

# THE ZION STAR

March, 2010

Zion Lutheran Church 1015 SW Eighteenth Avenue Portland OR 97205-1708

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Dear members and friends of Zion,

"He was wounded for **our** transgressions and bruised for **our** iniquities, upon Him was the chastisement that made **us** whole, and with His stripes **we** are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) We begin April in Holy Week, in the Upper Room, in Gethsemane, in the courtyard of Pontius Pilate, at the foot of the cross on Calvary, and the first Sunday in April brings us to the glorious, triumphant resurrection.

We must always keep in mind that Jesus did this **for us!** We are not outsiders; we are not spectators. We are involved! We are participants. What Jesus did was for us and for our salvation – and the salvation of the world! His blood cleanses us from all our sin. His death is the death of our death. His resurrection is our victory of life. Because He lives, we, too, shall live.

The cross and the empty tomb make all the difference in the world, and in the world to come. We need to show the world what a difference it makes in our everyday life.

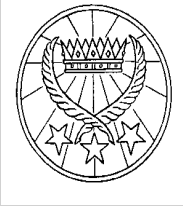
A blessed Lent, Holy Week, and Easter season to you all!

*Ty Miles, Pastor*



## What Lutherans Believe:

God uses the "Means of Grace" to create, strengthen and sustain Christian faith in a person. The "Means of Grace" are God's Word (the Holy Scriptures) and the Sacraments (Holy Baptism and the Holy Communion). God can use many different things to build and strengthen our faith. We know for sure He uses "The means of God."



THE ZION STAR IS THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**PASTOR**

THE REV. TYRUS H. MILES

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

KURT BERENTSEN, DIRECTOR  
FLOY BERENTSEN, ASSOCIATE/  
ORGANIST

**GERMAN MINISTRY ASST.**

THE REV. HANS SPALTEHOLZ

STAR EDITOR: PASTOR MILES

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
11 AM



**EDUCATION HOUR**  
9:30 AM



**EUCCHARIST**

1ST, 3RD, & 5TH SUNDAYS  
CHURCH FESTIVAL DAYS



**GOTTESDIENST**

(GERMAN LANGUAGE SERVICE)  
SECOND SUNDAY AT 9 AM  
SEPTEMBER-JUNE

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

TUESDAY-FRIDAY 9AM—2PM

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE ON THE MAX  
LIGHT RAIL AT THE  
KING'S HILL / SALMON STREET  
STATION  
(NEAR PGE PARK)

Dear Friends at Zion and of the German-Language Ministry,

Lent, so early this year! It is good again to follow our Lord on His way to the Cross. These 40 days are a valuable personal time, a time “to see Him more clearly, to love him more dearly, to follow him more nearly.” But Lent is also a missional time. On His way our Lord is always on mission. And so are we. How is our Lenten walk going?!

What does being missional mean in our increasingly secular and pluralistic society? The new-year issue of *The Lutheran Witness* had a special focus:

“The Church in a Post-Church Culture.” \* It’s timely, challenging and helpful. A “post-church culture” is a culture in which the church’s significance is waning. How to gain “the posture of missionaries in a pre-Churched world”—how to inter-connect with the unchurched of our culture and at the same time remain faithful to our confession of the Faith—that’s “the million-dollar question for every church desiring to follow Christ in a post-Church world.” (see the article on page 9)

Recently we heard of a congregation that was waning, if not dying. Its people whittled down their once fitting list of seven objectives to two: faithful Gospel preaching *and* reaching out in caring love with the Good News of Christ’s death and resurrection. There astonishing growth is faith-full and promising.

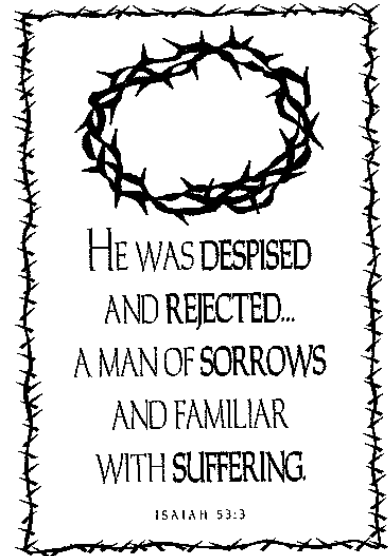
Thus it was a special joy that a number of persons studying German at local colleges attended German service last month. The coffee hour is such an important time of one-to-one welcoming and building relationships. The start of faith-related conversation!

