

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
TIOGA, ND 58852  
PERMIT #3

Zion Lutheran Church  
221 N. Main Street  
P.O. Box 548  
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Pastor ~ Richard Carr

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Youth Ministry: Ethan Kucera, Cell# ~ 218-324-3526

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*JANUARY 2020*



Just the other day I was having a conversation with some of the leadership of the church about how the building project has been working out. One man expressed how the project didn't really happen the way he expected it. Typically, when someone wants to build a house or a larger commercial structure a loan is taken, or the money is saved until the funds are achieved. Then after funding is secured, the project often becomes a race to get the building completed. Our new church building project has taken a very different approach.

Our land was given to us with the stipulation that we must begin the build before a certain date, or we would be forced to give the land back. After multiple years of slowly raising funds as well as wrestling with if we should indeed build, and what that building would look like, we began. We had been praying, dreaming, and planning on a new future building for years, and shortly before we ran out of time to keep our land, we began construction. The amount of money needed seemed enormous. I often wondered how we would ever complete the building. As a congregation, we voted to move forward with the building of the main church structure as the money came in. Not everyone agreed to build this way, but as a congregation we voted and made the decision, and stuck with it. We decided against taking a building loan, or building on pledged money. The congregation decided that to be good stewards of the money God has given us, we would only build up to the point of our money in the bank. If we would have to stop, then we would stop. Instead of a race to the finish, our building project became a chess match where we slowly and methodically planned and worked with what we had. At times (to me) it was frustratingly slow to not be able to move quicker, yet looking back on our project, we never had a time where we were forced to stop completely.

There were a few times where the money almost ran out in the bank, and with contractors needing to be paid, it appeared that we would have to stop building. When the need for further funding was brought forward to the congregation, the congregation stepped up and provided more funding. The building project became a matter of faith. We needed to have faith that God would move the hearts and minds of our congregation, and that we would respond. Not only did Zion members give, but those who wouldn't consider themselves members, but very much friends of our congregation also gave generously.

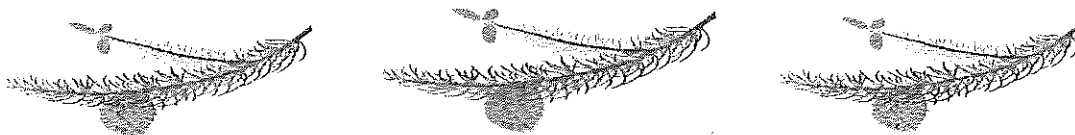
So, where do we find ourselves today in this new year? In the same place we have been from the beginning, in a place of faith in God's provision through the congregation. We have rounded the corner and see the finish line. With large bills coming due for the heating and cooling system, electrical system, and final building components, the current money in the bank will be used up soon. The good news is that we are only about \$200,000 away from having enough money to finish the building to have approval to occupy it, with another \$70,000 to make it a functional church. As the weather warms, we will eventually need further funds to finish the concrete around the outside of building, as well as funds to do the landscaping. This number ranges somewhere between \$50,000-\$120,000. Eventually the parking lot will also need to be paved which will cost roughly \$250,000.

We could begin having services as early as this upcoming Easter, or we may need to wait till this upcoming Summer or even Fall. While I would love to worship in our new building as soon as possible, I recognize that God's timing, as well as the congregation's timing may be different. What I want to

stress is that we continue to move forward into the future as a unified congregation, working, worshiping, and building together. We may not all agree on the manner of how we work, worship, and build together- but what does matter is that when we do make a decision we make it together, and move forward in that direction, together.

As your pastor I am well aware that we don't always see eye to eye on how we do things. As sinful individuals we sometimes make messes, and create friction within our congregation. What makes us different than the rest of the world is how we respond to messes and friction. While we at times disagree, we as a body of likeminded believers can set our differences aside and move forward together as a cohesive body living and demonstrating God's grace and love to each other. By allowing the grace of God to influence and affect not just our personal lives but also our collective church body, we become what God desires of us. I am excited to use this new building that we are creating, but what excites me even more is seeing how we as a congregation have come together and built on faith and trust. For what leaves a lasting impact on the world and those around us are not buildings and monuments, but changed lives who have felt the love of God demonstrated to them through other believers.

