
The Contact

January 2005

Pastor Paul D. Ostrem
Cheryl Hollich—Lay Associate
Katherine Grafft—Missionary to Mexico
Wilma Roach —Secretary
Oscar Alvarez —Custodian

Phone Numbers
Church Office 563-263-5074
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Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship Service 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
9:15 A.M. Sunday School

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MUSCATINE, IOWA
PERMIT NO. 299

Return service requested

Zion Lutheran Church
PO Box 585
6th & Sycamore St
Muscatine, IA 52761
563-263-5074

January 2 is a day set aside on the Lutheran calendar of observances and commemorations to honor Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe. *Sundays and Seasons*, a resource we use for worship planning, says this about Loehe:

Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. From the small town of Neuendettelsau he sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine. His work for a clear confessional basis within the Bavarian church sometimes led to conflict with the ecclesiastical bureaucracy. Loehe's chief concern was that a parish find life in the Word and Sacraments, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. Many Lutheran congregations in Michigan, Ohio, and Iowa were either founded or influenced by missionaries sent by Loehe, and the chapel at Wartburg Theological Seminary (in Dubuque) is named in his honor.

Loehe's vision to see Word and sacrament at the center of parish life can lead us on to think about ways that the incarnate presence of Christ in communion sends us out in a life of ministry and mission.

At the annual meeting on January 23, the congregation will be asked to approve a set of core values for our congregation and a new Zion Plan for the next five years or so based on these core values. We state clearly that the first core value we hold is Word and Sacrament. It seems to me that as one of those congregations established and nurtured by pastors sent by Wilhelm Loehe and by those who picked up his mantle in this country like the Fritschel's, Zion is right on track when we say first and foremost that we value Word and Sacrament and that from these gifts and means of grace everything else should proceed. If we are not about Word and Sacrament as a congregation, we are off track.

As much could be said about us as individuals. We are "off track" if we do not give a high priority to hearing and sharing the Word and receiving the Lord's Supper regularly and with joy throughout the year. As we think about the year ahead, I pray that the means of grace, Word and Sacrament will be at the center of our life as a congregation and as disciples of Jesus.

Pastor Ostrem

As usual, I am writing this January article just before Christmas. It's difficult to think January when one is in the midst of Advent and Christmas preparations. Then something happened last night that made this article crystal clear--

Last night was the Sunday School Christmas Program. All the students were prepared and did a fine job. Some wore costumes, some didn't. The practices had culminated in this one night. They knew their lines and presented them with clear speaking voices. It was one 3 or 4 year old little boy, one child, who in the midst the program, summed it all up. He was dressed as an angel and as his class finished singing "Away in the Manger." We adults were ushering them back to their seats when he simply said "I want to see Jesus." He hadn't been able to see the manger and he all he wanted was to SEE JESUS. He's right! That's what Christmas is all about—we all "just want to see Jesus." December 25th will have come and gone by the time you read this but hopefully, Christmas will remain with you into this new year:

Christmas comes every time we see God in other persons.

*The human and the holy meet in Bethlehem
or in Times Square,
for Christmas comes like a golden
storm on its way to Jerusalem—
determinedly, inevitably...*

*Even now it comes
in the face of hatred and warring—
no atrocity too terrible to stop it,
no Herod strong enough,
no hurt deep enough,
no curse shocking enough.*

*For someone on earth will see the star,
someone will hear the angel voices,
someone will run to Bethlehem,
someone will know peace and goodwill:
the Christ will be born! (Ann Weems)*

May you be that someone.

Blessings, Cheryl

PRAYER CORNER

*"Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus
and for all people according to their needs."*

THOSE HOSPITALIZED & THOSE WHO HAVE REQUESTED OUR CONTINUED PRAYERS:

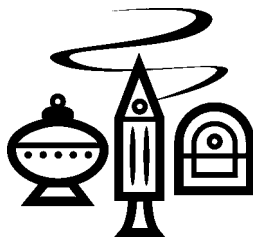
Tim Stange Karen Padgett Betty Miller
Lisa (Frieden) Dowell Emmert Heitmann
Art Miller Pastor Don Sondrol
Janet Askam Amy Meyer Kathy Wagner
Carl Freese Helen Freitag
Christina Holtz Doris Schreiner
Wilma Roach

Those who have lost loved ones:

the family of Irma Bender
the family of Earline Rueckert
the family of Henry Stegner
the family of Ruth James
the family of Leola Dittman

Other Special Needs:

- 1) Pray for the hungry and the homeless through out the world and for those for whom the cold weather will present special challenges and danger.
- 2) Pray for our missionary to Mexico, Katherine Grafft; our Bishops, Mark and Philip, and all who serve the Church.
- 3) Pray for our nation and its leaders, for peace in our world, an end to all conflicts, and for all those who serve our nation on foreign soil.
- 4) Pray for the annual meeting of the congregation on January 23.
- 5) Give thanks for those who have served on our congregational council this past year.
- 6) Pray for the work of MCSA, the food pantry, Lutheran Homes, and Lutheran Services in Iowa
- 7) Give thanks for new members Joe Daniels, Sharon Haller, Sarah King, Bryan Moore, and Bob and Cindy Schreiner.



The Fellowship Committee invites you to express your warmest wishes to the following members of Zion who celebrate their 80th or older birthday this month:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO

CHESTER ZIMMERMAN	JANUARY 6
JACKWYN OPEL	JANUARY 7
JUNE PRIES	JANUARY 31

*DENOTES 90+ YEARS

ASH WEDNESDAY

**IS FEBRUARY 9, 2005...
WORSHIP WILL BE AT
5:30 PM**

*Anniversaries
this
Month*

50+ YEARS

Dick & Norma Jean Boldt
January 23, 1949

Thank You!

Thank you so much for the birthday cards, it is so nice to be remembered.

Mildred Meyer

To all who sent me birthday cards and those that personally wished me well thank you so much. It was appreciated.

Carl Freese

Thank you to everyone for the expression of sympathy upon the death of our son Benjamin. We appreciated the cards, telephone calls, flowers and monetary gifts towards the Saylie Trust Fund.

Pastor Allan & Christine Sims

A special thanks to those who donated their time and resources to organize and purchase gifts for the children in the HOPES program. We are also extremely grateful for your willingness to extend a helping hand in the kitchen. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our friends and supporters at Zion Lutheran Church. We appreciate all you do!

The HOPES Staff

Members of Zion Lutheran Church

Thank you so much for the \$750.00 scholarship. It will be put to good use while I work on finishing my Junior year at Iowa State University. It is greatly appreciated & will help me further my education. Thanks again,

Ali Batenhorst

Thank you Pastor Paul, Cheryl, Trust Fund Committee and members of Zion for the scholarship. This is very helpful for my college career. Thank you again.

Jason Dierdorff

We would like to thank the Christmas carolers for the beautiful Christmas songs. God bless you all. Danke Schön.

Ivan & Gertrude Day

Dear Zion Friends, Thank you for the cards, memorials, flowers and prayers following Mom's death. Your love and support has been so helpful at this time.

Leola Dittman's Family

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the lovely birthday cards I received for my 80th birthday. Being a member of the Zion Lutheran Church Family continues to be a blessing to me.

Sincerely,
Shirley Stange

Thank you for allowing us to hold our annual LSI Christmas party at Zion. It provided a relaxing atmosphere and everyone had a wonderful time!

LSI Staff

Thank you Zion for supporting the Christmas Sharing Projects for 2004. You provided 47 toys/clothing for children associated with the LSI HOPES Program and Volunteers & Information. You also provided \$140 in food vouchers for families in the community. May your New Year be filled with blessings.

LoAnne Worth & the Social Ministry
Committee

Pew Cushions

Upon the arrival of new pew cushions at Zion, we offered the old cushions to anyone in the community. Fellowship United Methodist — St. Pauls Church requested them for their church on Park Avenue. We received the following note from Pastor Enna Antunez:

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

We would like to thank you very much for your gift of pew cushions. They are being put to good use and the color is perfect for our sanctuary. It was very thoughtful of you to think of us.

May the Lord bless you in your work and may you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of His love at Christmas and always.

Pastor Enna Antunez

Financial Report

If you would like to see the full report as the finance committee and council sees it and reviews it each month, please call or stop in the church office and we will gladly share it.