Readings for German service, Mar. 14, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, are: **Ps. 84:6-13; Isaiah 54:7-10; 2 Cor. 1:3-7; Jn. 6:55-69.** The Gospel focuses on Jesus’ mission, especially to his own disciples, who are evidently getting cold feet. Do ponder what that discourse means for Jesus’ mission, and for our following Him in our post-church culture.

This Lent let’s return to the Lord from all that hinders a closer personal relationship with Him, and let us practice reaching out, beginning at coffee after the next German service! So come to Lenten worship, and bring your family, bring a friend!

Lenten blessings with eyes and ears on Christ!

*Pr. Hans Spalteholz*



# MUSIC MINISTRY AT ZION LUTHERAN

## Lent – A Time of Rebirth

In the liturgical season of Lent we are encouraged to examine our lives and repent of our sinful ways. This however is only the beginning of the process. The word “Lent” is derived from early languages referring to the season of Spring - which is a time of rebirth. The Lenten tradition of repentance continues then with one starting fresh or turning from sinful ways and starting anew. This may then lead to rebirth and renewal of our lives in both our personal lives as well as the life of the church.

Lent is not about self-condemnation or simple penance. It is about change. Repentance in the church is designed to build one’s life on the solid Rock of Christ Jesus. It is about moving one’s life from “self-centeredness” to “other-centeredness”, from “self-absorption” to the “self-forgetful” and the “building-up” of the body of Christ in family and church. This change calls us to love others as a transformed child of God – just as we were transformed on the day of our baptism. This “rebirth” sets us on the path then to enjoy the fullness of life through Jesus Christ. It readies us to accept the greatest miracle of the Christian Church – the resurrection of Christ which prepared our path to everlasting life.

May God truly bless our time of rebirth in this season of Lent.

In Christ’s Love,  
Kurt and Floy Berentsen



The NWPM fundamental tenet is , “a respect for people of all faiths and a commitment to work together to help our neighbors in need.” There are thirteen Faith Community Partners. The following is a listing of the Faith Community Partners – Ascension Episcopal Parish, First Immanuel Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church, Congregation Beth Israel, Havurah Shalom, The Parish of Saint Mark, Portland City Center Sanctuary, Saint Mary’s Catholic Cathedral, Saint Patrick Catholic Church, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Zen Center of Portland, Zion Lutheran Church. In addition there are thirteen community partners. We will list them in next month’s STAR.

## THE FOUR ‘M’S’ OF CHILDREN’S NEEDS

Children need a model (an example, a role model)

Children need a mentor (someone to take a personal interest and teach them)

Children need a motivator (one to encourage them)

Children need a monitor (one to lovingly hold them accountable)



### LUTHER'S 95 THESES

## LUTHER'S 95 THESES

PLEASE NOTE: THE 95 THESES ARE **NOT** AMONG THE CONFESSIONS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH. ALWAYS keep in mind the setting and context out of which Luther writes these 95 Theses. In 1517, it was a very different world and time in the Church than today.

31. The man who actually buys indulgences is as rare as he who is really penitent; indeed, he is exceedingly rare. 32. Those who believe that they can be certain of their salvation because they have indulgence letters will be eternally damned, together with their teachers. 33. Men must especially be on guard against those who say that the pope's pardons are that inestimable gift of God by which man is reconciled to him. 34. For the graces of indulgences are concerned only with the penalties of sacramental satisfaction established by men. 35. They who teach that contrition is not necessary on the part of those who intend to buy souls out of purgatory or to buy confessional privileges preach unchristian doctrine. 36. Any truly repentant Christian has a right to full remission of penalty and guilt, even without indulgence letters. 37. Any true Christian, whether living or dead, participates in all the blessings of Christ and the church; and this is granted him by God, even without indulgence letters. 38. Nevertheless, papal remission and blessing are by no means to be disregarded, for they are, as I have said (Thesis 6), the proclamation of the divine remission. 39. It is very difficult, even for the most learned theologians, at one and the same time to commend to the people the bounty of indulgences and the need of true contrition. 40. A Christian who is truly contrite seeks and loves to pay penalties for his sins; the bounty of indulgences, however, relaxes penalties and causes men to hate them – at least it furnishes occasion for hating them.

