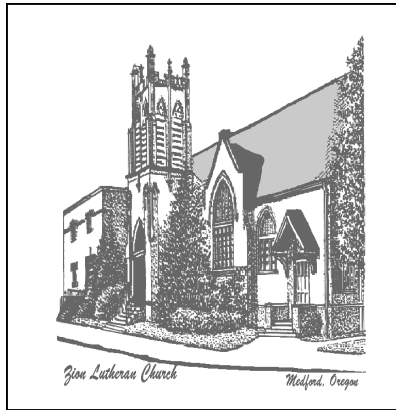


Zion Lutheran Church
 516 W. 4th Street
 P.O. Box 1051
 Medford, OR 97501

The FOCUS

November and December 2012

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

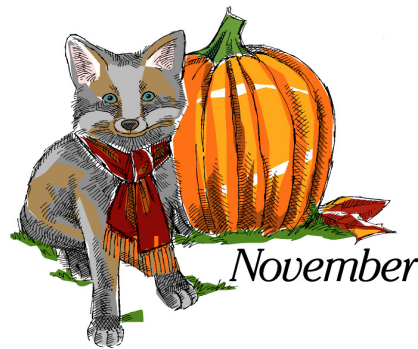


November

- 4th All Saints Sunday
Thanksgiving Food Drive begins
- 7th Bible Study, Choir practice
- 10th Martin Luther's birthday
- 11th Veteran's Day
WELCA Sunday
"Let's Be Thankful" Potluck
- 12th Mary Circle
- 13th Council meeting
- 14th Bible Study, Choir practice
- 17th Thanksgiving Food Baskets at
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
- 18th Youth Sunday
- 20th Sarah Circle
- 21st Bible Study, Choir practice
Thanksgiving Eve Service
- 22nd Thanksgiving Day
- 25th Christ the King Sunday
- 28th Bible Study, Choir practice

December

- 2nd 1st Advent
- 5th Bible Study, Choir practice
- 9th 2nd Advent
Hanging of the Greens
and Potluck
- 10th Mary Circle
- 11th Council meeting
- 12th Bible Study, Choir practice
- 16th 3rd Advent
Adult's Christmas Party
- 18th Sarah Circle
Altar Guild
- 19th Bible Study, Choir practice
- 23rd 4th Advent
Sunday School & Youth
Christmas Program
Caroling
- 24th Christmas Eve Service
- 25th Christmas Day
- 26th Bible Study, Choir practice
- 30th 1st Sunday of Christmas



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

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Pastor Cyril Hunkler
 President: John Winkler
 Vice President: Bud Cullmer
 Secretary: Jonathan Bowman, Sr.
 Treasurer: Karen Thomas

Linda Mustain
 Mike Mustain
 Bob Simmons
 Rod Voss

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
 www.lutheranswired.org
 Facebook: Zion Lutheran Church
 Twitter: #ZionLutheranMed



Join Us for
 the Holidays!

Inside this Issue

	Page
Church Calendar at-a-glance	1
Pastor's Page	2
Church Social Activities	3
Sunday School & Youth	4
Coffee Hour & Flowers	5
Women's Fellowship	5
Birthdays/Anniversaries	6
Prayer Lists	6
Broader Community sharing	7
Spiritual Reflections	7
Church News & Notes	8
Worship Assistants	9
Church Calendar	10 & 11



LOVE MEANS.....



In the popular move, "Love Story," as the wife faced her untimely death, she uttered the now famous line, "Love means never having to say you're sorry." The appeal of that line was obvious – while "preppie" had to endure the way-too-soon death of his true love, since the lovers had loved intensely in that emotional powerful way that young lovers know, the ending of their shared lives meant that they would not have to grow beyond romantic love to a more sacrificial love, one that does not count the cost, one that loves even when we don't "feel like it." While romantic love is so enjoyable and energizing and powerful, we know that it truly does end, and if married love is to continue, we will need God's love to finish what needs to be done.

Romans 5:8 teaches us that "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." He did not wait for us to deserve His love. He loves us unconditionally. In human understanding that is a hard concept to comprehend, since we're so accustomed to having to earn everything in life. And it's a common thing, even among Christians, to avoid or dismiss or even punish others who treat us badly or unfairly. God "Poured out His love for us, gave His love for us freely" (see Ephesians 2:4). That is **revolutionary** love! And Jesus commands us. "As I have done, so you must do" (see John 13:14, Matthew 24).

