

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

120 EAST PLEASANT AVENUE, MAYWOOD, N. J. 07607

A LIGHTHOUSE OF HOPE

OFFICE: 201.843.5916~E-MAIL: ZIONMAYWOOD@VERIZON.NET



Volume 2 Issue 1



As I prepared this article for the New Year, I can't help but wonder, where has the time gone! It seems that I just finished celebrating Christmas 2010 and already Christmas 2011 has come and gone, and a New Year stretches out before me. I don't know if it's just me, but it seems as I age time just streams by like a rolling river. I remember as a young boy it seemed to take ages until Christmas Eve, and I recall how long it took to celebrate my 21st birthday. I remember as a Marine, far from my wife and children, it felt like years till I would return home. But now that I have traveled 40,881,412,210 miles around the sun and I'm celebrating 25,567.5 days upon this blue ball we call home, I just wonder if time flies because we live in a faster paced society? I really don't know the answer, but scientists claim to know the answer to this phenomenon (maybe you would like to talk to me about this theory). Ah, "Such is life," as some folks told me. Still I do like the Christmas season, and now I must already plan for the season of Lent and Easter. Yes, the river moves on as it makes its way to the sea.

So it is with the ministry. Like a river, we go on interacting with one another through our time, talent, and, yes, our treasure making things happen along the way.

I believe we have had a successful year which was accomplished through those of you who care so much for this parish by taking hold of the needs wherever you could and making things happen either financially or through your own time and talent.

Now a new year lies before us, and you are the tools that Christ will use to accomplish His plans for the year. There is an old saying, "There are those fish that nip at things and those who grip it." That's our call, to take a firm grip on Zion's Ministry and our outreach programs for the year 2012.

Maybe this is the reason why time seems to fly by so fast, because we have a lot to accomplish in 365 days. May we all have a blessed New Year and a fruitful one here at Zion!

Pastor Lazarchak

The Joe Rodgers Winter Coat Drive!

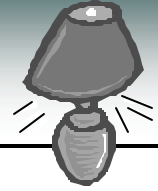


Here is our first Community Project for 2012. In conjunction with the Maywood Rotary Club, we will be collecting good, clean, used winter coats to give out to those who have need of them. Our church will be the drop-off point and the distribution center. If you have coats you would like to donate or know of someone who wants to donate to this much needed cause, please drop them off between 9:30am and 1:30pm Monday thru Thursday. Lorraine and Pastor will be glad to take them off your hands.

Our 2nd Project: Vacation Bible School

AMAZING DESERT JOURNEY





SHINING A LIGHT ON WORSHIP IN JANUARY 2012

PARISH STAFF

Pastor, Edward R. Lazarchak
 Minister of Music, Anthony LaMort
 Parish Administrator, Lorraine Winters

PARISH OFFICERS

President, John Blume
 Vice President, Howard Acker
 Recording Secretary, Glen Bertholf
 Treasurer, Robert Bosse
 Financial Secretary, John Keil
 President, Noah's Ark Board, Edna Bertholf

PARISH ELDERS

Head Elder Howard Acker
 John Blume
 Robert Bosse
 Rev. Oscar Casachahua
 Scott Davidson
 Lee Decker
 Marion Decker
 Rev. Edward Lazarchak
 Frederick Nilsson
 Richard Trombitas
 William Wiesing

NOAH'S ARK STAFF

Director, Mary Ellen Marik
 Teacher, Jill Coyle
 Teacher, Maria Buckmaster

January 1, 2012 First Sunday of the New Year The Circumcision and Naming of Our Lord
 Holy Communion Liturgical Color is White

Readings:
Numbers 6:22-27
Psalm 8
Galatians 3:23-29
 Our Text is the Gospel of Luke 2:21-40



Hymns:
 376 – *Once in Royal David's City*
 374 – *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*
 922 – *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

Relevant Context:
 Most of us stop counting the days after Christmas when we get to 12, but not Mary the mother of our Lord. Come and find out why.

Message: "A New Righteousness"

January 8, 2012 The Baptism of Our Lord
 Liturgical Color is White

Readings:
Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Romans 6:1-11
 Our Text is the Gospel of Mark 1:4-11



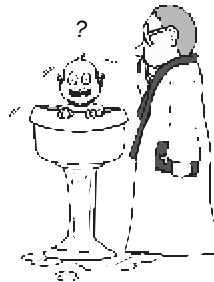
Hymns:
 WOV 647 – *When Jesus Came to Jordan*
 590 – *Baptized into Your Name Most Holy*
 WOV 770 – *I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry*

Relevant Context:
 Those baptized with water and Spirit celebrate the joining of human resolve with the overarching power of God to create new life.

Message: "Named and Changed By God"

January 15, 2012 Second Sunday after Epiphany
 Holy Communion Liturgical Color is Green

Readings:
 Our Text is 1 Samuel 3:1-20
Psalm 139:1-10
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51



Hymns:
 783 – *Take My Life and Let It Be*
 833 – *Listen, God Is Calling*
 496 – *Holy Spirit, Light Divine*

Relevant Context:
 God often chose rather ordinary people to do wonderful work. God still chooses people today. No one is too ordinary to be chosen by God – not even you!

Message: "Called? Who, Me?"



January 22, 2012

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

Liturgical Color is Green

Readings:

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (32-35)

Our Text is the Gospel of Mark 1:14-20



Hymns:

WOV 780 – *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

610 – *Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

WOV 684 – *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

Relevant Context:

As strange as it may seem, Jesus accomplishes His mission through ordinary people to follow and participate in His revolution.

Message: "Revolution!"

January 29, 2012

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion

Liturgical Color is Green

Readings:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Our Text is the Gospel of Mark 1:21-28

Hymns:

904 – *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

690 – *Hope of the World*

770 – *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Relevant Context:

Consider the word *authority*: "author" is the prefix. What brings authority is "authoring" some word or action for which you take personal responsibility. Who do we consider authority for our lives - and faith - and why?

Message: "Teaching - with Authority!"



Yes, winter has arrived,
and it's cold and windy
and filled with fun.

Yes, winter can be fun indeed, and it also could be quite dangerous. That is why the Elders have set up a phone chain in order to contact all our members and inform them if we need to cancel a meeting or the worship service. When there is ice and snow, there is no reason to put members in harm's way and no need to send out the St. Bernard.



SAINTS AND HEROES OF THE CHURCH

ANTONY OF EGYPT, renewer of the church, died around 356

January 17

Antony was born in Quemenal-Arous, Upper Egypt, and was one of the earliest Egyptian desert fathers. Born to Christian parents from whom he inherited a large estate, he took personally Jesus' message to sell all that you have, give to the poor, and follow Christ. After making arrangements to provide for the care of his sister, he gave away his inheritance and became a hermit. Later, he became the head of a group of monks who lived in a cluster of huts and devoted themselves to communal

prayer, worship, and manual labor under Antony's direction. The money they earned from their work was distributed as alms. Antony and his monks also preached and counseled those who sought them out. Antony and the desert fathers serve as a reminder that certain times and circumstances call Christians to stand apart from the surrounding culture and renounce the world in service to Christ.

were companions in Paul's ministry. Lydia was Paul's first convert at Philippi in Macedonia. She was a merchant of purple-dyed goods, and because purple dye was extremely expensive, it is likely that Lydia was a woman of some wealth. Lydia and her household were baptized by Paul and for a time her home was a base for Paul's missionary work. Dorcas is remembered for her charitable works, particularly making clothes for needy widows. Phoebe was a *diakonos*, a deaconess in the church at Cenchreae, near Corinth. Paul praises her as one who, through her service, looked after many people.

LYDIA, DORCAS, and PHOEBE, witnesses to the faith

January 27

On this day the church remembers three women who

Deadline for submissions in next month's newsletter is January 15.

THE CHURCH YEAR

THE NAME OF JESUS — January 1, 2012

The observance of the octave (eighth day) of Christmas has roots in the sixth century. Until the recent past, Lutheran calendars called this day, "The Circumcision and the Name of Jesus." The emphasis on circumcision is the older emphasis. Every Jewish boy was circumcised and formally named on the eighth day of his life. Already in his youth, Jesus bears the mark of a covenant that he makes new through the shedding of his blood on the cross. That covenant, like Jesus' name, is a gift that marks the children of God. Baptized into Christ, the church begins a new year in Jesus' name.

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD — January 6, 2012

Epiphany means "manifestation." On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles — that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi's adoration of the Christ child, Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacrament are for us the great epiphany of God's grace and mercy.

The color is white.

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD — January 8, 2012

At the baptism of our Savior, Jesus Christ, God declared Him to be His beloved Son and endowed Him with the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE ROOTIN' TOOTIN' COWBOY

When I was growing up in the 1950's, the cowboy was king. There were so many cowboy shows on TV, you could take your pick from such shows as *The Roy Rogers Show* (my personal favorite), *The Lone Ranger* with the great William Tell Overture as the show's intro, *The Gene Autry Show* (too much sappy singing!), *The Cisco Kid* (a pretty cool Mexican cowboy), *Hopalong Cassidy* with his horse, Topper, and so many more.

Mom and dad bought me a pair of six-guns and holster, cowboy hat, bandana, vest, chaps, and a rifle. With all these items, I was ready for some "heavy duty" cowboy action. I always believed I was out on the range, shooting it out with Black Bart and his band of desperados. I would run around the yard protecting good old 267 Henry Street from any bad guys or scalp seeking Indians that would come my way as my imagination knew no bounds. My perception of myself as a "rootin' tootin'" cowboy was limitless, at least

until mom called me in for either lunch or dinner. Inside, I made believe I was sitting by the chuck wagon eating "cowboy grub." Such was the perception I had of myself.

What is the perception you have of yourself? Do you picture yourself as the big chief wage earner bringing home the bacon? Do you picture yourself as the hard-working housewife, keeping the house clean, good hot meals on the table, and keeping the family together? If you have children either small or grown-up, is your perception of yourself as a kind, loving, and wise parent? Do you picture yourself as a kind and loving spouse? How about your Christian life? Are you like one of Pastor's former parishioners at a previous church who told him that he was perfect, totally without sin!! This man perceived himself as being right up there with Jesus in being perfectly perfect! Do you feel you're a great member of this church because of all the work you do? Do you feel everyone looks up to you because

you're such a hard worker and deserve to be honored and revered? Well, hold the reins a minute there, cowboys and cowgirls!

If we go to the 23rd chapter of Matthew, you see that Jesus admonishes the Pharisees to stop their "self important" attitude that they had towards their fellow citizens and church members. Their attitudes were that they were at such a high exalted position because of who they were that they expected everyone to look up to them and honor them.

Let us all remember that no matter what, we are all rotten little sinners and we all fall short. It's only because of the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that we even have a chance of eternal salvation. Let us humble ourselves and remember how sinful we actually are and be thankful each and every day for the grace that God extends to us. Happy trails to you, until we meet again!

Howard Acker
Head Elder

CHAIRPERSONS

Betty Ann Lindhurst, Priscilla Guild/Acolytes

Linda Arzinger, Altar Guild and Sunday School

Howard Acker, Confirmation and Sunday School

Diane Blume, Craft Club, Rummage Sale, and Christmas Fair

Fran Bene, Quilters, Rummage Sale, and Christmas Fair

Charlotte Walker, Social Club

Glen Bertholf, Thrivent for Lutherans and Webmaster

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Diane and I wish each of you God's Blessings and hope you had a very Blessed Christmas.

With the coming of the New Year, there will be "lots to do" on our plate as a congregation. I plan to hold a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 22nd, after Service. This is a non-communion Sunday. At this meeting, I intend to discuss our proposed operating budget, and Pastor, our V.P. and Head Elder, and I, will present our agenda for the Year 2012. We will make every attempt to keep the timeframe within 30 minutes. We ask that if you care about your church's future, please make every effort to attend. Please remember that Zion is your Church and that YOU have a say as to what we do and how we control our finances. Until then, we wish each of you a very Happy New Year.

John H. Blume, Jr.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

LITURGY (continued from December Tidings)

The liturgy also contains ceremonial rites which allow for action: kneeling, sitting, standing, processions, the lighting of candles, etc. These are designed to make the liturgy, the way we respond to God, more meaningful.

Where does the liturgy come from? A large part is derived from Jewish sources and, to a lesser degree, practices of other non-Christian religions. One represents the teaching of the synagogue, and the other from a combination of temple rites, as well as the fellowship meal of the Jewish home: the Passover and the Seder.

The liturgy has three parts: preparation which includes the Invocation to the Introit. The next is the Liturgy of the Word, the teaching part which includes the Introit to the Sermon; then the Liturgy of the Upper Room which includes the Offertory, the Communion Service, and concludes with the blessing and benediction.

CHURCH SYMBOLISM



EPIPHANY STAR or STAR OF BETHLEHEM, also THREE CROWNS. The Epiphany star led the Magi, thought to be kings, to the side of Jesus. Rays from the star are meant to suggest continuing light for generations to come. Three crowns represent the Magi.



STARS. Together with the sun and moon, the stars symbolize creation, especially creation's obedience to God since stars, it was thought, stayed where God put them. Stars also signify heaven in Christian art. A single bright star with a manger stands for the Star of Bethlehem and messianic fulfillment. Jesus the Messiah is known as the bright morning star. Seven stars refer to the angels of the seven congregations in Revelation. Twelve stars represent a crown for Mary, the heavenly woman.



Saints Softball Team

Thank you for your support in purchasing tickets for the softball team's Chef Central gift basket. Congratulations to the winner, Lauren Abrams.

Coming in January... "Carvings by Lee"

Lee Decker has generously donated two of his carvings to us. Raffles will be held in January for a chance to win the carvings.

Howard Acker
Team Manager

QUILTERS NEWS

Zion's quilters meet weekly to make one-of-a-kind quilts, each a uniquely crafted item! Many are given away to places like children's homes, Broadway House (for AIDS patients), and Lutheran World Relief which recently received eighteen quilts. An effort is being made to reach local needs as well. Many are sold at the annual Christmas Fair with the proceeds going toward outreach as well as to the church.

The quilters meet each Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. and each Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. Help is especially needed on Tuesday evenings, but you would be welcome at either group. Bring a sandwich if you plan to stay for lunch on Thursdays. Is this form of outreach a ministry for you?

NOAH'S ARK NEWS

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe we are at this point in our school year. We practiced so long for our Breakfast in Bethlehem that the day finally came and went so quickly. I really think the children were very proud of the great job that they did. Now we look forward to learning about animals that are hibernating, and we are spending more time in the gym as the days become colder and the playground starts to get covered in snow.



Next month we will hold our Open House for new students. It is scheduled for Friday, February 10. Know anyone looking for a preschool for a little one? Please send them our way!

God understands our prayers even when we can't find the words to say them.

~ Author Unknown

JANUARY BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

- 11) Bobby Bauer, Jr.
- 12) Amy Lindhurst
- 14) Marion Decker
- 17) Fred Nilsson
- 21) Fran Benè
- 27) Pastor Edward Lazarchak
- 30) Betty Wiesing



PLEASE KEEP THESE FOLKS IN YOUR PRAYERS



Violet Acker
 Edna Bertholf
 Leo Lowry (nursing home)
 William Wiesing, Jr.
 Lorraine Jordan
 Patrick Palladino (Mary Cox's father - hospitalized)



Zion's Christmas Fair



Once again, we did it! Another hugely successful Christmas Fair!!! Our grand total of \$4,569.96 would not have been possible without the support and hard work of the majority of our congregation! As always, when called upon, Zion's dedicated members come through. From the setting up of lights and skirting of tables - to donations - to preparing items for sale - to cake and candy making - to working in the kitchen - to handling sales at the tables - to tracking monies - to the post clean up - you were all a huge part of this event! This year I was very fortunate to be a part of an exceptional "Christmas Fair Committee" comprised of Liz Minnella, Gail Reichert, Riesa Menhart, and Fran Bene. The combination of experience and the talents of this committee were priceless and crucial to the success of this year's fair. Not only did we make a substantial profit, which will benefit charities as well as the church, but we brought a lot of joy and affordable gifts to the community (an especially rewarding experience in these difficult times). WELL DONE, ZION!!!

Diane Blume

NOAH'S ARK SCHOOL

(Please read!)

Please be advised that *no one is permitted in the Noah's Ark School (including the downstairs bathrooms, kitchen, and gym) during school hours* without the permission of either Mary Ellen Marik or Lorraine Winters. This is for the safety and security of the Noah's Ark students.

School is in session on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays until 2:30 and Tuesdays and Thursdays until 11:30. In addition, please do not leave or drop off any items in the gymnasium. The children use the gym every day; therefore, we cannot have anything in the gym that they can fall or trip over. We appreciate your adherence to these rules.



