



ZION STAFF

Rev. John P. Gross,
Pastor

Administrative Assistant
Vito Biondo

Pianist,
Children's Music Ministry
Lynne Oliverius

Choir Director
Paul Takagi

CONTACT US

Zion Office
(805) 543-8327

Zion Fax
(877) 561-3505

Pastor Gross' email
revjpgross@zionslo.com

Office email
zion@zionslo.com

Zion Website
www.zionslo.com

Prayer Chain Requests

Karen 543-7953 or
Dawn 541-1450



"THE JOURNEY OF A NEW YEAR"

REV. JOHN P. GROSS

As we enter into 2012 let's look at the New Year as a trip, a journey as brothers in sisters in Christ. We can relate to traveling, many of our members of Zion enjoy their retirement with traveling throughout the year. Others travel especially in the Summer months. But lets begin together this year, the year of Our Lord, with some preparations for our trip.

To Say Farewell (To Self)

In taking a trip, it is always good to say good-bye to friends, and family. But in the Christians life the most important person we must say farewell to is ourselves.

We can do this as Christians who grow in the truth of the Gospel of Christ. To see daily that God through Christ not only provides us with his unconditional love but that he also daily provides for all of our needs. So knowing Christ in 2012 is our greatest standard as Christians.

Phil 3:7 7 **"But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ"**

The disciples of Christ had to learn to deny themselves. They were taught by Christ to pull away as far from themselves and trust solely on Him. Let's strive for this in 2012.

Highlights this issue

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To Carry one's Baggage. (Our Crosses)

We don't always carry the same baggage every time we travel. But in the Christians life many times we carry a lot of the same pains that we've had for years. Each of us carry crosses or hardships throughout our lives. We may never forget them but we must remember Christ took our suffering to the cross and there died with them. They are behind us, maybe like luggage that is big and bulky which is on a leash or on wheels, its following us but because of the work of Christ it isn't a burden to carry.

To proceed with the Journey (Follow Me)

I've met people who had started a trip and because of some health issue or something else, the trip needed to end. As Christians we don't have the luxury during bad times to just stop the journey but we must proceed, and the key is to reach our destination. As Christians we must not change our course but keep our focus on the destination of heaven as our home.

By this, each day of our pilgrimage we keep our eyes focused on the author of our faith who Christ our Lord.

That is why your church, Zion Lutheran professes Jesus Christ through each and every year. Because only in Christ we find true comfort for our souls along lives Journey.

Happy New Year!

Birthdays

- 03 Janet Burt
- 03 Norma Fauset
- 05 Romelle Humphrey
- 06 Annette Gibbs
- 12 Lucy King
- 15 Ellen Keyser
- 15 Margaret Schoening
- 15 Barbara Tune
- 16 Ryan Griggs
- 19 Carolyn Radecki
- 21 Tyrone Bomba
- 21 Robert Donaldson
- 21 Eric Morgan
- 22 Faye Hanna
- 24 Susan Polk
- 25 Robert Field
- 26 Bonnie Deringer
- 26 Adriane Field
- 26 Carol Howard
- 28 John Edgecombe
- 29 Joanie Brown

Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family the Church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

Most people believe that money brings happiness, so they always want more of it. But money does not bring happiness. Money and the things that money can buy do not produce the good life. The good life is found in a relationship with Jesus and in using what God has given us to build His kingdom. Through the working of the Holy Spirit, we will hold the things of this world loosely and focus on things that are eternal.



GREETERS

- 1/1 Ed and Linda Steinbeck
- 1/8
- 1/15
- 1/22
- 1/29

CHANCEL GUILD MEMBERS

Miriam Ziel, Marcia Fischbeck

HARVEST BAG VOLUNTEERS

Helma Smulders, Rae Wulff, Leo Wulff, Pat Wood, John Kock, Barbara Souza, Betty Kock, Frank Wood, Kay Folta, Margaret Schoening, Elmer Meier, Elaine Eppert, Michelle Mason, Students from Mission Prep High School

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Grace Arndt, Elaine Eppert, Glenn Weitkum

YOUR ELDER BOARD

(1/1)James Polk, (1/15)Gary Reif, Roger Randall, Jeff Tolle, Bob Hux
January Duty Elder:: Gary Reif

