

Zion Lutheran Church  
516 W. 4th Street  
Medford, OR 97501  
541-772-4674

# The FOCUS

January / February 2014

Reaching out and sharing God's Love with all  
...through worship, service, teaching, and caring.



**January**

1	Happy New Year!
2	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
6	Mary Circle, 10:00 a.m. (Dec. mtg.)
8	Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
9	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
13	Mary Circle, 10:00 a.m.
14	Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
15	Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
16	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
21	Sarah Circle, 6:30 p.m.
22	Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
23	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
26	Annual Congregational meeting
29	Choir Practice, 5:30 a.m.
30	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.

**February**

5	Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
6	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
10	Mary Circle, 10:00 a.m.
11	Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
12	Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
13	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
17	Presidents Day
18	Sarah Circle, 6:30 p.m.
19	Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
20	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
26	Choir Practice, 5:30 a.m.
27	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.



**Adult Bible Study: 8:15 a.m.**  
**Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday School 10:45 a.m.**

**STAFF**

Pastor Cyril Hunkler, 659-2032  
Office hours and times of visitations:  
See weekly bulletins or call the Church Office.

Secretary: Penny Birger  
Office hours: 9:00-1:00, Monday—Friday  
541-772-4674

Email: [office@lutheranswired.org](mailto:office@lutheranswired.org)  
[www.lutheranswired.org](http://www.lutheranswired.org)

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Pastor Cyril Hunkler  
President: John Winkler  
Vice President: Bud Cullmer  
Secretary: Shannon Magda  
Treasurer: Karen Thomas

Linda Mustain  
Mike Mustain  
Bob Simmons  
Rod Voss

**Reflections for a New Year**

Birth is a beginning and death a destination;  
But life is a journey.  
A going, a growing from stage to stage:  
From childhood to maturity and youth to old age.  
From innocence to awareness and ignorance to knowing;  
From foolishness to discretion and then perhaps, to wisdom.  
From weakness to strength or strength to weakness and often back again.  
From health to sickness and back we pray, to health again.  
From offense to forgiveness, from loneliness to love,  
From joy to gratitude, from pain to compassion.  
From grief to understanding, from fear to faith;  
From defeat to defeat to defeat, until, looking backward or ahead:  
We see that victory lies not at some high place along the way,  
But in having made the journey, stage by stage, a sacred pilgrimage.  
Birth is a beginning and death a destination;  
But life is a journey, a sacred pilgrimage,  
Made stage by stage... To life everlasting.

*By Rabbi Alvin Fine, copied from beliefnet.com*



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# New Year's Message

FROM THE PASTOR

The **FUTURE** is full of **HOPE** for us!

In Jeremiah 29:11-13 we read in God's Word a desire that our future will have "Good things and be full of hope." Jesus assured His followers that while "You will suffer in this world, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). His presence in and among us promises that great things will be accomplished that are "Greater than anyone can even ask or think or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20)! Mysterious as it is, He even assures us that we will do "Even greater things than I have done" (John 14:12).

The July arson attack at Zion and the weeks and months of restoration were so challenging and could have done untold damage to our congregation and to our mission for the Lord. We continue to be so grateful to the handful of Zion members and to Penny, our secretary, for their oversight and coordination of the remodeling and restoration of the sanctuary that turned out magnificently, thanks be to God and to everyone!

The fire damage and the effort needed for repairs could have distracted us from our mission to share Jesus' saving love in our world, but instead I'm convinced that we've emerged ever stronger, more hopeful and motivated and positive that God does indeed have a .....

**"FUTURE FULL OF HOPE FOR US!"**

Happy New Year in Christ in the New Year!  
God loves you and so do I!

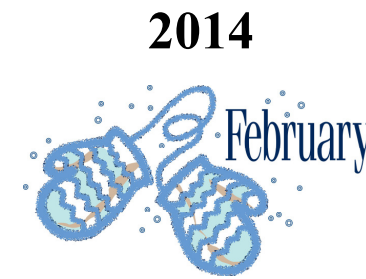
Pastor Cyril Hunkler



**MEMBERSHIP** is a special way of saying, "I'll be here; I'm committed to participating in the mission of Zion to share Jesus and His saving grace with my/our world; **Count me in!**" If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Cyril. The opportunity will be given to celebrate **membership** monthly.

