

Its Own Season

"He sends the snow in all its lovely whiteness and scatters the frost upon the ground." Psalm 147:6

I still remember like it was yesterday the first time I ever saw snow. I ran out to the school parking lot and began gazing up toward the sky. As I was looking up, I felt some floury, white, powder-like substance raining down gently over my face.

That was the first snowfall, at the end of autumn. I stood there and watched with wonder as the snow was painting the trees and houses with its white color. I felt as I was in some kind of wonderland witnessing a miracle happening. At that moment I began thinking how I could write and explain to my family and friends what I was witnessing.

That day, along with some of my friends, we made a snowman and took some pictures. We slid down hills and made ourselves a mess. We made snowballs and threw them at each other. It was fun! At that moment I thought of those people who had told me how they were sick and tired of snow, and I wondered why anyone would ever feel that way.

As the winter progressed and I began to add more and more layers of clothing to keep myself warm I too began to feel the stress of winter. It felt like the cold winter and the piles of snow were here to stay, and I began to long for spring.

That was twenty-four years ago. Since then I have lived through many winters and have come to adjust myself to its excitement and challenges.

The anxiety and stress that many of us face during the winter can be a good reminder of the challenges we feel as we get older. That is the time when we don't get around like we used to and are often confined to our homes. That is the time we lose stability and walk through life with caution. That is the time when our hair turns gray and white like the snow.

There is a wonderful promise in the Bible for this season of our life. The Lord said, "*I will be your God through all your life times. Yes, even when your hair is white with age. I made you and I will care for you.*" Isaiah 46:4.

Like a cold snowy winter, getting gray and white is not something many of look forward to, but now matter how hard we try to resist, old age will come in its own season. One thing we can do is enjoy it and make the best of it as we look forward to the next season of our life.

Pastor Tulu



President's Message

Millie Reierson

Here we at the end of the Christmas season, where we experience the miracle of God sending His Son to us to live amongst us and teach us. Now we prepare for Ash Wednesday, Lent and Easter where we experience GRACE - God's Riches at Christ's Expense. I cannot imagine living as anything but, a child of God and I am grateful I am one of His. Knowing that God loved us so much that He sacrificed His only Son to pay for our sins is truly humbling.

I hope you feel the same peace and comfort knowing that God loves you.

Blessing in Christ! Millie Reierson



**Zion Lutheran Church
Parish Planning Council Minutes
January 15, 2013**

The Parish Planning Council was called to order by President Millie Reierson at 7:00 P.M. In attendance: President Reierson, Pastor John Golv, Pastor Ale Tulu, Joel Rude, Deb Holtan, Sarah Knopf, Karen Thygeson, Connie Hamre, Ginny Armstrong.

Millie began our meeting with devotions.

The December 18th, 2012 secretary's minutes were presented. Ginny Armstrong made a motion to accept the secretary's minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's report was given by Ginny Armstrong. She presented the 2012 actual budget and the 2013 budgeted expenses. She asked for a decision regarding a couple of CD's that are coming due. After some discussion a motion was made by Deb Holtan to let them renew. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Treasurer's report was presented and filed for audit.

Youth Director: Sarah Knopf reported that the Youth Group and Confirmation class are meeting every week. Sarah will be out January 24-29 for continuing education. She also reported there will be a ski trip to Buena Vista February 23-24.

Stewardship Board: Connie Hamre reported that they are looking for a pastor for Consecration Sunday.

Properties Board: Joel Rude presented the board minutes. He said they are checking into costs related to the shingling project. The last shingling was done in 1991. Joel also said an inventory survey is being done for insurance purposes. He commented that we need to look for someone to help with cleaning and setting up tables for functions.

Evangelism/Lay Ministry: Deb Holtan reported that their board did not meet.

Pastors' Report: Pastor Ale commented on Lenten services. The area churches will not be exchanging services this year and will be doing their own services. Plans are being made for Lenten services programs at Zion.

Millie reminded everyone that the annual meeting will be held between services on Sunday, January 29th. It was decided to serve breakfast pizza and cinnamon rolls after the meeting. She reported that she had the acolyte robes cleaned.

