
Mt. Zion Herald

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church & School
1680 Balsam Avenue Boulder, Colorado

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303-443-4151

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus, our Lord;

One of the most familiar Bible passages known is John 3:16, "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."

As we go into the month of February many of us think of Valentine's Day and "love"; the love we have for family, friends, and our sweetheart! It really is a great month and time to reflect upon the wonderful word "love".

Isn't it interesting that also this month we start the Lenten season. On February 17th, Ash Wednesday, we have the opportunity to once again reflect upon the Word "love". Notice the upper case "W" in the Word?! The Word is Jesus. Jesus is love. Lent affords us the opportunity to truly reflect upon the meaning of "love", God's love for us. That undeserved love of Jesus who suffered, died, buried, and rose from the grave because He loved us!

His love you cannot buy, earn or cooperate to get...He just gives it freely. The response is just to love Him back! That is faith, loving Him who paid the price for our sins and giving us freedom from sin, death, and the power of the Devil. What great love is this!

So, as we look forward to the month of "love", we can bask in the love that never changes...Jesus' Love! Hoping to see you for worship on Sunday and on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. for Lenten Worship.

I am...

In Christ's Service and Love,

Pastor Allen D. Anderson

Hi! My Name Is _____!"

How is your greeting ministry? Greeters are the front line for every church and the first contact many of your visitors will make with your church. It becomes very important to put your best foot forward. Why greet? To share the love of Christ with a stranger.

Before addressing tips and tricks for greeting, let's look at who visits our churches. Visitors can often be divided into two categories: those who are invited and those who aren't. If you have been a member for more than three years, chances are you will invite out-of-town friends and family. You seldom invite unchurched friends. If you have been a member under three years, you are probably inviting unchurched friends. This is great for adding to the Body of Christ. Focusing evangelism efforts towards unchurched folks is like sowing in fertile soil.

Now let's look at the uninvited, the ones that just wander in on a Sunday morning: The vast majority of these folks are "church shoppers." That is, they are likely leaving another church for any number of reasons. They have heard something about your church and are coming to check you out! Finally, we have the uninvited unbeliever. These are extremely rare. Should one come through your doors, praise the Lord. Their presence is likely the result of someone's fervent prayer, maybe for years. God has elected to direct this person to your church for good reason.

An important thing we need to understand about first time visitors is that they are assessing your church from the time they park their car and walk in. They will have formed an opinion by the time they sit down. If it is not a positive entrance, it will take much work to undo this perception if you have the opportunity at all. So how do we make positive contact with these folks? There are probably a dozen or more things you can do, but let's just look at three very positive things.

First, you will need members dedicated to this tasks who will get out of their "Holy Huddles" on Sunday morning before church and commit to being a greeter. Most churches are much more informal than they were 30 years ago. However, if you have a very traditional service and folks wear dresses and coat and tie, then a reception line style of greeting is fine. For most churches though, having your greeters "roam" your pre-church gathering area is probably the best. This provides a level of spontaneity that a reception line will not.

In either case, roam or reception style, there are three basics that you want to do:

1. Be on the lookout for the unknown person. They may end up being a member, but if they are unknown to you, seek them out and continue with the next step.

2. Introduce yourself as follows: "Hi my name is _____." Shake their hand and wait for them to give you their name. This is the most precious thing they are giving you -- their name. Use it! Then engage in conversation, asking about them, using their name at least three times in conversation. This lets them know you value them enough to remember their name.

3. Introduce them to others. Once you have learned a little about them, introduce them to another member that may have similar interests or just a good conversationalist. By doing this, you are expanding their contact points with your church. This is extremely important. Be careful who you introduce them to; a Downer Darrell or Sad Sally is poor choice. But Perky Polly or Friendly Fred are great choices. You may even want to work in pairs with other greeters.

All of these tips will likely take less than five minutes, but will leave an enormous impression on

visitors. Now, when they go to sit down (and, hopefully with a bulletin you have provided), they will have a positive impression, which just happens to be a good position to be in for receiving God's blessings this day!

Provided by Jack Rawlins, EtS Presenter
Equipping to Share Newsletter with Lutheran Hour Ministry

Submitted by Debbie Duggan, Outreach Chair

Check out the new Lutheran Study Bible!

In October of 2009 a new study Bible was released that is uniquely Lutheran.

The Concordia Publishing House lists the following features:

Engage in devotional, Christ-centered Bible reading and study with the distinctive, comprehensive notes and practical application of The Lutheran Study Bible.

This new Bible is the first in English to be developed from the ground-up with notes that are distinctively Lutheran, prepared by Lutheran theologians and pastors from over twenty Lutheran church bodies. Current Lutheran scholarship, insights from the Church Fathers, and rich devotional commentary provides meaningful perspective for both young and mature Christians.

The Lutheran Study Bible features:

- **26,500-plus uniquely Lutheran study notes.**
- **Over 2,000 application notes and prayers for every part of the Bible.**
- **80,000 center column cross-references.**
- **Over 900 cross-references to 120 full or half-page maps, charts, and diagrams.**
- **220-plus articles and introductions to biblical books and topics.**
- **Insights from early church, medieval and Reformation era church fathers.**
- **Uses the English Standard Version translation, one of the most precise English translations available.**

The Bible is available through www.cph.org , currently on sale for \$39.00 in regular print and in large print at \$49.00. Let me know if you would like to take a look at my copy before making a decision to order.