**LEGACY**-- a way to ensure that your faith will live on when you go to your heavenly reward is to remember Zion Lutheran in your will. Thank you for helping your church to continue its ministry when you're gone to your heavenly reward! Please remember Zion in your will.

Pastor Cyril Hunkler, 659-2032  
Office hours and times of visitations:  
See weekly bulletins or call the Church



Church Office Hours:  
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Monday—Friday.  
541-772-4674 office@lutheranswired.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany	3	4	5  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	6 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. 	7	8
9 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	10  Mary Circle 10:00n a.m.	11  COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m.	12  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	13 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. 	14 Happy Valentine's Day 	15
16 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany   Youth Sunday	17  Presidents' Day	18  Sarah Circle 6:30 p.m.	19  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	20 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. 	21	22
23 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany	24	25  Altar Guild 10:00 a.m.	26  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	27 E 	28	





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2014



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**Pledge of Allegiance**  
"I pledge allegiance to the **flag**  
of the **United States of America**,  
and to the republic for which it stands,  
*one nation under God*,  
indivisible,  
with liberty and justice for all."



January  
5th WELCA  
12th Cullmer  
19th  
26th

February  
2nd  
9th  
16th  
23rd

January  
5th  
12th  
19th  
26th

February  
2nd  
9th  
16th  
23rd

As of this newsletter publication these are the only dates taken for January and February Coffee Hours and Altar Flowers. Please let Penny know if you can fill in any of these dates. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Thank you.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

**Can you help?**

The Food Pantry is in need of the following: egg cartons—1 doz. size, plastic grocery bags and paper grocery bags.

A country preacher in Georgia came to the pulpit Sunday morning and declared: "My job is to preach and your job is to listen. If you get finished before I do, please raise your hand."  
*Reprinted from The Joyful Noiseletter*

It's easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.



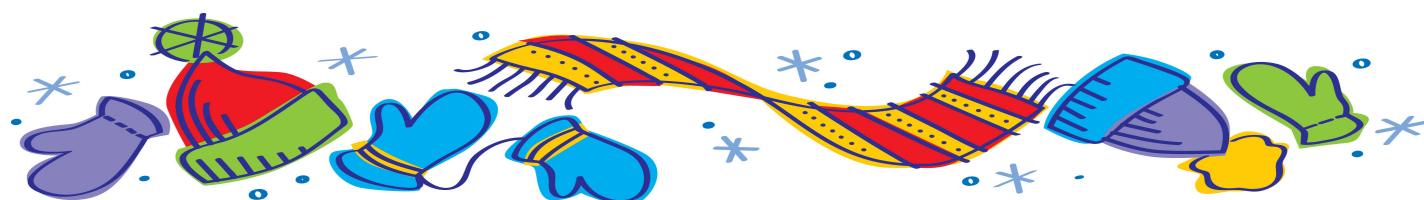
Mary Circle  
January and February 2014  
Meets the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May, at 10:00 a.m., in the Church Library for Bible Study and fellowship.  
  
Mary Circle will meet:  
Monday, January 13, 2014  
  
And  
Monday, February 10, 2014  
  
If you have any questions, contact Nancy Swan at 541-770-1689 or Diane Lewis at 541-772-1710.

"If I were given the opportunity to present a gift to the next generation, it would be the ability for each individual to learn to laugh at himself."  
—Charles Schulz  
Cartoonist, *Peanuts*



Sarah Circle  
January and February 2014  
Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., for dinner and Christian fellowship.  
  
January 21, 2014  
The Asian Grill  
1200 Biddle Rd., Ste. B  
541-608-7115  
(corner of Biddle Rd. and McAndrews)  
  
February 18, 2014  
The Olive Garden Restaurant  
3125 Crater Lake Hwy.  
541-857-1733  
  
All ladies are invited to join us!  
If you have any questions, contact Karen Thomas at 541-664-4433.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Choir Practice 5:30 pm	2 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	3	4
5 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School The Epiphany of Our Lord	6	7	8 Choir Practice 5:30 pm	9 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	10	11
12 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Baptism of Our Lord	13 Mary Circle 10:00 a.m.	14 COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m.	15 Choir Practice 5:30 pm	16 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	17	18
19 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Second Sunday after the Epiphany Youth Sunday	20	21 Sarah Circle 6:30 p.m.	22 Choir Practice 5:30 pm	23 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	25	25
26 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Third Sunday after the Epiphany Annual Congregational Meeting, after the Worship service.	27	28	29 Choir Practice	30 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	31	



# January and February Activities

## Happy New Year

New Church Year Potluck  
after the worship service, January 19, 2014

Let's start the New Year with good food, fun, and fellowship!

