

THE ZION STAR

November, 2009

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

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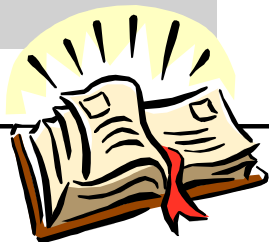
Dear members and friends of Zion,

And now November comes knocking at the door! Probably most of us think of "Thanksgiving" when we turn the page of the calendar and see November. It's a great month, and a wonderful time for us to pause and "count our blessings!" Thanksgiving is obviously made up of two words, thanks and giving. November is a month to encourage us to give thanks all the time, not just once a year!

Giving thanks – to whom? First and foremost, we give thanks to almighty God, "from whom all blessings flow." Then, hopefully, we give thanks to the people in our lives who are a blessing, family and friends, co workers and classmates, caregivers (teachers, doctors, nurses, etc) and civic workers (fire fighters, police, political leaders, etc), maybe also the workers behind the counter in the grocery store checkout line and other places for their friendly smile and pleasant manner.

Let's look for opportunities and ways to give thanks. It's not enough to think it, we need to say it – and not just say it but show it. Real thanks-giving is thanks-living! Happy November!

Your friend and partner in Christ,
Ty Miles, pastor



WHAT LUTHERANS BELIEVE ABOUT

INFANT BAPTISM:

Lutherans believe that infants are included in "all nations" when Jesus said that we are to "Go, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ..." We believe that the power of Holy Baptism is God, not the individual being baptized, not the parents and not the pastor. God is the One who gives the faith. In the book of Titus, the third chapter, it says that "... He saved us ... in His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit ..." We believe this is a reference to baptism. Is that all there is? Absolutely not! Just as a newborn baby must be nourished, loved, cared for and protected, so, too, the newborn infant in Holy Baptism must be nourished, loved, cared for and protected. Baptism is not in a vacuum. More on this in the December issue of the ZION STAR.

HOW ABOUT THESE

"One-Liners"

Give God what's right,
not what's left.

Man's way leads to a hopeless end,
God's way leads to an endless hope.



A lot of kneeling will keep you in
good standing.



THE ZION STAR IS THE MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FLOY BERENTSEN, ASSOCIATE/
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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!

It's a joy to highlight Thanksgiving in our November *Star*. This day is a special gift to us as a nation, as individuals and as a community of Christian believers. And not just as the first holiday since Labor Day in our busy lives of budgeting time and resources, of personal crises and challenges, of major national ones in the economy, Afghanistan, health care, and more! Thanksgiving Day marks, we know, a defining moment for our founding Pilgrim Fathers: These settlers from Europe—devastated by disease and starvation their first year on the rocky, wooded shores of New England, surviving largely by the generous help of local Indians—these immigrants paused to join in thanking God for his amazing providence and deliverance. Thanksgiving is a gift to celebrate.

It reminds us—all immigrants ourselves or descendants of immigrants—how blessed we are as inheritors of this bountiful land, and it binds us together here as “one nation...” It is a secular holiday, called annually by the President, and yet it expressly places us as “one nation *under God*,” and what's more, it calls us all to join in giving thanks to God. Amazing! And while we may be religious or spiritual individually but as a nation are very diverse and fiercely secular in how we deal with many of the above issues in our lives, Thanksgiving is the only secular holiday included in our liturgical church-year calendar! That's significant for us as citizens and as a church and for our worship this month.



JOINT FRIENDSHIP HOUR NOVEMBER 8TH

Once again we will have a joint Friendship Hour of the German congregation together with the English congregation. This is planned for November 8th for the time between 10:15 and 11 AM. We look forward to the conversation and connection with one another.

The call to Thanksgiving challenges us to ask: What is God's Word saying about how God figures in to our lives and all the above issues? In his month's German service we will celebrate Thanksgiving *in advance* and listen for the good News in the lessons for Nov. 8—**Psalm 146; 1 Kings 17:8-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44**. As the 2nd Sunday of the End Times, its lessons radically shift our perspective from the tyranny of the Now to seeing life from its End. That's jolting but liberating as Good News. Please ponder the lessons, particularly Mark's contrast of the rich worshippers with the poor widow who with her mite gives her all. What is God saying to us here for Thanks-Giving!

A joint coffee hour with the english congregation is planned for Nov.8. So come, bring a friend, and in thanksgiving celebrate anew our faith and fellowship in Christ!