ZLC Monthly Financial Update

	November, 2004	11/12 Year	Year-to-Date
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income			
Budgeted Income	\$ 257,993	\$ 265,925	\$ (7,932)
Unbudgeted Income	\$ 18,187	\$ -	\$ 18,187
Total Income	\$ 276,180	\$ 265,925	\$ 10,255
Expenses			
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 259,516	\$ 265,925	\$ (6,409)
Unbudgeted Expenses	\$ 15,329	\$ -	\$ 15,329
Total Expenses	\$ 274,845	\$ 265,925	\$ 8,920
Income - Expenses	\$ 1,335	\$ -	\$ 1,335
Fund Balances			
Current Fund	\$ 23,856		
Memorial Fund	\$ 4,300		
Building Fund	\$ 17,025		
Gateway Apartments	\$ 27,395		



FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

As another set in the Faith Stepping Stones, beginning Sunday, January 30, 9:15 AM, there will be a four-week course for all 4th Grade students (and older) to prepare to receive their first communion.

One parent or adult sponsor is required to attend with their child. Upon completion of this course, students will receive their first communion on Sunday, March 6, at the service of their choice.



Welcome to our New Members! Add them to your directory:

Joe & Michelle Daniels
Jacie & Lainey
 1218 Orange Street
 Muscatine, IA 52761
 288-9445

Sharon Haller (Fred)
 525 Lorenz Street
 Muscatine, IA 52761
 264-3367

Sarah King (Jon)
Emily
 1877 Bayfield Rd.
 Muscatine, IA 52761
 263-0593

Bryan & Sarah Moore
 118 Aber Avenue
 Iowa City, IA 52246

Bob & Cindy Schreiner
 103 Summerfield Blvd.
 Fruitland, IA 52749
 263-2641



FLOWER CHART

If you would like to sponsor flowers on the altar "in memory or honor of" someone for a given Sunday, please sign up on the 2005 flower chart posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

Please note:

If you know of a young person who is receiving their first driver's license, please let Cheryl Hollich know. Thanks.



ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the congregation will be Sunday, January 23, 2005, at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall. The meeting will be preceded by a potluck dinner following the 10:30 service. Items on the agenda will include elections to the congregational council and trust fund committee, presentation of the 2005 budget, and presentation of Zion's Core Values and the 2005 Zion Plan. Other items may be brought from the floor. All confirmed members of Zion are voting members and are encouraged to attend.

Nominees secured for the elections as of this printing include:

Secretary – Deb Hughes
Treasurer – Dave Hanson
Parish Education – Fran Carter
Property – Jeff Kokemuller
Planning –
Fellowship –
Youth (one year term) –
Nominating Committee –
Trust Fund Committee – Dorothy Thompson

FORUM – Zion 2005 Plan

One of the agenda items at the annual meeting of the congregation on January 23, will be the presentation of a new document called "Zion's Core Values" and a new "Zion 2005 Plan". So that members of the congregation may have time to examine these documents in greater detail and ask questions about them, there will be an open forum on Sunday, January 16, during the 9:15 education hour. These documents will be available in the narthex beginning January 2.

Supper Club

Make a New Year's Resolution to be part of the Supper Club. All ages are invited! Sowers will meet for dinner on Saturday, January 22 at 6:00 p.m. at "The Elms." Come and join us for good food and fellowship. Sign up today!

Hospital Addresses

The addresses for area hospitals are sometimes needed when sending cards to our church family. The addresses are:

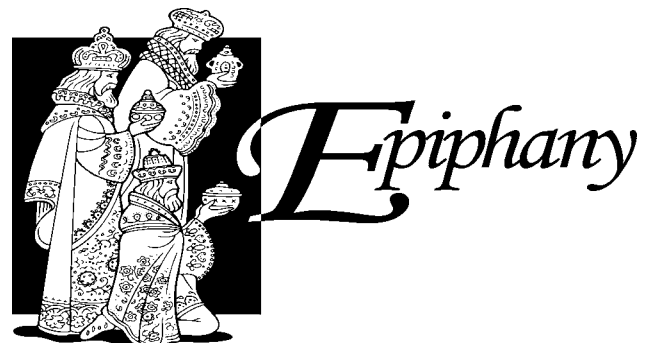
Unity Hospital
1518 Mulberry Avenue
Muscatine, IA 52761
563-264-9100

