



ZION NEWS AUGUST 2011

A Publication of Zion Lutheran Church SLO, CA

A life in God's Word

Life can be tough! Especially for the younger generation. I wouldn't trade all the money in the world to be an adolescent again. It is tough as they figure out who they are. Above all, when they are brought up one way by mom, dad, and the church, and the world encourages them to go in another direction. I remember at that age I wanted my cake and I wanted to eat it too. I wanted to be in Christian fellowship with believers but I have to admit a lot of things my non-Christian friends were doing looked fun also. I always remember that passage from Scripture, when Jesus said, **"He who is not with me is against me"**. It was a constant struggle as I remember those early years. But in all honesty the struggle didn't end as I got older, it just changes.

As you grow up you realize that you need to be responsible and be a stable individual. That means school or a vocation. To

some it means marriage and a family. The struggles continue, but they are just different. Money and relationships seem to take first place at this time in life. One of my favorite passages that always rang true to me as I struggled in these years is from Romans 7, **"I don't understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do."** St. Paul pointed out an important part of my life as a Christian, that I'm not perfect and even as a saint in Christ Jesus our Lord, I am still a sinner, not a lost sinner but one who has been found by Jesus.

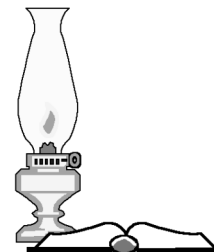
As I grow older each day another passage of Scripture from I Peter always resonates to me in tough times, **"These have come so that your faith of greater worth than gold... may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with**

an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

As I look back, it has been God's precious Holy Word that has always been there for me and in this Word, God is present guiding not only your pastor but all who trust in Christ. In my younger years my Sunday school teachers, my Pastor in confirmation, taught this Word to me. It was taught to me through the hymns in worship and through Bible study at church and daily devotions at home.

Let us encourage each other daily to be people of the Word.

"Your word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Ps.119:105



Rev. John P. Gross

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.

Those serving this month

GREETERS

Gene & Liz Hewitt, Kay Folta, Val Wentte,
John & Anne Edgecombe,
David & Carolyn Radecki

CHANCEL GUILD MEMBERS

David and Kari Knutson

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, Daniel Arndt, Dolly Luoma,
Students from Mission Prep High School

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Grace Arndt, Elaine Eppert
Dolly Luoma, Glenn Weitkum

YOUR ELDER BOARD

Roger Randall, Gary Reif
Glenn Weitkum, Jeff Tolle, Bob Hux
August Duty Elder: Jeff Tolle

OFFERING COUNTERS

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

USHERS

8:00 a.m. **Bernie Luoma, Elmer Meier**

10:30 a.m.

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

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

Team 3: **Elmer Meier**, Al Rybar,
Glenn Weitkum

Team 4: **Derek Valine**, Karen Valine,
Charles Gibbs, Robert Hux

Team 5: **Dana Baker**, College students



- 07 Maria Burt
- 08 Ed Steinbeck
- 10 Chris Molnar
- 11 Leonard Lammi
- 13 Mary Reidel
- 15 Charlie Gibbs
- 21 Gary Reif
- 23 Patricia Grimes
- 23 Brian Tarango
- 25 Liz Hewitt
- 26 Mildred Lammi
- 29 Ruth Halsey



- 07 Ron & Sandy Funk 46th
- 14 Derek & Karen Valine 28th

Worship Attendance & General Offerings for July 3-24			
DATE	8:00a	10:30a	General Offering
07/03	32	107	\$6,498
07/10	35	88	\$5,870
07/17	42	94	\$5,272
07/24	40	82	\$2,731

LESSON READERS FOR AUGUST

- 8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.
- Aug. 14 Derek Valine Lucy King
- Aug. 28 Mel de le Motte Susan Polk

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

JULY 2011

BY GINNY RANDALL

The kitchen remodel is completed and our new kitchen looks fabulous besides giving us much more room to prepare and serve food. It was completed in time for Vacation Bible School and a grand opening was held the Sunday before.

The "Big Jungle Adventure" turned out very well with 20 plus children attending and several involved in the presentation on the Sunday after VBS. Thanks to all who helped out with this program, especially Joanie Brown who headed up the effort.

There is a new adult Bible study series that began on July 10 at 9:15 a.m. in Classroom 1 and will continue throughout the summer. The Faith on the Edge Bible study series focuses on the relationship between faith and science. Each session focuses on a contemporary topic, summarizes what science has to say about it, and then provides biblical answers and guidance. **DON'T MISS THIS!**

Be sure to pray for travel mercies for the many members traveling to and fro this summer. Also, we will probably have several visitors each Sunday during July and August and please extend the hand of fellowship to them.

