

Zion Lutheran Church

JANUARY 2009

CONTACT US!

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

M-F 9:00 AM-NOON

or by appointment.

Office Phone

(508)987-1248

email Pastor Simon

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Website

www.oxfordzion.org

Emergency Pastoral Contact:

(508) 987-3958



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNING:

9:00 AM Early service

10:30 AM 2nd service

TUESDAY EVE. WORSHIP

6:00 PM

SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR

Sunday School 9:30- 10:15 AM

Adult Forum 9:45 AM

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 4th: New Sunday School Schedule begins:9:30 -10:15 AM

January 4th: Adult Forum resumes at 9:45 AM

January 13th: 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting

"When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream" Psalm 126:1

Each January, as we reflect together on the possibility of another new year we often make "resolutions." Our resolutions are sometimes the things that never came to fruition in the way we had hoped during the past year. Sometimes they are that "new" thing that we have always wanted to start, but somehow never found the time. Often, resolutions are goals that we set for ourselves. If we complete them we believe our life will improve.

At the outset of this year, I see Zion as a place where our "resolutions" are like dreams for our community and our world. I heard this in the words of our committee chair-people as they shared the goals that their teams had set for the coming year. Some spoke of new projects, like the meals ministry that Paula Clark and Social Ministry are dreaming about or the new ministers that our Stephen Leaders are hoping to train. Some of these goals fell into that category of a resolution to do something that had been on the "back burner", like repairing the church doorbell and dishwasher. Patti Murray spoke about a resolution to change our Sunday School time to help parents and children to participate more fully in life at Zion.

All of these goals and dreams are, to me, examples of the restoration that God has provided for our congregation. By this time next year, we will see how they have improved our life together, and our service to the world that God loves.

In sending Jesus to live and die for us, God dreamt of a world that was filled with His light and love. We are freed by this amazing gift to dream of a world that continues to be filled with these things and we are empowered to be the people who live and die in the faith so that this dream becomes a reality.

I encourage you, if you are the kind of person who makes New Year's resolutions, to include one of these "dreams" of our church in yours. Even better, share a dream we haven't thought of yet!

God's Peace!

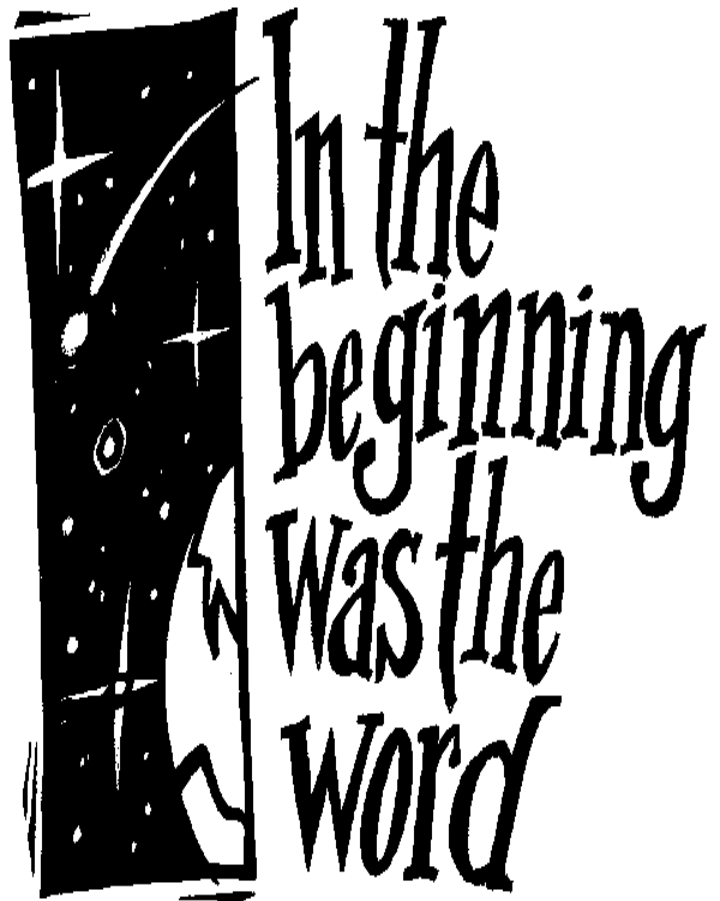
Pastor Andrew

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SHINE,
JESUS
SHINE!



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has occurred to me as I settled down to write this Christmas message to you that the greatest thing we need in our lives this and every season, is to know that God is with us at all times. This is surely the message of Christmas and the message of our faith.

