

The Chimes



PRAYER LIST

Jeff Willhite
All Service Men and Women
Jan Goos
Ron Brockman
Louis Fox (Virginia Schumacher's brother)
Greg Lang
Doug Carley
Kim Schnoor
Mike Elruch (Jonell Forrester's son-in-law)
Ben Gehring (Barb Trede's cousin, skiing accident)
Mervin Liddell
Gerald Goos
Ron Brockman
Roger Reniert (Bev Schnepel's brother)
Gail Hartigan

Nursing Home

Elsie Strohbehn	Milli Harvey
Sabina Altrock	Macyl Brockman

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

This is the time of year when the weather (hopefully) begins to warm. Crops and gardens are planted and the color of green springs forth from the ground. In the midst of the newness of spring, we can celebrate the gift that we as followers of Christ have received: the gift of new life. 1 Peter 3:18 proclaims that "Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God." As a church and the people of God, we just celebrated the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. It is my prayer that as a warming of the seasons has come, a warming of our own hearts has taken place and an internal transformation has come as well.

This is also the time of transition for many of our community's young people. In just a few short weeks we will be celebrating graduation. The Class of 2011 boasts 52 seniors who soon will be taking the next step in their lives. That step will bring change as well. My hope and prayer is that we have prepared these individuals well, and that they would take that next step in faithful courage. For the newness and changes that life has to offer also bring limitless possibilities, for nothing is impossible with God.

I firmly believe that the words of the prophet Jeremiah apply just as much today as they did to the Israelites of the Old Testament. Jeremiah 29:11 says this: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." May we commit to praising God in the good times, in the hard times, and in every time in-between—even in times of stepping out into the unknown. To God be the glory, forever and always.

Blessings,
Pastor Adam

PRISCILLA CIRCLE

Priscilla Circle has had a busy April.

In early April the circle members painted the R.E. Building and hallway. We used eight gallons of paint which led to many days of painting from circle members

The circle hosted their spring gardening program on Wednesday evening, April 20th. The program featured a presentation on gardening tips from a master gardener followed by a presentation on aprons by Jnelle Keysor and a vocal presentation by Paige Volkens.

Priscilla Circle wants to thank our anonymous donor who so graciously donated money to cover the costs to paint the R. E. Building. We are deeply grateful and ask God's blessing on you!

Mavis Hill, President

WEEKLY RECEIPTS



March 27	\$1469.81	
April 3	\$2354.96	
April 10	\$1780.78	
April 17	\$2721.77	(Palm Sunday)
April 24	\$2002.46	(Easter)
Total	\$10329.78	

Attendance

March 27	112	
April 3	115	
April 10	104	
April 17	150	Palm Sunday

DEACON'S MEETING

April Deacons' Report

The following is a look at the church constitution's charge to the Board of Deacons and how the charges are fulfilled. Additional guidance is in the church business plan.

1. Cooperate with the minister in ministering to the spiritual interests of the church and community.

The board hears the minister's plans for the church and, through discussion, adds to, modifies and/or approves those plans. The scheduling of events to celebrate the holy days of the church are included in this charge. Deacons are assigned to each mission in the business plan to work with other church members in carrying out the action plan for that mission.

2. Prepare and assist in the administering of the ordinance, in caring for the poor and needy, the sick, the sorrowing, the indifferent and the stranger.

The elements are prepared by the deacons and served by them as directed ;by the minister. The balance of the tasks are done in coordination with the minister where help is needed.

3. Call on new families and introduce new families into the life of the church.

The bard, working with the pastor, arranges for church members to visit in the homes of new member prospects. The new member shopping bag and its contents are the work of two of the deacons with monitoring by the board.

4. Receive all applicants for admission to church membership and examine them for membership on confession of faith.

Persons whose names are brought before the board for membership are discussed by the board members and approved for continuation in the membership process. Six new members were brought into the church this month.

5. Give attention to discipline.

Problems within the church are brought to the Deacons for resolution.

6. Make an annual survey of the church roll and submit recommendations to the church council regarding necessary revisions.

This project is under way. Lists of active and inactive members are being refined after which letters will be sent to inactive members to encourage them to join in church activities. This project has helped create a database of members which will be valuable tool to many departments in the church.

7. Provide for the supply of the pulpit in case of vacancy and in the absence of the pastor.

In addition to contracting for temporary pastors the regular pastor's time away from the pulpit is approved by the board.

Jim Weeks, Deacon

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TRUSTEE'S MEETING

APRIL 3, 2011 TRUSTEE MEETING

Pastor Adam opened the meeting with prayer.

Church Treasurer Norm Collins presented his report on finances.

Deacons Representative Jim Weeks attended Trustee Meeting to present information about the Church Business Plan, including steps to take that would improve the financial stability of the Church. One step discussed was offering Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University program. This was tabled until fall. Another suggestion involved making a list of maintenance needs or improvements towards which members of the Congregation could make special donations or devote time. A financial Committee made up of two Deacons, the Head Trustees,

Financial Secretary, Church Treasurer and Pastor Adam will meet quarterly to evaluate progress.

The Scrip program was discussed. His activity has raised almost \$1600 for youth programs to date! Great job everyone!

Truman and Mike will look at the north end of the sanctuary roof for a possible leak. Tom Hartigan will coordinate with Wendell Hotze to use the high-reach bucket truck to repair the south peak of the sanctuary roof.

