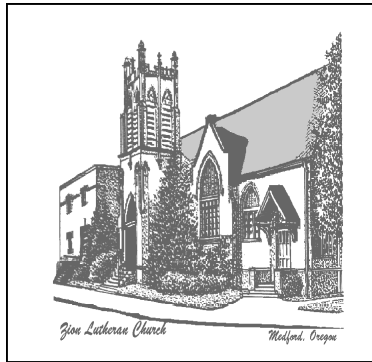


Zion Lutheran Church  
 516 W. 4th Street  
 Medford, OR 97501  
 541-772-4674

# The FOCUS

November / December 2013

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



## November

- 6 Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
- 7 Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
- 10 Martin Luther's birthday  
Stewardship Sunday
- 11 Veteran's Day  
Mary Circle, 10:00 a.m., Zion Library
- 12 Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
- 14 Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
- 19 Sarah Circle, 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
- 21 Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
- 27 Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.  
Thanksgiving Eve Service,  
6:00 p.m.
- 28 THANKSGIVING DAY

- 1 **Rededication of Zion Sanctuary**
- 4 Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
- 5 Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
- 8 Hanging of the Greens and Potluck  
Thrivent gathering at 2Hawks Winery, 2:00 p.m.
- 9 Mary Circle, 10:00 a.m., Zion Library
- 10 Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
- 17 Altar Guild, 10:00 a.m.  
Sarah Circle, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
- 19 Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Service, 11:00 p.m.
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE



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  
 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

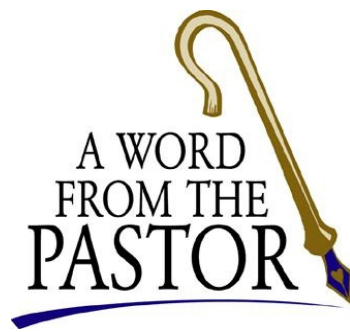
## Emergency Numbers

*When in sorrow.....call John 14*  
*When you have sinned.....call Psalm 51*  
*When you worry.....call Matthew 6:19-34*  
*When you are in danger.....call Psalm 91*  
*When your faith needs stirring.....call Hebrews 11*  
*When you feel down and out.....call Romans 8:31*  
*When you want peace and rest.....Matthew 11:25-30*  
*When the world seems bigger than God.....call Psalm 90*  
*If your pocketbook is empty.....call Psalm 37*  
*When you are lonely and fearful.....call Psalm 23*  
*When you grow bitter and critical.....call 1 Corinthians 13*  
*For how to get along with fellow man.....call Romans 12*  
*If you are depressed.....call Psalm 27*  
*If people seem unkind.....call John 15*

### Inside this Issue

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

2013

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



### HOW GOOD DO YOU HAVE TO BE?!

I always find it fascinating to think about the *characters* God uses to further His purposes! For example:

**EVE ATE THE FRUIT (AND SO DID ADAM!).**

**JACOB STOLE.**

**MOSES KILLED AN EGYPTIAN.**

**JONAH RAN.**

**DAVID HAD AN AFFAIR AND CAUSED A MURDER AS A COVERUP.**

**MARTHA WORRIED.**

**SIMON PRACTICED SORCERY.**

**PETER DENIED EVEN KNOWING JESUS!**

**YOU \_\_\_\_\_**

God uses us despite obvious limitations and failures to share His **GOOD NEWS** and to promote His Plans! Zion Lutheran believes in sharing God's love with all people through worship, service, teaching and caring.

Could God use you even if you're not perfect? I think so....He plans to have our world reached through us -- let's do it!

God loves you and so do I!

Pastor Cyril

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  1st Sunday of Advent  <b>Re-dedication of Sanctuary</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	<b>5</b> Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School 2nd Sunday of Advent  Hanging of the Greens and potluck after Worship	<b>9</b>  Mary Circle 10:00n a.m.	<b>10</b>  COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m.	<b>11</b>  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	<b>12</b> Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School 3rd Sunday of Advent  <b>Zion's Annual Adult Christmas Party</b> 6:00 p.m. <b>Thomas' home</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Altar Guild 10:00 a.m.  Sarah Circle 6:30 p.m.	<b>18</b>  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	<b>19</b> Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  4th Sunday of Advent  <b>Children and Youth Present</b> <b>A Christmas Program</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  Christmas Eve  Candlelight Worship service 11:00 p.m.	<b>25</b>  MERRY CHRISTMAS	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  New Year's Eve				

**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

2013



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

## November and December Activities

Members and Friends of Zion,

In the September/October issue of The Focus we attempted to bring you up to date on the damage done to the Sanctuary and other areas of the Church in the July 5th fire caused by arsonists. In this issue, we have happier things to report regarding the ongoing restoration of Zion's Sanctuary.

