

GOD IS GOOD...ALL THE TIME!

CONTACT US!
OFFICE HOURS
M-F 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
or by appointment

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Website
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Emergency Pastoral Contact

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNING:

9:00 am Early Service
9:30 am Christian Education
10:30 am 2nd Service
TUESDAYS 6 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2: 6:00 PM Soup Supper
and **7:00 PM** worship at
Congregational Church

March 7: 9:45 AM Adult Forum

March 8: 6:00 PM Stephen
Ministry Supervision

March 8: 7:00 PM Monday
night Council Mtg.

March 9: 6:00 PM Soup Supper
and **7:00 PM** Worship at
Methodist Church

March 16: 6:00 PM Soup sup-
per and **7:00 PM** worship at
Zion

March 22: 6:00 PM Stephen
Ministry Supervision

March 23: 6:00 PM Soup sup-
per and **7:00 PM** worship at
Congregational Church

Zion Lutheran Church

March 2010

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

As I sit here, with just over a week left as your Pastor, I am most struck by one simple fact of life: time flies. Six and a half years have gone by since the day I accepted the call to serve you. When I arrived here, I had a full head of dark black hair and little real experience. Now I have a wealth of experience and a lot less hair (and what I do have is more gray than black!). Six years ago many of you had not yet even visited Zion, and now you are working in important ways to make your church a growing, vibrant place where all are welcome! Even though the time has gone by fast, we have done a lot. We have grown-in our worship, in our giving, and in our faith in God. We have tried new things-partnership with new friends in Christ, a new outdoor worship space, even a new color for our building. Together, we have waded through conflict, dealt with adversity, and held fast to the mission God has called us to be a part of. I thank you for letting me be a part of it, and for helping me to become the pastor I am today.

The next year in your life will be an exciting one: filled with possibility, discernment, and plenty of prayer. It will also be a time that is filled with the presence of God. We remind one another each week that "God is Good...All the Time!" God has been very good to Zion, and God will continue to be good to you and to the next pastor who is called to serve here.

I pray that you would make good use of the time you have before you. That you would spend considerable time talking with one another and praying for the ministry and mission of this community of faith. I pray also that you would continue to do the good work that you have been doing in this transitional period. A wise man once said: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in awhile, you could miss it." Take the time to stop and look around, take in all that God has blessed us with: the people, the gifts, and the time. From where I am sitting today, I am incredibly thankful for all of it: for you, for the gifts for ministry that you have shaped in me, and for our time together. I leave you with a saying that my dad is fond of: "Keep doing great things." With God's help, I know you will.

God's peace, Pastor Andrew

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

So by the time we read this newsletter our beloved Pastor Andrew would already have left for his new parish and would have welcomed Pastor John as our Transitional Pastor. It is hard losing our pastor, is it not? I read once where the average American pastor lasts less than 5 years. Our pastors so not stay forever and most do not stay long and taking that as granted, we should always welcome them with Christian cheerfulness when we have them, should we not?

I know we have all taken time over this past month to thank Pastor Andrew and to thank God for the good things he and Kathleen and Jacob and his parents and even his pups have done among us. God blessed us when he sent Pastor Andrew our way and Pastor Andrew blessed us in turn. Now we ought to bless each other and attend to any bruised relationships-and there are some in our church-with the hope that we find healing. I know Pastor Andrew would love that dearly!

As Pastor Andrew goes we must welcome Pastor John as our Transitional Pastor and we must take care of him. God had plans for both of these gentlemen and the paths they have taken may have been decided a long time ago. Why do I think that HE also has plans for our church and that path has been decided some time ago.

Goodbye, Andrew!

Welcome, John!



STEPHEN MINISTRY

In this time of transition, it is important to remember that our Stephen Ministers are prepared to supply any kind of support that is needed. We hope to help in any way to make this a smooth transition for everyone. As always, we continue to look for those who may have a need for a Stephen Minister. These could be friends, family, coworkers, fellow church members etc... Our focus in the very near future will be to get another training course going as well. We are in dire need of male Stephen Ministers. If you feel as if you are being called to do this, please contact one of our Stephen Leaders to discuss it.

Remember....**God does not call the qualified, he calls the willing and then he qualifies them!**

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Patricia Murray



I have enrolled 2 new students since opening day. We have also had quite a few drop-ins where the students enjoyed themselves so hopefully they will be back on a regular basis.

I met with the teachers on January 3rd, and we planned out this semester's curriculum with crafts. I have already ordered and received the books, and the other materials have been ordered.

Mike Bellisario ordered envelopes to be distributed to the children with the proceeds to benefit the Oxford Food Shelf. I will compose a letter to be sent home to the parents along with the envelopes.

The Christmas pageant held on January 10th, and the children did great considering we had no rehearsal due to weather and the Christmas break.

Also, due to the threat of H1N1, I have dropped the best attendance award and each child will receive something at the end of the school year.

I still need teachers-anyone interested please call me@ 508-987-1129.

Adult Education



SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 9:45

Rear of Fellowship Hall

Rev. Ken Bean

Topic: The Passion narratives in the Gospel of Luke.

Plan to pick up a coffee and join us each Sunday.

ALL ARE INVITED!



CLEANING

WEEK OF:

- March 8: OPEN
- March 15: OPEN
- March 22: OPEN
- March 29: OPEN



COFFEE HOUR

SUNDAY:

- March 7: Girl Scout Troop 575
- March 14: Marlene and Ann Bacon
- March 21 OPEN
- March 28 OPEN

Keys are available from Karen in the office or from Mike. Directions for Coffee Hour are on the inside of the cupboard door in the kitchen. Cleaning instructions are in the closet in the Fellowship Hall. **We need volunteers for cleaning and for coffee for the month of March.** If you can fill in any of the above dates please call Karen at the church or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.



Order forms for Easter Flowers located on back of newsletter cover. Deadline to order: **March 23rd.**



PROPERTY AND GREENING UPDATE

First of all, the Property Committee is pleased to announce that we are going ahead with purchasing a newer refrigerator with council's approval. This will be a big improvement over the old model we had in terms of energy efficiency so we'll be driving down energy costs while staying true to our mission of 'greening' Zion'.

Secondly, we've had quite an interesting month full of surprises. It was obvious we had some type of rodent infestation at Zion so that prompted the committee to contact an exterminator for an inspection. It turns out that Zion is not just home to our church family but also several families of flying squirrels and very likely mice. Ants have also been seen in the warmer months so we're probably in a situation where animal attendance on Sundays is outnumbering human. Our next step will be to turn this around and work with the exterminator to get Zion critter-free again.

GREENING TIP FOR THIS MONTH

Replacing older appliances with a newer more energy-efficient model will save you on energy costs long-term but you can also save money up front with special offers and rebates that you may qualify for. Check out energystar.gov for more information.



MEMORIAL GARDEN

The garden is covered in snow this time of year. The days are getting longer. Springtime will be here before we know it. I will be placing an order for cobblestones. Please reach out to me if you are interested in ordering an engraved cobblestone in time for spring. If you are interested in helping me in the warmth of spring with planting flowers please let me know. I like to have the garden in order by Memorial Day weekend. **Enjoy The Journey**

Lisa Betrovski 508-248-4547

BOOK CLUB



March 1st at 7:00 PM the book club will meet to discuss "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett at the home of the Peterson's 30 Main Street, Douglas, MA. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

SOCIAL MINISTRY



The congregation and choir donated many gifts for infants which The Petersons delivered to the Florence House in Worcester. The Florence House is a program for young mothers and fathers which is administered by Lutheran Social Services. It provides housing, education and job training to help these young families become independent.



Patricia Price, the director of Worcester Project Aids sent Zion a heartfelt thank you for the giving tree gifts. She wrote: "I want to express our deep gratitude to all those who contributed to our toy drive, Each year your church members continue to amaze us with their generosity. With your commitment to PROJECT AIDS WORCESTER, we are able to maintain our role as a valuable community resource and together we can share in the satisfaction of giving hope, support and care to those in need. We hope all the families in your church had a wonderful holiday season."



Currently we are collecting bedding towels and dishware for a combined effort with Concordia Lutheran Church. We hope to assist Liberian refugee families in their resettlement in the United States. Thank you, Barbara Steege, for this idea.

Paula Clark, Chair, Social Ministry



BULLETIN BOARDS

If you are interested in creating new displays of pictures on the bulletin boards please let me know. I know there is someone in our church that would really enjoy being able to tell a story about our church with pictures. This has been fun for me but it is time for me to give someone else a turn. If you are interested please let me know soon. Thank you

Lisa Betroski 508-248-4547

THE 2010 LENTEN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

hosted at:

**St Stephen Lutheran Church,
537 Bolton St (Rte 85),
Marlborough, 508-485-9585.**

The God of Science & Faith

An Exploration of the Intersections of Science & the Divine

March 7:

God & the Wonders of the Universe
The Rev. Dr David Buehler

What does the expanse of the universe—planets, stars, galaxies—reveal about the God who brought all things into being?

March 14:

God and the Care of Creation
Dr Jessica Sutherland

What is our responsibility to the creation—the stewardship of our environment and its resources—as beings made in the image of God?

March 15:

God and New Social Technologies
The Rev. Keith Anderson

What role do emerging technologies—internet, Twitter, Facebook—play in the mission of the people of God?

HISTORY CORNER Donald Weinhardt, Chairman, 508-461-7424

HISTORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

On March 18, please pause for a moment and reflect on the fact, that on this day 120 years ago the Lutheran people of Webster and surrounding areas heard their first service by Pastor Schumm. The Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, as we know it, would not be organized until June 18, 1890. This was Pastor Schumm's first service for us and he went on to serve us for ten years. During the subsequent 120 years, this congregation has had many occasions to celebrate, some periods of great disappointment, and many difficult challenges, but the important thing to remember is that we are still here and are moving forward.

In the January newsletter, I made a query as to the identity of an M. Johnson who had loaned a historic photo to a local newspaper in 1990. One of the responses I received was a phone call from Robert Langer in Florida. He indicated that the M. Johnson was his aunt, Margarethe Johnson, she resides in a nursing home in Connecticut and is approaching her 100th birthday. Margarethe verified she did still have some early photos of the church but they are presently in storage. Robert talked to me additionally about Emanuel Church and "Lutherwood", which I did not have any knowledge of. He told me to contact Margaret Heide and Doris Manzi as their parents were caretakers of Lutherwood.

My plea for the month once again involves the safe in the boiler room that was brought here from the original church. Does anyone have what they believe might be the combination for this safe? It may help, even though the safe has been vandalized, if we have to get the help of professional.

HISTORICAL ITEMS RECEIVED

We have received a beautiful German Bible from Esther Elliott. It is leather bound with gold lettering and decoration. It was a gift to her from her father Hermann Fuchs and is dated 1909. Milton Schremser sent us copies of a selection of photos, from his sister Evelyn (Schremser) Breikreitz. They include a Confirmation Class photo for 1941, a post card view of the original Zion Church on Lincoln Street and a group of snapshots of the Young Peoples Society taken in 1941-1942. Some of these were taken at Crescent Park. Conrad Redlitz told me that Crescent Park was a family oriented amusement park in Rhode Island.

LUTHERWOOD

On September 5, 1943, Textile Lodge, formerly Indian Inn and Webster Lake Hotel, at Colonial Park, was purchased by the Massachusetts CIO as a recreation center. The CIO utilized the property for less than three years. On May 22, 1946 negotiations were completed for the sale of the same Textile Lodge to the Lutheran Conferences for use as a summer Bible School. The Lutheran Conference was part of the Augustana Synod, New England Conference. The new name for the facility was "Lutherwood". It was located on a neck of land at the very southern end of Webster Lake, in an area known as Colonial Park. The driveway was only accessible from a road from across the state line in Connecticut.

It became a year round operation, with most activities during the better weather, from 1946 until about 1959. About 1959 it was sold to Webster Academy (boys school), it lasted about 3 years before being destroyed by fire. "Lutherwood", served all churches, but during periods of heavy demand for usage the Lutheran churches got priority.

From 1951 until 1959, Emil W. Anderson along with his wife Emma were the overseers and caretakers of the facility. During this time the Andersons resided here. Two of the Anderson daughters provided some of these recollections, they are Margaret (Anderson) Heide and Doris (Anderson) Manzi.

The reason the Lutheran Conference gave up this property was because of it's location, it could not be enlarged, and the demand continued to grow. The result was the purchase of a farm in New Hampshire which went on to become "Calumet"

Anyone with additional information on the subject is requested to please pass it along to me for inclusion in our files.

As a result of the discussion on Lutherwood, Margaret Heide provided the history archive with a selection of copies of photos of the facility and her family living there.

LENT 2010

This year, we will be celebrating Lent with our friends at

The Oxford United Methodist Church

(465 Main Street)

and

The First Congregational Church of Oxford

(355 Main Street)



Tuesday Soup and Bread Suppers at 6:00 PM,

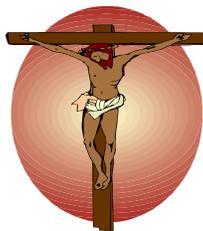
followed by worship at 7:00 PM.

March 2: First Congregational Church

March 9: Oxford United Methodist Church

March 16: Zion Lutheran Church

March 23: First Congregational Church



Good Friday April 2: 7:00 PM at Zion Lutheran Church

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Margaret Briere, Carol Radzik, Dennis Mercer, Matthew Karp, Sten-Eric Westin, Walter Schur, Michael Johnston, Joyce Cozzens, Al Killian, Louise Cyr, Jackie Bean, Fran Chlapowski, Rebecca Chlapowski, Esther Elliott, Tom Mallett, Fred Grindle, Eleanor Gadoery, Mala Abdella, Ruth Jenkns, Josie Hendrix, Raymon Angel Nunez, Pamela Foy, Jeri-Lynn Berlin, Janet Abissi, Ron Johnson, Sandy Howland, Bruce Arnott, Arthur Siegmund, Brian Quinlan, Mrs. Wurth, Maryanne Grzelecki, Debbie Monaco, Matthew Lucas, Lois Austin, Frank Abissi, Patricia Mokaba, Rev. Don and Rev. Peg Olson, Theresa Bromme, Patz and Robert Clark, Gilbert Thibeault,, Alexia Clinton, Wilma Miller, Frank Maher, Margarethe Johnson, Mark Blamire, Barbara Hasenberg, David Marcoux, Robert Nowak, Kathy Witt, Rocky Miller, Jim McGovern, Norman Clark Jr., Albert Risner, Anne Bayer, Phyllis Watkins, Isabel Cannalonga, Mary McIntyre, Helen McGovern, Susan Rohr, Geraldine Maher, Dolores Masi, John Laverne, Michael Gustafson, Diana Powers, Peter Pierce, David Healy, military personnel serving our country at home and in the Middle East especially Airman D. J. Kelley, Eric Streich, Matthew Cremonni, William Jakola, Brandon Morin, Joel Daoust, Rob Snow, Dedrick Baublitz, Michelle Ramsey, Richard Ramsey, Barbie Miller; and Jesse Meagher; Christians in the Middle East; our partner Synods the ELCJH and the Southeastern Minnesota Synod and the Lutheran Church in Honduras.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

George Bayer 02
 Nicole Karp 06
 Bev Makowski 06
 Paul Siegmund 08
 Ginny Watkins 11
 Jim Champoux 12
 Phyllis McClintock 12
 Laurie Teece 12
 Karen Siegmund 13
 Amy Peterson 17
 Tyler Olson 18
 Amber Holst 18
 Jenna LaFontaine 21
 Kathleen Simon 23
 Dennis Basins 26
 William Peterson 26
 Joy Arent 28
 Carol Langer 31

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

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