Talk about powerful love that draws us to God!!! One of the most powerful love stories in recent years was the Amish tragedy in Pennsylvania. On the very day that a deranged shooter destroyed the young lives of those beautiful young girls, elders of the Amish Church went to the wife (now a widow) of the killer and assured her that they were not going to, in any way, hate her or her family or seek revenge. Instead they were going to be loving, supportive of the widow's family - friendly even. Dealing with such life challenges is truly unthinkable and by God's grace, not something any of us will ever have to face. But God's love truly is able to work through even this type of hateful, horrible, tragic event, and can most certainly work through lesser challenges in our lives. By our human power it is impossible for our love to be unconditional, but as believers in Jesus Christ we have the love of God in us that can draw others to Him.

Drawing others to Him – that is our mission – especially those who are unpleasant, undeserving, unfriendly, or unknown. God's love is truly powerful and energizing, extending beyond our families, our congregation, our community, our state and nation. God's love is totally different from what we feel, receive and expect from people in our lives. With His help, we can have "The love of God poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit" (Romans 5.5), a love that cannot be kept but must be given away, to all, even the most unlikely and undeserving people!

Let us share that unconditional love through our congregation and everywhere in our lives!

God love you and so do I!

Pastor Cyril



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

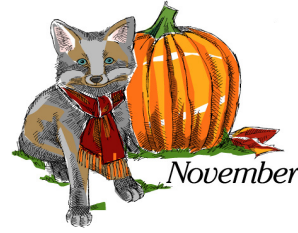


Church Office Hours:
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Monday—Friday.
541-772-4674 office@lutheranswired.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	3	4	5 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	6	7	8
9 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Hanging of the Greens and Potluck	10 Mary Circle 10:00 a.m.	11 COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m.	12 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	13	14	15
16 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Zion family annual Adult's Christmas Party	17	18 Altar Guild 10:00 a.m. Sarah Circle 6:30 p.m.	19 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	20	21	22
23 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Children & Youth Christmas Program Youth Sunday Caroling After the Worship Service	24 Christmas Eve Service 11:00 p.m.	25 	26 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	27	28	29
30 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	31					

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

2012



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

November Activities



November 11, 2012
WELCA Sunday

Ladies, please bring your Thank Offering boxes with you to the Worship Service.

All proceeds from the "Thank Offerings" go to the National Women of the ELCA for the total outreach of the women's organization.

If you have any questions, see any of the WELCA ladies.

December Activities



Hanging of the Greens

Hanging of the Greens and Potluck

Sunday, December 9th, after the Worship Service.

All are invited to stay after the Services to enjoy a refreshing salad and dessert potluck, after which we will stay and decorate our Church and tree for the Christmas season.

Bring your favorite winter salad or dessert, as well as your own table service.

Coffee, tea, and drinks will be provided.

Come join your Zion family for wonderful fun, food, and fellowship.

If you have questions, see Debi or Sandy.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				1	2	3
4 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School All Saints Sunday Children & Youth's Thanksgiving Food Drive Begins today, through Nov. 11th.		6	7 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	8	9	10 Martin Luther's birthday 
11 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School 15th Sunday of Pentecost WELCA Sunday "Let's Be Thankful" Potluck & Food Drive ends today. Veteran's Day	12  Mary Circle 10:00 a.m.	13  COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m.	14 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	15	16	17 Thanksgiving Food Baskets At St. Mark's 10:00 a.m.
18 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  Youth Sunday	19	20  Sarah Circle 6:30 p.m.	21 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm  Thanksgiving Eve Handicap 6:00 p.m.	22  thanksgiving	23	24
25 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	26	27	28 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 5:30 pm	29	30	



"Let's Be Thankful" Potluck and Food Drive

Sunday, November 11th, after the Worship Service

Bring your favorite Thanksgiving potluck main dish, salad, or dessert to share along with your own table service. Coffee, Tea, and drinks will be provided.

If you have questions about the Potluck, see Debi or Sandy.

The Sunday School children and Youth are conducting a food drive, which began November 4th and ends November 11th. All are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items along with them to Church during this time. The food collected will be taken to Access-West Medford Food Pantry for their Clients' Thanksgiving meals.

For more information about the food drive, contact Tina or Arlene

Thanksgiving Food Baskets!!! Saturday, November 17th, Zion will join St. Mark's Episcopal Church in assembling food baskets for the hungry.

We will meet at St. Mark's Parish Hall, on S. Oakdale, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us!!

For more information, see Debi, Sandy or Tina



Annual Adult's Christmas Party December 16th, 2012, 6:00 p.m.


At the home of
Jerry and Karen Thomas,
3239 New Ray Rd., Central Point
541-664-4433

Bring a fun "white elephant" gift to exchange (if you wish), as well as a snack or dish to share for a light supper.