We are – finally— entering the home stretch of the restoration process! The latest word from our General Contractor, Claudio Alvarez Construction, is that they (at present, anyway) anticipate the finish date to be approximately the middle of November. As of this writing, the stucco on the outside wall which was damaged has been replaced, most of the painting (inside and out) is finished, the roof has been replaced on the Sanctuary as well as the adjacent house on Zion property, the carpet waits in local storage to be installed at the proper time, the new cross has been built and is just waiting to be put in place outside the Sanctuary at the right moment in time, the pews have been cleaned of smoke and are just being held in storage until the new carpet has been put in. Hymnals, Bibles, and Lutheran Books of Worship which were damaged have been, or are being, replaced. The large painting of Jesus which hangs at the back of the Altar is soon to be cleaned and restored to pre-fire condition, and the wonderful large organ sitting at the rear of the Sanctuary cannot be restored until everything else (all the messy stuff) in the Sanctuary has been completed. In short, it has been a long involved process, but it is soon –thankfully - to be behind us and we will be able to move on to happier things.

There is to be a rededication of Zion's Sanctuary, most likely in early December, as it will take time to publicize the event and send out invitations to all who have been so generous in their support of Zion during this recovery period following the fire. We will be sending out information and details, and perhaps an invitation to 'lend a hand' as the planning unfolds.

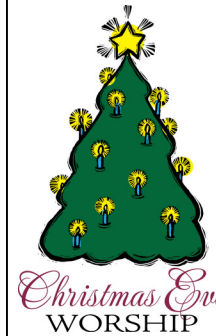
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	4	5	6  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	7 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. 	8	9
10 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School  Stewardship Sunday Martin Luther's Birthday	11  Mary Circle 10:00 a.m. Veterans Day	12  COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m.	13  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	14 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. 	15	16
17 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School   Youth Sunday	18	19  Sarah Circle 6:30 p.m.	20  Choir Practice 5:30 pm	21 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. 	22	23
24 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Eve Worship 6:00 p.m.  Choir Practice 5:30 p.m.	28  Thanksgiving	29	30

### Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, November 27th 6:00 p.m.

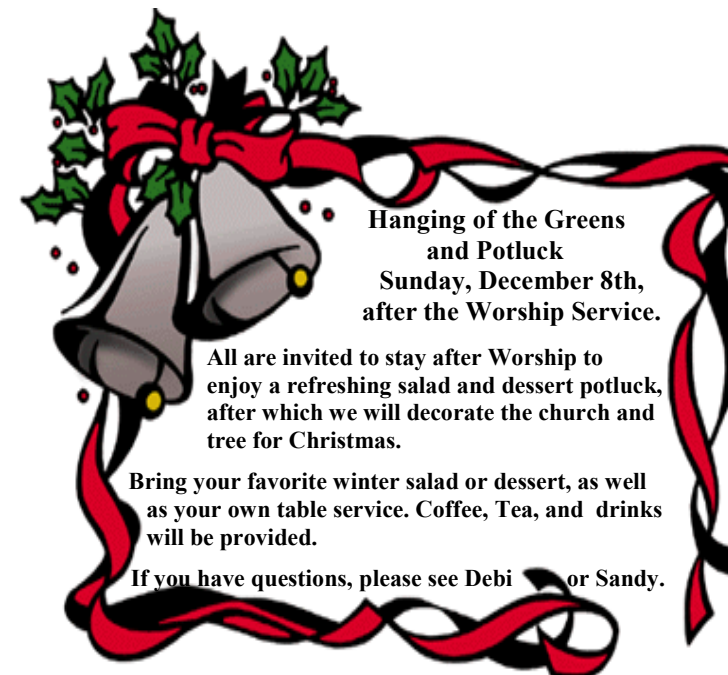


There will be no offering taken. Instead, we ask that you please bring a non-perishable food item which will be donated to Access for the hungry.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service Tuesday, December 24th 11:00 p.m.



Please join us  
In celebrating our Savior's birth  
with this special candlelight service  
and Christmas hymns.



### Hanging of the Greens and Potluck Sunday, December 8th, after the Worship Service.

All are invited to stay after Worship to enjoy a refreshing salad and dessert potluck, after which we will decorate the church and tree for Christmas.

Bring your favorite winter salad or dessert, as well as your own table service. Coffee, Tea, and drinks will be provided.

