

August QUICK CALENDAR

View complete calendar at www.zionsa.org

1	Prayer Shawl Ministry Afternoon Game Group	18	Women's Daytime Bible Study
2	Office closed for 3 staff campus workdays	19	Young Married Couples Newsletter Deadline
3	Crafty Bunch* Office closed for staff campus workdays	20	Haven for Hope lunch assembly Dinner Out at Max's
4	Praise Team* Baptism Workshop Summer Book Club	21	Costa Rica Silent Auction begins Thrivent Teen Money class Haven for Hope lunch delivery
5		22	<i>Back to School (NISD)</i> Supper & Game Group Ladies' Dinner & Movie
6	Prayer Team* Couple's Date Night with a Book	23	
7		24	
8	Zion Zippers	25	
9	Dorcas Circle	26	
10		27	
11		28	Confirmation Jr Guide Training Silent Auction Thrivent Children & Money class Acolyte training
12		29	
13		30	
14	Thrivent Breakfast for all Confirmation Guide Training Blood Pressure Check	31	
15	Ruth Circle		
16	Church Council		
17			

* Every Week

Zion Lutheran Church
9944 Leslie Road
San Antonio TX 78254

August
2011

Address Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL

DO NOT DELAY

Zion Lutheran Church
9944 Leslie Rd
at Braun and Loop 1604
San Antonio, Texas
210-688-3090
E-Mail zion@zionsa.org
Website www.zionsa.org

Zion's Mission:
Energized by grace,
God's unconditional love,
we freely give our lives

*Bringing to Christ
Growing in Christ
Serving for Christ*

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Zion Lutheran Church

CONNECTIONS

August 2011

Volume 58 No. 8

POTLUCK LUNCH FOR VICAR MANDY

Sunday, July 31 at noon

Your final opportunity to say "farewell" to Vicar Mandy Oleson is on Sunday, July 31 in the Family Life Center. Bring a dish to share, along with your favorite stories about Vicar Mandy from this past year.

Vicar Mandy will return to Ohio for her final year of seminary. She and Jeremy Roberts will wed in August.

COSTA RICA MISSION TEAMS SEEKS SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

The Costa Rica Mission team is planning a silent auction August 21 and 28, to help raise funds for the trip. Local merchants, business owners and individuals can donate goods and services such as jewelry, golf, movie and other entertainment passes, salon services, gift certificates, hotel stays, toys, sporting goods and appliances. Donations are tax deductible, and donors will get a receipt. Donations must be received by July 31. Questions? Contact Jim Meadows, 695-6100 [jimmeadows@me.com].

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Sunday, August 28 at Noon

Youth entering grade 6 and older are encouraged to serve as acolytes during the 8:00 and 11:00 worship services. All training is provided! Come to the front of the sanctuary at noon on August 28 for the 45 minute training session.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR CAM

Zion's goal is to supply 100 needy children. Collection runs through August 7. List is based on public school requests.

- #2 Pencils
- Crayons (16 count)
- 5" Fiskar scissors
- Wide ruled composition books
- Wide ruled notebook paper
- 9 x 12 construction paper
- Crayola classic broad tip washable markers
- Spiral notebooks
- Elmer's glue and glue sticks
- Colored pencils (12 count)
- Highlighters
- Pocket folders with brads
- Dividers with 8 tabs
- Ruler (metric and inches, 12")
- Red, black, blue pens
- Backpacks for any age child

Grooming Supplies

- Toothbrushes (individually packaged)
- Toothpaste (small .85oz)
- Travel size deodorant
- Travel size shampoo and conditioner
- Travel size soaps

Shopping Bags

Bring your clean, flattened grocery and other store bags for CAM clients to carry their food home. Look for the collection basket in the narthex.

GLOCAL MISSION GATHERING IS AT ZION

September 23-24 - Register Now!

Jesus said, "Follow me," What did he mean? What do I do with the gifts God has given me? How do I respond to my neighbor's pain? Who is my neighbor? Let's consider these questions together as they relate to our migrating and immigrating world. Come, join some of the most relevant mission conversations of our time to guide us in following Jesus' great commission for the sake of the world.



The Glocal Mission Gathering is a national event planned by churchwide and your local synod team. It is for everyone involved in the mission and ministry of Christ's church, including youth ages 16 and up.

Registration is only \$35 and includes meals during the event. Registration is quick and easy at www.zionsa.org, click on the Glocal icon and prepare for your eyes to be opened to the GLOCAL world all around you.

ELCA MALARIA BENEFIT CONCERT FEATURING RACHEL KURTZ

The ELCA and Zion host a benefit concert on Friday, September 23 at 8:00pm in the Family Life Center. The concert will feature Christian singer/songwriter Rachel Kurtz. Rachel is from Minnesota and draws her music from her roots and her global experiences, infusing a humble awareness in all she does. Rachel's music style appeals to all ages, blending a contemporary sound with faith-centered lyrics.

The ELCA Malaria initiative seeks to make a difference in a disease that is preventable and treatable. Through raising money and awareness, a healthier future is possible. Their goal is to contain malaria related deaths in Africa by the year 2015. A free will offering will be taken at the concert to support this cause.

FROM THE VICAR

Open now they gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer. Oh, how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace! (ELW Hymn 533)

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I sat in amazement as I read these words during a worship planning session not too long ago. They are a perfect description of my time with you over the course of my internship. When I arrived in San Antonio almost one year ago, you threw open the beautiful gates of your hearts and welcomed me into your life together as a community of faith. I never could have imagined the breadth and length and height and depth of Christian love you would share with me, and how this love of Christ would surpass any classroom knowledge I had, so that I might come to know the fullness of God through you, the people of God in Christ Jesus.

As God has rooted and grounded me in such extravagant love, God has also provided an answer to prayer. I came to Zion unsure about my call to ministry, unsure whether I had the gifts or the heart to be a parish pastor. In worshiping and serving and learning and playing and praying among you, for you, and with you the past year, I have been affirmed in this call to the ministry of word and sacrament. You claimed in me what I was not yet ready to see, and in doing so, you have blessed not only my life and ministry but you have blessed Christ's church on earth by raising up a pastor.

You, Zion, are a blessed place, where the light of Christ shines brightly and spreads love and grace to friend, neighbor, and stranger alike. It is hard for me to leave such a place, to say good-bye to such wonderful people. My comfort, however, is in the trust that God, who is the Alpha and the Omega, holds all our beginnings and our endings in God's hands. I pray that the God of all grace will continue to hold you as you carry out the ministry to which you are called in San Antonio, and that God will hold

me as I return to Ohio to be married to my fiancé, Jeremy Roberts, and to finish my final year of seminary.

*In love and gratitude,
Vicar Mandy*

P.S. If you would like to stay in contact, I would be delighted to hear from you. Please write, e-mail, or find me on Facebook.

Mailing address as of August 5

2160 East Main Street Apt E
Columbus, OH 43209
mandyoleson@gmail.com

BEGINNING SPANISH CLASS

Sixteen Week Series, Wednesdays, August 24 - December 14

Bilingual missionary Phyllis Brand will teach a Spanish class for beginners at her home at 6514 Lochglen, in the Lochwood Estates subdivision off Abe Lincoln Drive and Kitchener Road.

The book *SPANISH in 10 Minutes a Day* is required. It is available at Borders and Barnes & Noble (call store for availability) and at Amazon.com. Adults and youth from middle school up are welcome to be in the class.

Phyllis and her husband, Rev. Dale Brand, are bilingual, having studied Spanish in San Jose, Costa Rica for one year and serving as missionaries in Colombia, South America for six years. They also have done bilingual ministries in the Rio Grande Valley and in San Antonio for twenty seven years.

No class on November 23 (Thanksgiving week).

Sign up on the kiosk in the narthex or talk to Phyllis Brand, 877-1086 [dale.brand@sbcglobal.net]. *Bienvenidos a los interesados (Welcome to all who are interested)!*

OFFICE CLOSED FOR ANNUAL CATCH-UP

Tuesday-Thursday, August 2, 3, 4

To get organized and catch up a bit, the church office doors will be closed for three days. The staff will check voicemail and e-mail for urgent matters. Regularly scheduled events, meetings and rehearsals will go on as usual.

LUNCHES FOR HAVEN FOR HOPE

August 20 and 21

Haven for Hope is a safe area for homeless people to sleep and receive regular meals. They depend on volunteers and donations to help make this happen.

Food donations can be dropped off in the narthex beginning Sunday, August 7. Perishables should be brought to the FLC on August 20.

Sign up in the narthex to help prepare lunch for 250 residents at Haven for Hope. You may either help prepare sack lunches and/or help distribute them.

Bread	Lunch meat
Cheese	Small bags of chips
Apples	
Small packages of cookies	
Small bottles of water	
Plastic sandwich bags	
Paper lunch sacks	

Lunches will be prepared on Saturday, August 20 at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Lunches will be distributed on Sunday, August 21. We will leave the church at 10:30 from the front parking lot of Zion. Contact Sandi Pohlmann if you have any questions, 699-0518 or 857-3685 [sapohlmann@gmail.com].

The Little Church Mouse is spreading the news that...



...Beverly & David Anderson's olive orchard ranch will be featured in a PBS documentary, "El Camino Olive Trail." The show premieres Sunday, August 7 at 8:00pm on KLRN. The Andersons will also be interviewed on Great Day SA (Ch 5) on Wednesday, August 3.

...Connor Teel and Dale Stein III attended the Air force ROTC Leadership Academy where they both received the Distinguish Graduate awards. Connor also received an award for the most athletic flight.

FRIENDS 'N FAITH

There's much more to Zion than Sunday mornings. Friends 'N Faith groups provide a set of ready-to-meet friends with interests similar to yours. Check the bulletin each week for other activities.

Dinner Out is adults who enjoy dining out at local restaurants. Try a place you've never been before, new food, new culture. Meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Restaurant suggestions appreciated!

On Saturday, August 20, the Dinner Out group meets at Max's Wine Dive. They are known for gourmet comfort food with a twist along with their great wine selection. Located behind Quarry Market at 340 East Basse Road, Suite 101. RSVP to Tracy or Doug Jones 679-9759 [tracywjones@live.com].

Ladies Dinner & Movie Go out to eat and see a "chick flick" on the 4th Monday. Call, text or e-mail Jo Ann Meinert 317-2819 [jo_meinert@yahoo.com] for restaurant and theater info. The next outing is Monday, August 29 at 6:30pm.

Date Night with a Book The next gathering is August 7 at Pizzeria Venti in Helotes. The Bueschers are hosting discussion and dessert at the home, afterward. The new book is *Making Children Mind Without Losing Yours* by Dr. Kevin Leman. By the time we gather on August 7, you should have read chapters 1-3. Jana or Rick Marthis 999-5653 [jmarthis001@satx.rr.com]

Young Married Couples Get together on the 3rd Friday of each month for Bible study, food and fellowship. Couples take turns hosting evenings in their homes. Trisch Moy 364-5425 [trischmoy@yahoo.com] or Beth Blaylock 595-1328 [bethblaylock@hotmail.com]

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. David Schulte	Senior Pastor dschulte@zionsa.org
Rev. Jennifer Gold	Pastor jgold@zionsa.org
Vicar Mandy Oleson <i>through 7/31 only</i>	Pastoral Intern moleson@zionsa.org
Rev. Dale Brand	Visitation Pastor dale.brand@sbcglobal.net
Suzie Wyatt	Administrator swyatt@zionsa.org
Julie Rode-Hickey	Publications jrodehickey@zionsa.org
Dean Hearn	Secretary dhearn@zionsa.org
Linda Spears	Office Assistant zion@zionsa.org
Karen Stein	Christian Education Ministry kstein@zionsa.org
Travis Baker	Youth Ministry tbaker@zionsa.org
Rob Mikulski	Music Ministry rmikulski@zionsa.org
Sam Mikulski	Drama Ministry theatre@zionsa.org
Jennifer Bauer	Lutheran Campus Ministry jbauer@zionsa.org
David Thamm	Handbells, Men's Choir, Brass
Kim Olsen	Accompanist
Brent Leaming	Facilities
Sara Hickey	Housekeeping
Sophia O'Hara	Nursery Coordinator
Katie Cotcher	Nursery Attendant
Lauren Zook	Nursery Attendant
Chris Jones	Volunteer Coordinator chris0416@gmail.com

2011 CHURCH COUNCIL

Suzi Lockamy	President
Susan Johns	Vice-President
Carolyn Pfeiffer	Secretary
Michelle Farley	Treasurer
Bonnie Harrell	
Chris Jones	
Jerry Nelson	
Milton Guerra	

Council meetings are 3rd Tuesday of each month. Approved minutes are posted on kiosk in narthex.

COORDINATORS

Geri Dalum	Memorials
LaVonne Pederson & Barbara Galland	Women of Zion
Barbara Klein	Bereavement
Dale Stein	Sound Team
Karen Iwanicki	Video Team
Mary Ann Schmitt	8:00 Ushers
Barnie Gavin	9:30 Ushers
Sarah Nichols & Dennis Kneifel	11:00 Ushers
Susan Johns	Altar Guild
Kathée Forrest	Floral Guild
Gena Sanchez	Acolytes
Pat Bangart	Welcome Center
<i>Position Open</i>	Adult Education
Bev Rosel	<i>Zion Zippers</i> (50+)
Algine Perry	Game Group
Jimmy Weimer	Cemetery Board
<i>Position Open</i>	Zion Action Pack (ZAP)
Pastor Jennifer Gold	Stephen Ministry
Bill Farley	Mission Task Force
Jo Ann Meinert	Local Mission
Pastor Jennifer Gold	Regional Mission
Marlena Guerra	Global Mission

INVESTMENT REPORT

• **General Fund**

Giving Goal for June	\$67,893
Actual Contrib June.....	\$59,991
Giving Goal Jan-June.....	454,579
Actual Contrib Jan-June.....	422,140
YTD Difference.....	-\$32,439

2010 June Actual Contrib. \$59,586

• **Building Fund**

June '11 Income	\$10,985
BF cash on hand	\$48,786
FLC Loan Bal. 6/30/11	\$246,926

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Year to date average 2011.....	627
YTD avg 2010.....	661

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Please include author/contact information on all submissions to Julie Rode-Hickey [jrodehickey@zionsa.org]. Sunday bulletin deadline is NOON the preceding Wednesday. September 2011 CONNECTIONS deadline is NOON on Friday, August 19.



Lutheran Campus Ministry of San Antonio
Jennifer Bauer, Director
830-377-0205
jbauer@zionsa.org



Kids of the Kingdom Dayschool
Gail Anderson, Director
210-688-9171
kidsofthekingdom@att.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Karen Stein, Education Director
688-3090 x205
[kstein@zionsa.org]

TEENS, CHILDREN AND MONEY MATTERS

Sign up on the kiosk now for one or both of these free workshops Youth and children are bombarded with advertising messages every day. Do the messages they hear reflect the values you'd like your teen to learn? Two free workshops are scheduled for Sunday mornings in August (FLC Room 101):

- August 21 for teens (age 11-14) and parents
- August 28 for children age (6-10) and parents.

These 50-minute workshops will help increase understanding of your family's values, stewardship, and making intentional choices about spending. Offered by Anastasia Holzhauser, Financial Associates and Bart Graves, Financial Associate, CLU, FIC.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR Teachers and leaders needed

The 2011 -2012 Christian Education year begins September 11. To have a successful year we need volunteers to serve as teachers and leaders. Our program works well because we have teaching teams providing backup to each other and continuity to the children.

A teacher informational meeting will help teachers look at the Spark curriculum and how we will be using it. Basic information and materials will be distributed at the meeting. If you have questions or want more information on becoming a Sunday School teacher please contact Karen Stein (above).

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS ON RALLY DAY, SEPTEMBER 11 Sunday School is for children ages three (by September 1) through adults.

Fall classes for children will use the "Spark-Activate Faith" curriculum. Each week children will open their Bibles and engage the scriptures, encountering God's Word through stories and activities to reinforce those stories.

On Rally Day, Bibles will be presented to three-year-olds and to third graders. The younger children will be given a take-home volume of the same "Story Bible" that is used in their classroom. This Bible is laid out like a story book with pictures and easy-to-read text for use at home. Story Bibles will be given out during class time at 9:30am.

Third graders will receive their "Children's Study Bibles" during the 11am worship service. Parents of third graders will receive a letter explaining what needs to be done for the presentation. If you have questions in the meantime, contact Karen Stein (above).

ACE: ADULT CHRISTIAN ED

Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall

Aug 7 and 14	FH	THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BOB DYLAN led by Travis Baker
21	FH	FINDING MEANING IN OUR WORSHIP MUSIC led by Rob Mikulski
21	101	Parents, Teens and Money Matters (see article)
28	101	Parents, Children and Money Matters (see article)

ELCA FACT CHECKER BLOG

The ELCA FactChecker blog is a resource for members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and others who seek accurate information about the ELCA. It is a place for response to specific concerns or misinformation. Members and others are encouraged to share this information.

Comments and questions can be sent to factchecker@elca.org, www.elcafact-checker.com

VBS 2011 REVIEW: PANDA MANIA We learned God is WILD about us! It was great fun and we had a wonderful time exploring the bamboo jungle filled with Panda bears.

250 children registered, and over half of them were Zion visitors. The morning session filled in just five days.

VBS collected an offering for the San Antonio Food Bank, with fifty complete backpack food bags as well as four large boxes of cereal, juice boxes and fruit cups. Summer Sunday School is also collecting items to finish another fifty bags.

Thanks to the 150 volunteers who made possible to run both a morning and evening session of Vacation Bible School. Your time, talents and treasures are a valuable asset to Zion and to the community.

THE VISTA ON LINE

The Vista is the news publication of the Southwestern Texas Synod. A paper edition is published four times a year, but the on-line version is updated as needed. Visit the online version of The Vista [www.thevistaonline.org] for the latest synod news.

WOMEN OF ZION

• August 18: Women's Bible Study new series, *Spiritual Gifts*. This group meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:30am. Come to Family Life Center Room 101.

• CONVENTION IN FREDERICKSBURG The Southwestern Texas Synodical Women's Convention is September 9-11 at the Walch Haus Inn on Barons Creek in Fredericksburg. This year's theme is *Where God is Spoken, Seen, and Heard*.

Early registration fee is \$85 if postmarked by July 15 (\$95 after). The final registration deadline is August 19. For Saturday-only activities, the cost is \$65, which includes lunch and evening banquet. Please make your own hotel reservations.

Registration forms and hotel information are in the WOZ mailbox in the mailroom, or through Barb Galland or LaVonne Pederson (below).

• RUTH CIRCLE meets on August 15 in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30pm.
• DORCAS CIRCLE meeting is August 9. in FLC Room 101 at 9:45am.

Barbara Galland [rgalland@satx.rr.com]
LaVonne Pederson [NPeder5942@aol.com]

WOMEN'S SUMMER BOOK CLUB August 4 at 7:00pm in FLC Room 101

The book for the August meeting is *Left to Tell - Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza. In 1994, Rwandan native Ilibagiza was 22 years old and home from college to spend Easter with her devout Catholic family, when the death of Rwanda's Hutu president sparked a three-month slaughter of nearly one million ethnic Tutsis in the country. She survived by hiding in a Hutu pastor's tiny bathroom with seven other starving women for 91 days. She brings the battlefield between good and evil out of the genocide around her and into her own heart, mind and soul.

The book club will meet on the first Thursday, August 4 at 7:00pm.
Kathee Forrest
[kathee.forrest@sbcglobal.net]

FACILITY AND EVENTS FORM

New scheduling procedure
Between all of our church groups, community groups, servant events and fund-raisers, we can run into double bookings and space issues on campus. To help alleviate this problem, we now have a form for

- Booking a space on campus for a meeting, activity, class or Bible study
- Scheduling a fundraiser or donations request (like food drives, school supplies, etc.)

The form is available in the front office bookcase, or can be e-mailed to you.

For regularly scheduled meetings, you won't have to fill one out for each meeting. Just confirm with the church office that, yes, you are continuing to meet on a regular basis.

We know this will be new and anything new takes a little getting used to, but we feel confident that this can be a great help for our very active congregation!

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

Here at Zion, there are many opportunities to practice being "cheerful givers"! As the scriptures remind us, we are not called to give reluctantly nor under compulsion, but to give as our hearts lead us. Different causes appeal to different people, so when opportunities are presented before the congregation to be able to give, don't ever feel that you "have" to give out of compulsion. But trust the Holy Spirit to direct you into those things that you are led to give. With that in mind, here are some giving opportunities that are coming up this summer:

- Now-Aug 7 – Christian Assistance Ministries Backpacks
- Aug 14-Sept 4 – Care Packages for Troops sponsored by Women of Zion
- TBA - Joplin, Missouri Relief Physical offering
- October 9-30 - Shoeboxes for Kids
- Angel Tree for El Cenizo at Christmas time

YOUTH STUFF

Travis Baker, Youth Director 688-3090 x206 [tbaker@zionsa.org]

Confirmation Guide Training

Sunday, August 14 at noon there will be training for Confirmation Guides in the Family Life Center Room 101. Lunch will be provided. For adults who would like information on becoming a Guide, please see Travis.

National Gathering Meeting

Sunday, August 21 at noon in FLC Room 101

The time has come to begin looking at next summer's trip the ELCA National Gathering in New Orleans. The first meeting, will discuss dates and information on how to register, fundraising information and initial cost estimates.

Confirmation Jr Guide Training

Sunday, August 28 at noon there will be training for Confirmation Junior Guides in the Family Life Center Room 101. Lunch will be provided. For high school juniors and seniors who would like information on becoming a Junior Guide, please see Travis.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MAY 17 Edited for space - complete minutes are posted on the kiosk

A letter was received from Kathee Forrest thanking the Pastors, Church Staff and Council for their continued support as she pursues her seminary studies.

Suzi Lockamy reported that the 2011 Southwestern Synod Assembly was held in Victoria on May 14-15, attended by Milton Guerra, Carolyn Pfeiffer, and Suzi Lockamy, Pastor Jennifer Gold and Vicar Mandy Oleson.

Zion donated \$2,000 to the ELCA Malaria Campaign which was piloted by the Southwestern Texas Synod Assembly. The San Antonio Conference donated \$24,644.99. A grand total of \$113,416.68 was collected.

MEET THE COSTA RICA MISSION TEAM

In October, 17 people from Zion and two other churches will be going to serve alongside the Lutheran Church of Costa Rica. Meet the team that you have continued to support and who will be the missionaries on the field October 8-15: **Dorothy Atkisson** is a retired accountant who plans to use her gifts of accounting and encouragement to share with the women's handcraft business groups in Costa Rica.

Michelle Farley went with her family on her first mission trip to Honduras with Zion two years ago. Michelle's knowledge of budgets will be an asset to the women's handcraft business groups.

Ileana Espinosa was inspired by Michelle's testimony of her trip to Honduras, and was, herself, wanting to do mission. Her business knowledge Spanish language skills will be a great asset to the team!

Todd Grove gifts of helpfulness and compassion serve well in his nursing career, and will be an asset to the Costa Ricans and the team. He and his wife, Kathy, will be going together on this trip.

Kathy Grove is a physician and surgeon with the gifts of love, empathy, compassion and knowledge in the medical field. Her desire is to see God more clearly through hope and healing, and to grow closer to God together with her husband.

Jim Meadows recently joined Zion and brings the gifts of communication, organization, marketing, and urban outreach that will be an asset to the work that we'll be doing.

Kristan Sweet is an occupational therapist eager to share her skills and her heart with the children of the day schools in the impoverished migrant communities we'll be serving. Her experiences from four Zion youth mission trips have prepared her for her first global mission trip with Zion.

Katherine Noakes took her first mission

trip with Zion to El Cenizo. Katherine's heart has been opened to the mission field and she's excited about sharing her gifts of business, organization and compassion.

Chris Schuchart has experience in both farming and in law, and looks forward to sharing gifts that God has given to him. Chris and his wife, Vivian, will be going and growing on this trip together.

Vivian Torres is fluent in Spanish, a lawyer and a judge, and exploring justice issues in Costa Rica. Her family's experience as Cuban refugees has opened her heart to the needs of the people in Latin America.

Marlena Guerra will be going on her fourth global mission trip. God has used her experiences, along with her gift of being a nurse, to ignite her passion to share her heart with the people of Costa Rica.

From St. Andrew's Lutheran Church at Canyon Lake are...

Victoria Sok retired from 30 years as a Navy Medic and nursing. Compassionate and caring, Victoria's first mission trip was to Haiti, sharing her gifts and skills and being a messenger of Jesus Christ.

Patricia Hansen has been on a mission trip to Tanzania and is excited to go abroad again as a Stephen Minister and as a person of faith to share with the people of Costa Rica.

Gayle Adams is outgoing and prepared to serve, sharing in the lives of the Costa Rican people and growing in her own spiritual walk.

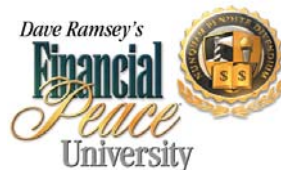
Leaders are...

Grace Spell has been missionary for 12 years, and serves as Director of Short Term Missions with World Indigenous Missions (WIM). This will be the third global mission trip she has led with Zion. We are grateful for her leadership!

Pastor Jennifer Gold has taken teams to Honduras and Rwanda. She saw all that God did through those trips in each team member, and looks forward to watching what God has in store for our team to Costa Rica!

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Begins September 11 at 6:00pm
Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University will walk you through everything you need to know about handling money--all in a way that's easy to understand and FUN! Classes meet for two hours each week for 13 weeks, during which time the average family pays off \$5300 in debt and saves \$2700.



The first lesson is free! All you have to do is register to attend. Your class coordinator, Sarah Nichols, will be available immediately after the free lesson if you wish to purchase your family membership and attend the full course. Family memberships cost \$100 and include all class materials.

Stop worrying about money, and start your journey to Financial Peace! Contact Sarah Nichols (210) 289-4190 [jeffandsarah@earthlink.net] to register, or for more info.

Watch a preview video at www.daveramsey.com/fpu/preview/.

DIVORCE ADJUSTMENT SEMINAR

Rebuilding Your Life
Alamo Heights Methodist Church sponsors a community-wide seminar and support experience for those dealing with the pain of divorce or separation. Topics include ways to manage anger, personality assessment, and effective communication. The six-week seminar begins October 9. Call Joan Ahrens at 614-4945 or Jerry Townsend at 378-6464.

ZION ZIPPERS

Monday, August 8 at 6:30pm
Adults age 50+ are invited for fellowship and sharing a potluck supper on the 2nd Monday of each month, in the Fellowship Hall. Events begin at 6:30pm.



The August hosts are Phyllis & Dale Brand and Dorothy & Elias Rode. Bring a potluck dish to share, your eating stuff, and a good appetite. Guest speaker will be from the Texas Legal Services Center to tell us how the Texas Health Law Program works for low-income Texans, presenting solutions to problems of access to and payment for health care. You or someone you know could benefit from this helpful information.

As is our custom in August, the Zippers will collect school supplies for those in need.

CARDS, LETTERS AND E-MAILS

I would like to thank Pastor Jen for visiting me and her comforting prayer she provided following my surgery in June. I would also like to thank the many members of the congregation who have sent get well cards, prayed and sent well wishes. All are/were greatly appreciated. May our precious Lord keep each and everyone of you in His loving care always. Thanks again.

*In Christian Love,
Janice Wells*

The family of Vernon Schuchart would like to thank the wonderful people of Zion for their prayers, thoughts and condolences during this past month as we lost our husband, our dad and our granddad. Special thanks to Pastor Dave, Pastor Jen and Vicar Mandy for you visits to the hospital and the beautiful funeral service. Thank you also to the volunteers who brought the food and made the reception a very special occasion. May God bless you for all of your wonderful deeds.

The family of Vernon Schuchart

CEMETERY FENCE UPDATE

by Ron Palmieri
As you may have noticed, our cemetery fence project has reached completion. The "new" cemetery fence that was erected in February has been expanded. Due to the requests of many who visit our cemeteries, the last 80 ft. was installed. The Cemetery Board members voted unanimously to extend the new fencing.

The Cemetery Board members thank each of you who have contributed and those who continue to help pay for this project which has enhanced our historic cemeteries. As of July 10, \$23,712 has been donated. We appreciate each and every gift and have received over 50% of the total cost through these special donations. Please make future donations payable to Zion Lutheran Church and be sure to mark your check and envelope "Cemetery Fence" to ensure proper accounting.

*Sincerely,
Cemetery Board*

MEMBER MILESTONES

For Your Prayers

Our Christian Sympathy to...

- ✘ Julie Dupont upon the loss of her mother, Rhea Saul
- ✘ Karen Oster upon the loss of her cousin Craig Tennesen
- ✘ The family and friends of Zion's former pastor Rev. Mark Lundquist

Baptized This Month

- ◆ Gerald "Mac" McElya, June 26
- ◆ Aelan Ruby Nelson, July 17
- ◆ Cylee Pearl Nelson, July 17

Hospitalized Members

- + Dorothy Hagan
- + Shirley Michalczak
- + Norm Pederson

Births

- ⊕ A Kole Christopher Zaiontz, born to Melissa & Michael Zaiontz on June 28.
- ⊕ Mason Louis Rode, born to Alyssa Rode on July 3.

COUNCIL from Page 3

Seventeen of Zion's youth confirmed their faith on May 1. Stephen Ministry just completed another training class series for New Stephen Ministers. This will give us a total of 18 Stephen Ministers and 3 trained leaders.

The annual SWT Synod Assembly was held in Victoria on May 14-15. In the future, each congregation will be allowed one additional voting member age 18 or under.

Pastor Dale Brand will be formally installed on June 5 as our Volunteer Visitation Pastor. Former Zion Intern Neil Cadle will be ordained at the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod Assembly on June 3. Vicar Mandy's last Sunday with us will be July 31.

The Bridge Team will be doing a temple talk on Sunday, June 19, and follow it up with a series of articles in upcoming newsletters. The goal is to lift up the fact that, though we completed our "Under Construction" Phase 1, we still have a monthly mortgage payment to make of over \$11,000.

Kelly Klaevemann has been accepted for seminary training at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. A motion was made and approved to provide financial support to Kelly Klaevemann from the Biering Fund.

El Cenizo is in need of window unit air conditioners. A motion was made and approved that \$200 from the Picnic Fund plus a \$400 special donation be given to El Cenizo to purchase two air conditioners.

Zion, as a small business, qualified for a credit through the IRS on health insurance premiums paid in the amount of \$2,878, which will be placed in the picnic fund. Yvonne Moody gave a Bridge Team update. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12pm. The next council meeting will be Tuesday, June 28, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Johns, Vice-President