Bring your favorite "Potluck" main dish, salad, or dessert,  
as well as your own table service.

Coffee and tea will be provided.

If you have questions, please contact Debi or Sandy.



## January 2014

	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
January 5	Jim Ashby	Paul Hansen	Kathy Hansen	Zack Williams
January 12	Linda Mustain	Jerry Thomas	Sandy Knutson	Hailey Schwenn
January 19	Youth	J.J. Bowman	Myrtle Petruck	Rebecca Bowman
January 26	Nancy Swan	Paul Hansen	Kathy Hansen	Zack Williams

## Souper Bowl Sunday

February 2, 2014  
after the worship service

On this day, when many will be feasting while enjoying the Super Bowl, our children and youth will be taking a special offering of spare change which will be placed in empty soup bowls for benefit of our local food pantry.

Let's fill those bowls to the brim!!!

Souper Bowl Sunday



## Valentine's Sweetheart Potluck Sunday, February 16, 2014

Bring your favorite potluck main dish or salad,  
as well as your own table service.

Cake, coffee, and tea  
will be provided.

If you have any questions,  
please see Debi or Sandy.



## February 2014

	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
February 2	Rod Voss	J.J. Bowman	Sandy Knutson	Rebecca Bowman
February 9	Wayne Bennett	Paul Hansen	Kathy Hansen	Zack Williams
February 16	Youth	J.J. Bowman	Myrtle Petruck	Rebecca Bowman
February 23	Ellen Cullmer	Bud Cullmer	Sandy Knutson	Hailey Schwenn

Please call Karen at 541-664-4433 if you are unable to assist at the scheduled time. Thank You!



### Bulletin Assistants:

January and February



### Offering Counters & Newsletter Assistance:

January and February

Debi and Sandy



What is God calling *you* to share by way of ministry?

Please pray about our continuing ministries here at Zion. Are there any changes or new things that we want to do as individuals or as a congregation?



Church Secretary

Newsletter  
**DEADLINE**

February 20th

## Zion Church Council 2014

To be announced following the annual congregational meeting  
January 26th, 2014

Pastor continues to do home visitations — and home blessings. If you desire one or the other or both, please notify Pastor or Penny.

## Preparing for Lent

We will have weekly soup suppers along with Lenten devotions each Wednesday of Lent, during which we study selected prayers of the Bible. The following is a *somewhat* complete list of those prayers from which our studies will be taken.

### A Prayer for Our Nation

*God bless America  
And keep us safe and free.  
Safe from all our enemies,  
Wherever they may be.*

*Teach us to walk humbly  
And closer in Thy ways.  
Give us faith and courage  
And put purpose in our days.*

*Make each one of us aware  
That each must do his part,  
For in the individual  
Is where peace must have its start.*

*For a better world to live in,  
Where all are safe and free,  
Must start with faith and hope and love  
Deep in the heart of me.*

*Pray for peace in your heart that will touch the hearts  
of others and inspire all with faith and courage.*

Abijah's army-for victory	2Chr. 13:14
Abraham-for a son	Gen. 15:1-6
Abraham-for Ishmael	Gen. 17:18-21
Abraham-for Sodom	Gen. 18:20-32
Abraham-for Abimelech	Gen. 20:17
Asa-for deliverance	2Chr. 14:11
Christians-for Peter	Acts 12:5-12
Cornelius-for enlightenment	Acts 10:2-30
Daniel-for the Jews	Dan. 9:3-19
David-for favor	2 Sam. 7:18-29
Elijah-for the raising to life of the widow's son	1 Ki. 17:20-23
Elijah-for triumph over Baal	1 Ki. 18:36-38
Elijah-for death	1 Ki. 19:4
Elijah-for rain	Jas. 5:17
Elisha-for victory	2 Ki. 6:17-23
Ezra-for the sins of the People	Ezra 9:6-15
Gideon-for proof of his call	Judg. 6:36-40
Habakkuk-for revival	Hab. 3:1-19
Hannah-for a son	1 Sam. 1:10-16
Hezekiah-for victory	2 Ki. 19:15-19
Hezekiah-for health	2 Ki. 20:1-11
Isaac-for children	Gen. 25:21-26
Israel-for deliverance	Ex. 2:23-25
Jabez-for prosperity	1 Chr. 4:10
Jacob-all night	Gen. 32:24-30
Jehoshaphat-for protection	2 Chr. 20:5-27