As we come to the close of 2008 I can only reflect on the many sad moments we had in our Church. Some dear and respected friends passed on leaving us with deep emptiness. They also left Christian legacies for us to follow. Then there were the happy moments...so many of them. Membership growth; new communicants; new ministries; a new look to the Church compliments of Bay Path; and who can forget the baptism of our newest members, the triplets. Happy and cute!

On behalf of the Council I want to thank each of you have contributed so much to make our Church what it is today. Many have done little things that often go un-noticed; many have done grand things that go noticed. Everyone gave of their time, talent and treasures. I am constantly amazed at how we all follow the example of Jesus Himself and focus on others. We, at Zion, focus on the needs of others and strive to love them and invariably brighten their lives.

I wish you all a Christmas filled with joy, laughter, spirituality and lots of love! This is also my hope for you for the New Year.

Ossie Rambarran



ARE YOU EXPERIENCING A "WINTER" IN YOUR LIFE?

The winter weather we've had recently can be symbolic of what can sometimes happen in life. A crisis hits and we feel like we're buried beneath a drift of snow. Relationships can become "icy," or we can feel "frozen" by life circumstances. Little difficulties build up like "slush," making us slip and slide, causing every decision to seem treacherous. Life seems dreary, and we begin to doubt if spring will ever come. We can wonder, "Is God even there?"

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide confidential Christian care, giving you the emotional and spiritual support you need to make it through a "winter" in your life. To learn more about how a Stephen Minister can help you or someone you know, contact one of Zion's Stephen Ministry Leaders: Pat Bean, Jackie Bonneau, or Susan Pierce. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

A blessed and joyous New Year to all! The Stewardship Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your service to our Lord and to Zion this past year. It was a year that was truly blessed here at Zion. Thank you Lord!

The Stewardship Committee is eagerly anticipating an even better year at Zion. When we all take a moment to open our "Alabaster Jars" and give back to our Lord some of what he has given to us. Zion is a community of wonderful Christians that seem to always find a way to serve our Lord. We look forward to continuing the "clean our church" and help with "coffee hour" program. Thanks to all who took advantage of this opportunity to serve our Lord. We will try to put a reminder in the newsletter as to who has signed up to clean or do coffee hour and Karen will also make phone calls to remind people.

The Stewardship drive saw devoted Christians increase or maintain their pledges even with the tough economic times that exist. Pledging and E-Giving are both at all time highs. The church has set another ambitious budget but I know that Zion will rise to the challenge.

The Committee looks forward to achieving the goals that they set this coming year.

- To increase the number of pledging units.*
- To increase the number of e-givers from 16 to 20.*
- To educate youth and adults about stewardship.*
- To increase the number of volunteers for cleaning and coffee hour.*
- To promote our Endowment program.*
- To recruit one new member to our stewardship committee.*

Please remember to pick up your envelopes and if we forgot to assign you a box please ask Mike or Karen and we will be sure to get you some.

Thanks for this opportunity to serve you here at Zion and to serve our Lord.

Your Stewardship Chair
Michael Bellisario



CLEANING
FOR JANUARY

- Jan 4th-10** Paul Peterson
- Jan 11th-17th** Susan Leboeuf
- Jan 18th-24th** Ossie and Joan
- Jan 25th-31st** Scott Mueller and Maureen Stake



COFFEE HOUR
FOR JANUARY

- Jan 4th** Susan Leboeuf
- Jan 11th** Ossie and Joan
- Jan 18th** Dot Sundman and Laurie Larson
- Jan 25th** _____

ZION GREENING UPDATE

The Greening Committee has scheduled a free church energy audit for Friday, February 27th. The energy audit will identify ways in which Zion can improve energy efficiency and cut back waste. Results of the audit will be reported to the congregation.

Energy audits are a great idea not just for churches but for our homes too. If you're a National Grid or NStar Electric customer you can schedule your own free home energy audit by calling MassSave at 1-800-632-8300. Audits will take at least an hour and a half and you will need a recent electric bill and an estimate of your yearly oil usage if you use it for heating. The time it takes is more than worth it when you consider the cost sav-








JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Emma Grace Jonasch 05

Douglas Holst Sr 06

Debbie Plaza 06

Richard Piehl 08

James Williams 12

Linda Devlin 13

Carol Piehl 17

Siiri Jonasch 17

Justin Desmarias 18

Kelsey Bergeson 19

Kristina Canty 21

Kurt Redlitz 23

Andrew Borden 24

Jeff Makowski 24

Alice Grzlecki 27

Jayne Boutilier 28

Isabel Canolonga 29

Michael Bellisario 29

Braden Levasseur 30










NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Beginning on January 4th the Sunday School schedule will be as follows:

9:00 AM worship Service with children being dismissed to their classes after communion. If children and their families are not planning to attend that service, they should plan on being at church for Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Classes will generally run until 10:15 AM.