Roger and I spent two weeks in Mammoth Lakes at the end of June and the beginning of July. While there, we attended Pastor Gross' former church, Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church. They are excited to welcome the arrival of a new pastor, Marcus Breitbarth, and his family.

Please note: this month's Board of Directors meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, August 9th, at 5:30p.m. in the office conference room

VBS ICE CREAM SOCIAL



I ♥ My Sunday School Teacher!

Would you like the opportunity to serve the Lord by working with elementary age children? The students would love to have

you be one of their Sunday school teachers! Please consider sharing your time and faith with our youngsters. Contact Joanie Brown, 543-6117, for more information.

We want to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to all those dedicated members who have, in the past, and continue to make a difference in the lives of our children.



The Joy of Reading book club gets together this month on Friday, the 26th, at 10:00am.

If you would like more info, call Shirley Weitkum at 544-3869



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

Through the generosity of Gerry and Peggy Peterson, Zion has received a gift of \$100,000 from their family trust, to be administered by the Board of Elders. In their August meeting the elders will be considering how to effectively invest and utilize this gift for the benefit of our congregation. The elders would welcome any suggestions members may have concerning use of the funds in the furtherance of our mission.

Please contact any of the elders to share your thoughts with them in this regard.



Stewardship Minute

When Cyrus Hamlin, a missionary to Turkey, was a small boy his father gave him



Stewardship
a way of life

seven cents to celebrate a holiday. He was to buy some sweets. "And perhaps, Cyrus," he said, "you will put a cent or two in the missionary contribution box." As he trudged along he began to ask, "Shall I drop in one cent or two?" He decided on two. Then he thought, "Five cents for your stomach and two for the heathen?" So he decided to take four for candy and three for the heathen children. After further debate he decided to take three for candy and four for the heathen. When he came to the box he deposited the whole seven cents and decided to become a missionary!



LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

Rally Day

Sept. 11th, 2011

BBQ, Apple Pie baking contest, and lots of fun. Watch for more details.

 Lutheran Women in Mission

The next meeting of “Zion Lutheran Women in Mission & Ministry” will be Thursday, Sept. 8th, at noon, in the Fellowship Hall.

President Dawn Jones has arranged for a woman from County Social Services to speak to us then, and Lucy King will give her report on the National LWMM Convention she attended this month.

Please bring a sack lunch and enjoy coffee, dessert and a Devotion with Zion women.

LWMM presents “Zion Oktoberfest” on Saturday, October 22nd.

Please save the date for our annual dinner fundraiser, with matching funds from Thrivent.



Thursday, August 18
12:00p.m.
at



2131 Price St.
Pismo Beach

Call Margaret Schoening
for reserving your spot
and for more information

Ladies
Lunch

MURPHY'S LAW GOES TO CHURCH

- No matter how many show up for choir practice, you will always need one more copy of the music.
- The longest Scripture readings always come on communion Sunday.
- If one usher is absent, there will also be a large attendance. If both are missing, there will be at least three handouts and it will be necessary to set up extra chairs.
- Members living 15 miles away will be 15 minutes early; members living two blocks away will be 15 minutes late.
- Saying, “Let us pray,” or singing “Just as I am,” causes babies to cry.
- The shorter the agenda, the longer the committee meeting.
- The likelihood of a child giving a humorous response in a children’s talk is directly proportional to the seriousness of the discussion.
- A Sunday school teacher will always have a large attendance when he or she feels most poorly prepared to teach.
- When the pastor misspeaks while preaching, at least half of the confirmation students taking notes will write the remark down as an important thought from the sermon.



“I didn’t really think we’d get this sign up.”



L-R: Carol Howard, Pastor Gross, Tyrone Bomba

**SUNDAY MORNING
ADULT BIBLE STUDY
9:15am in Classroom 1**

“Science and the Savior” explores how scientists may serve their Creator through understanding and explaining the wonders of His creation.

Chapters include:

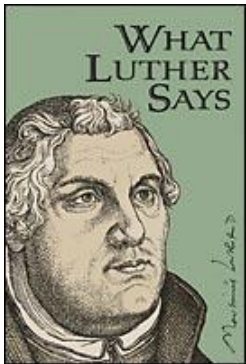
- God’s Intentions for Science
- Science as Sub-creation
- How Theology Gave Birth to Modern Science
- Science Serves Our Neighbors
- Science, Beauty, and God’s Handiwork
- Defending the Faith with Science

The study examines the subject from a biblical perspective, exploring the issue's impact on our culture and provides the tools needed to respond with God's Word.