Pastor [Signature]



### **COMPROMISE**

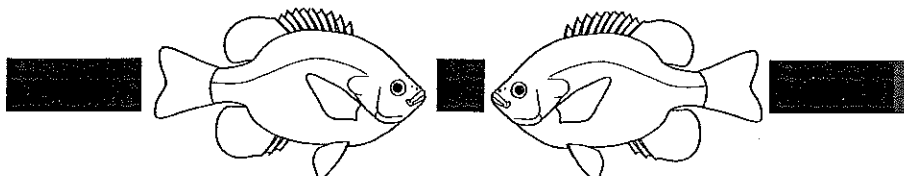
A man starting in the fish business hung out a sign, "Fresh Fish For Sale Today," and invited his friends to the opening. They all congratulated him on his enterprise, but one suggested his sign might be improved. Said he, "Why the 'Today'? Of course, it's today, not yesterday or tomorrow." So he removed the word "Today." Another said, "Why the 'For Sale'? Everybody knows that or else why the store?" And off came the words "For Sale." Another complained, "Why the word 'Fresh'? Your integrity guarantees every fish to be fresh." Finally only the word "Fish" remained. Another said, "Why the sign? I smelled your fish two blocks away!"

The church or Christian who tries to satisfy everybody ends up by pleasing nobody, especially the Lord. Put up your sign and stand by it!!!

I Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Ephesians 5:11: "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."

*Copied*





*We invite you to be a part of the Zion Ladies W'MF!  
(Women's Missionary Federation of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations)*



*Our Bible Study book for 2020 is called "Don't Follow Your Feelings" written by Linda Korhonen, wife of Lyndon Korhonen, who is currently serving as AFLC President.*

**Study Introduction:** Linda writes, "Our world is confused and hurting. Young and old are being deceived by a culture that doesn't know what truth is! Many don't want to know! Most people just want their own way. They think they can follow their feelings to find pleasure and satisfaction, regardless of the consequences. Where can we find hope and healing? How can we protect our children and grandchildren from the lies that are bombarding them every day? God through His Word is our source of absolute truth. May these lessons equip and prepare us to know what God says and to help others whose feelings have misguided them. Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

**Study books are available in the back of the church or the office for \$12. We hope you will join us!**

- Join a Circle that fits your time the best! Each Circle meets the second Thursday of each month.*
  - Circle 1 meets at 9:30 a.m., Circle 2 meets at 2 p.m., and Circle 3 meets at 7 p.m.*
  - Circle Meetings are hosted by various Circle members at their homes or at the church.*
  - The monthly Bible Study lessons will be gone over as a group at each Circle.*
  - All Circles meet together the third Wednesday every other month to have a program and business meeting to discuss mission projects, serving, and programs. Refreshments are served.*
- As a Circle group, some of the projects that we do together are: Visits to the TMC nursing home, Pie Booth at Farm Festival, Mission Festival Dinner, Serving for funerals, Christmas Tea Program, Support of our congregation's needs, and support of AFLC missionaries, (including our own Brent & Emily Raan and family), Support of the projects of the national AFLC W'MF. Our ladies quilting group has started up again in January. If you are interested in quilting, please join us on Mondays at 1 p.m. Quilts are made for the Mission in Alaska, as well as for needs in our own church and community.*



## A New Year's Promise

Another year I enter,  
It's history unknown;  
Oh, how my feet would tremble  
To tread its paths alone!

But I have heard a whisper,  
I know I shall be blest;  
My presence shall go with thee,  
And I will give thee rest.

What will the New Year bring me?  
I may not, must not know.  
Will it be love and rapture,  
Or loneliness and woe?

Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper,  
I surely shall be blest;  
My presence shall go with thee  
And I will give thee rest.

*Unknown*

Happy  
New  
Year

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## Lost in the Snow

The winter wind cuts through my bones  
I pull my coat tighter 'round me  
Snow pelts hard against me like stones  
I'm lost in the snow around me

The winter wind howls wretchedly  
Oh, how do I endure this storm?  
Oh, I need someone to save me!  
I'm lost in the snow of this storm

The winter wind pierces my heart  
I scream in pain and clutch my chest  
Snow hits hard against me like darts  
I'm lost in the snow of unrest