## **NEW MISSION STATEMENT!**

*Celebrating the Presence of God  
in the Heart of the City.*

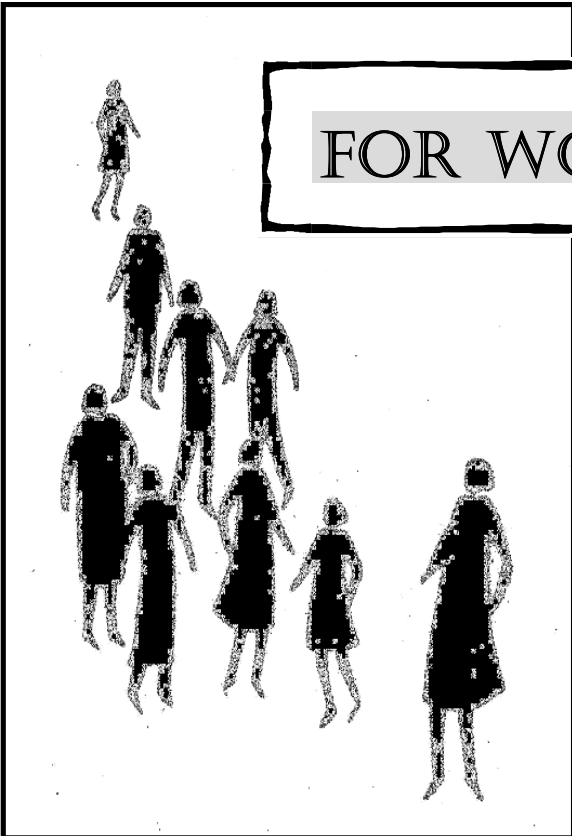
The November 29<sup>th</sup>, Voters Assembly adopted a new Mission Statement for our congregation. The explanation of each part of the Statement continues from last month:

*GOD = respects all the manifestation's of the Almighty, all powerful One. We proclaim all the ways that He reveals Himself to us— Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We see God as the compassionate father who sent His Son to suffer and die for us and who makes himself known to us through the Holy Spirit. We understand God as Love, Creative energy, all knowing, ruler of the universe, suffering servant and fellow human being.*



## 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ZION APPROACHES

The February 28<sup>th</sup> Voters Assembly will be asked to approve the make up of the 125<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Committee for Zion. We hope to involve all the members of Zion in the celebration. The following have been asked and have accepted the invitation to be on the committee: Ruth Hyde, Honorary Chairperson, Bob and Carol Wagner, Co-Chair, Lynn Hyde, Secretary, Russel and Joan Black, Brian Fleener, Scott and Pamela Jensen, Darcy Martin, Sharon Miles, and Pastor Miles (advisory).



FOR WOMEN



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

There will be a gathering of Lutheran women in ministry, including girls, on Saturday, April 10th, from 9 AM through a nice luncheon, to be held here at Zion Lutheran Church. The inspirational speaker will be Donilee McGinnis, **MISS OREGON 2006**. This articulate, Christian, young woman will spea  
on living with and relating to autism (her brother is autistic), which was her platform in the Miss Oregon and Miss America pag-  
eant. Autism is close to home to many of us,

and certainly touches all of our churches. Donilee will also share her experiences as a Christian representing Oregon. This gathering for all women is part of the Interstate Zone LWML Spring Rally. Further information will be coming. What an exciting opportunity!