University of Iowa Hospital
200 Hawkins Drive
Iowa City, IA 52242
319-356-1616

Mercy Hospital
500 East Market Street
Iowa City, IA 52240
319-339-3627 or 1-800-637-2942

All mail for Genesis patients is sent to the East Campus for distribution—

Genesis Medical Center
East Campus
1227 East Rusholme Street
Davenport, IA 52801
563-421-1000



Trust Fund Committee

The Zion Lutheran Church Trust Fund Committee presented two \$750 scholarships on Sunday, December 19. The recipients of these scholarships this year are Jason Dierdorff, a student at the University of Iowa and the son of Jeff and Denise Baird; and Ali Batenhorst, a student at Iowa State University and the daughter of Mike and Beth Batenhorst. Their names now appear on the plaque which hangs in the entrance to the fellowship Hall and which lists past recipients of these awards. In addition, the Mission Outreach Fund awarded \$500 grants to the University of Iowa Chaplaincy Program (LSI is no longer funding this ministry), and Project PROSPER, a family education course developed and implemented by ISU Extension. If additional money is available in the Mission Outreach Fund at the end of 2004, it will be given to support family needs through the local LSI office.

Sower's ~ ~ ~

Start those new projects or finish those old ones...Sowers will be held on January 17th at 6:30 p.m. at Helen Colony's. Come and join us for fun and fellowship.



From the Staff ---

THANK YOU

We want to thank everyone who remembered us this Christmas season with cards, gifts, and greetings. We appreciate your kindness and being remembered in these ways. God bless you all in the year ahead.

Pastor Paul, Carol, David, and Philip

Thank you to everyone for your cards, gifts, and well wishes during this Christmas season. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Cheryl Hollich

It has been a pleasure to work with such wonderful people as the Zion family. I want to thank you for the wonderful gifts, cards and well wishes extended this holiday season. My wish for each of you is to have a peaceful and safe New Year.

Wilma Roach



**Martin
Luther
King Jr.
Day**

We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of (people) willing to be coworkers with God...

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Youth News

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

**Sunday, January 16
Circa 21, Rock Island
Meet at 3:15 PM at Zion**

This show is a classic from Andrew Lloyd Weber. Group rate for youth 18 & under is \$20.00 Adults: \$36.50. That includes the show, buffet, tax, and gratuity. See Cheryl if you haven't *placed or paid your reservation*.



Book Sale

Thank you to everyone who supported the youth book sale. The youth earned \$168.80. We hope everyone enjoyed the books that were ordered. Thank you!

Summer Mission Trip Meeting

Sunday, January 16,
11:45 AM (after worship)
Grades: 6-12

- For all parents & youth currently in Grades 6-12
- Learn about a new possibility for this summer's youth mission trip.
- We will travel to a camp in Wisconsin.
- Sr. High will be part of Road Rulz—living together in an RV and traveling to undisclosed destinations to work and help others. Bible Study along the way.

Meanwhile, the Middle School youth will G.D.G.—Get Dirty for God. This is a site based-program where our group will travel each day to sites to do work projects like repairing the environment, painting & fixing elderly homes, etc. They will return to camp for food, lodging, showers, etc.



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

As an extension of the Faith Stepping Stones and in conjunction with the County Extension Office, Zion will be sponsoring a series of seven sessions for families of 5th & 6th Graders.

Sundays, January 23 & 30, February 6, 13, 20, 27, and March 6, 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

See Cheryl for registration form. There is no cost to Zion families.

February 4-5

Women's Retreat



Talented, Tired, Beautiful Feet... Benet House Retreat Center, Rock Island, IL

This retreat will take you on a spiritual journey "on foot" to discover and celebrate your unique talents and put your best foot forward to serve God and others.

Retreat Leaders: Pr. Kathy Gerking, Assistant to the Bishop & Cheryl Hollich

We will leave Zion (carpool) at 6:00 PM and return about 4:00 PM. Space is limited to 22 people so register early. There will be time for creativity, group interaction, small group time, a guided meditation, food and fellowship.