Billy Drake visited the meeting to provide information on replacement of the parsonage windows. Several windows cannot be opened. Most are still original windows. It was decided to share the need with the Congregation and provide opportunity for individuals or families to purchase windows. There are 15 total windows to replace. There are three levels of purchase available: \$600 windows, \$300 windows and \$50 trim for each window. Mike will make the announcement during church services on April 10th.

The Trustees will have a Spring Cleanup work day on Saturday April 9th to spruce up the area around the Church and parsonage. Truman, Mike and Julie will work on getting the brush pile north of the church hauled away.

Next Meeting will be May 1st at 9:15 a.m.

Michael Tripp

Trustee

DORCAS AID

The Dorcas Aid met on April 14th in the RE Building. Carolyn had devotions using "The Resurrection" as her theme. We sang, "Because He Lives" and "Jesus walked this Lonesome Valley". We cannot just remember the Cross, but need to remember the Resurrection of Jesus. Pastor Adam introduced our new Bible Study Books, Cultivation Contentment. Then he talked about being content with our lives. Some people have no peace in their hearts. Then he read from Matthew about the entry of Jesus going into Jerusalem.

Our President, Audrey, read our scripture and Thought for the Day.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved. Ruth made a motion to donate \$25.00 to the after prom program with a second by Marlene. The Dorcas Aid will pay for our Bible Study books. Charlene made a motion with a second by Marlene that we donate \$100.00 for Vacation Bible School. Virginia made a motion to donate, with a second by Carol that we give \$300.00 towards replacing the windows in the parsonage. We will serve Cookie Sunday on May 22nd.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to Elaine. Mardene, Charlene and Elaine played Bingo this month. Mardene and Elaine had nickels and dimes. We had a delicious lunch served by Marlene, Ruth and Carol. The tables were decorated in an Easter theme.

We then fixed 19 plates of cookies to be delivered.

Secretary,
Carolyn

Lavon Rollins and Regina Lubbe thanked us for the delicious cookies.

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HAPPENINGS AT ZION

Scrip Update

SCRIP is a program which allows Zion Church to purchase gift cards from partner retailers at a reduced rate and then sell the cards at face value to families, keeping the difference. The SCRIP ministry of Zion Congregational Church supports the J-Force elementary ministry as well as the Junior and Senior High Youth Group. So far, the church has raised over \$1,700 (since November '10) for its ministry programs through this SCRIP ministry.

In addition to our normal retailer list, we have now partnered with several area grocery stores. Early on, we partnered with **NO FRILLS SUPERMARKET** and **FAREWAY**. Gift cards to No Frills and Fareway can be purchased in either \$25 or \$100 denominations and return 2% of the face value of the gift card back to the church. **We are also pleased to announce this month that Zion has now partnered with HY-VEE to be a participating SCRIP retailer. Gift cards to Hy-Vee can be purchased in either \$25 or \$100 denominations and will return 3% of the face value of the gift card back to the church.** So no matter where you shop, be it Hy-Vee, Fareway, or No Frills, be sure and buy your groceries with SCRIP!

The SCRIP Program now completely funds the J-Force ministry; those elementary funds no longer rely on the general budget. The program is now self-sustaining!! Our goal is to entirely fund youth and elementary programs through SCRIP, but we need your help to do so!! Thanks for your continued support!

For more information about scrip, please visit: www.zioncongregational.org.

J-Force Update

The last J-Force will be on Wednesday, May 25th, 3:30pm-5:00pm. Thanks for a great year! We look forward to a new incoming class as J-Force resumes on Wednesday, August 24th.

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If anyone has anything that would like to get into the Chimes please just have it into the office by the 3rd week of the month.

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We would like to thank Elaine Volkens for the pens that were given out in Church for Easter. Everyone enjoyed that.

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NEW MEMBER OF THE MONTH

One of the new members that we received into membership was Taryn Maguire. Taryn is the wife of Steven Maguire and they were recently married at Zion Congregational Church on October 30, 2010. Steven is originally from Treynor and graduated from Treynor High School in 2004. He then went on to college at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake to play football and majored in Criminal Justice. He now works at the Pottawattamie County Jail in Council Bluffs As a Detention Officer. Taryn is originally from Elliott and graduated from Griswold High School in 2004. She went to Simpson College in Indianola and majored in Elementary Education. She now teaches Kindergarten and coaches girls basketball at Griswold. Both are loyal Iowa State, Yankee, and Chiefs fans and enjoy sports. Steven and Taryn now reside in Carson with their dog Lucy.

We welcome Taryn to our Church family!
Those that got Easter Lilies are

Emmett & Jan Goos

Lois Chambers
Charlene Sha
Ted & Barb Trede
Billy & Angie Drake
Dan & Julie Buckelew & family
Bernard & Carolyn Bryant
Lowell & Marlene Schnepel
Velda & Jim Weeks
Keith & Georgia Denton
Platt & Donna Perdue
Elwyn & Jeralynn Rollins
George & Sharon King
Pastor 7 Missy Magill & family
Virginia Schumacher
Beverly Schnepel

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Don't forget that Vacation Bible School will be June 6th thru 10th.
You are to pre-register by May 1st. Please get the forms or call the Church office.

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CHIMES

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Praise

Prayer

Dorcas Aid

Priscilla Circle

Weekly Receipts

Deacons

Trustees

Calendar

Happenings at Zion

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED