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# Zion's Caring Voice

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Volume 1 Issue 1

A Publication of Zion Lutheran Church

August 2003

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1003 Church Street, PO Box 63, Gowrie, IA 50543

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## A NEW LOOK, A NEW VIEW

With change there come new ideas. With that in mind we have decided to try a new name and look for Zion's newsletter.

We will be combining Zion's newsletter with the Cooperative newsletter to save time and paper. The outside cover of the newsletter is the same for all the churches in our cooperative. It has information that all the churches might be

interested in knowing.

The inside pages are for Zion's members. With this new change we have also gone with the format that the Cooperative newsletter uses. I think it has more "eye appeal".

I hope you enjoy this new look and format.

Cheryl Rasmussen  
Church Secretary

## Zion's Church Staff

James Davis,  
Administrative Pastor  
Rod Meyer ,  
Pastoral Associate  
Don Wahlgren,  
Visitation Pastor  
Cindy Youngquist,  
Stephen Ministry Coordinator  
Cheryl Rasmussen ,  
Church Secretary  
Beth Miller,  
Financial Secretary  
Terry Mentzer,  
Treasurer  
Dennis McCubbin Family,  
Custodians  
Shannon & Beth Miller,  
Youth Coordinators  
Colleen Palmer,  
Music Director

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

The Zion Lutheran Church Council met July 14, 2003 at 7:00 P.M. Present were Bob Gordon, Shannon Miller, Monte Albert, Dennis Barnum, Cindy Fevold, Kris Cathcart, Marsha Farnham, Pat Swan, Bob Schill, Pastor Jim Davis. Absent: Pam Kennell, Tom Larson, Rob Peterson. Shannon Miller called the meeting to order. Pastor Davis opened with devotions from *Growing Spiritual Redwoods*.

Minutes of the June 9 meeting were reviewed. Monte Albert suggested that additional information be included

regarding the comparison of staffing costs in the Staff Report. In 2000 we had a full time equivalent of 2 staff people including a Pastor, Intern and Secretary. The projected costs for the year 2000 based on the Proposed Spending Guidelines was \$86,110. Zion's portion of the 2003 Countryside Cooperative staff is 2.3 full time equivalent staff including a Pastor, Visitation Pastor, Pastoral Associate, Secretary, Stephen Ministry Coordinator and Youth Coordinators yet our projected costs for 2003 is only \$74,691.

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## Zion's Council

Robert Schill, Chairman  
Shannon Miller, Vice-Chairman  
Tom Larson            Kris Cathcart  
Pam Kennell            Monte Albert  
Robb Peterson        Bob Gordon  
Marsha Farnham        Pat Swan  
Cindy Fevold            Denny Barnum

## NEED A VISIT?

If you or anyone you know could use a pastoral visit, please contact the Cooperative office at 352-3645 so a visit can be scheduled.

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## **Council Minutes**

Zion actually has more staff now for fewer dollars. Kris Cathcart also made a correction to the Property Committee report in that Dick Nordstrom is making shelves for a Sunday School Media Center. Dennis Barnum moved to accept the minutes with the corrections as noted, seconded by Shannon Miller, carried.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The financial reports were reviewed. Dennis Barnum moved to place the financial report on file subject to audit, seconded by Pat Swan, carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Christian Education* – Shannon and Beth Miller are in the process of setting up a team and then will begin to look at the vision of creating meaningful relationships between adults and children.

*Property* – Have had more problems with eaves draining; have cleaned out the eaves on the east side. There has also been more leaking in the new entryway. Dick Nordstrom is continuing to work on the Sunday School Media Center. The cordless lapel microphone that is producing background noise will be repaired for approximately \$170. A new cordless lapel microphone is \$700.

*Evangelism & Social Ministry* – Discussed use of name tags. It was also suggested to have greeters stand in the

entryway down by the doors instead of up in the sanctuary.

*Finance & Memorial* – No Report

*Long Range Planning* – Committee members were involved in traveling to other congregations to help in creating our vision and mission statements and values list.

*Endowed Benevolence* – The Endowed Benevolence kick-off event was held Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> with approximately 70 people in attendance for the presentation following worship. A screening committee has been established. They will be assisted by other congregation members who will be trained as educators to make household visits.

*Stewardship* – No Report

*Worship & Music* – Two Cooperative worship services will be held on July 27 with a 9:00 am service at Zion and an 11:00 am service at Dolliver Park with a potluck following. Discussed possibly having a joint service with the Methodist church at the City Park band shell with a picnic following. Have also discussed the possibility of starting a more contemporary worship service. Next meeting: Tuesday, July 15.

## **STAFF REPORT**

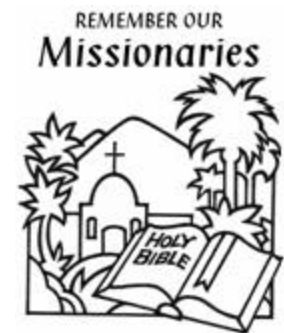
Cheryl Rasmussen is doing a good job as the new Countryside Cooperative secretary. Cindy Youngquist, Stephen Ministry coordinator, has begun visiting

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## **ANNUAL MEETING**

Reminder that the annual meeting has been moved to August. This year's annual meeting will be August 24th immediately following the church service. Please plan on attending!!!



As most of you know, Laurie Meyer completed her term of service with us on June 30. She will continue to serve in Tanzania until December, so please keep her in your prayers.

At their July meeting, the council voted to accept Jean Wahlstrom and Marvin Kananen as our new missionaries. They also will be serving in Tanzania. Jean and Marvin are currently members of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Bellevue, WA.

Jean is the Mentor of Christian Education at the Maasai Girls' Lutheran Secondary School in Monduli, teaches Bible studies, leads worship services, develops women's leadership for Christian

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**ZION LIBRARY NEWS**

New books this summer include the following:  
**BIBLE STUDY:**

- Bible Names (and Meanings)* by L. Francis, J. Hartzell, and Al Palmquist
- A Layman Looks at the Lamb of God* by Phillip Keller
- Elijah, Prophet of Power* by Ph. Keller

**BIOGRAPHY:**  
*Let's Roll* by Lisa Beamer (gift from Nancy

Burger)(tells about her husband Todd Beamer and the events of the plane crash in Pennsylvania on 9/11)

*Love Won Out* by John and

There is a time to let things happen and a time to *make* things happen.

Anne Paulk  
*In the Presence of My Enemies* by Gracia Burnham (also in Missions) The story of missionaries held hostage for a year in the Phillippines  
*For God and Country* by John Riddle (Stories of military chaplains)

**HOME AND FAMILY:**  
*The Secret of Loving* by Josh McDowell  
*When Your Baby Dies* by L. Gamino and Ann Coony

**INSPIRATION:**  
*More Stories for the Heart* Compiled by Alice Gray

**THEOLOGY:**  
*Let's Quit Fighting about the Holy Spirit* by Peter Gillquist

*A Theological Word Book of the Bible*—Edited by Alan Richardson

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**Missionaries**  
 ministry among students and staff, and nurtures their spiritual life.  
 Marvin works with English teachers in the Arusha diocese, records the history and individual stories of the students, assists in the library establishment, assists leadership of Arusha AA program, and writes Bible stories.

Please pray for them as they begin their new ministry with us.

**If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we are not really living. Growth demands a temporary surrender of security.**

**Endowed Benevolence Program**

The Endowed Benevolence Good Samaritan Giving Tree symbolizes our vision: Caring for all God's people, one by one. The leaves and stones can be inscribed in perpetuity to memorialize loved ones, to honor family, friends or other persons, or to commemorate events important to the donor. The purpose of the endowed benevolence program is to extend and enrich the Kingdom of God by helping those in need. Persons making these gifts, guided by the example of the Good Samaritan, are fulfilling Jesus' command to "Go and do likewise."

This benevolence program enables us to look beyond our own needs, to focus on serving others, to reach out to people in need, to be "Good Samaritans" – and, at

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<b>Zion Financial Report</b>		
	JUNE	Y.T.D.
ACTUAL INCOME	7,304. 20	58, 644. 26
BUDGETED INCOME	13, 836. 00	83, 016. 00
ACTUAL EXPENSES	11, 861. 87	77, 309. 82
BUDGETED EXPENSES	13,830. 00	82, 981. 08



## Our Youth *in the* News!

Once again our youth from grades 5-8 got together to help out the Parks Board and painted tables and garbage cans at Laurel Park. We had 18 youth from Zion, 1 faithful youth from Faith, and 3 adults helping.

We painted all of the tables

This story is courtesy of Gene Thoma. I thought it was very fitting since golf is a favorite pastime in this area.

### GOD'S HOLE-IN-ONE

A preacher woke up on a beautiful Sunday morning after a gray, rainy week. He looked out the window and thought, "Man, I'd love to play golf this morning."

After thinking about it, temptation struck. He called one of the elders of his church and said, "Brother, I woke up sick this morning. I want you to lead a layman's service at the church. I need to stay home in bed."

The elder assured him he would take care of the situation.

The preacher dressed, grabbed his clubs and drove two towns away. He paid his greens fee and began his round. His drive on the third tee veered left toward some underbrush. He watched intently, not wanting to

lose his ball. Suddenly, a bluebird swooped from the sky, caught the ball in the air and flew toward the green. He dropped the ball on the green, and it rolled 80 feet into the cup for a hole in one.

In heaven, one of the saints was watching this with God. He turned to God and said, "I can't believe this. A preacher lies to his church and plays golf on Sunday morning and you give him a hole in one?"

And God smiled and said, "Who's he going to tell?"

**"We all long for Heaven where God is, but we have it in our power to be in Heaven with Him right now—to be happy with Him at this very moment."  
—Mother Teresa**



### Vacation Bible School Thank-you

A special thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Vacation Bible School. This is such an important outreach of our churches to the young children of the community. We all had fun!

Thanks to those who helped daily, who supplied treats, lunches (your yummy lunches were greatly appreciated), and places for the staff to stay. Thank you also for the magazines that were donated to use for crafts. Thanks to our coordinators (Jen Carlson, Kim Sandgren, and Diane Engquist) and to the many parents who sent their children.

Finally thank you to you kids who attended and shared your program in the park with us. Because of all of you, this year's day camp was a success!

*(Continued from page 3)*

### Endowed Benevolence

the same time, honor a loved one, or celebrate a special occasion. Cash gifts to the fund may be made all at once or in installments over a period of time that is most convenient to the donor. Also, gifts may be made anonymously.

The Zion Endowed Benevolence Program is an outreach ministry of the whole congregation. It enables and empowers the entire congregation to participate in life-changing ministries. Everyone is welcome. Everyone is needed. Everyone's gift is significant. Everyone's gift is appreciated. We invite your very, very generous participation.

**"Your life is either a celebration or a chore. The choice is yours."  
—Author Unknown**

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# RALLY SUNDAY

We will be kicking off another exciting year of Sunday School on September 7.

Sunday School is such a wonderful opportunity to make friends and experience God's love through our relationships, activities, and learning. This year we will continue to use a curriculum that uses the same lessons for Sunday School as we use in worship. We hope you will all want to be part of what we have planned for the year.



If you know of any children who might be interested in coming to Sunday School, invite them or let the Cooperative office (352-3645) know and we will

## WELCOME TO GOD'S TABLE

### First Communion

A class will be offered for anyone who is interested in learning more about communion. This class is a good refresher course for adults and children who already commune. It is also an opportunity for children who do not yet commune to learn more about communion and take an important step toward receiving communion.

The class will be offered on Sunday, October 12 from 12:00



to 4:00 p.m. A light lunch will be served.

If you have children who do not commune and are interested in taking communion, they need to attend this class. Children of all ages are welcome to commune at Zion; however, children are expected to receive instruction at a level appropriate for their maturity before receiving communion.

If you have questions about First Communion for your children or about the class, please contact the Cooperative Office.

If you are planning on attending the class, we would appreciate you signing up before October 5 so we can plan for lunch. Please sign up by calling the Cooperative Office at 352-3645.

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, September 14, we will rejoice with the 10th grade confirmation class and their families as they reaffirm their baptismal vows through the rite of confirmation.

Confirmation is an important stage, but only one of the many stages in a lifetime of learning. The Church expects these children to continue to learn and assume greater responsibilities as members of the family of God and as ambassadors of Christ in the world.

In Christian love we congratulate the following students as they begin this new stage in their Christian life:

*Stefanie Anderson*, daughter of

Todd and Vicki Anderson

*Ryan Darnell*, son of Tim and

Tammy Baade

*Sarah Fevold*, daughter of Paul

and Jo Fevold

*Trent Nelson*, son of Randy and

Shelly Nelson

*Dylan Nelson-Sease*, son of

Robert Sease and Sandy Nelson-Sease

*Krystal Rasmussen*, daughter of

Dan and Cheryl Rasmussen

*Tyler Thompson*, grandson of

Nate and Jan Luthro

*Aaron Ware*, son of Bruce and

Cindy McCormack

As you begin this new stage in your life, we trust this word of Scripture may accompany you always..... "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths."