**Thursday
August 25
1:00p.m.**

Call Karen Reif for more information

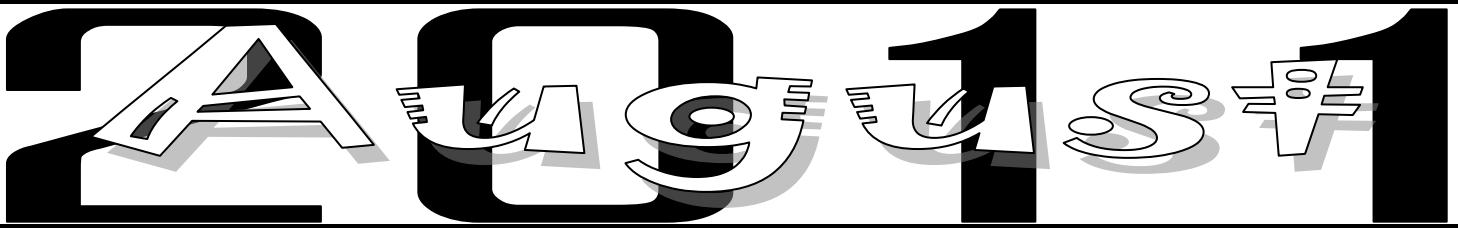


Reason vs. Revelation

“What Luther Says”

Let no one presume to deal with God on the basis of his own ideas. He should stick to the Word; he will not make a good beginning with his reason. Reason must confess against its will that this matter is above its reach. . . . It is as if I wanted to touch heaven with my finger or obscure and darken the sun with my hand. This would certainly be impossible and a fool-ish undertaking. Therefore let us not be equal to God or wiser than He in our speculations; but let us submit completely to Him. For this reason those who strive to know God by the use of their reason are very gross, great fools. To the Word we should cling; we should wrap our-selves in it as a child is wrapped in its diapers. . . . Labor and effort enough are required to hold our own when we simply stay with the Word. What will happen when a person flutters about in confusion with his reason and thoughts? If we had been able to hit upon saving truth with our reason, it would not have been nec-essary for God to speak from heaven, to let the Word ring out, and to enclose and bind everything in the Word. Apart from His divine Word, God has given no other means whereby Christ is to be heard.

(“What Luther Says” Vol.3 page 390)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pastor: John P. Gross Cong. President: Ginny Randall 772-5883	1	2	3 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag .	4	5	6
7 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 11:30a Elders meeting, office	8	9 3:30p Evang. Mtg. 5:30p Board of Directors Mtg.	10 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag .	11	12	13
14 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	15	16	17 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag .	18	19	20
21 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 11:30a Education meeting, CR1	22 Zionews Deadline	23	24 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag	25 1:00p Bunco, FH	26 10:00a Joy of Reading book club , office	27
28 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. 1:30p Square Dance Club, FH	29	30	31 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag	<i>The Sunday School Teacher asks, "Now, Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?" "No sir," little Johnny replies, "I don't have to. My Mom is a good cook."</i>		

Phone: 805-543-8327
Fax: 877-561-3505
Office email: zion@zionslo.com
Pastor: revjpgross@zionslo.com
Website: http://www.zionslo.com



Adult Bible Class
 9:15AM-10:15AM
Pre-Confirmation
 9:20AM-10:20AM
Nursery & Elementary
 10:30 AM

Deadline for September newsletter submissions is August 22



1010 E. Foothill Blvd.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

ZION STAFF

Rev. John P. Gross, Pastor

Administrative Assistant

Vito Biondo

Organist

Doretta Takagi

Pianist

Lynne Oliverius

Choir Director

Paul Takagi

Early Fall 2011 Term event

Spring Summer/Early Fall 2011 Term event



- **Fri. Evenings** - 5:30 pm **GIGS & Food** every Fri.
- **Sept 14-19 WOW** at Cal Poly: **Visit our Booth on Thur. 16 Sept. at the Farmers Market.**
- **Sept. 23 Friday: Kick off for GIGS & Welcome BBQ event to celebrate the end of the first week of instruction.**

• **Watch for our Fall Events posted later in Sept.**

VARIOUS spontaneously planned events, & service opportunities at: www.zionslo.com

• ***Be sure to stay tuned by joining our group's email & Face book list; Contact: Dana at dbaker01@calpoly.edu or***

• **Fill out one of our information cards at the church**

• Services at 8 and 10:30 on Sundays.

• **Welcome: Come & find out all about our GIGS Fellowship nights**

• a student lead Bible study and dialog with pastor and follow-on activities

VARIOUS spontaneously planned events, & service opportunities at: www.zionslo.com

• ***Be sure to stay tuned by joining our group's email & Face book list; Contact: Dana at dbaker01@calpoly.edu or Fill out one of our informa-***

tion cards at the church

• Services at 8 and 10:30 on Sundays.

• **Welcome: Come & find out all about our GIGS Fellowship nights**

a student lead Bible study with dialog with pastor and follow-on activities.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1010E. FOOTHILL BLVD.
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93405

