunteer to be a host/hostess, you will receive a \$25 gift certificate toward a portrait package.

### PHOTO DIRECTORY

### WORSHIP TEAM

Want to be on the team that provides helpful information and ideas for the worship services at Zion? Open to all church members, we meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 for a little less than an hour in the sanctuary.

Will be starting back up after the Christmas season on Tuesday, January 11th from 8:00-9:15. The theme will be "Moses- a Man of God." Women of all ages are welcome, bring a friend! The first lesson will be a review of what we have studied so far. If you have questions contact Alissa McLellan at 412-295-5452.

### ZION WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

### ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Our monthly newsletter is now available online at [zlcb.org](http://zlcb.org). Inform the church office of your email address in order to receive the newsletter via the cyber highway. Let's save money and trees!