If you have questions, please see Karen.




Sunday School & Youth

Thanksgiving Food Drive November 4th—11th

The Zion Youth and Sunday School Children will be conducting a food drive to help fill Thanksgiving food baskets for the hungry.

Please bring canned goods or other non-perishable food items to the church both Sundays of the food drive. All food collected will be taken to Access-West Medford Food Pantry for their Clients' Thanksgiving meals.



If you have questions, contact Tina or Arlene.



December 23rd, Youth Sunday

The Zion Youth and Sunday School children will present a Christmas Program during the Worship Service, after which all are welcome to join them in singing carols in the neighborhood.



Were Singing Carols



Volunteer Schedule



NOVEMBER 2012

	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
November 4	Nancy Swan	Jerry Thomas	Sandy Knutson	Zack Williams
November 11	Nancy Swan	Paul Hansen	Kathy Hansen	Steven Rader
November 18	Youth	Brady Williams & Paul Hansen	Myrtle Petruck	Zack Williams
(Thanksgiving Eve.) November 21	Karen Thomas	Jerry Thomas		
November 25	Ellen Cullmer	Bud Cullmer	Sandy Knutson	Rebecca Bowman

Youth Fundraiser!

Zion's youth will soon be selling Christmas ornaments (and other items) for their annual holiday season fundraiser. Watch for their display in the Fireside Room after Sunday Worship Service in early November.

COMING SOON!

Up in the Steeple

(Tune: Up on the Housetop)
Up in the steeple church bells ring,
Come to church, hear the angels sing.
Listen, Mary, to what I say,
News of the Christ child born today.
Joy, joy, joy, it's a boy.
Joy, joy, joy, it's a boy.
Up in the steeple church bells ring,
News of the Christ child angels bring.

DECEMBER 2012

	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
December 2	Diane Lewis	Jerry Lewis	Debi Bowman	Hailey Schwenn
December 9	Karen Fredenberg	Dres Thiel	Myrtle Petruck	Rebecca Bowman
December 16	Youth	Brady Williams & Paul Hansen	Sandy Knutson	Zack Williams
December 23	Linda Mustain	Jerry Thomas	Myrtle Petruck	Steven Rader
(Christmas Eve.) December 24	Ellen Cullmer	Bud Cullmer		Emily Cushman
December 30	Rena Curtis	Jerry Thomas	Myrtle Petruck	Rebecca Bowman

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

Luke's Birth Narrative

How often have you heard the beautiful story that leads up to the birth of Jesus in Luke's Gospel? How well do you remember the details?

1. "In the days of Herod, king of _____."
2. Zechariah belonged to the priestly division of _____.
3. Zechariah's wife was descended from _____.
4. Zechariah's wife's name was _____.
5. Zechariah was chosen to enter the temple by _____.
6. People prayed outside the temple at the hour of _____.
7. An angel told Zechariah his son would be like _____.
8. The angel who appeared to Zechariah was named _____.
9. Zechariah's wife "hid herself" for _____ months.
10. The "sign" given to Zechariah was that he would be unable to _____.

**The answers may be found on page 7.*



Bulletin Folders:

November and December

Bob & Barbara Simmons



Offering Counters

November and December

Debi and Sandy

NEWS Notes

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

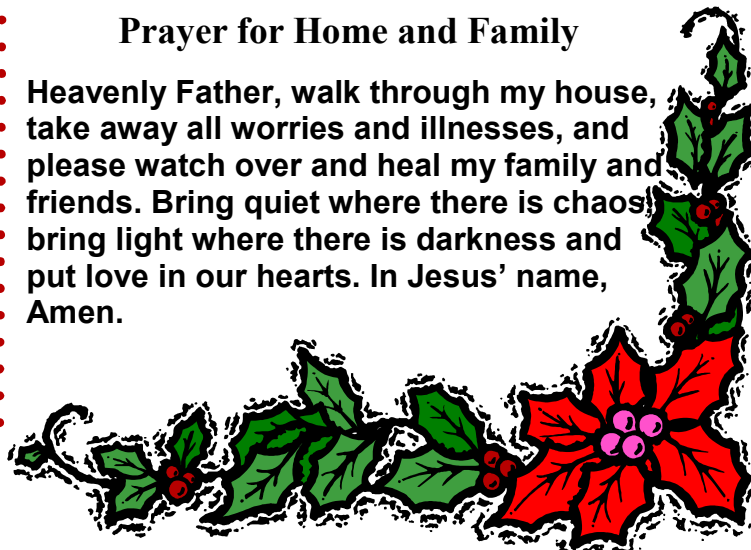
Please pray about our continuing ministries here at Zion. Are there any changes or new things that we want to do as individuals or as a congregation?



