



ZION STAFF

Rev. John P. Gross,
Pastor

Administrative Assistant
Vito Biondo

Organist
Doretta Takagi

Pianist
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



LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

REV. JOHN P. GROSS

As we approach the date "9/11" we all recall right where we were at the moment we heard of the attacks. Soon after, American flags began to appear throughout every neighborhood. At the time of this tragedy, in our nation, we all pulled together as Americans. We held high the symbol that we all love; the red, white and blue of our flag. The American flag brings to mind who we are as citizens of our beloved country. We are people who, by the blood of others, participate today in freedom and liberty and opportunity in this wonderful country we call America.

This year on Sept. 11th, 2011 we are people who still remember those people who lost their lives in this horrific disaster. As a Church we also always remember the loss of our Saviors life on that first Good Friday. Each and every day as the banner of our faith, the cross, is raised to remind us of the freedom we participate in as Christians. We have the very blessings today and everyday of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who defeated death on our behalf. That, in his death, He covers our sins with his righteousness. Each day we rally around the meaning of the cross.

Sunday, September 11, 2011 we are celebrating Rally Day. Our theme is "Lift High the Cross". Rally Day is a time in the church year when we restart many programs that have taken a summer break and begin new ones. Our Sunday school kids are officially moving up to the next

Highlights this issue

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grade. Senior Choir begins a new season and sings for the congregation for the first time on 9/11. Confirmation classes for 7th and 8th grades pick up on Thursdays at 3:30-4:30 on September 22nd. A new Sunday morning class starts September 11th in Room 1 on "The unexplained" in regards to Angels, Demons, Dreams, and Miracles. Two new midweek classes are being added at the end of September. Tuesday mornings beginning September 27th at 10 am "A Closer Look at the book of Romans" Bible Study starts in room 1. September 28th a Wednesday evening a book study begins at 7 pm "The Spirituality of the Cross".

Directly or indirectly each item mentioned above involves the work of Christ on the Cross. Kids and adults each day at Zion Lutheran Church are strengthened in their faith in Christ. So let's celebrate! Let's have fun and fellowship! After late service on the 11th we are having a BBQ. As if that wasn't enough, also an Apple Pie baking contest and horseshoes are on the agenda. Make sure to sign up in the fellowship Hall to attend or bring something.

As Christians we have been recreated. Paul clarifies this in Eph. 2:19 " **Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,**
²⁰**built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.**"

Together, let's Lift High the Cross.

Birthdays

- 03 Barbara Ciesielski
- 03 Jim Guelker
- 09 Jane Miller
- 13 Helen Haeuser
- 15 Charles Burt
- 15 John Miller
- 18 Audrey HOFFIE
- 22 Gloria Brown
- 29 Elmer Meier

Anniversaries

- 02 John & Jane Miller 44th
- 07 Ed & Linda Steinbeck 46th
- 09 John & Anne Edgecombe 33rd
- 10 Gil & Dolores Babcock 61st
- 14 Frank & Pat Wood 26th
- 22 Karl & Helen Haeuser 65th

Lesson Readers

September 11

- 8am Marcia Fischbeck
- 10:30 Julie Tarango

September 25

- 8am Janet de la Motte
- 10:30 Jeff Tolle

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.

Serving this month

GREETERS

Ruth Halsey, Mary Anholm, Margaret Schoening, Dr. Charles Seger, College Group, Tom & Dawn Jones

CHANCEL GUILD MEMBERS

Barbara Almstedt

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
September Duty Elder: Gary Reif

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



Have you ever stopped to consider the differences in people? There are thousands of occupations in today's world, each requiring special talents. There are needs for carpenters, cooks, mechanics, tailors, pastors, teachers, farmers, servers, students, police officers, etc. The important thing to note here, however, is that, for every need, God has given to someone the ability to fulfill that need. Some people are able to take apart engines of cars, while others hardly know where to add the oil. Some can build houses, while others can barely nail boards together. Some women sew fashionable clothes for their family and buy their bread at the store, while others cook and bake beyond compare but don't even own a sewing machine. God has made us all unique. Along with all of our talents and abilities, God adds to them our desire and ability to work. That is our "Family of Faith"