OFFERING COUNTERS

Maria Burt, Ginny Randall, Marcia Fischbeck, Elaine Eppert, Ruth Halsey, Frank & Pat Wood, Robert & Corinne Wobrock, Annette Gibbs Ed & Linda Steinbeck, Val Wente,

USHERS

8:00am **Bernie Luoma, Elmer Meier**
 10:30am

Team 1: **Wilbur Neben**, David & Kari
 1/1 Knutson, Jack Humphrey

Team 2: **Gus Keyser**, Gene Hewitt,
 1/8 Karl Haeuser, John Miller

Team 3: **Elmer Meier**, Ernest Cementina
 1/15 Al Rybar, Glenn Weitkum,

Team 4: **Derek Valine**, Karen Valine,
 1/22 Robert Hux

Team 5: **Nathan Klammer**, college students
 1/29

WORSHIP STATISTICS

DATE	8:00	10:30	GENERAL OFFERING
11/24	43		\$341
11/27	29	—	\$3299
11/30	57		\$750
12/4	35	100	\$5356
12/7	50		\$276
12/11	39	99	\$6411
12/14	80		\$454
12/18	36	87	\$4286
12/24	162	28	\$1685
12/25	77		\$2268

READERS

1/8	8am	Allan Davis
	10:30am	Tom Jones
1/22	8am	Derek Valine
	10:30am	Ginny Randall
1/29	8am	Mel de la Motte
	10:30am	Shirley Head

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

God gives us gifts and abilities that we may be equipped to serve others. The start of a new year offers us an opportune time to assess those gifts and see how we can use them for God's glory and the good of His people. The motivation to do this comes from the same One Who gave the gifts! Just as He was motivated by love for us to give us, not just our gifts, but His greatest gift, His Son, so we are motivated by love for Him to serve those He calls us to serve.

Happy Anniversary

01/10 Pastor and Pam Gross
 31st Anniversary

President's Letter

DECEMBER, 2011
BY GINNY RANDALL

This is my final letter as your president and I thank you all for giving me the honor and opportunity to serve. I am enthusiastic about the new officers elected at the December 4 Voters' Meeting. They are: John Miller, President; Charles Burt, Vice President; Duane Head, Secretary; Miriam Ziel, Treasurer; Marcia Fischbeck, Finance; Charles Gibbs, Property Management; Robert and Carrie Donaldson, Parish Education/Youth; Pam Gross and Marilyn Rybar, Parish Fellowship; Susan Polk, Evangelism; Janet de la Motte, Stewardship; and Jim Polk as a member of the Board of Elders. They are all invited to the December 13 Board of Director's meeting. At this meeting we will discuss the Doretta Takagi Memorial Fund, hiring a babysitter, establishing a petty cash fund for fellowship, reconfiguring the fellowship procedures for Sunday coffee hours, a progress update on the back 40, and how to deal with indigent individuals who request help from the church. Please remember the advent service on December 14 (with a special children's service) and the supper beforehand.

The chili challenge for the first advent service on November 30 was a lot of fun and very filling too and the second supper was a similar success. On Christmas Eve, there are services both at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. Invite your friends and family! There is also a service on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m. The LWML gathered at the home of Rae Wulff on Saturday, December 3 for the annual Christmas luncheon and gift exchange. There was singing, laughter, good food and especially good fellowship abounding. On December 10, Pastor and Pam hosted a Christmas open house at their home with homemade gingerbread and other cookies and hot cider. It was a welcome time to relax, enjoy the beautiful decorations and comfort food and catch up with fellow members. At the Voters' Meeting on December 4, you all heard about the activities of each of the boards over the past six months. I am proud of the accomplishments of each board and want to thank each chair for all the service he/she has given to the church. You have all been GREAT! A special thanks to Tom Jones for putting together the power point for the meeting.



Adult Bible Class
9:15AM-10:15AM

Pre-Confirmation
9:20AM-10:20AM

Middle Elementary
9:30 - 10:15AM

K-2 Elementary
10:30 AM



Thank You

The Gross family would like to thank the congregation
for the prayers, cards and gifts given this Christmas season



"All God's Children Sing"

What a JOYOUS time we had in Bethlehem on Weds., Dec. 14 during our children's Christmas program. Parish Ed and Children's Music Ministries combined efforts to present the story of the nativity through the children. The meaningful presentation included spoken word, acting and song and connected the gift of Eternal Life through Jesus the baby in the manger. Many members of Zion stepped forward to assist with the program in making costumes, hand lettering signs, sound and video production and set building. Thank you for all your efforts!