Jeremiah-for Judah	Jer. 42:1-6
Jeremiah-for a famine	Jer. 14:7-10
Jonah-for deliverance from the fish	Jonah 2:1-9
Joshua-for help and mercy	Josh. 7:6-9
Manasseh-for victory	2 Chr. 33:12,13
Manoah-for guidance	Judg. 13:8-15
Moses-for Pharaoh	Ex. 8:12
Moses-for water	Ex. 15:24,25
Moses-for Israel	Deut. 9:18
Moses-for Miriam	Ex. 32:31-34
Moses-that he might see the Promised Land	Num. 12:11-14
Moses-for a successor	Deut. 3:25
Nehemiah-for the Jews	Deut. 34:1-4
Paul-for the healing of Publius' father	Num. 27:15-17
Paul-for the Ephesians	Neh. 1:4-11
Peter-for the raising of Dorcas	Acts 28:8
Samson-for water	Eph. 3:14-21
Samson-for strength	Acts 9:40
Samuel-for Israel	Judg. 15:18-19
Solomon-for wisdom	Judg. 16:29,30
Zechariah-for a son	1 Sam. 7:5-12
	1 Ki. 3:6-14
	Luke 1:13

To all Members and Friends of Zion:

The Church Council decided, at its June, 2010 meeting, to keep everyone informed of our financial situation.

The shortfall in our revenues to expenses every month is being covered from the generous gift from Nancy Cherrier. The Council decided to make note of this, as some may not have been present at the annual meeting when this was explained.

We wish to thank everyone for their support of our work here at Zion Lutheran!

The Church Council.

- A reminder that Pastor's sermons are recorded on CD weekly and will be sent to any who request a copy, just for the asking. **We regret that the sermons on CD are not yet available since the fire last July disrupted our recordings, and we truly apologize to those who are missing them.**

Prayer requests: If you would like to be included in our speedy email alerts regarding prayer needs, please let Penny know at:

Email: [office@lutheranswired.org](mailto:office@lutheranswired.org)

Mention that you'd like to be included on the list. That's all you need to do.

# Sunday School and Youth



**January and February 2014**  
February 2, 2014, Souper Bowl Sunday

The Zion children and youth will take a special offering of spare change to be placed in empty soup bowls, which will benefit our local food pantry.

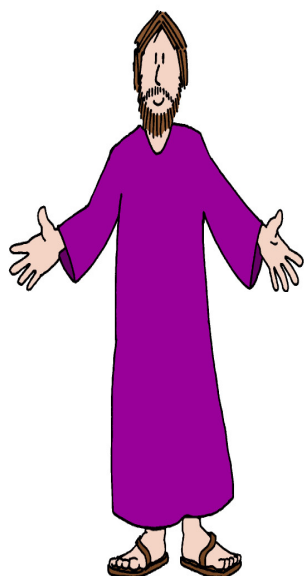
**Additional activities are to be announced -  
Please watch the weekly bulletin.**

## Genesis—A book of Firsts

The Book of Genesis (origins) contains more "firsts" than any other book in the Bible. The following are only a few of the firsts. How many of them can you identify?

1. Who was the first baby? \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Who was the first man to shave? \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Who was the first Hebrew? \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Who was the first mother to have twins? \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Who was the first child named before birth? \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Who was the first shepherd? \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Who was the first person to laugh? \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Who was the first person to be buried in a coffin? \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Who was the first caveman? \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Who was the first person to play an instrument? \_\_\_\_\_.

\*The answers may be found on page 7.