Yours in Christ,

Duane Duggan, Elder

Lenten Series – Lenten Lights

*Wednesday, February 17th
Theme: “By Moonlight”
Text: Matthew 26: 36-40 ~ Luke 22:43*

*Wednesday, February 24th
Theme: “By Torchlight”
Text: John 18: 3-12*

*Wednesday, March 3rd
Theme: “By Lamplight & Firelight”
Text: Matthew 26: 59-68 ~ Luke 22: 54-62*

*Wednesday, March 10th
Theme: “In the Gray Dawn”
Text: Luke 23: 1-11*

*Wednesday, March 17th
Theme: “In the Morning Light”
Text: Matthew 27:15-19 ~
John 19:1-12*

*Wednesday, March 24th
Theme: “In the Sunlit Streets”
Text: Luke 23: 24-30*

All mid-week services during Lent are held at 7:00 p.m. On each of the six Wednesday services there will be soup suppers for everyone in the fellowship room starting at 6:00 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.

Thrivent Financial members invited to join in \$3 million Helping Haiti effort Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members who want to make a financial contribution to support disaster response efforts in Haiti can have their donations to one of four Lutheran relief agencies multiplied by the fraternal benefit society.

To participate, visit www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti and make a contribution to one of the following:

**Lutheran World Relief
ELCA Disaster Response
LCMS World Relief/Human Care
WELS Committee on Relief**

Thrivent Financial will add \$1 to every \$2 its members donate, up to a total Thrivent Financial contribution of \$1 million. That means a potential of \$3 million or more to support relief efforts: \$2 million + from its members and \$1 million added by Thrivent Financial.

For questions or alternative ways to donate through this program, please call 800-236-3736. When promoted, say “directory” and enter ext. 83003.

Lutheran Family Services of Colorado:

LFS continues to resettle refugee families on a weekly basis and is greatly in need of kitchen type tables and chairs. Call Rita Harding at 303-389-2336 to schedule a pick-up.

Save these dates:

Saturday, April 24, 2010 – LFS Annual Gala – Inverness Hotel & Conference Center, Englewood, Colorado – Details announced soon.

Monday, July 26, 2010 – LFS Golf Tournament – Hiwan Golf Course – Evergreen, Colorado – 7:30 a.m. – Now recruiting new committee members – both men and women welcomed – for more information contact Danette Goldhammer at 303-217-5860 or danette.goldhammer@lfsco.org

Lutheran Family Services Fundraising Concert

On Friday, February 26 at 8 pm Amy Grant will be in concert at The Paramount Theatre, 1621 Glenarm Place, Denver, 80202. Tickets to this fundraising event may be purchased at www.lfsco.org, 1.866.461.6556 or at the Paramount Box Office, Pepsi Center or Dick’s Sporting Good’s Park. Ticket Prices range from \$40 to \$150. There are limited tickets available for \$150 which also includes a dessert reception with Amy Grant.

LWML Valentine Luncheon

All women are invited to the luncheon on Saturday, February 6 at Mt. Zion. Bring a salad to share. Lunch will be served at noon. We will do the "*Heart*" Matters: a Look at Mary Bible study from the Winter 2009 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. We will be preparing Valentines with gift cards for our college students and young adults. Bring your Mite boxes

Toddler Class – Ms. Balchunas

The toddlers have had a very relaxing, yet fun-filled start to 2010. We are continuously working on our social skills and manners. Being kind to our friends is of upmost importance and must be positively reinforced daily. The toddlers painted, glued stars, colored on butcher paper and had a great time bringing out our inner artist. We are looking forward to February and all the excitement Valentine's Day will bring.

Ms. Anderson's Preschool – 2 ½

Our Preschool class has been so busy in the last few months. We have been learning many new things and have been playing a lot too; after all we are 2 and 3. We have been learning to write the number one and also learning to write the first letter of our names!! We have been having fun learning about penguins, Mozart and about stars. We have also made two new friends this month that are a great addition to our class. It has been a great month and we cannot wait to learn and grow more together.

Mrs. Walker's Preschool - 3

The themes for the month of February are Ground hog's day, Valentines Day, and President's Day. The children are looking forward to our Valentines Day Party on the 12th of February. Bible's stories for February are :
Jesus chooses 12 Disciples, Mark 3:13-19; Zaccheus, Luke 19:1-10;
Jesus feed the 5000, Matthew 14:13-21; The Prodigal son, Luke 15:11-32.

PreKindergarten – Mrs. Anderson

It is hard to believe that it is a new year already! Our class is very busy getting ready for Kindergarten. This is what we did in January:

Jesus Time

Wisemen visit Jesus
Jesus is baptized
Jesus feeds the 5,000
Jesus walks on water

Topics

Winter
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Groundhog Day

Number – 5

Math – Sets & Comparing Sets

Critter – Coconut Crab

Letters – A,B,C & D...upper & lower case

Kindergarten- Mrs. Wu

February, what a great month! There is so much to learn and do this month in the kindergarten classroom! The biggest celebration is The *100th Day of School* party. This is not a normal cake party but a special day of math fun! Everything has to do with counting to 100. From counting 100 pieces of food for a snack to 100 steps to see where 100 steps from the classroom door takes you. It sure makes math fun! Then we have Groundhogs day and Valentines Day. Puppets, cake, cards, blocks, puzzles, and playdoh. Don't you wish you were in Kindergarten again?

Hi from 1st and 2nd ~ Mrs. Sarr

The first and second grades are hard at work. We are studying the New Testament and learning about the disciples and the miracles of Jesus. In science we are discovering how we hear and see. We did some activities where our hearing and sight were somewhat diminished and realized we are very thankful that God gave us the gift of sight and sound. The second graders are doing well learning cursive letters and learning the often difficult concept of borrowing and carrying in math. The first graders are becoming very independent in their work which tells me they are confident in what they are doing. Their reading skills have improved so much since the beginning of school. It is a blessing to see the growth in each student as the year progresses. We are now getting ready for Valentine's Day!!!!