Patti Murray, Christian Ed Chair

THANK YOU!

Thank you all so much for a great Christmas, and for your generous gifts. We appreciate it more than you know and look forward to another great year!

God's peace, *Pastor Andrew and Kathleen*



MEMORIALS

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of

Oscar Jacobson

Given by

Jane Williams

Cindy Jacobson

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of

Oscar Jacobson

Given by

Margaret Heide

Doris Manzi

Chris Cioffi

Dot Sundman

Geoffrey and Mary Marsh

In memory of

Donna Cannalonga Harris

Given By

Barbara Steege

Gerri Siegmund

In Memory of Owen Bean

Given by

Barbara Steege

STAINED GLASS FUND

In memory of Andrew

Hoenig

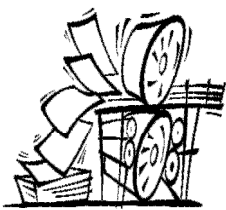
Given by

Elmira Surozenski



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marguerite Clark, Mrs. Wurth, Maryanne Grzelecki, Debbie Monaco, Matthew Lucas, Lois Austin, Arthur Siegmund, John Dunphy, Esther Elliott, Frank Abissi, Ronny Waters, Katie Schmidt, Mara Lounsbury, Patricia Mokaba, Rev. Don and Rev. Peg Olson, Richard Williams, Joyce Gatzke Tavares, Christina Miller, Theresa Bromme, Patz and Robert Clark, Earl Kunstman, Al Kilian, Gilbert Thibeault,, Ron Johnson, Alexia Clinton, Wilma Miller, Frank Maher, Margarethe Johnson, Mark Blamire, Barbara Hasenberg, David Marcoux, Robert Nowak, Kathy Witt, Rocky Miller, Jim McGovern, Norman Clark Jr., Albert Risner, Anne Bayer, Phyllis Watkins, Stephen Karp, Nancy Didonato, Isabel Cannalonga, Mary McIntyre, Sue Deorsey, Helen McGovern, Susan Rohr, Bob Blood Jr., Christine Miller, Geraldine Maher, Joyce Cozzens, Bernice Gladue, Dolores Masi, Lillian Durant, John Laverne, Michael Gustafson, Diana Powers, Peter Pierce, David Healy, Esther Wood; military personnel serving our country at home and in the Middle East especially Amanda Theodore, Joel Daoust, Rob Snow, Dedrick Baublitz, Michelle Ramsey, Richard Ramsey, Barbie Miller; and Jesse Meagher; Christians in the Middle East; our partner Synods the ELCJH and the Southeastern Minnesota Synod and the Lutheran Church in Honduras.



Newsletter articles due

Please email submissions to the newsletter on or before the 15th of each month.



THANK YOU BAKERS!

Dear Woman of the church, Thank you for baking for the bake sale on December 21. The bake sale made \$184.00 for the Scholarships and service project. We will be getting together in the near future so keep your eyes and ears open. If you have additional e-mail addresses to forward this to please do so. I am looking for addresses to as many woman as I can reach out to. Thank you again.

Happy New Year! Lisa Betrovski

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

Ed and Shirley Rossmeisl

Arthur and Marilyn Siegmund

Louise Cyr

Donald and Carol Weinhardt

In Loving Memory of:

Betty Redlitz

John Siemienkiewicz

Our parents and Grandparents

Alice Mroczek

Donald F. Olson

George and Gertrude Bayer

Ellen and Paul Renaud

Ed Heide

Emma and Emil Anderson

Michael Manzi

Our Parents

Richard Beresik

Aili Robinson

Willie and Frank

Ed Keegan Jr.

Anna and Bennenett Smith

Catherine Driscoll

In Thanksgiving For:

Our Grandchildren

Given By:

Conrad Redlitz

Priscilla Siemienkiewicz

Eileen and Michael Bellisario & Family

The Olson Family

The Olson Family

George and Janet. Bayer

Jayne Boutilier, Paul and Joy Arent

Margaret Heide

Margaret Heide

Doris Manzi

Sandy and Joe Maisano

Nancy Fournier

Ashely Yaskis

The Munsch Family

Betty Keegan

Betty Keegan

Ed and Judy Keegan

Given By:

Frank and Janet Abissi