# Celebrating a

## January:

- 04 Barbara Simmons
- 08 Tina Grant
- 11 Trinity Reid
- 12 Bud Cullmer
- 19 Lila Gast
- 22 Bob Simmons
- 23 Rod Voss
- 29 Virginia Stanfield
- Neil Stanfield

## February:

- 01 Edie Pyle
- 12 Kayleena Long
- 17 Sandy Anderson
- 20 Beryl McCollough

## Anniversaries to Celebrate



## January:

## February:

- 01 Neil and Virginia Stanfield

*A Loss in Our Church Family* - December 31, 2013  
Marilyn Sandau

Sign outside Johns Avenue Baptist Church, Palatka, FL:

*"Don't worry about tomorrow. You did that yesterday."*

—via Bill Reynolds  
Palatka, FL

Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.

## Sick/Surgery/Other:

Edwin Andren	Lisa Mustain
Ron Bender	Doug Pierce
Brandyn Bowman	Pastor Joy Proper
Kathy Carboni	Jeannine Reddell
David Cullmer	Shantil Reid
Lynn Davidson	Trinity Reid
Steve Dutton	Clayton Schneider
Karen Fredenberg	Max Shott
Pastor Cyril Hunkler	Virginia Stanfield
Marie Hutchison	Neal Stanfield
Dale Janzen	Bud Van Vrimm
Jenna Jenkins	Lisa Williams
Jenny Lewis	John Winkler
Patrick Lewis	Florence Yasuda
Dan McCormack	



## Shut Ins:

- Ed Andren
- Vonnie Fichtner
- Myrtle Hoover
- Dale Hoover



Stephen Dutton  
Lila Gast



## Note About the Prayer Lists:

We will be reviewing names monthly on the prayer lists. Names will be removed unless we are informed that they still need to be on the list.

Thanks for your help in keeping our prayer lists up to date.



- Alex Bustard
- Andrea Castagnato
- Carl Franklin
- Chaplain Mark Gilderhus
- Chad Hoover
- Travis Hoover
- Justin Schneider



# Zion's Broader Community

## THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS

Thrivent is the 21st century combination of the former AAL and Lutheran Brotherhood companies with a wider approach to our insurance and financial needs. A person becomes a Thrivent member by buying insurance, investment products, signing up for financial services OR by paying annual Associate Member dues.

Since the company is non-profit, Thrivent encourages members to participate in church and community service and has been sharing profits and offering grants for which congregations and regions may challenge.

The local Thrivent Chapter Board has donated \$1,000.00 to help with our sanctuary re-dedication. Thrivent also works with Habitat for Humanity and some of our members have helped build or bring lunches for those who do. Thrivent has also provided congregations with shells as gifts to those being baptized and plaques for confirmands.

Our congregation coordinators are Al Olson and Nancy Swan. We will have a Thrivent sponsored congregation lunch early next year.

If you have questions please ask Travis Cowan, the local Thrivent representative at 541-488-9290. The office has moved from Main St. in Medford to 400 W. Hersey St., #3, Ashland 97520.

## Spiritual Reflections

The following writing is an excerpt from a booklet entitled *40 Days with Jesus* by Sarah Young. Presented in the 'voice' of Jesus, she offers this as a tool to help deepen your relationship with God.

Open your mind and heart—your entire being—to receive My love in full measure. So many of My children limp through their lives starved for love, because they haven't learned the art of receiving. This is essentially an act of faith: believing that I love you with boundless, everlasting love. The art of receiving is also a discipline: training your mind to trust Me, coming close to Me with confidence.

Remember that the evil one is *the father of lies*. Learn to recognize his deceptive intrusions into your thoughts. One of his favorite deceptions is to undermine your confidence in My unconditional love. Fight back against these lies! Do not let them go unchallenged. *Resist the devil in My Name, and he will slink away from you. Draw near to Me, and My Presence will envelop you in love.*

*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

Hebrews 4:14-16

For reflection: Ephesians 3:16-19; Jo0hn 8:44; James 4:7-8 (NKJV)

## Answers to Bible quiz on page 4.

(All references are found in Genesis.)

1. Cain, 4:1
2. Joseph, 41:14
3. Abram, 14:13
4. Rebekah, 25:21-24
5. Ishmael, 16:11
6. Abel, 4:2
7. Abram, 17:17
8. Joseph, 50:26
9. Lot, 19:30
10. Jubal, 4:21



## TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

TOPS continues to welcome new members and is great support for losing weight. Anyone interested is invited to visit and check out the group.

We meet Saturdays at Zion, 7:00 — 8:30 a.m.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact:

Sarah Felder, Leader: 541-326-5360