Millie asked for nominations for the position of 3rd VP. There isn't anyone serving in that capacity at this time. She also reported that we're looking for another pianist/organist for Sunday services.

The Personnel Committee will be holding a meeting soon.

The board meetings will be held February 5th

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 followed by the Lord's Prayer. Next Parish Council Meeting will be February 19, 2013 at 7:00 P.M.

Pam Cwikla, Secretary



“May this Valentine's Day be filled with love, understanding, and contentment as you journey through life with those you hold dear.” - Darly Henerson

Are You an Expert at Love?

Can you match “I love You” to the correct language?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. je t'aime | a. Irish/Gaelic |
| 2. jeg elsker deg | b. French |
| 3. Rakastan sinua | c. Ethiopian |
| 4. ich liebe dich | d. Spanish |
| 5. Aloha Au Ia ' Oe | e. Finish |
| 6. Gráím thú | f. Korean |
| 7. Ti amo | g. Norwegian |
| 8. Jag älskar dig | h. Hawaiian |
| 9. Em yêu anh | i. German |
| 10. Afekrischalehou | j. Italian |
| 11. te amo | k. Swedish |

ZLCW News

Ash Wednesday is Feb 13 and the beginning of our Lenten suppers. Anna Circle will serve the meal at 5:30 p.m. Services follow at 6:30 p.m. each Wed during Lent.

Serving duties:

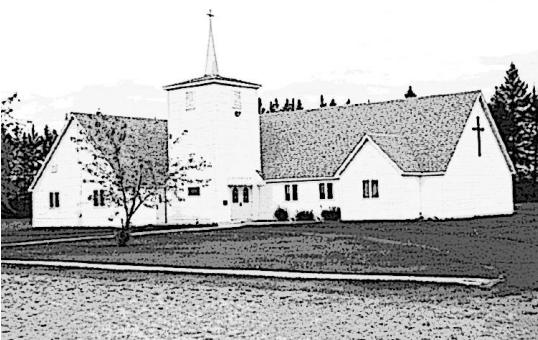
Feb 20 – Rebekah Circle	Mar 13 – Elizabeth Circle
Feb 27 – Esther Circle	Mar 20 – Sarah Circle
Mar 6 – Dorcas Circle	Mar 28 – Lydia Circle- (Seder meal)

The proceeds from the Lenten suppers go to the youth that attend Bible camps. ZLCW pays half of their fees. The youth also do the cleanup after the suppers.

Two ladies from each circle will be delivering carnations to our shut-ins on Feb 12. Cards will be mailed to the residents out of town. Other duties for our ZLCW meeting on Feb 12 are: Program – Sarah circle; Hostess – Lydia circle; Hospitality – Esther circle. Again, please plan to join us for lunch at noon on Feb 12.

During the season of Lent, please bring an item for the Personal Care Kit. These items are very basic and include: *one bath-size towel, dark color recommended; two bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) soap; one adult-size toothbrush; one sturdy comb; one nail clipper.* The kits will be sent in the spring to Lutheran World Relief and they are given to refugees as a reminder that someone cares and are concerned for them. Bring the items to either the Lenten services or Sunday services. There will be a basket for the items to be gathered.

- In 2010, 198 million roses were sold on Valentine's Day – 75% were sold to men. 1.2 billion roses are sold throughout the year.
- According to Nielsen, Americans purchase around 58 million pounds of chocolate during the days leading up to Valentine's Day.
- Americans spend \$345 million to satisfy our Valentine's sweet tooth.



Silver Creek News

Due to the weather the annual meeting for Jan. 20th was postponed to Jan. 27th. It will be held after church with a potluck lunch. In order to conserve energy during the winter months, we will be having our council meetings, and WELCA meetings following church services.

We will mail our annual report and WELCA program booklets to those who have not picked them up by the middle of February.

Are You an Expert at Love? (Answers)

je t'aime – French

jeg elsker deg – Norwegian

Rakastan sinua – Finnish

ich liebe dich – German

Aloha Au Ia ‘ Oe – Hawaiian

Gráím thú – Irish/ Gaelic

Ti amo – Italian

Jag älskar dig – Swedish

Em yêu anh – Korean

Afekrischalehou – Ethiopian

te amo - Spanish