If you have questions, please see Debi or Sandy.

### Adults Only Christmas Party 6:30 p.m. December 15, 2013



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

Bring a snack or dessert to share.

There will be a wacky gift exchange (\$3.00 or under!)

If you have questions, see Karen.

# Sunday School and Youth



**“LET’S BE THANKFUL”**  
Thanksgiving Food Drive  
Sunday, November 2nd—November 16th

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 non-perishable food items to the Church the first three Sundays in November. All food collected will be taken to Access West Medford Food Pantry for their clients’ Thanksgiving meals. Cash donations are also appreciated, as they can be used for items which cannot be purchased with food stamps (shampoo, diapers, etc.).

If you have questions or need additional information, please see Debi or Tina.



**FUNDRAISER!**

The Zion Youth will be selling Christmas ornaments and planners as a fundraising project beginning in late November and continuing until all items are sold or until December 24th, whichever comes first.

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAM**

Sunday, December 22nd, the children and youth Of Zion Lutheran Church will present a special Christmas Program during the Worship service.

Please join us.

## Roman Officials

The early Christian Church lived under the shadow of the Roman Empire. Can you identify the Roman officials in the New Testament who are alluded to in the descriptions given below? (The answers will be found on page 7.)

1. Jesus was accused of not paying tribute to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jesus was sent bound to \_\_\_\_\_, the governor.
3. Joseph was enrolled when \_\_\_\_\_ was governor of Syria.
4. Peter baptized the centurion \_\_\_\_\_ at Caesarea.
5. Paul gave a cheerful defense to \_\_\_\_\_, governor of Judea.
6. Caesar \_\_\_\_\_ decreed the “world should be enrolled.”
7. Luke addressed his gospel to “most excellent \_\_\_\_\_.”
8. John the Baptist began work under \_\_\_\_\_ Caesar’s reign.
9. Chief captain, Claudius \_\_\_\_\_, saved Paul from a mob.
10. Sergius \_\_\_\_\_ wanted to hear God’s Word from Saul I Cyprus.



**SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEERS**



## November 2013

	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
November 3	Ellen Cullmer	Bud Cullmer	Sandy Knutson	Rebecca Bowman
November 10	Linda Mustain	J.J. Bowman	Myrtle Petruck	Hailey Schwenn
November 17	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth
November 24	All Worship assistants will be women of WELCA			
November 27 <i>Thanksgiving Eve</i>	Karen Thomas	Jerry Thomas		

## December 2013

	<u>Assistant</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
December 1	Nancy Swan	Paul Hansen	Kathy Hansen	Zack Williams
December 8	Jim Ashby	Jerry Thomas	Sandy Knutson	Rebecca Bowman
December 15	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth
December 22	Rod Voss	J.J. Bowman	Sandy Knutson	Hailey Schwenn
December 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	Ellen Cullmer	Bud Cullmer		
December 29	Linda Mustain	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!



### Bulletin Assistants:

November and December

Bob & Barbara Simmons



### Offering Counters & Newsletter Assistance:

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?



Church Secretary

Newsletter  
**DEADLINE**

December 13th

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



Words cannot express our gratitude for everyone's caring cards, calls, prayers and support upon the death of Jerry's son, Todd. Our deepest thanks to you all.

Jerry and Diane Lewis

## 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.*

- 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 will not be available until we are back in the Sanctuary after completion of the reconstruction, and we truly apologize to those who will miss the recordings.**

**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.



## 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."

## Can you help?

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



## Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Saturday, November 23rd

9:00 a.m.

Members of Zion will once again join with members of St. Marks in assembling food baskets for the hungry.

We will meet at St. Marks' office building (the white building), at 426 W. 6th St.—corner of 6th and Oakdale—at 9:00 a.m.

Please contact Debi Bowman for more information.

## Mary Circle November and December 2013

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, November 11, 2013  
and  
Monday, December 9, 2013

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



## November

3rd: Zion ladies  
10th: Zion ladies  
17th: Sandy Knutson  
24th: Zion ladies

## December

1st:  
8th:  
15th: Mary Circle  
22nd:  
29th:

## Altar Flowers

## November

3rd: Karen Thomas  
10th:  
17th:  
24th:

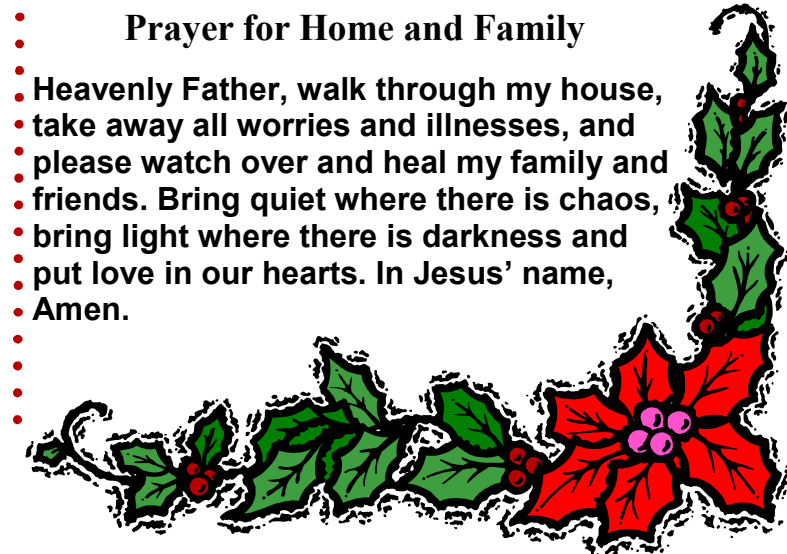
## December

1st:  
8th:  
15th:  
22nd:  
29th:

As of this newsletter publication these are the only dates taken for November and December 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.

## 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.



## Sarah Circle November and December 2013

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

November 19, 2013  
Jackson Creek Pizza  
317 E. Main St., Medford  
541-734-7322

December 17, 2013  
McGraths Fish House  
68 E. Stewart Ave, Medford  
541-732-1732

*Annual Christmas Party*  
*Optional: bring a gift for the gift exchange.*  
*(under \$3.00)*

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

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.



"I'd like to thank the congregation for the snooze alarm you gave me for Christmas."







# Celebrating a

## November:

- 02 Shannon Magda
- 05 John Winkler
- 06 Paul Hansen
- 08 Haven Setzer
- 19 Arlene Schwenn
- 25 Thomas Bowman

## December:

- 11 Emma Schwenn
- 12 Dale Garner
- 18 Vonnie Fichtner
- 23 Vera Sherman
- 28 Rose Myhre
- Brandyn Bowman
- 29 Jerry Lewis
- 31 Lisa Sherwood

## Anniversaries to Celebrate



## November:

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

## December:

- 01 Mike & Linda Mustain



Todd Lewis  
September 8, 2013

## 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	Marilyn Sandau
Karen Fredenberg	Clayton Schneider
Pastor Cyril Hunkler	Max Shott
Marie Hutchison	Virginia Stanfield
Dale Janzen	Neal Stanfield
Jenna Jenkins	Bud Van Vrimm
Jenny Lewis	Lisa Williams
Patrick Lewis	John Winkler
Dan McCormack	Florence Yasuda



## 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

## Val Aho

- October 9, 2013

Long time member of Zion

## Todd Lewis

October 4, 1964 - October 16, 2013  
Son of Beverly and Jerry Lewis  
and step-mother Diane Lewis  
Father of Joel Lewis

"Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."  
Nehemiah 8:10, NIV



# 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 541-778-9892. The office has moved from Main St. in Medford to Ashland.

## 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.

WEAR MY ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS with ease. I custom-made it for you, to cover you from head to toe. The price I paid for this covering was astronomical—My own blood. You could never purchase such a royal garment, no matter how hard you worked. Sometimes you forget that My righteousness is a gift, and you feel ill at ease in your regal robe. I weep when I see you squirming under the velvety fabric, as if it were made of scratchy sackcloth.

I want you to trust Me enough to realize your privileged position in My kingdom. Relax in the luxuriant folds of your magnificent robe. Keep your eyes on Me, as you practice walking in this garment of righteousness. When your behavior is unfitting for one in My kingdom, do not try to throw off your royal robe. Instead, throw off the unrighteous behavior. Then you will be able to feel at ease in this glorious garment, enjoying the gift I fashioned for you before the foundation of the world.

*I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For He has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

Isaiah 61:10

*You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

Ephesians 4:22-24

For Reflections: 2 Corinthians 5:21

## Answers to Bible quiz on page 4.

1. Caesar, Luke 23:2
2. Pilate, Matthew 27:2
3. Quirinius, Luke 2:2
4. Cornelius, Acts 10:1
5. Felix, Acts 23:26
6. Augustus, Luke 2:1
7. Theophilus, Luke 1:3
8. Tiberius, Luke 3:1
9. Lysias, Acts 23:26-27
10. Paulus, Acts 13:7



## 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