**Cost: \$40/person (2/room)—
includes 2 meals, lodging &
supplies, Scholarships available.**

**Deadline:
January 30!**

**Bring a
snack to
share!**

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Roommate Preference: _____

____ I will drive and I can take _____ people in my automobile.

(Give check and registration form to Cheryl Hollich. Make checks payable to Zion Lutheran. Deadline for registration is January 30, 2005)

LAY READERS

		8:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
January	2	Lorna Welk	Nancy Keel
	9	Richard Jacobsen	Bonnie Nicolai
	16	Dave Starkweather	Dick Boldt
	23	Peggy Starkweather	Sarah Perisho
	30	Ray Stange	Kathleen Schippers

GREETERS

		8:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
January	2	Wilma Fosholt	Joy Frost
	9	Fred & Teresa Colony	Bob & Mary Danner
	16	Jurgen & Jan Boche	Margaret Weisner
	23	Scott & Wendi Meerdink	Don & Shirley Stange
	30	Larry & Reita Driskell	Eric & Barb Evenson

HOSPITALITY SERVERS

January	2	No Hospitality
	9	Church Council
	16	No Hospitality
	23	No Hospitality
	30	Planning Committee

AMBASSADORS

2	Kent & Mary Heckman
9	Margaret Wiesner & Helen Colony
16	Dick & Evie Marr
23	No Ambassador
30	Bob & Bonnie Nicolai

USHERS

January	8:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
	Art Miller , Dave Phelps, Jake Dornbush, Charles Hoffman, Justin Dornbush	Riley Padgett , Charles Meyer, Ernest Marolf, Mike Watson, Mark Perisho


ACOLYTES

January	8:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
	2 Brandon Bass & Meredith Baird	2 Halston Phelps & Karly McDonald
	9 Molly White & Sara Subbert	9 Philip Ostrem & Mario Alvarez
	16 Brandon Bass & Kirsten Schneider	16 Halston Phelps & Justin Honeyman
	23 Marissa Toyne & Kathleen Pusateri	23 Chelsea Echelbarger & Zarah Batie
	30 Brandon Bass & Molly White	30 Halston Phelps & Karly McDonald

ALTAR GUILD

Mary Koester
Dorothy Thompson

JANUARY 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26  Christmas Caroling Party 8:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Worship Service	27 8:00 AM Office Closed 9:00 AM Contact Articles	28	29	30 9:00 AM Assemble Contact	31	1 New Year's Day  Happy New Year from Our Staff
2 8:00 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Study 10:30 AM Worship Service With Holy Communion	3	4 6:15 PM Fellowship Committee 7:00 PM Women's Retreat Planning 7:00 PM Evangelism Committee	5 5:15 PM Youth Choir 6:00 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	6 Epiphany 4:45 PM Planning Committee 6:00 PM Gateway Task Force	7	8
9 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Study 10:30 AM Worship Service	10	11 5:30 PM Memorial Committee 7:00 PM Stewardship Committee	12 5:15 PM Youth Choir 6:00 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	13 7:30 PM Church Council	14 9:00 AM Assemble Annual Reports	15
16 8:00 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Study 10:30 AM Worship Service With Holy Communion 11:45 AM Youth Trip Mtg. 3:15 PM Circa 21--Youth	17	18 1:30 PM Group 4 - ZLCW 5:30 PM Parish Ed. Committee 6:30 PM Thrivent Meeting	19 5:15 PM Youth Choir 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM Cherub Choir 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	20 6:30 PM Property Committee 7:30 PM Group 5 ZLCW	21	22 6:00 PM Supper Club to Elms
23  ANNUAL MEETING 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Study 10:30 AM Worship Service 1:00 PM Annual Meeting 5:00 PM Strengthening Families	24 Contact Articles Due 6:30 PM Sowers	25	26 5:15 PM Youth Choir 6:00 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	27 9:00 AM Assemble Contact 7:30 PM Group 6 - ZLCW	28	29
30 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Study 9:15 AM First Communion Class 10:30 AM Worship Service 5:00 PM Strengthening Families	31	1 6:15 PM Fellowship Committee 7:00 PM Evangelism Committee	2 5:15 PM Youth Choir 6:00 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	3	4	5