"All God's Children Sing" children's choir will resume classes on Jan. 4 at 4-5pm on Wednesdays in classroom 1. Any child ages 5-13 is invited to join in our music making group. Please contact Lynne Oliverius at lynne@zionslo.com or through the church office at 805-543-8327



"JOY of Bethlehem" Children's Program

OUT IN THE
COMMUNITY

**“HARVEST BAG
VOLUNTEERS MAKE
THE NEWS SERVING
THE NEEDY”**



Jack Balantine, a student volunteer from Mission Prep in San Luis Obispo, carries out bags of recipients' groceries for Harvest Bag at Zion Lutheran Church.



Every week, volunteers provide assistance to hundreds of residents at Food Bank distribution locations throughout the county. Margaret Schorning (above left) and Kay Fahn volunteer at Harvest Bag Zion Lutheran Church in SLO. Bags of food can include produce (above left) and bread provided by Zion's volunteer coordinator Frank Wood (below).

Faithful Zion members volunteer to

distribute food to over 150 families every Wednesday, assisted by students from Mission Prep.

Taken from the SLO Co Farm Bureau publication "SLO Country."



According to the Food Bank Coalition of SLO County... about 40,000 residents, 16,000 of whom are children in the county, go hungry on a regular basis or sometimes don't know when or where they will get their next meal.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,”
Matthew 25:35 (ESV)

PORTALS
of PRAYER

DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS FOR JANUARY- MARCH 2012 ARE NOW IN THE NARTHEX. SHARE ONE WITH A FRIEND! BOTH FORMATS (LARGE PRINT AND REGULAR SIZE) ARE AVAILABLE.



All God's Children Sing

The Board of Elders recently conducted a review of the youth music program – *All God's Children Sing* – at the end of its 14-week trial period. The Elders have decided to continue this wonderful outreach effort. The Peterson Fund will provide the financial resources needed through the remainder of the 2011-12 fiscal year.

Please pray for its continued success.

Jeff Tolle
Board of Elders

Children's
music
ministry
news



Thursday January 26
1:00p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Call Karen Reif for more information

MITE BOX SUNDAY

is always the last Sunday of the month Please grab a box in the Narthex and fill with your spare change. Pray for the Mite projects, that God would use our gifts to lead many to saving faith in Christ.



You're Invited...

THE DE LA MOT

FISH B



JANUARY 29, 5:0



HAPPY, New Year!

The staff at Zion Lutheran Church would like to wish you and your family a Happy New Year!

Year End Statement

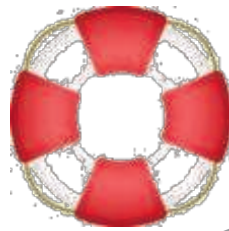
2011 year-end Giving statements will be available for pick-up beginning Sunday, January 8 after services. If you need yours mailed directly to you, please call the church office let us know.

TE'S ANNUAL

BOWL



PEOPLE WHOSE LAST NAME BEGINS WITH
A-M BRING A SIDEDISH
N-Z BRING A DESSERT



For more information, please call the de la Mottes at 544-3947

00 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



President _____ John Miller
 Vice-President _____ Charles Burt
 Secretary _____ Dwayne Head
 Treasurer _____ Miriam Ziel
 Property Management _____ Charles Gibbs
 Fellowship _____ Pam Gross/Marilyn Rybar
 Stewardship _____ Janet de la Motte
 Evangelism _____ Susan Polk
 Parish Education _____ Rob and Carrie Donaldson
 Finance _____ Marcia Fischbeck