*Proverbs 3:5 & 6*

(Continued from page 2b)

### Council Minutes

Cooperative churches to talk about the program. Training for Stephen Ministry volunteers will begin this fall. Pastor Davis, Colleen Palmer, Scott Palmer, Matt Schill and David Peterson will be going to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Atlanta next week. They will be doing mission work in Memphis on the way down with groups from Callender and Storm Lake and then will spend 5 to 6 days in Atlanta. Shannon and Beth Miller will be going to Stillwater, MN for one week to attend a Faith Incubators event.

### NEW BUSINESS

A line of credit was requested as the church will not have the money to pay bills within the next week or two.

Shannon Miller moved to approve a \$5,000 line of credit with Heartland Bank, seconded by Monte Albert, carried.

Missionary Support – Laurie Meyer’s term of mission service with the ELCA is complete. Monte Albert moved to continue our support at the current level and designate it to be used for the support of Jean Wahlstrom and Marvin Kananen, seconded by Bob Gordon, carried. Jean and Marvin are serving in Tanzania, East Africa.

Revisions to the current policy on usage of church facilities and equipment were discussed. There will continue to be no charge for use by members while non-members would be charged according to a fee schedule. A \$50 deposit will be required from both members and

non-members. The deposit will be returned if the facilities are left in satisfactory condition and/or the equipment is returned in satisfactory condition. The council decided it would be helpful to have a list of things to be completed to receive the deposit back. Pastor will prepare a checklist for review at the August meeting.

An Annual Meeting forum will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5. This will be an opportunity for members to express concerns and voice opinions prior to the Annual Meeting on August 24. With the change of the annual meeting from January to August, a six-month financial report will be presented on August 24. Our fiscal year and the Cooperative fiscal year will then need to be changed for next year.

## Zion Women of the E.L.C.A Listen! God is Calling.

### “Have Compassion”

Someone recently commented on causes of violence in the world today. The speaker expressed: “The main factor is the lack of compassion among people”.

Jesus is the model of compassion, help for those in need. Most of all, he showed his great compassion when he stretched out his arms on the cross to save us all from sin, death, and damnation.

Jesus teaches us to value compassion by the Word and Sacraments. He wants us to show compassion as we cherish His

compassion. “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” (Eph. 4:32)

How much better will compassion make our world?!?!

Mary Orness —Chairman



“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”  
Colossians 3:12

### Upcoming Events

#### August

- 14 Bible Study (All Circles) 1:30 p.m. Church Basement Session 3 “Lessons from the Leadership team of Priscilla and Aquila” (July-August Lutheran Women) Rod Meyer bible study leader
- 17 “Staley” Chicken Dinner Fundraiser  
Tickets for sale \$6.50 for adults—10 and up, \$3.50 for children 5—10, under 5 yrs free.
- 21 Birthday Party at the Gowrie Care Center—2:00 p.m. (Rachel Circle)
- 28 Registration for Twin Lakes Fall Retreat due—\$20.00 per person, make checks payable to Trinity LCW and return to Mary Orness



#### September

- 10 “Share the Hope” fall retreat—8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (\$20.00)

**ZION SUMMER 2003  
MISSION COFFEE  
COMMITTEES**

Our 2003 Missionary Coffees will follow the 9:30 worship service. Please bring two dozen rolls, cookies, bars or donuts on the Sunday you are to serve. Husbands are welcome to help on serving committees. Chairpersons are the coordinators for each Sunday's committee. If you cannot be there or furnish on your Sunday, please try and trade with someone and then let your chairperson know of the change. Chairpersons are to fill out the book in the south drawer with information for your Sunday. Thank you for your help with the 2003 Mission Coffees. The funds will help

support our missionary in Tanzania, Africa.