**Human Care Ministry Update**  
Submitted by Karen Graham  
Director of Human care & Special Ministries

**MISSION SUNDAY**

**MARCH 14th**



Celebrating our connection with Pastor Chuchu and the Diakonia Ministry in Kenya. A presentation will be given during Fellowship Hour. Interested in preparing a Kenyan food item????  
Please contact Karen Graham

## IN OUR PRAYERS AT ZION

The following have been in our prayers in morning worship at Zion during the past month:

- Gideon's ministry,
- Haiti victims and relief efforts,
- Ed Krieger,
- Christa Spalteholtz,
- Bob Lundgren,
- Vern Morasch,
- The family of Jonathan Cleveland,
- Irene Hall,
- Evadne Hilands,
- Trenton Batey,
- Joyce Knisley,
- The family of Vern Morasch,
- Judy Burgoine,
- Inez Lucker,
- Sky,
- Mac,
- Jesse Thurston & baby daughter
- The Lutheran Hour Ministries,
- Elaine Lewis (91<sup>st</sup> birthday),
- The local food bank,
- Valentine's Day,
- Ron & Melinda Ashton,
- Ingeborg Hailey,
- Baptism of Danika Morasch-Bowen,
- Marshall Union Manor worship hour,
- Bob Duncan.

# Organ Completion Project



**\$60,000 GOAL**

**\$19,364**

**We're on our way!! - almost 1/3 of the way to reach our goal for the completion of the organ project. Also, keep in mind the Book of Pipes if you want to make a special donation in memory of or honor of someone.**

## ***It Happened in March***

On March 30, 1890—Palm Sunday—the members of Zion assembled for the Dedication of their just completed church building on the corner of Southwest 18th and Salmon. To have a church of their own was a large part of the vision those German Lutherans had for the future.






It was a rainy day, but that fact did not dampen the spirits of members and guests as they filled the church almost to capacity. (It seated 200.) Fellow Lutherans from Albina, Sherwood, Cornelius, and Mt. Angel joined in the celebration in a setting of palms and greenery.

During the evening service, Holy Communion was celebrated for the first time in this place.

The "old church" was used for sixty years and was razed in January of 1950 for the construction of the parish hall wing of the present church building.

From the Zion Archives

# MARCH 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		10:45 Bible Study 12 noon Guild Brown Bag Luncheon		Handbells 6:30 Choir 7:30	6:30pm Support Group	
Communion Sunday 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship		7pm Book Club	6pm Support Group	 Choir 7:00		Spring Clean up Inside and out 9:00 am
MISSION SUNDAY 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00 German Service 9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship 		10:45 Bible Study  Board of Elders 5:30	Saint Patricks Day  Girlchoir Haiti Benefit Concert 8:00pm Board of Directors 5:30	Choir 7:00		
Communion Sunday 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship  Altar Guild Meeting following worship		7pm Book Club	6pm Support Group	No rehearsals		
PALM SUNDAY 28	29	30	31			
9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship  FOOD BOX DELIVERY 1:30pm 			SPECIAL WEDNESDAY REHEARSAL  Handbells 6:30 Choir 7:30			

# Portland Symphonic Girlchoir

## "Sing For Haiti" Concert & Community Sing

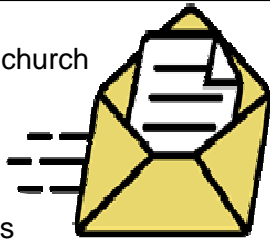
Wednesday, March 17th, 2010, 8:00 PM

### Zion Lutheran Church

The choirs of the Portland Symphonic Girlchoir join with special guests, the Parkrose High School Debonaires, presenting a benefit concert to raise money for Haiti victims recovering from the devastating earthquake. All proceeds will go to Mercy Corps. A wide-ranging program is planned, including audience participation, joining all of our voices to raise money for Haiti.

Ticket cost: Donations accepted

If your email is not in the church records, please call the church office and give it to us. It's a great, instant, way of communicating and there are times when we'd like to send out a message to the members of Zion via email, as a group or individually.



# HELP!

We are in need of knowing who in the congregation has a medical background or training. We would like to compile a list so that, in the event of a medical emergency at the church, we would know of capable people to assess the situation. Please let the church office know if you can help.