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 Maywood, NJ 07607
 201-843-5916
 zionmaywood@verizon.net
 Rev. Edward Lazarchak, Pastor

JANUARY 2012

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NEW YEAR'S DAY 1 9:00am – 10:15am The Divine Liturgy and Holy Communion 10:30-11:30am Adult Study 12:00pm Japanese Worship	OFFICE CLOSED 2 Pastor Off	9:00am—2:00pm 3 Office Open	9:00am—2:00pm 4 Office Open 12:00pm Bible Study	9:00am—2:00pm 5 Office Open 9:30am Quilting 10:30am Mending your Soul	OFFICE CLOSED 6 Pastor Off	3:30pm Japanese Children's Choir 7
9:00am – 10:15am 8 The Divine Liturgy 10:30-11:30am Adult Study 12:00pm Japanese Worship	9:00am—2:00pm 9 Office Open 7:30pm Bible Study	9:00am—2:00pm 10 Office Open 7:00pm Quilting 7:30pm Elders Meeting	9:00am—2:00pm 11 Office Open 12:00pm Bible Study 2:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting	9:00am—2:00pm 12 Office Open 9:30am Quilting 10:30am Mending your Soul	OFFICE CLOSED 13 Pastor Off	3:30pm Japanese Children's Choir 14
9:00am – 10:15am 15 The Divine Liturgy and Holy Communion 10:30-11:30am Adult Study 12:00pm Japanese Worship	MARTIN LUTHER 16 KING, JR. DAY OFFICE CLOSED Pastor Off	9:00am—2:00pm 17 Office Open 7:00pm Quilting 7:30pm Voters Meeting	9:00am—2:00pm 18 Office Open 12:00pm Bible Study	9:00am—2:00pm 19 Office Open 9:30am Quilting 10:30am Mending your Soul	OFFICE CLOSED 20 Pastor Off	3:30pm Japanese Children's Choir 21
9:00am – 10:15am 22 The Divine Liturgy 10:15am Congregational Meeting 10:30-11:30am Adult Study 12:00pm Japanese Worship	9:00am—2:00pm 23 Office Open 7:30pm Bible Study	9:00am—2:00pm 24 Office Open 7:00pm Quilting	9:00am—2:00pm 25 Office Open 12:00pm Bible Study	9:00am—2:00pm 26 Office Open 9:30am Quilting 10:30am Mending your Soul	OFFICE CLOSED 27 Pastor Off	8:00am Men of Faith Breakfast 3:30pm Japanese Children's Choir 28
9:00am – 10:15am 29 The Divine Liturgy and Holy Communion 10:30-11:30am Adult Study 12:00pm Japanese Worship	9:00am—2:00pm 30 Office Open 7:30pm Bible Study	9:00am—2:00pm 31 Office Open 7:00pm Quilting				

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JANUARY 2012 ~ SCHEDULE FOR SERVING THE LORD'S TABLE

GREETERS		ACOLYTES	
Sunday 1st	Helen Oest	Sunday 1st	volunteer
Sunday 8th	Betty Wiesing	Sunday 8th	X
Sunday 15th	Helen Trombitas	Sunday 15th	Lauren Abrams
Sunday 22nd	Betty Ann Lindhurst	Sunday 22nd	X
Sunday 29th	Karin Rudlof	Sunday 29th	Victoria Winters

Altar Guild Schedule

Date	Communion	Circumcision and Name of Jesus	Readers	Color
Sunday 1st			Jane Haedrich & Riesa Menhart	White
Sunday 8th		The Baptism of Our Lord	Susan Schaeffer & Charlotte Walker	White
Sunday 15th	Communion	Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Linda Keil & Diane Blume	Green
Sunday 22nd		Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Jennifer Bauer & Marion Decker	Green
Sunday 29th	Communion	Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany	Gail Reichert & Linda Arzinger	Green

Date & Time	Communion Asst.	Lector or Reader	Tellers	Head Usher
Sunday 1st @ 9:00am	volunteer	Pastor Lazarchak	volunteer	volunteer
Sunday 8th @ 9:00am	X	Betty Ann Lindhurst	Glenn Lindhurst	Glen Bertholf
Sunday 15th @ 9:00am	Marion Decker	John Blume	Bill Wiesing	John Blume
Sunday 22nd @ 9:00am	X	Susan Larkins	Jay Bene	Howard Acker
Sunday 29th @ 9:00am	Lee Decker	Howard Acker	Riesa Menhart	John Blume