Gottes Segen und auf Wiederseh'n! -- Pr. Hans Spalteholz

Thanksgiving – Truly a Christian Holiday

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song. (Psalm 95:2)

Have you ever noticed how little the secular world makes of the holiday of Thanksgiving? If you watch television on Thanksgiving Day, you may see some examples of friends and family coming together for turkey and “all the fixings” but rarely much about truly being thankful. On television we see the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York as one of the first Thanksgiving television specials. But the focus is mostly the symbol of the retail-merchant’s “opening day of the Christmas Shopping Season”, although many have taken a head start beginning this “season” directly after Halloween. Through this example, many view Thanksgiving as only the springboard or even just the half-way mark for getting ready for the really BIG holiday of

Christmas that is approaching. This may be because Thanksgiving has never really symbolized a theme upon which retailers other than grocery stores can capitalize.

Most of us learned in school that Thanksgiving was first observed by the Pilgrims, a religious community in Massachusetts.

In 1621 they celebrated a plentiful harvest made possible through the massive assistance of the Native Americans. They celebrated with their Native American friends not only for the harvest but for the fact that they were one of the 56 of the original 102 who survived the past year’s ordeal.

The establishment of a yearly national day of Thanksgiving in America was not a simple matter. George Washington attempted to create a National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789 but many did not believe that a day should be put aside each year simply to commemorate the hardships of a few Pilgrims. It wasn’t until a magazine editor and activist woman named Sara Josepha Hale began such a “holiday crusade” during the presidency of Abraham Lincoln seventy five years later in 1863 that the day

**Praise
GOD
from
WHOM
ALL
blessings
FLOW**

of Thanksgiving was decreed to be observed yearly on the last Thursday of November.

Since our capitalistic society seemingly has very little interest in a holiday set aside to appreciate what we HAVE rather than one focused on what we DON’T HAVE and NEED, Thanksgiving probably best can be viewed as a sacred holiday. Thanksgiving is more than a day of celebration. It is a “state of attitude”. It is a time that we set aside to give thanks to God for giving us all that we have. It is a time that we give thanks for our most precious gifts which are mostly those gifts that no one can take from us. Family, friends, good health and life itself can easily account for our most valued possessions, but we must never forget to give thanks for our greatest possession given to us in our baptism. As Christians, we may then choose to use Thanksgiving as our “springboard” to the Christmas Season, to prepare our hearts and minds with THANKSGIVING for the gift of Christ given to us by our Heavenly Father on Christmas for our eternal salvation.

Floy and I give thanks to God for you, our church family at Zion Lutheran. May you be especially blest at the time of Thanksgiving, even as you are a blessing to others.

In Christ’s Love,
Kurt and Floy Berentsen

Concordia Christmas Chorale

December 4 & 5 7:00pm
December 6 3:00pm

St. Michael Lutheran Church
6700 NE 29th Ave.
Portland, OR 97211

Note from Northwest District President

Rev. Paul Linnemann, newly installed (at Zion) president of the Northwest District, LCMS, sent the following note: *“Dear People of Zion Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for hosting my installation service last Saturday. It was a day of great blessing and lasting memories for me. God bless your ministry of reaching out with the love of Jesus.*

Paul Linnemann”

IT'S HAPPENING HERE

ZION'S OFFERING TO THE COMMUNITY FOR THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF OREGON

On Saturday, November 21st, at 3:00 PM, Zion will host an event for the community to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Oregon. We have a guest speaker, Kara Kaser, from the Oregon Historic Preservation, and are in the process of lining up a traveling exhibit to be on site from the Oregon Historical Society or something that has to do with the Oregon Trail exhibit. There will be a special presentation by Dr. Brent Mai, from Concordia University, on the Vulga Germans who settled in Oregon.



- 11/2 Sheila Lamb
- 11/5 Greg Bruce
- 11/7 Jade Dudley
- 11/12 Caitlin Biggar
- 11/15 Joel Block
- Rebecca Jensen
- Thomas Martin
- 11/17 Alex Fleener
- 11/18 Elaina Batey
- 11/20 Jody Martin
- 11/23 Susan Halverson-Westerberg
- 11/25 David Craddock

congratulations

- 11/4 Tracy & Walt Contino
- 11/23 Arlene & Brian Boe

QUESTION . . .

Would you be interested in participating in a project to mark the 150 Anniversary of Oregon - such as cleaning up an old cemetery in need of help? If so, let us know at the church office and we'll work with the Preservation office to make it happen in the name of Zion.

New members of Zion!

New members introduced and welcomed into Zion October 25th are the following:

- Kurt & Floy and daughter, Kendra, Berentsen
- Daniel & Stephanie and son, Ethan, Stoppenhagen
- Sam Ellingsen
- Mike & Diana Curtis
- Richard Blechs Schmidt
(activating his membership)
- Ben Burch
- Bruce & Suzanne Hofer
- Steve & Retta Braun



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP

We'd like to offer the opportunity for the men of Zion to come together for coffee and rolls on a Saturday morning for an hour long Bible study. We could meet from 8 to 9 or 8:30 to 9:30. Please contact Lacy Hall or Pastor Miles if you would be interested. This kind of Bible study has been a tremendous blessing for so many in other churches - let's try it!

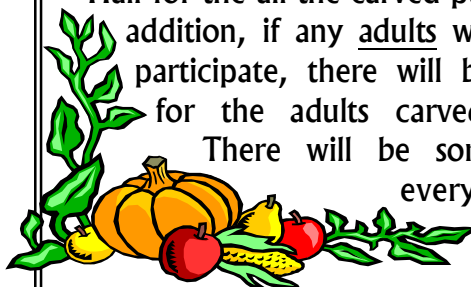


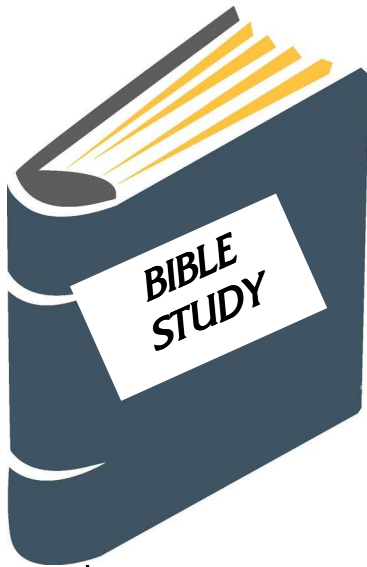
PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Since Sunday, November 1st is the day after Halloween, we invite the kids to bring their pumpkin to church that morning and we'll have a display in the Parish Hall for the all the carved pumpkins.

In addition, if any adults would like to participate, there will be a display for the adults carved pumpkin.

There will be something for everyone who brings a pumpkin.





HOME BIBLE STUDY – ONCE A MONTH Interest has been expressed to have a home Bible study group to meet once a month in the various homes of the participants, the day and time to be

determined by those involved. There could even be more than one of these home Bible study groups in different parts of the city. Sounds really great, doesn't it?! If interested, please contact Pastor Miles or the church office.



PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS The following have been in our prayers at Zion on Sunday mornings this past month:

- Ellen Hall,
- Ingeborg Hailey,
- Christa Spalteholz,
- Bob Lundgren,
- Arlene Young,
- Helene Labby,
- Marta Wiek,
- Rolanda Rasmussen,
- food donations,
- victims of earthquakes and tsunami,
- those ill with the flu,
- those looking for work,
- all travelers,
- those whose lives are in transition and/or turmoil,
- new members of Zion
- Reformation Day.

INTRODUCING

October 31
Turn your
clocks back
before going
to bed!



Our two Concordia University pre-seminary students helping out at Zion are Doug Vitro and David LaFore. The students are assigned by Dr. Norman Metzler, Department of Theology at CU, and approved by Pastor Miles. Here's a little information by way of introduction: **David LaFore** was born in Auburn, WA, raised in Federal Way, WA, and is a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Federal Way. He attended Thomas Jefferson and Federal Way Public Academy during his high school years. David is a freshman at Concordia. His hobbies, special interests and activities include Boy Scouts, speech and debate teams, camping, and "ultimate Frisbee." David plays the trumpet and is in the Concordia Brass Ensemble. **Doug Vitro** was born in St. Petersburg, FL. His home church was First Lutheran in Clearwater, FL, and now is in the process of joining Zion. He went to high school at St. Paul Lutheran High in Concordia, Missouri. Doug is a second year student at Concordia. This year he is an RA (Resident Administrator) on campus. His hobbies and interests include music, he sings in the Concordia University Choir and the Christi Crux Vocal Ensemble, reading, and ultimate Frisbee.



NOVEMBER IS FOOD COLLECTION MONTH

As in the past, the entire month of November is food collection. This year, perhaps even more than previous years, the need is very great. Here's a list of desired items for the Food Bank: canned goods (chili, stew, meat, tuna fish, vegetables, fruit, peanut butter), boxed goods (meal kits, cereals, oatmeal); canned soups, ramen cups, rice, pasta, dry beans; canned or powdered milk; food you would appreciate receiving.

Oregon Food Bank Delivery Person Needed

After many years of service, the gentleman who has been picking up food weekly from the Oregon Food Bank, just off of NE 33rd & Columbia, has retired from this important duty. NWPM Food Pantry is very much in need of someone with a pickup truck or other vehicle that can load & deliver cases of food. This has been happening on Thursdays at 10 am, but there is quite a bit of flexibility & Mondays are another day that would work well for the program. We'll also be looking for more helpers to unload the delivery at the pantry, as it is a pretty big job! If you would be willing to give this a try, please contact Kelly or Preston at 503-221-1224.



Once again this year Zion is participating in the Channel 8 "Toys for Children" collection for Christmas. We've got great start – thanks, especially, to Kenny Douglas. Keep the toys coming, a box will be available in the Parish Hall. We'll let you know when we know the deadline. We also will again be sponsoring a refugee family – watch for details.



FALL CLEAN UP

**SUNDAY
November 15th**

This is different from the past: on Sunday, Nov 15th is our FALL CLEAN UP. Please bring your change of clothes and after a bite to eat we'll do our fall clean-up. We've never done it on a Sunday before –let's see how it goes. In addition to your work clothes, please bring yard tools, cleaning rags and supplies for windows and inside clean-up. We'll be nice and clean for the Saturday, November 21st, community event celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Oregon's statehood!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Are you looking for a good investment of your financial gifts to help others? Did you know that Lutheran World Relief is one of the very best? For every \$1 given to LWRs, virtually 91 cents supports program work! Think of it – 91 cents out of every dollar. The remaining amount goes to General/Admin: 5.8% and Fundraising: 3.5% for a total of 9.3% Did you know that Zion has a brick on the front patio of the LWR headquarters building in Baltimore, Maryland? For more information on the work of Lutheran World Relief, go to www.lwr.org



LADIES' TEA

The recent tea for the ladies, sponsored by the Zion Guild, was a great success! About fifty ladies enjoyed a wonderful luncheon of tea sandwiches and delicious desserts, on a beautiful fall afternoon. There was lovely harp music provided by Judy Krohn, a duet by Kathryn Boe-Duncan and Sharon Miles featuring several songs with piano accompaniment by Anita Weber, Guild President Patti Hillier read about the history of tea, Ruth Hyde had a grand display of Zion's history and the history of Oregon, the flower arrangements by Carol Wagner were outstanding, and Ellen Hall arranged for a display of vintage wedding gowns, baptismal gowns, and mother of the bride dresses, along with wedding pictures from the past. A special *THANK YOU!* to everyone who participated, and especially to those who worked so hard in planning, setting up, serving, and straightening up afterwards. As the saying goes, "A good time was had by all!"


It Happened in **NOVEMBER**

In 1898, on the first Sunday in Advent, the Rev. W.H. Behrens of Tacoma WA was installed as Zion's third pastor. During his tenure of more than ten years the character of the congregation and its role in the Northwest District of the Synod were strengthened, and baptized membership reached nearly 400.

In 1963, in recognition of a national disaster - the assassination of President John F. Kennedy - Pastor Edwin C. Zschoche led the congregation in intercessions for the nation.

On November 19, 1973, Zion opened voting membership to all communicants over the age of eighteen. Deaconess Beverly Herwig and Trudy Schidleman were the first women to join the Voters Assembly, and Paul Johnson the first youth member.

From the Zion Archives

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All Saints Day 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Communion Sunday 9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship 		Bible Study 10:45 Guild Meeting 12:00		Handbells 6:30 Choir 7:30		LWML Zone-Board Meeting at Zion
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Friendship Hour 10:15 9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship			Veterans' Day 	Handbells 6:30 Choir 7:30		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Communion Sunday 9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship 		Bible Study 10:45 Board of Elders 5:30	Board of Directors 5:30	Handbells 6:30 Choir 7:30		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship			Handbells 6:30 Choir 7:30	10:00 Worship Thanksgiving Day		
NEW CHURCH YEAR 29	30					
Communion Sunday 9:30 Education Hour 11:00 Worship VOTER'S MEETING						

November 2009

Food Collection All Month Long!

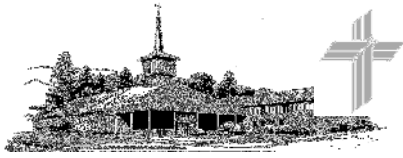




THE **ZION STAR**
November, 2009

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PORTLAND OR 97205-1708



Return Service Requested

THE **ZION STAR**

A FEW COPIES LEFT

There are just a few copies left of the "old" Lutheran hymn books, the ***Lutheran Book of Worship*** and ***The Lutheran Hymnal***. Please let us know at the church office if you would like a copy, or someone you know would like to have a copy. They make wonderful devotional books!

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE

November 26th
at
10:00 AM