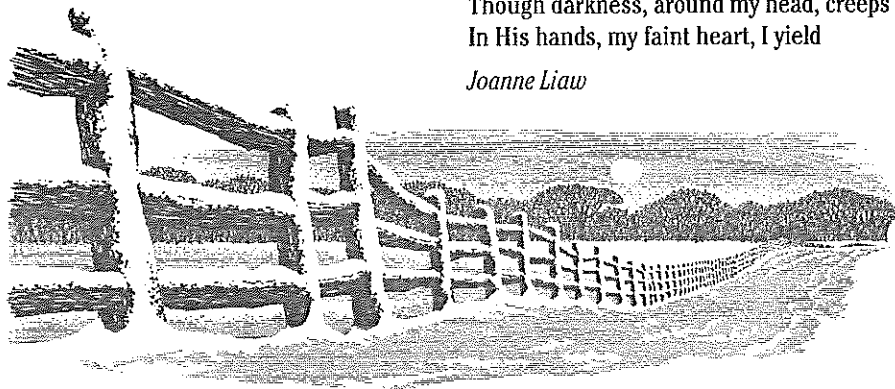
Am I all alone in this storm?  
Is there no one to rescue me?  
But hope is starting to take form  
I'm lost in the snow of mercy

Why should I fear the howling wind?  
My Saviour tells them to be still  
I know I'm wretched; I have sinned!  
But my heart, with mercy, He fills

My Saviour's blood washes my sins  
Until they are as white as snow  
Through Christ, I'm glorious from within  
His mercy like a river flows

The winter wind still cuts me deep  
But Christ is my Shelter and Shield  
Though darkness, around my head, creeps  
In His hands, my faint heart, I yield

*Joanne Liaw*



## A Picture of Winter

The first snowfall came unannounced  
A beautiful blanket of white  
Covered the grass now winter browned  
And, oh, what a lovely sight

It clung to the tree limbs of a giant cedar  
And I watched in anticipation  
To me, there's nothing neater  
Than the unfolding of God's creation

The dazzling beauty of each tiny flake  
And knowing no two are the same  
Made me wonder how God could make  
Something so small glorify His Name

Yet He, in all His splendor  
Was able to create  
A scene so beautifully tender  
And show the world how great

His imagery lays before us  
So magnificent and so grand  
And how He holds the universe  
In the hollow of His hand

As you reflect on this picture of winter  
And the marvelous joy it gives  
Give thanks and praise to the sender  
Be glad that our God lives

*Curtis Moorman*

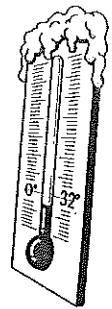
## WEEDS AND DEEDS

A naughty little weed one day poked up its tiny head,  
"Tomorrow I will pull you up, Old Mr. Weed," I said;  
But I put off the doing, 'till when next I passed that way,  
The hateful little thing had spread and laughed at my dismay.

A naughty little thought one day popped right into my mind,  
"Oh," I cried, "I'll pull you out tomorrow!" you will find!  
But, once again I put it off 'till, like the little weed,  
The ugly thing sprang up apace and grew into a deed.

So boys and girls, heed what I say, and learn it from your sums:  
Don't put off 'till tomorrow, for tomorrow never comes.  
*Today pull up the little weeds, the naughty thoughts subdue,*  
Or they will take the reins themselves and some day master you!

*Pauline Frances Camp*



## ***In memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. (1/15/29 – 4/4/68)***

*His birthday is observed on the third Monday of January each year.*

On April 4th, 1968 in Memphis, TN, Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered what turned out to be his final speech. He was in that Tennessee city to highlight the injustice felt by the city's sanitation workers, who were on strike over low pay and poor working conditions. But near the end of the speech, he said this:

"Like anybody, I would like to live a long life – longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you but I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land. So I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything, I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

*Martin Luther King, Jr. was an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the civil rights movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968. Following are some of his most famous quotes:*

"injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that".

"Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed."

"The time is always right to do what is right."

"our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

"Free at last, Free at last, Thank God almighty we are free at last."

"Faith is taking the first step even when you see the whole staircase."

"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"

"Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education."

"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."

"Let no man pull you so low as to hate him."

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of convenience and comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

"One day we will learn that the heart can never be totally right when the head is totally wrong."

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

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## **GOOD ADVICE**

A friend's son overheard his mother talking on the phone to her doctor asking for something to help her sleep. When she'd concluded her conversation, the ten-year-old said, "Mom, why don't you just fall asleep at night, and worry the next day?"