## Coming to Zion in April

April 1st - **A Seder Meal** (Passover Meal) at Zion.  
5:30pm before the evening Service.

April 7th **American Red Cross Blood Drive** the first sponsored by Zion in many years. A sign-up sheet will be in the Parish Hall.

**R**ecently, I met with some members of one of our congregations for a Q & A about a number of issues. It was a good dialog, just like one would hope for among children of God. There were differences of opinion and even disagreements, but all spoke with respect, kindness, and gentleness—the kind of thing that comes only from the Holy Spirit working through the Gospel.

One of the topics that arose was this: How do we reach out to, or start new outreach to, people who are not believers and who do not come to church?

There is some good scriptural teaching on this topic that we have to know well in order not to do the wrong things and not to condemn things that are good.

First, it's false doctrine to expect that unchurched unbelievers will come to church on their own. We read in 1 Cor. 12:3: "No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except in the Holy Spirit" (ESV). Jesus said, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide" (John 15:16). Paul wrote to believers regarding their lives before they came to faith: "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked" (Eph. 2:1). We confess in the Small Catechism: "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel. . . ." Unbelievers do not choose to believe; they do not choose on their own to come and hear the Gospel. In order to believe, they must hear the Gospel, because "faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (Rom. 10:17).

Unbelievers, then, will not, on their own, choose to come and hear the Gospel. We (the Church) must go to them. So don't expect your unbelieving, un-churched, un-baptized neighbors to wake up next Sunday morning and, on their own, say, "Hey! I think I'll go to church today!" That is as likely as a dead person saying, "Hey! I think I'll be alive now!" It's not going to happen.

So we (the Church) go to the unbelievers. We engage them in conversations about God's message of sin and forgiveness in His Son. We proclaim it to them, and we invite them to come and hear more of it.

And where do we go to do that?

### A Scriptural Model

In Acts, we read how Paul and his companions usually went to a synagogue upon entering a new town. In Philippi, where there was no synagogue, they went to the river to find a place of prayer. But in neither case did they immediately set up a table, buy some bread and wine, say the Lord's words of institution and invite the people to the Lord's Supper. The people there weren't

yet believers in Jesus; so the Lord's Supper was properly closed to them. First, Paul and the others conversed about and proclaimed the message of salvation—always with the hope, prayer, and intent of bringing their hearers to the promises of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as the Holy Spirit worked faith through the proclamation of the Good News.

One of my favorite models is Paul in Athens (Acts 17:16–34). Paul went both to the marketplace and to the Areopagus—places where people gathered for a number of things, including what we might call "just hanging out" to talk about stuff. And he talked with them about sin, grace, Jesus, the cross, and the resurrection. He did not conduct the Divine Service; he did not preside over and serve the Lord's Supper; he went to where people went to hang out, and he engaged them with the message of sin and the message of forgiveness in Jesus' name. Great!

### A Question

Now here's the question for me, for you, for your congregation: "Where's your Areopagus?"

I'm not talking about a place in Asia or Africa, or in Europe or Latin America. I'm talking about right there in your community, in my community, in this post-Christian culture. That's not an easy question to answer, and I'm not giving you the answer. But I encourage you as an individual, and as a congregation, to ponder, discuss, pray about, and act upon it as the Lord leads. Since you cannot expect unbelievers to come to hear the Gospel on their own, where do you as a person, as a congregation, go to take the Gospel to them, or to invite them to come and hear it?

This is the question I posed to the congregation that day, and the one I'm posing to you, to all of us.

Through all your pondering and discussing, I encourage you to pray daily that the Lord will send workers into His harvest; that He will multiply new churches and new believers; and that He will add to our number daily those who are being saved.

\*\*\*

**Unbelievers . . . will not, on their own, choose to come and hear the Gospel. We (the Church) must go to them.**



Rev. Dan P. Gilbert ([dan.gilbert@ni.lcms.org](mailto:dan.gilbert@ni.lcms.org)) is president of the LCMS Northern Illinois District.