Board of Elders

Bob Hux , James Polk, Roger Randall, Gary Reif, Jeff Tolle

We thank last year's officers for all their dedication and hard work

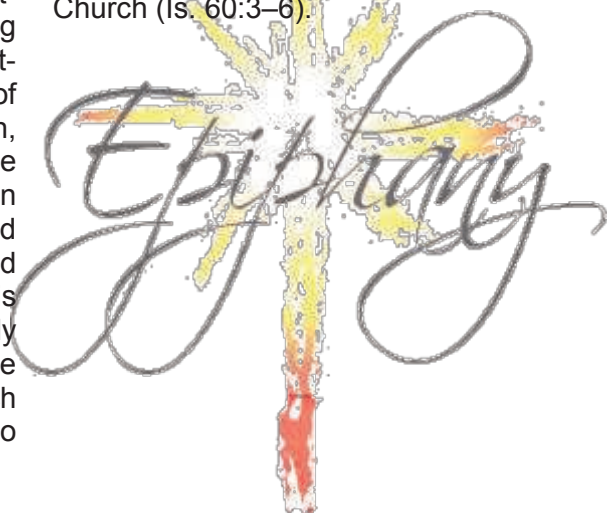
Board Reports

The new December board minutes and report packets are now available in the Narthex.

***The Lord God Is Manifested
in the Incarnate Son***

The Feast of the Epiphany centers in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is a "Thirteenth Day" of Christmas, and yet, it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. Where Christmas has focused on the Incarnation of our Lord, that is, on God becoming flesh, the Season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or self-revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. For the Lord Himself has entered our darkness and rises upon us with the brightness of His true Light (Is. 60:1-2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth, not only to the Jews but also to Gentiles (Eph. 3:8-10).

As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Christ-Child with His Mother in the house (Matt. 2:5-11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word, to find and worship Him within His Church (Is. 60:3-6).



Ladies LUNCH

Spirit of San Luis Monday, January 23rd, at 11:30 p.m.
at Spirit of San Luis
Please R.S.V.P to
Margaret Schoening
if you would like to attend

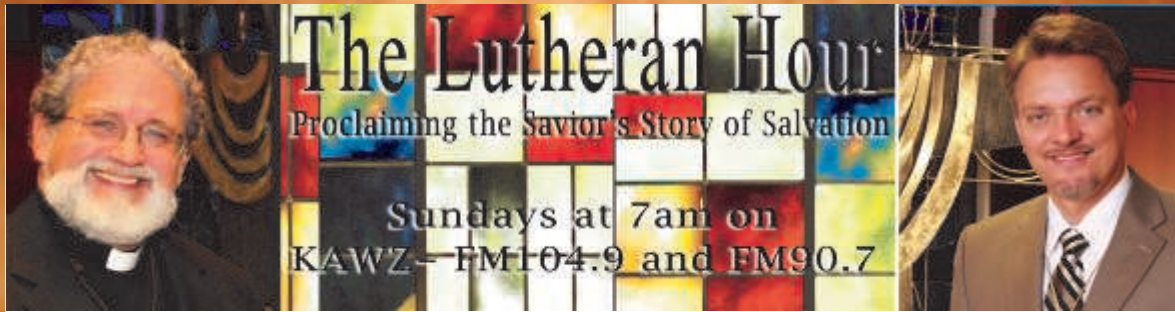


Advent Chili Challenge



DWAYNE HEAD
VOTED
ADVENT
CHILI KING





Speaker Emeritus:
Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

Sermon Schedule

Speaker:
Rev. Gregory Seltz

ADULT
BIBLE
STUDY
New Study
Beginning
January 8
Sundays at
9:15am, CR1

A CLOSER LOOK
AT THE BOOK OF
ROMANS
Tuesday mornings at
10 AM, CR1

Join us as we explore Paul's letter to the Christian Church in Rome. The primary theme in this study is the basic Gospel message, God's plan of Salvation and Righteousness for all mankind, Jew and Gentile alike. Romans is the most comprehensive and systematic statement of the Christian faith in the Bible. Join us as we grow together in the Good News of Jesus. The class meets each Tuesday morning at 10 am in Room 1.

January 1

"The Lord Will Have the Last Say!"

L.H. Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
The Lord Jesus saves, the Lord Jesus reigns, and in all things He will have the last say! We begin the new year in His Name.
(2 Timothy 4:6-8)

January 8

"Jesus' Baptism: Solidarity with Sinners to Save Them!"

L.H. Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
Jesus stepped into the Jordan River for a baptism He didn't need in order to save a people who didn't deserve it. He showed solidarity with sinners so that they might receive God's forgiveness and mercy by grace.
(Mark 1:4-11)

January 15

"Bought with A Price!"