Good Advice! When I hear that kind of wisdom coming from the lips of a child, I don't find it all difficult to understand what Jesus meant when He said, "Truly, except you turn to God and become as little children, you will never even get into the kingdom of Heaven. Therefore anyone who humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 18:3-4, Living Bible).

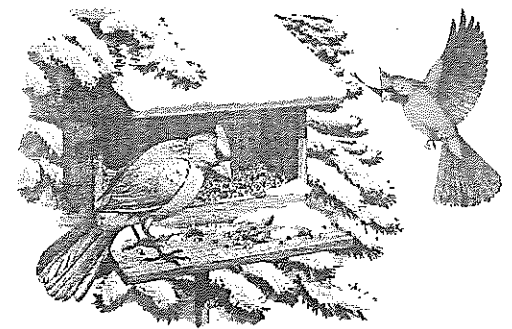
"Don't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow too. Live one day at a time" (Matthew 7:34).

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## **A Prayer For The New Year**

God of the years that lie behind us,  
Lord of the years that stretch before,  
Weaver of all the ties that bind us,  
Keeper and King of the open door.  
Grant us hope and a courage glowing  
White and pure as the stars above;  
Grant us faith in a full stream flowing,  
From the heights of Your eternal love.  
Out of the ruins of doubt and sorrow,  
Out of the aches and pain and tears,  
Help us to fashion a new tomorrow,  
Free from the anguish of blight's fear.  
All through the seasons of sowing and reaping,  
All through the harvest of song and tears,  
Hold us close in Your tender keeping,  
O Maker of all New Years!

*Unknown*



## **A New Year With The Lord**

A new year is about to unfold  
With new opportunities to explore  
Doors will open for new experiences,  
New adventures with the Lord

Remember not the former things,  
The things of this past year,  
The Lord will do new things in us,  
Much more than we are aware

For He will make a way for us  
As we put our trust in Him  
And He will guide our every step  
By His presence we have within

What God has placed within our hearts,  
We find we'll be able to do  
If we look for the opportunities,  
We'll see the door to go through

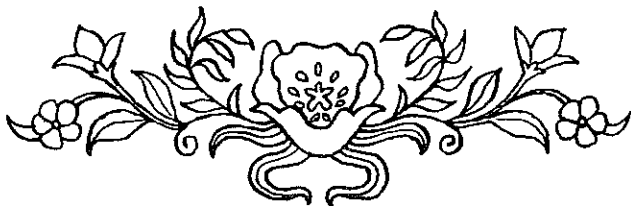
We mustn't let anything hold us back  
But rise up and take our place  
And be all that God wants us to be  
With a fresh touch of His grace

*M.S. Lowndes*



## 20 One-Sentence Prayers That Will Consistently Change Your Day

1. Lord help me be a better spouse and better parent today than I was yesterday and the day before that.
2. Lord help me to show people you love and attention in a way that they haven't seen before.
3. Lord help me believe that you are with me even when I'm unsure if you are.
4. Lord help me turn from my sin when my sin turns toward me.
5. Lord help me do the things I know I should be doing but currently I am not.
6. Lord help me to believe that I can make a difference in someone's life today by just saying something nice to them.
7. Lord help me believe your Word can be like a flashlight and guide me down this darkened path.
8. Lord help me give the love you have given me away freely and without charge to the people around me whom I struggle to love even a little bit.
9. Lord help me trust that you have a plan for my life even when it may feel like it is a bad one.
10. Lord help me have patience because I'm pretty sure I'm out.
11. Lord help me not find my significance from social media today.
12. Lord help me run to your Word for guidance instead of looking for an answer inside Google.
13. Lord help me to not care what people may think about me and only be concerned with what you think about me.
14. Lord help me forgive people quickly and swiftly because if not the bitterness will have its way with me.
15. Lord help me not treat ministry like a job but only as a calling from you.
16. Lord help me have faith, the kind of faith that I could lift a mountain and toss it into the sea.
17. Lord help me to lead well those you have asked me to lead.
18. Lord help me see things and hear things that others aren't because they are too busy.
19. Lord help me work hard on the right things and leave the results up to you.
20. Lord help me.



### MY PRAYER

Lord, I'm glad that you're my Father,  
And my all I give to Thee,  
Trusting You will mold me into  
What You'd have me be.