## EASTER LILIES FOR THE SANCTUARY

If you would like to designate an EASTER LILY for a memorial or special occasion, please fill out this order slip and return it with your payment to the church office by Palm Sunday, March 28th with a check made out to *Zion Altar Guild*. Lilies are \$10 each and may be taken home after the April 4<sup>th</sup>, Easter morning Service.

### EASTER LILY ORDER

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Lilies

If so desired:

A memorial for:

\_\_\_\_\_

Special occasion:

\_\_\_\_\_

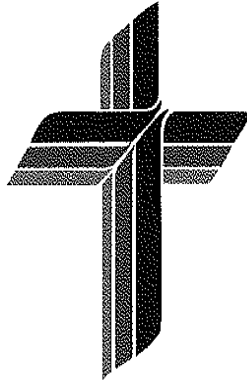
Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check out to the Zion Altar Guild in the amount of \$10 per plant and return this order form to the church office by Palm Sunday, March 28th.



### Meaning and Use of the LCMS Logo Cross

Introduced in 1984, the LCMS logo cross features three crosses in one. It declares that “we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity.” The open arms point upward toward God in prayer and openly receive God’s grace., The lower arms point down, as if open to embrace the world with God’s love. The 12 individual parts of the logo cross remind us of the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles. The four arms appear to be in motion, as we urgently tell the world what God’s love in Jesus Christ means to us and, uniquely ,as Missouri Synod Lutherans.




### Home Bible Study in North Portland

One of our members in north Portland has offered their home for a home Bible study. If you would be interested in participating, please call the church office.

### HOW ABOUT THESE “One-Liners”



- Compassion is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.
- He who angers you controls you.
- Worry is the darkroom in which negatives can develop.
- Be ye fishers of men  you catch them and He’ll clean them.



# BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

- 3/1 Ingeborg Hailey
- 3/1 Naomi Hidden
- 3/1 Meta Moesing
- 3/4 Mike Thomas
- 3/6 Richard Blechschmidt
- 3/12 Veronica Martin
- 3/15 Scott Wagner
- 3/16 Chris Wagner
- 3/19 Brian Boe
- 3/19 Lindsey Contino
- 3/20 Ronald Waldon
- 3/22 Nicholas Ashton
- 3/23 Margaret Olson



## Spring Cleaning Day

**INSIDE and OUT!!!!**

March 13th

9:00 am

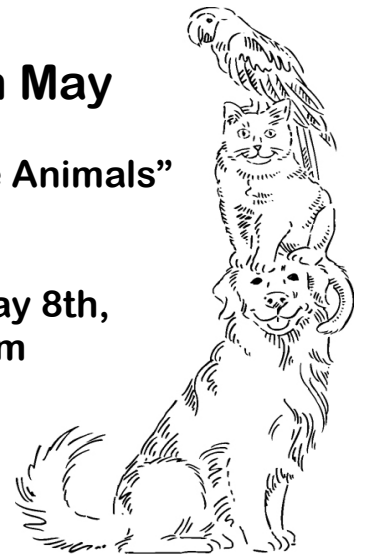
Please come lend a hand!

## Coming in May

“Blessing of the Animals”

on

**Saturday, May 8th,  
10:30 am**



### SKY OF MERCY: A BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN EUCHARIST

Saturday, March 13, 5 p.m.,

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Trinity will hold a Lenten Eucharist set to the music of The Boss. The service will feature an assortment of instruments and intergenerational musicians leading the service in Springsteen's songs of struggle, redemption, courage and hope.

The offering will go to the Trinity Food Pantry, which served nearly 20,000 people last year. The service will be held in the Cathedral



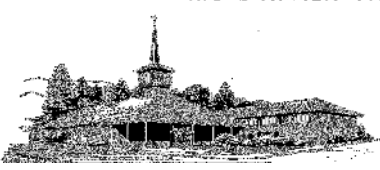
THE **ZION STAR**  
March, 2010

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*Celebrating the presence of God in the heart of the city*

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 1015 SOUTHWEST EIGHTEENTH AVENUE  
PORTLAND OR 97205-1708

Return Service Requested



THE **ZION STAR**

# LENT

Beneath the Cross of Jesus  
I long to take my stand;  
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,  
A home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat  
and burdens of the day.