HERE I AM!
I stand at the door and knock,
If anyone hears my voice
and opens the door,
I will come in and eat with him,
and he with me.
REVELATION 3:20

Prayer for Home and Family

- Heavenly Father, walk through my house, take away all worries and illnesses, and please watch over and heal my family and friends. Bring quiet where there is chaos, bring light where there is darkness and put love in our hearts. In Jesus' name, Amen.



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!



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, 10:00 — 11:30 a.m.

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

Jonathan Bowman, Leader: 541-531-9647



Church Secretary

Newsletter DEADLINE

December 21st

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

Community Star Award

We are pleased to tell you that one of 'our own' has placed second in a recent promotion from Premier-West Bank. PremierWest ran a contest in October especially to recognize Veterans who have been active in performing community service in their respective communities.

Jim Ashby's name was put forth by Pastor Cyril as one who not only strives to serve his Church, Zion, but also practices serving his fellow man wherever he finds opportunity—notably, but not only, by volunteering at Meals on Wheels.

Jim placed second, along with three others in an extremely close competition, and will be awarded an amount of \$500.00 to be given to the charity of his choice. Not surprisingly, Jim has named Zion to be the beneficiary of this award. Thank you, Jim! And thank you for serving not only your country, but your church and your community with such dedication.



Curious questions related to the English language:

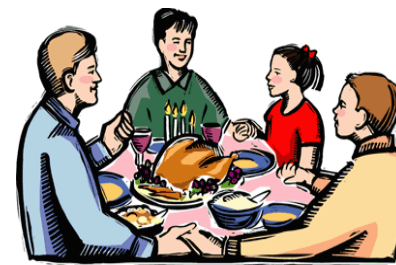
- “If teachers taught, why didn't preachers taught?”
- “If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?”
- “How come a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?”

- 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.

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

Email: office@lutheranswired.org

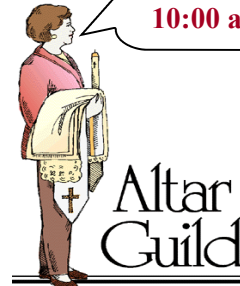
Mention that you'd like to be included on the list. That's all you need to do.



Thanksgiving

Thank You, God, for dirty dishes;
They have a tale to tell!
While others may go hungry,
We're eating very well!
With home, and health,
and happiness,
What right have we to fuss?
By the stack of evidence,
You've been so good to us!

December 18th 10:00 a.m.



November
4th: Kathy & Paul Hansen
11th:
18th:
25th: Sandy Knutson

December
2nd:
9th:
16th:
23rd:
30th:

Altar Flowers

November
4th: Kathy & Paul Hansen
11th:
18th:
25th:

December
2nd:
9th:
16th:
23rd:
30th:

As of this newsletter publication these are the only date taken for November & December Coffee Hours and flowers. Please let Penny know if you can fill in any of these dates. Thank you.

WELCA Sunday

The women of Zion will be assisting with the Worship on November 11th, WELCA Sunday, when they will bring their Thank Offerings to the Altar. These special offerings collected each year are sent to WELCA to assist in the Church's world-wide efforts.

All members of the congregation are members of WELCA and Zion offers additional avenues of participation through Mary Circle and Sarah Circle.

Any who are interested in subscribing to "Gather," WELCA's magazine, may contact the subscription order center at Augsburg Fortress, Gather Subscription Order Center, Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730. For further information you may call 1-800-328-4648, or go online to: www.gathermagazine.org.

Can you help?

The Food Pantry is in need of the following:

- Egg cartons—1 doz. count size
- Plastic bags, i.e. grocery bags
- Paper grocery bags



Mary Circle November and December 2012

Meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m., in the Church Library for Bible study and fellowship.

November 12, 2012
10:00 a.m.

December 10, 2012
10:00 a.m.

If you have any questions, contact Nancy Swan at 541-770-1689 or Diane Lewis at 541-772-1710.

Sarah Circle November and December 2012

Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., for dinner and Christian fellowship.

November 20, 2012
Jackson Creek Pizza
317 E. Main St., Medford 541-734-7322

December 18, 2012
McGrath's Restaurant
68 E. Stewart Ave. 541-732-1732
Christmas Party and gift exchange!