No matter what the struggles,  
Trials or test,  
Knowing You hold me in Your hands,  
Gives me peace and rest.

Father, You see the future,  
So no matter what it may be,  
Keep me – Guide me – Use me,  
'Till Your Blessed face I see.

Amen.

Donna Bennett Howell

## HUMOR

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Momma, look what I found," the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: "I think it's Adam's suit!"

A young boy had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father, who was a minister, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him to his study and said to him, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study your bible a little and get your hair cut and we'll talk about it."

After about a month the boy came back and again asked his father if they could discuss use of the car. They again went to the father's study where his father said, "Son, I've been real proud of you. You have brought your grades up, you've studied your bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut!"








The young man waited a moment and replied, "You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair, and even Jesus had long hair..."

To which his father replied... "Yes, and they WALKED everywhere they went!"










## JANUARY 2020 ZION ACTIVITIES

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday   |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p>"O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!"</p>  |   |   | <p>1</p>   | <p>2</p>   | <p>3</p>   | <p>4</p>    |
| <p><b>5</b><br/><i>Mission Sunday</i></p> <p>9 am Sunday school &amp; Coffee Fellowship<br/>10:30 am Worship Service</p>  | <p><b>6</b></p> <p>1 pm Zion Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Young Adult Bible Study (high school thru 30 something)</p> | <p><b>7</b></p> <p>7:45 am Devos with Chelsy at the Red Moose Coffee Hus (for Jr. &amp; Sr. High girls)</p>                                   | <p><b>8</b></p> <p>5:30 pm Confirmation<br/><b>6 pm Christian Ed Meeting</b><br/>6:30 pm Youth Meal<br/>7 pm choir<br/>7 pm Youth Group</p> | <p><b>9</b></p> <p>Zion WMF Circles Meet:<br/>Circle 1 – 9:30 am<br/>Circle 2 – 2 pm<br/>Circle 3 – 7 pm<br/>(Circle Bible study books are in the office or back of the church)</p> | <p><b>10</b></p> <p>7 pm Youth Group Overnighter</p>   | <p><b>11</b></p>   |
| <p><b>12</b></p> <p>9 am Sunday school &amp; Coffee Fellowship<br/>10:30 am Worship Service</p>   | <p><b>13</b></p> <p>1 pm Zion Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Young Adult Bible Study</p>                                | <p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>7 pm Deacon/Deaconess Meeting</b><br/><b>7:15 pm Trustee/Budget Meeting</b><br/><b>8:15 pm Church Council Mtg.</b></p> | <p><b>15</b></p> <p><i>2 pm Ladies WMF</i></p> <p>5:30 pm Confirmation<br/>6:30 pm Youth Meal<br/>7 pm Choir<br/>7 pm Youth Group</p>       | <p><b>16</b></p> <p>7:45 am Devos with Chelsy at the Red Moose Coffee Hus (for Jr. &amp; Sr. High girls)</p>  | <p><b>17</b></p> <p><u>Committee Annual Reports are due in the office today, please and thank you!</u></p> |   |
| <p><b>19 Building Project Sunday</b></p> <p>9 am Sunday school &amp; Coffee Fellowship<br/>10:30 am Worship Service</p>   | <p><b>20</b></p> <p>1 pm Zion Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Young Adult Bible Study</p>                                | <p><b>21</b></p> <p>7:45 am Devos with Chelsy at the Red Moose Coffee Hus (for Jr. &amp; Sr. High girls)</p>                                  | <p><b>22</b></p> <p>5:30 pm Confirmation<br/>6:30 pm Youth Meal<br/>7 pm Choir<br/>7 pm Youth Group</p>                                     | <p><b>23</b></p>   | <p><b>24</b></p>   | <p><b>25</b></p>   |
| <p><b>26</b></p> <p>9 am Sunday school &amp; Coffee Fellowship<br/>10:30 am Worship Service<br/><b>Noon – Annual Congregational Meeting – Potluck</b></p>   | <p><b>27</b></p> <p>1 pm Zion Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Young Adult Bible Study</p>                                | <p><b>28</b></p>  | <p><b>29</b></p> <p>5:30 pm Confirmation<br/>6:30 pm Youth Meal<br/>7 pm Choir<br/>7 pm Youth Group</p>                                     | <p><b>30</b></p> <p>7:45 am Devos with Chelsy at the Red Moose Coffee Hus (for Jr. &amp; Sr. High girls)</p>  | <p><b>31</b></p>      | <p>"Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock,"<br/>Matthew 7:24</p> |



# January

## JANUARY 2020 ZION BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <p><i>"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."</i><br/> <i>Philippians 3:14</i></p> |   |  | <p>1</p>  <p>Happy New Year!</p> | <p>2</p> <p>Laverne Kerbaugh</p> <p>Boden Iverson</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Diane Auen</p> <p>Wayne Grindy</p>  | <p>4</p> <p>Donna Golly</p> <p>Kelly Anderson</p> <p>Riley Syverson</p>                       |
| <p>5</p> <p>Corinne Coughlin</p>   | <p>6</p>  | <p>7</p> <p>Marlyn Jorstad</p>   | <p>8</p> <p>Kay Blikre</p> <p>Sydney Iverson</p>  | <p>9</p> <p>Ricky Raan</p>                            | <p>10</p> <p>LeWayne Johnson</p>  | <p>11</p>  |
| <p>12</p> <p>Stephanie Lalim</p>   | <p>13</p>   | <p>14</p> <p>LeAnn Iverson</p> <p>Elijah Iverson</p> <p>Trisha Beck</p> <p>Brinley Knudson</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Bentlee Keller</p> <p>David &amp; Regina Lalim</p>   | <p>16</p> <p>Angela Zerr</p> <p>Kevin Davis</p>       | <p>17</p> <p>Dawn Postovit</p> <p>Harper Eraas</p> <p>Roxy Uhlich</p>                           | <p>18</p> <p>Ella Strahan</p> <p>LaVon Anderson</p> <p>Dwight Blikre</p>                      |
| <p>19</p> <p>Lila Lalim</p> <p>Lyle &amp; Debbie Braun</p>   | <p>20</p> <p>Joshua Olson</p>   | <p>21</p>  | <p>22</p> <p>Harold &amp; Karen Sundhagen</p> <p>Kali McIntyre</p>  | <p>23</p>   | <p>24</p>  | <p>25</p>   |
| <p>26</p> <p>Doug &amp; Kim Thull</p>  | <p>27</p>  | <p>28</p> <p>Wayne Foss</p>  | <p>29</p> <p>Heidi Melberg</p>  | <p>30</p> <p>Abby Sabinash</p>                        | <p>31</p> <p>Yvonne Schmidt</p>   |          |



## RADIO MINISTRY

Anyone who would like to sponsor a Sunday broadcast or contribute to the radio fund in memory of a loved one, please contact the church office, thank you! The radio broadcast is \$100 per Sunday. Our radio broadcast can be heard on Sundays at noon on AM Radio Station KTG0 1090.

## USHERS THIS MONTH

JANUARY HEAD USHER: Roger Blestrud

Volunteers

### ~Special Offering Baskets~

**FIRST SUNDAY** of each month is Mission Sunday.  
**THIRD SUNDAY** of each month is New Building Project. We will have a basket in the back of the church on these two Sundays for special offering.

\*If your birthday or anniversary is missing from our Newsletter and you would like to be included, please call the church office\*

### ~CLOTHES CLOSET~

HOURS TO SHOP ARE:

MONDAY 2 - 7 P.M.

SATURDAY 9 - 12 NOON

IF YOU HAVE NEW OR GENTLY USED CLOTHES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE (PREFERRABLY THAT GO WITH THE SEASON WE ARE IN) PLEASE DROP THEM OFF AT THE CHURCH. THANK YOU! VOLUNTEER HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED!



## Looking Ahead



*Youth Group Overnighter!*  
*Friday/Saturday, January 10-11<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m.*

**Zion Annual Business Meeting & Potluck**  
**Sunday, January 26, 2020 - Noon**  
(Committees please have your reports into the office by Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, thank you!)



### ~New Building Update~



Progress continues to be made on the new church building! The kitchen cabinets, counter tops and appliances have been ordered, tile work is complete in the bathrooms, painting is being worked on in the interior of the building. We praise God and are so very thankful for all the helpers who volunteer their time with various projects. Please pray with us for safety for our workers, wisdom for decisions being made, and continued gifts received to help complete this project, thank you!

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."*

*Isaiah 55:8-11*