L.H. Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
What are you worth? We live in a world that doesn't know how to answer that question. Your true value is found in a restored relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.
(1 Corinthians 6:12-20)

January 22


"Living a Life With Purpose"

L.H. Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
In Christ, God has a plan for you-a life with purpose, life to its fullest measure, life in Him-for others.
(Mark 1:14-20)

January 29

"One With Authority"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
Even Jesus' enemies had to admit that He spoke with authority. What's more, Jesus showed His power and authority to forgive sins and conquer death itself.
(Mark 1:21-22)





**LUTHERAN
HOUR
MINISTRIES**

People Of Christ With A Message Of Hope

The Lutheran Hour[®] which began in 1930, is the world's longest-running, Christian outreach radio program. It proclaims the message of Jesus Christ to more than 800,000 people each week over 1300 radio stations across North America. It is also broadcast on the American Forces Network to reach military personnel and their families around the world.

JANUARY 2012

Epiphany

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NEW YEARS DAY 8a Divine Service- Communion No Adult Bible study 10:30a Divine Service-Communion No Sunday School K-6 *Fellowship is served after services	2	3 10:00a Book of Romans Bible Study CR1	4 9:30a-11:30a Harvest Bag . 4p "All God's Children Sing"	5 3:30p -4:30p Confirmation Class, Office	6  EPIPHANY	7
8 8a Divine Service 9:15a Adult Bible School 10:30a Divine Service 10:30a Sunday School K-6 *Fellowship is served after serv. 1:30p Square Dance Club, FH	9	10 10:00a Book of Romans Bible Study CR1 3:30p Evang. Mtg.	11 9:30a-11:30a Harvest Bag . 4p "All God's Children Sing"	12 12:00p LWML 3:30p -4:30p Confirmation Class, Office	13 College retreat to Shaver Lake	14
15 8a Divine Service- Communion 9:15a Adult Bible School 10:30a Divine Service-Communion 10:30a Sunday School K-6 *Fellowship is served after services	16 MLK DAY College group re- turns from Shaver Lake	17 10:00a Book of Romans Bible Study CR1 5:30p Board of Directors Mtg.	18 9:30a-11:30a Harvest Bag . 4p "All God's Children Sing"	19 3:30p -4:30p Confirmation Class, Office	20 5:30p GIGS, CR2 Zionews Deadline	21
22 8a Divine Service 9:15a Adult Bible School 10:30a Divine Service 10:30a Sunday School K-6 *Fellowship is served after serv. 1:30p Square Dance Club, FH	23 Ladies Lunch @ Spirit of San Luis 11:30a	24 10:00a Book of Romans Bible Study CR1	25 9:30a-11:30a Harvest Bag . 4p "All God's Children Sing"	26 1:00p Bunco 3:30p -4:30p Confirmation Class, Office	27 5:30p GIGS, CR2	28
29 MITE BOX SUNDAY 8a Divine Service 9:15a Adult Bible School 10:30a Divine Service 10:30a Sunday School K-6 *Fellowship is served after serv. 5pm Annual De la Motte "Fish Bowl" Fellowship Hall	30	31 10:00a Book of Romans Bible Study CR1	Zionews Deadline For February newsletter Is January 20			

*In the new year,
 may you be blessed
 with all the good
 things God has to give.*

Zion College Minis- try Leadership



Nathan Klammer

COLLEGE GROUP UPDATE

Wrapping up Fall Quarter

Social event –gingerbread house decorat-
ing – successful event!

Classroom cleaned up and tidied.

Will have a planning meeting for Winter
Quarter upon return of students (Week
of January 3.)

Upcoming Retreat – Shaver Lake January 13 - 16

Booked a cabin thru K&K Property Management in Shaver Lake

Final head count of 21 participants

Pastor and Mrs. Burch from Grace in Santa Maria are coming (as in
years past)

Filling open roles in leadership

Former group leader Karl Lipscomb to help fill adult leadership
role? With the go ahead from the Board, we could start contact-
ing him about this.

Still looking for Dana's replacement from within group



Zionews January 2012

1010 E. Foothill Blvd.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
805.543.8327 ph
877.561.3505 fax
www.zionslo.com

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New Design
New Categories
Up-to-date information

WEB SITE!