All ladies are invited to join us!
If you have any questions, contact Karen Thomas at 541-664-4433.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays November

- 2 Shannon Magda
- 5 John Winkler
- 6 Paul Hansen
- 8 Haven Setzer
- 19 Arlene Schwenn
- 25 Thomas Bowman

December

- 11 Emma Schwenn
- 12 Dale Garner
- 13 Gloria Hannaford
- 18 Vonnie Fichtner
- 28 Rose Myhre
- 28 Brandyn Bowman
- 29 Jerry Lewis
- 31 Joy Myers
- 31 Lisa Sherwood

Anniversaries November:

- 19th Paul & Kathy Hansen
- 25th Wayne & Norma Bennett
- 26th Gene & Sandy Knutson

December:

- 1st Mike & Linda Mustain



“God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say ‘thank you?’”

—William Arthur Ward
From *The JoyfulNoiseletter*

Sick/Surgery/Other:

Ariel	Patrick Lewis
Ron Bender	Dan McCormack
Brandyn Bowman	Jerry Miller
Kathy Carboni	Lisa Mustain
Bob Cordova	Doug Pierce
Diane Cordova	Joy Proper
David Cullmer	Jeannine Reddell
Steve Dutton	Shantil Reid
Mike Felder	Trinity Reid
Karen Fredenberg	Marilyn Sandau
Steve Fredenberg	Clayton Schneider
Gloria Hannaford	Max Shott
Ilse Hargrave	Virginia Stanfield
Pastor Cyril Hunkler	Neal Stanfield
Marie Hutchison	Bud Van Vrimm
Dale Janzen	Lisa Williams
Jenna Jenkins	John Winkler
Jenny Lewis	Florence Yasuda



Shut Ins:

Ed Andren
Vonnie Fichtner
Myrtle Hoover
Gloria Hannaford



Prayers
for the
Sick



Stephen Dutton
Lila Gast

“If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”
John 14:14, NRSV

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.

Laughter really is the best medicine, and so we bring you the following, reprinted with from the JoyfulNoiseletter:

A Nativity scene was erected in a church yard. During the night a small abandoned dog, looking for a comfortable, protected place to sleep, chose baby Jesus as his comfort and curled up in Jesus’ lap.

The dog was a young shepherd, and no one had the heart to send him away.

—via Peter Dring
Land O Lakes, WI



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



September 30, 2012:

Casen Dean Long
Kayleena Laureece Long

Zion’s Broader Community

New Resource: call 211

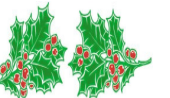
Jackson County, along with 21 other counties in Oregon, has a new information service hub, designed to give community members a direct route to health and human services updates, resource connections, and referrals.

Similar to 911, this system is available from most cell phones and landlines for free. Phone hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. To 6 p.m.

If you know someone who needs information on how many shelter beds are available, where to go for help with rent, where to go to pay their utilities, or where they can get free school supplies—have them call 211. The call center staffers provide information and referrals only; they do not provide any services themselves. In these difficult times, sources of help are ever-changing and just knowing where to turn makes a huge difference. The folks staffing the 211 line just might have that information for someone you know who is in need.



Spiritual Reflections 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.

I AM WITH YOU, watching over you constantly. I am Immanuel (*God with you*); My Presence enfolds you in radiant Love. Nothing, including the brightest blessings and the darkest trials, can separate you from Me. Some of My children find Me more readily during dark times, when difficulties force them to depend on Me. Others feel closer to Me when their lives are filled with good things. They respond with thanksgiving and praise, thus opening wide the door to My Presence.

I know precisely what you need to draw nearer to Me. Go through each day looking for what I have prepared for you. Accept every event as My hand-tailored provision for your needs. When you view your life this way, the most reasonable response is to be thankful. Do not reject any of My gifts; find Me in every situation.

“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel” - which means, “God with us.”

Matthew 1:23

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Colossians 2:6-7

Answers to Bible quiz on page 4.

(All references are found in Luke 1)

1. Judea, v. 5
2. Abijah, v. 5
3. Aaron, v. 5
4. Elizabeth, v. 5
5. Lot, v. 9
6. incense, v. 10
7. Elijah, vv. 13, 17
8. Gabriel, v. 19
9. five, v. 24
10. Speak, v. 20



I am thankful...

- for sidewalks that need shoveling, a lawn that needs mowing, and windows that need cleaning, because it means I have a home.
- for the mess to clean up after a party, because it means I have been surrounded by friends.
- for the taxes I pay, because it means I am employed.
- for all the complaining I do about the government, because it means we have freedom of speech.
- for the teenager who is complaining about doing chores, because they are at home, not on the streets.
- for the clothes that fit a little too snug, because it means I have enough to eat.

—via Peter Dring