Dorothy Anderson- Vice  
Chairman Zion Women of the  
ELCA

**REMINDER**

**There are only 3 missionary coffees left for the year and we are far short of our goal. Please consider giving a couple extra dollars each week so we can reach our goal of \$2000.00 to support our missionaries.**

*No one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of it for anyone else.*

—Charles Dickens

**August 3**

Burger/Miller  
Wedding Reception  
(replaces missionary coffee, see third column)

**August 10**

Pam Kennell, Chair  
Norma O'Brion  
Audra Paullin  
Betty Pedersen  
Julie Petersen  
Betty Peterson  
Kathy Peterson  
Pat Peterson

**August 17**

Mary Orness, Chair  
Staley Chicken Dinner

**August 24**

Dorothy Anderson, Chair  
Ruby Phillips  
Cheryl Rasmussen  
Phyllis Rasmussen  
Gayle Redman  
Kim Rolfes  
Corliss Schill  
Sherri Schill  
Rachel Schill

**August 31**

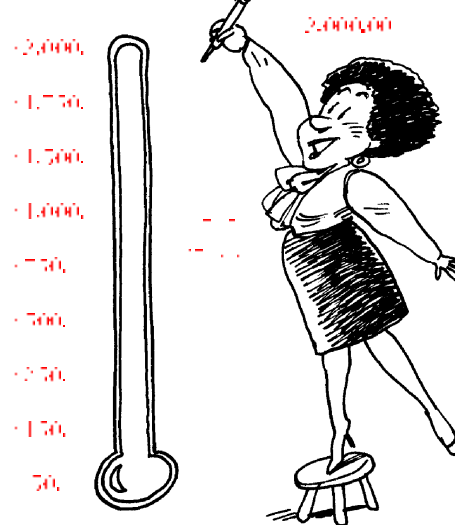
Irene Christianson, Chair  
Holly Shirbroun  
Paula Smith  
LuAnn Suchan  
Angi Swan  
Laurie Telleen  
Margaret Telleen  
Sandy Thoma  
Laurie Towne

**Reserve List**

June Urelius  
Ann Van Hoff  
Dianne Vinchattle  
Robin Vit  
Marjorie Wahlgren  
Shelly Warehime  
Jean Warren  
Debra Will  
Cindy Youngquist  
Annette Zinnell



**Zions' Missionary  
Coffee Goal - 2003**



**WEDDING OPEN HOUSE**



On Sunday, August 3rd, the church is invited to celebrate the marriage of Kay Burger and Dale Miller. They will be having a reception in the church basement following the worship service from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Your presence will be your present to them. (No Gifts, Please)

**College Students**



Do you have a student heading for college this fall? If you do, please call, mail, or e-mail the church office with their address so we can send them a copy of our news letter. Help them keep in touch with the Lord while away at college.



### Annual Meeting & Forum

There will be a forum on August 5 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss concerns regarding the ministry at Zion and to surface issues that need to be addressed at the annual meeting. All members of the congregation are invited to attend this forum. It will be a good opportunity to ask questions you may have about what is happening at Zion and where we are going.

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, August 24, immediately following the worship service.

### Building Facelift

You may have noticed many changes taking place at the church recently. The library has moved (twice), Cindy's office has been painted, she has gotten new furniture, the secretary's office has been rearranged, work is being done in the basement where the Sunday School library will be with new paint and shelves, new shrubs have been planted, work is being done on the eaves, etc., etc., etc.

There are many volunteers who have helped to make this possible and I won't begin to list them as I am sure I would forget someone.

If you see anyone helping with some of these or other chores around the church please stop and say thank you!



There will be a come and go bridal shower honoring Stephanie Winter, bride to be of Brad Cathcart, on Saturday, August 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

(They are Registered at Target & Yonkers)

On Saturday, August 30, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. there will be a bridal shower honoring Megan Towne. Megan will be the bride of Jon Eastman.

(They are registered at Target)

### Phone Numbers

Church Office	352-2645
Pastor's Office	352-3932
Stephen Ministry	352-3612
Treasurer	352-3292
Financial Sec.	879-2410
Parsonage	352-5261
Pastoral Associate	846-6277
Visitation Pastor	352-5245
Custodian	352-5225

### E-Mail Addresses

Office                    ziongowr@wccta.net  
 Stephen Ministry    stephencoop@hotmail.com

### Summer Worship Times

Sunday Worship Service	9:30 a.m.
Missionary Coffee	10:30 a.m.
1st and 3rd Saturdays	5:00 p.m.



**OUR VISION:  
 CARING FOR  
 ALL GOD'S  
 PEOPLE,  
 ONE BY ONE**

### OUR MISSION IS TO CARE BY:

**REACHING OUT TO OTHERS  
 BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS IN  
 A CHRIST CENTERED COMMUNITY  
 EMPOWERING TO SERVE**