Worship Attendance & General Offerings

DATE	8:00a	10:30a	General Offering
07/31	31	80	\$4596
08/07	35	77	\$6587
08/14	33	95	\$5098
08/21	29	90	\$3858
08/28	27	83	\$2839

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

President's Letter

AUGUST 2011
BY GINNY RANDALL

Several interesting new topics will be discussed at the August 9 Board of Directors meeting. First of all, Eric Morgan will present a security report detailing any changes that are needed to upgrade our security. This is an important topic as you all remember that earlier some damage was done to the parsonage windows. Secondly, Chris Haase will detail some proposed plans for refurbishing the back 40. This is a project that already has some money donated for it and which has been on the back burner for a long time. Third, we will discuss the possibility of extending some seed money to start a children's music ministry. These are exciting times as, with the sale of the

Barranca property and the gift from Peggy and Gerry Peterson, we are on a firmer financial footing than before.

A big thank you to the Peterson estate for the \$100,000 bequest to Zion. The elders will ultimately decide how this should be used/ invested but would like your input as well. Please contact Roger Randall, Head Elder, with any ideas you have.

Parish Fellowship is short handed now that Dawn Jones had additional shoulder surgery and will need to keep her right arm in a sling for two months. Please make a special effort now to sign up to bring goodies or to help with cleanup afterward in the kitchen.



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

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

Nursery & Elementary
10:30 AM



Ladies LUNCH

Date: **September 12th**
Place: **Upper Crust**
Time: **11:30p.m.**



Please call Margaret Schoening @ 543-5005 to let her know you're coming

**NEW
BIBLE STUDIES
STARTING**



A CLOSER LOOK
AT THE
BOOK OF ROMANS

**Tuesday morning class at 10 AM, CR1
Beginning September 27th**

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 will meet each Tuesday morning at 10 am in Room 1 beginning Tuesday, September 27th.

For more information please call the church office.

the REVISED EDITION
SPIRITUALITY
of the CROSS



The Way of the First Evangelists

GENE EDWARD VEITH, JR.

THE SPIRITUALITY
OF THE CROSS

**Wednesday evenings 7 PM, Room 1
Beginning September 28th**

REVIEWS FROM AMAZON

"This well read and articulate author provides the reader with the story of his spiritual journey, using C.S. Lewis' analogy with entering the house, but not being able to find the right room until he finds the "spirituality of the cross."

"There is so much to recommend itself in this well thought out and composed book. I give it to many, both unbelievers and those still searching for a spiritual room to live within, and also to those who don't like the room they are in or who won't admit to it. Wonderful book to give and recommend highly."

"Veith has a real gift for relating to his reader in a clear, cogent way. This little book presents the reader with the heart of Lutheranism. Personally I am not Lutheran, but I hold Veith's work in great esteem and have been edified by his address of these basic Lutheran beliefs. Any understanding of Lutheran theology should begin here."

"The most influential book of a scholarly view that I have read. Dr. Veith cuts to the crux of issues, explains them out in black and white. Written in everyday language. A must for every Confessional Lutheran and Christians who are feeling a loss with their personal religion. A wonderful companion to my faith."

The book is now available from the church office for \$17. If you can't afford the book, copies of each chapter will be handed out each week. If possible, purchase the book, it will be something you'll want to share with others.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY
BEGINS SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 11th, 9:15am



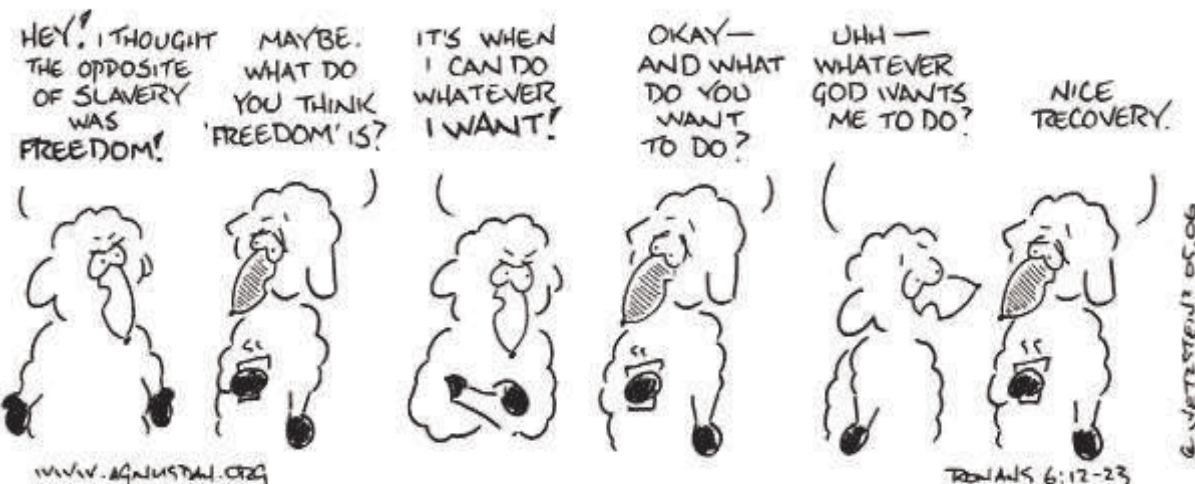
The Unexplained
Miracles, Mysteries,
and More *By Christopher Halbert*

The Unexplained explores in detail the fascination and beliefs our contemporary society has with spirituality and the spirit world.

Chapters include:

- Miracles
- Mystical Experiences
- Near-Death Experiences
- Dreams
- Demons
- Angels

Youth Confirmation classes begin September 22, and are held each Thursday, from 3:30 until 4:30 in Pastor **Gross' office of the church.** Please call 543-8327, to register for this class. All 7th and 8th grade youth are eligible.





MEMBERS OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

ONE OF OUR OWN — Mary Anholm

Mary Anholm has been a cook at Country Care Convalescent Hospital for four years. She was born in Indiana on May 19, 1927, in an Indian settlement, to a large family that consisted of 11 older brothers. She came to California with her husband in 1946 and settled in San Luis Obispo so that her husband could continue his education at Cal Poly. They had three children--a son who lives in Paso Robles, a daughter in San Luis Obispo and one daughter now deceased. In 1942 she went back to college to become an Early Childhood Educator and later became a Dietary Supervisor at French Hospital which led her to her current position as cook. Not one to be idle, Mary's second job is custodian at Zion Lutheran Church where she is an active member.

continued next page

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING CALLED



There will a special Voters' Assembly meeting on Sunday, September 18 immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service to discuss a 14 week employment contract to allow Lynne Oliverius to recruit and develop a children's choir/music program for Zion Lutheran Church. The Board of Elders is willing to provide funds from the Peterson bequest to operate a trial program in this regard. Total funds expended from the bequest would be in the sum of \$9500. The Board of Directors voted to present this proposal to the Voters' Assembly at this special meeting.

The voters will be asked to authorize employment of Lynne for 14 weeks commencing the week of September 19 and to approve continued employment beyond that period of time by the Board of Elders should their review of the results of the program for that period of time indicate that such employment should continue based upon the recruitment of a significant number of participants and progress in establishing the program. Funds for the program, should it continue beyond the 14 weeks, would need to be appropriated from the Peterson bequest and/or funding set aside for use by the Board of Evangelism.



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.



COLLEGE GROUP AT FARMER'S MARKET



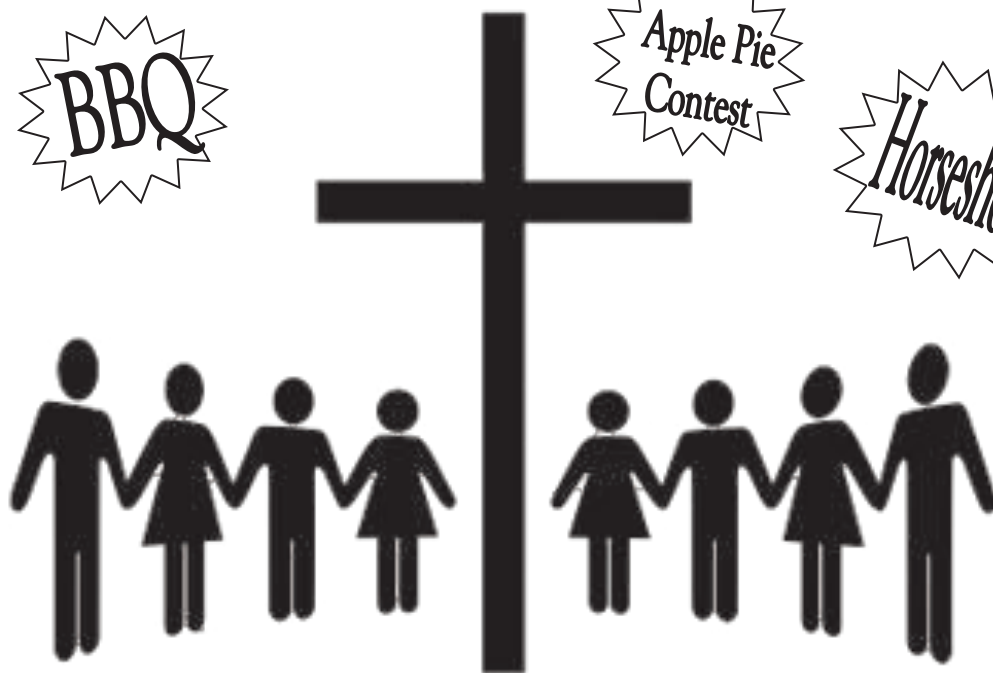
Stop by the booth Thursday, September 15, and show the students you support their efforts representing our church and Zion student ministries.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2011

BBQ

Apple Pie
Contest

Horseshoes



LIFT HIGH THE CROSS Rally Day

Who bakes the Best Apple Pie?

We'll find out who bakes the best pie on Sunday at Rally Day. The Apple Pie contest is open to any Zion member. Pies will be judged professionally on both taste and appearance and the best pie will win.

Sign up today in the Fellowship Hall and then bake your best apple pie at home and bring it to Rally Day on Sunday, September 11th by 11:30 a.m. After the official judging, all pies will be served and enjoyed by our members.

Imagine the bragging rights if your pie wins!

Join us after worship on **September 11** for a time of fellowship, food, and fun! The grill will be fired up to cook Tri-tip and chicken. The *sign-up board* is now in the *Narthex* for bringing a dish to the **"Lift High the Cross" Rally**. The main dish and drinks will be provided. Please consider whether you'd like to bring a side-dish, salad, or Apple pie for the contest and dessert. Mark your calendar for **September 11** after the late service.

"MEMBERS" continued
from previous page...

With a keen sense of humor and a positive attitude toward life, Mary is a joy to know. She is pleased to report that she is part of a family of employees of Pacific Christian Homes.

Her granddaughter Krystal Laucella is Social Services Director and granddaughter Anne Marie Mathes is the Medical Records Director at Country Care. Her daughter Wanda Mathes is a Personal Care Assistant at Atascadero Christian Home.

Mary states "I love working at Country Care because it is one of the finest care facilities anywhere and I have so many dedicated co-workers." She learned cooking skills from her mother, and had plenty of practice growing up in a large family. She feels fortunate to be provided with fresh fruits and vegetables and high-quality meat at Country Care to use in her cooking. She feels the residents deserve only the best, and from comments overheard, that's exactly what they are getting.

Re-printed from Country Care's Newsletter, where Mary works as a cook and Gale works as a Personal Care Assistant.

GREAT GOING!

"If I knew the world would end tomorrow, I would still plant my apple tree"
Martin Luther



"Daily return to the waters of Holy Baptism that the old man might be drowned and die.

Daily, for he is a good swimmer."



The chart to the right is a comparison of attendance for the Summer months June-August for years 2009-2011. The dark bars on the chart represent the highest attendance for the that week and month over the 3 years charted. The numbers represent total number combined services.



The **Chi Rho** is one of the earliest forms of christogram, and is used by Christians. It is formed by superimposing the first two letters in the Greek spelling of the word *Christ* (Greek : "Χριστός"), chi = ch and rho = r, in such a way to produce the monogram $\chi\rho$. Although not technically a cross, the Chi Rho invokes the crucifixion of Jesus as well as symbolizing his status as the Christ.

What Luther Said

(Soon after the Death of Martin Luther's 13- year- old daughter, Magdalene)

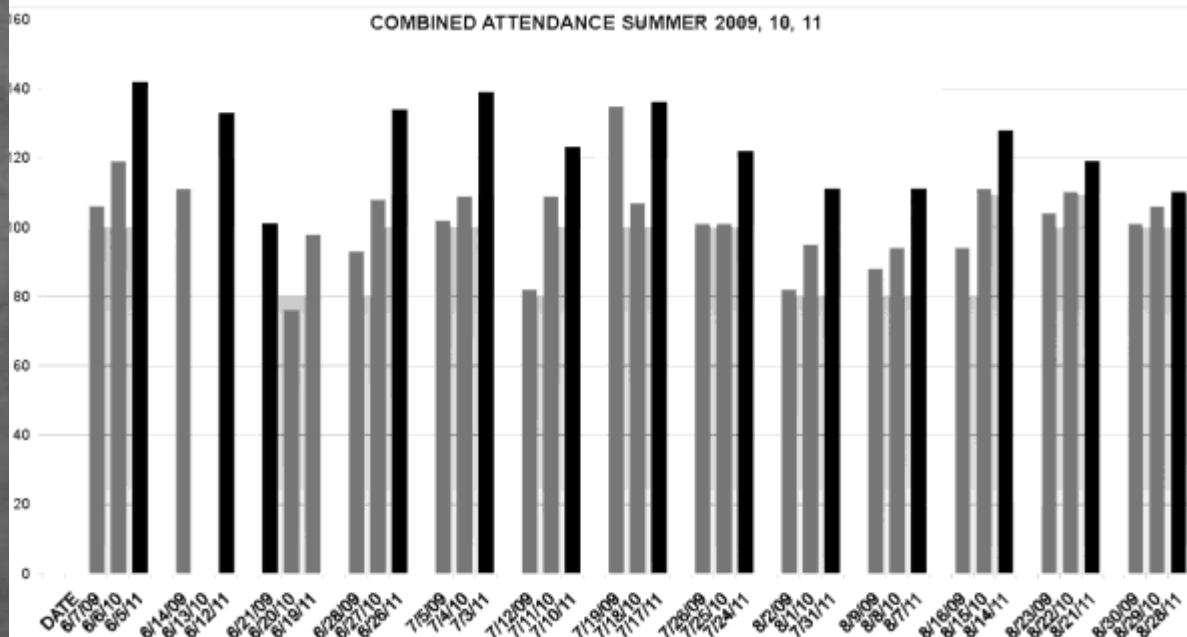
Often he [Martin Luther] repeated the words given above: "I'd like to keep my dear daughter because I love her very much, if only our Lord God would let me. However, his will be done! Truly nothing better can happen to her, nothing better."

While she was still living he often said to her, "Dear daughter, you have another Father in heaven.

You are going to go to him." Philip Melanchthon said, "The feelings of parents are a likeness of divinity impressed upon the human character.

If the love of God for the human race is as great as the love of parents for their children, then it is truly great and ardent."

*September, 1542
Luther's works Vol. 54 page 432*



Lutheran Women in Mission

The Zion Lutheran Women in Mission (LWM) will start the year, September 8th after a two month summer break. We would like to have many of the Zion women join us. We bring a sack lunch and meet the second Thursday of the month at noon in the fellowship hall. Write those dates on your calendar and join us when you can.

On September 8th we will have a guest speaker, Carol Schmidt, Volunteer Community Liaison for Wilshire Community Services. She is knowledgeable of various community services available in our area. Carol specializes in senior services in our area.

On October 13th we will wrap up our plans for the Oktoberfest, scheduled for October 22nd in the fellowship hall. This is our main fundraiser for our Seminary student we contribute to monthly. So whet your appetite for brats and sauerkraut and put on your dancing shoes for waltzing, doing the polka and the chicken dance!

On November 10th we will concentrate on the 20+ Thanksgiving dinners we will be distributing to needy families.

In December we party! Date and location to be announced later. Be sure and plan to come. We have a wonderful pot-luck luncheon, fun gift exchange and sing our praises and have devotions for the birth of our Savior!

We also have satellite groups, one that plays Bunco the 4th Thursday of the month (contact Karen Reif). We have an Out-to-Lunch Group that visits restaurants around the area, and this month it is at Upper Crust in Laguna Village (contact Margaret Schoening).

Currently, we are trying to get a Quilting Group started. We have some excellent quilters in our congregation and they will help teach some basics each meeting so we can put together some charity quilts as we progress. If you are interested in joining this group, please call Dawn Jones at 541-1450 and we will choose a date and time to meet.

Dawn Jones, President



Thursday
September 22
1:00p.m.
In the
Fellowship Hall

Board Reports

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

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Colossians
3:23-24



Symphony of the Vines under the baton of Dr. Greg Magie, will present performances on Sept. 10 and 11 in commemoration of the 10 year anniversary of 9/11. The orchestra, along with guest soloists from USC and choirs from First Presbyterian, Cuesta Master Chorale and the North County Chorus, will present the Mozart Requiem and the Barber Adagio on Sept. 10, 8pm, at the Templeton Performing Arts Center and again on Sept. 11, 3pm, at the historic Mission San Miguel. Tickets and more information can be found at www.symphonyofthevines.org and remaining tickets will be available at the door. This performance experience includes professional musicians from our area including Lynne Oliverius, principal cello, from our own congregation.

A NEW PLACE FOR FELLOWSHIP GATHERINGS

We now have plans approved by the Board of Directors for a great Fellowship area behind the classrooms known as the "Back 40." The approved plans call for a BBQ, fire pit, and seating. Thanks to the "Hunt Estate Fund" established a couple of years ago, we have seed money for this project, though much more is needed.

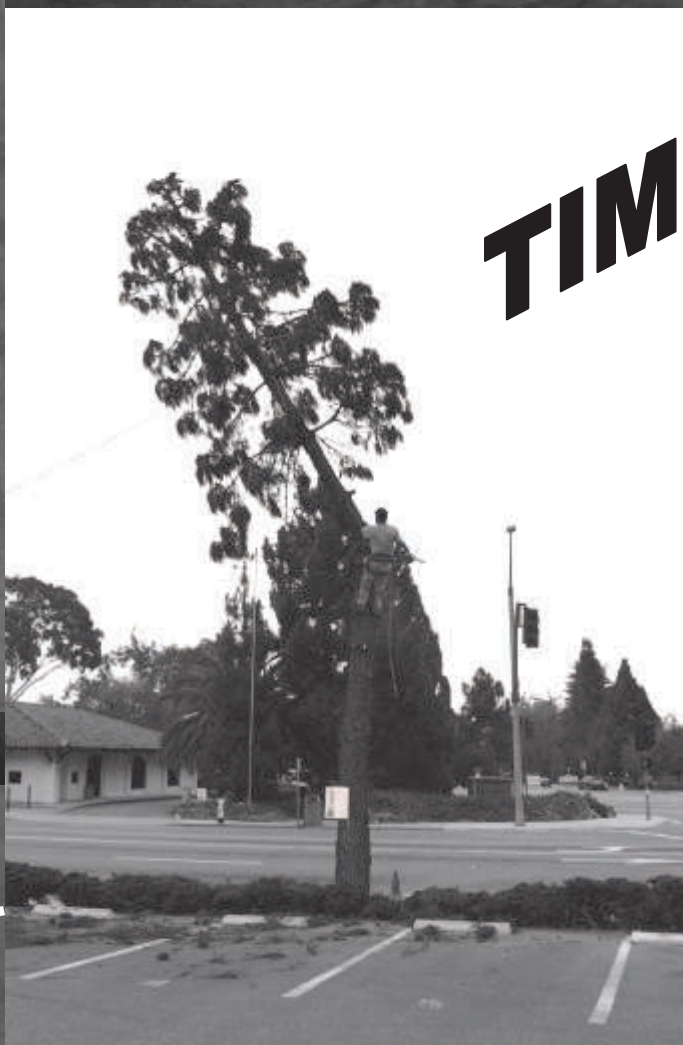


We are in need of picnic tables like the one previously donated. If you'd like to help with these costs, please call Chris Haase at 544-4995.

Mite Box Sunday is September 25th. 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.



TIMBER!



There has been a lot of activity going on here at Zion lately. The big DEAD pine tree in the front parking lot area (see picture) has been removed, many of the other trees were trimmed up around the activities building, "back 40," the parsonage, along the driveway leading to Foothill, and around the Fellowship Hall. Thanks to Tom for heading that project!

We're on the Web
WE'RE WORKING ON
NEW DESIGN FEATURES
www.zionslo.com

SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>"Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, Till all the world adore His sacred name."</i> T</p>				1	2	3 11a Choir Rehearsal
4 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	5 	6	7 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag .	8 12:00p LWML	9	10 11a Choir Rehearsal
11 RALLY DAY 8a Divine Service 9:15a Adult Bible School 10:30a Divine Service 10:30a Sunday School K-6 *Fellowship is served after serv. 11:30a Rally Day BBQ Apple Pie Baking Contest 1:30p Square Dance Club, FH	12 11:30a Ladies Lunch at Upper Crust	13 3:30p Evang. Mtg.	14 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag .	15 Farmers Market College booth	16	17
CAL POLY WOW WEEK						
18 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 SPECIAL VOTERS ASSEMBLY	19 Zionews Deadline	20 5:30p Board of Directors Mtg.	21 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag 6:30p College planning meeting	22 1:00p Bunco, FH 3:30p -4:30p Confirmation Class, Office	23 10:00a Joy of Reading book club , office 4:00p GIGS KICK-OFF BBQ	24 11a Choir Rehearsal
25 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	26	27 10:00a "A Closer Look at the Book of Romans" Bible Study, CR1	28 9:00a-11:30a Harvest Bag 7:00p "The Spirituality of the Cross" Bible Study, CR1	29	30 	



Deadline for October newsletter submissions is September 19



Zion College Ministry

Join us for activities, fellowship and Christian worship. We have a weekly 5:30 p.m., student-led Bible study and fellowship time that we named **GIGS** "Growing In God's Spirit". Hope to see you there in our student room on the Campus of Zion Lutheran Church, on the corner of Santa Rosa & Foothill.

Upcoming Events

- Friday Evenings - 5:30 pm GIGS & Food every Fri.
- September 14-19 WOW at Cal Poly: Visit our Booth on Thursday, September 15 at the Farmers Market.
- September 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 Nathan at
- 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



Zionews September 2011

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