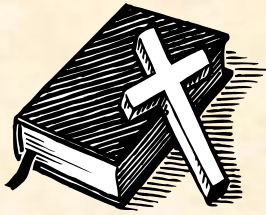


# NEWS FROM ZION

May, 2008

From the Pastor's desk . . .



## A Lasting Legacy – Build A Solid Foundation for the Next Generation

*“Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come.”*

Psalm 71:18 NIV

When our first child was born, an auto mechanic who attended the church I was pastoring commented – “Kids are really neat little units!” I agreed, but commented, “I sure wish they came with some directions!” Parenting is a big task and at times a frightening one. Thankfully God’s Word has much to say about the raising of these precious gifts. During the first three Sundays of this month we will focus on scriptural principles of parenting as we conclude our series of messages using S.A.L.T. – Seven Areas of Life Training. So whether you are yourself a parent, or hope to be one, whether you are an aunt or an uncle, a godfather or godmother, a grandparent or great grandparent – or just an adult who cares about kids – join us as we search the Scriptures on this crucial subject.

Pastor Garry

P.S. May is the last month to pick up S.A.L.T. books

### S.A.L.T. Topics for May 2008 Seven Areas of Life Training

April 27  
May 4  
May 11  
May 18

Parenting Styles  
Acceptance First  
Accountability Second  
Reaching Fulfilled Adulthood

Psalm 34:11  
1 John 3:1  
Ephesians 6:4  
Proverbs 22:6



## Mother/Daughter Tea

May 5th ~ 6:30 p.m.



Bring a salad or sandwiches  
on two different plates.

Sign up at the  
Welcome Center.



Communion will  
be served  
Sunday, May 4th,  
immediately  
following the 10:30  
service.



### PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

The Church office  
will be closed  
Friday, May 23rd  
and  
Monday, May 26th.



## Upcoming in May

May 1<sup>st</sup> -

National Day of Prayer -

Church will be open for prayer.

\*6:45 – 8:00 a.m.

Mayor's Prayer

Breakfast at the Gering Civic  
Center/tickets (\$8) available at  
City Hall.

\*Noon prayer at the Scotts  
Bluff County Courthouse lawn  
in Gering.

May 4<sup>th</sup> -

Graduation Sunday -

Honoring our Senior High kids.

May 5<sup>th</sup> -

Mother/Daughter Tea

6:30 p.m.

May 11<sup>th</sup> -

Pentecost

with Communion

Mother's Day

May 13<sup>th</sup> -

Slide show of Israel

presented by Dewey Brothers

7:00 p.m.

May 25<sup>th</sup> -

Memorial Day Service

honoring those who have gone

**Mission Prayer Partners  
for May, 2008 . . .**

- 4th - Zion's Graduates
- 11th - Our Mothers
- 18th - 4C's
- 25th - Francisco & Eliane DeSouza



*"Pray without ceasing. . ."*

**Our Book Recommendation  
for May. . .**

***Signs of Life: Back to the Basics of Authentic Christianity***

By: David Jeremiah



Pack your bag for a practical, biblically mapped 40-day journey marked by dusty shoes, worn-out knees, rolled-up sleeves, open hands, and outstretched arms. Using Scripture, anecdotes, personal stories, and action prompts, David Jeremiah's "work"-book shows you how to be transformed into the image of Jesus--and equipped to change the world!

**THANK-YOU NOTES. . .**

Dear Zion Church Family,  
Thank you for the books and supporting me throughout my confirmation years.  
Love,  
Aimee Stricker

Dear Zion Church,  
Thank you for the three books by Lee Strobel! They will all be very useful in learning more about God & Christ.  
In Christ,  
Kayleigh Schadwinkel

Katherina Hardt would like to thank everyone for their many cards and prayers. She misses everyone very much. She has a new address if you would like to send her a card or note.  
Katherina Hardt  
c/o Alan Hardt  
11662 Burt Street, L-17  
Omaha, NE 68154



**May 11th  
Communion will be served in the  
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services**



**Festival of Hope  
Saturday, June 14th  
at the Mitchell Event Center**



All ladies of the church are invited to help out with this special annual event by making a homemade pie for the pie booth that several from Circle of Praise will be working. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you would be willing to help out.



You will need to have your pie here at the church on Saturday, the 14th by 9:00 a.m. so we can get them up to Mitchell



**OR**  
you can deliver your pie to the Event Center. Call Pat Stricker at 623-1005 or Joyce Kautz at 436-4477 if you have questions.



**Our KCMJ Broadcast**

*This month's broadcast is given in memory of Jack Kling from his wife Sandy. A special THANK YOU for sponsoring our monthly broadcasts.*

**Sympathies and Condolences to . .**

- . . . Harry & Betty Kraus & family on the passing of Harry's sister, Millie Reich.
- . . . Clyde & Lora Massingill on the passing of their sister-in-law, Mildred Wilcoxon in Iowa.
- . . . the family and friends of Frieda Rien.
- . . . the family and friends of Scott Green.
- . . . the many family and friends of Ann Schwartzkopf Wolski.

**Congratulations to . .**

- . . . Elsie & Delbert Trupp on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.
- . . . Stan & Dorothy Stricker on their 58th Wedding Anniversary.
- . . . Steve Kautz on turning the big **5-0!** Happy Birthday, Steve!



**WE WOULD LIKE TO HONOR AND CONGRATULATE OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES:**

*Heather Burton ~ Gering  
Kyle Koncaba ~ Bayard  
Saraya Ourada ~ Scottsbluff*

**COLLEGE GRADUATES:**

*Spencer Lease - UNL  
Scott Reifschneider - UNK*

*God's richest blessings as you start a new era in your life.*



**YOU'VE GOT MAIL!!!**

It's has been **1 year** since we started sending the newsletter via email! Hopefully everybody is enjoying this format.

**It's never too late to start getting your newsletter via email!**

If you would like to try the newsletter for one month via email and then decide you would rather have a paper copy, we'll be happy to switch you back.

Give it a try. Let us know - email us at . . . **zion@vistabeam.com**



**General Fund for March, 2008**

**INCOME:**

Fundraisers	1,117.00
Other Income	1,646.39
Special Income	1,678.00
Sunday Offering	<u>19,765.50</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$24,206.89</b>

**EXPENSES:**

Bldg. Payment	\$ 1,320.53
Bldg. & Grounds	1,833.63
Fund Raising	897.25
Ministry	1,457.75
Missions Fund	50.00
Office	1,266.29
Special Expense	875.00
Staff Benefits	5,830.43
Staff Salary	5,663.38
Utilities	<u>1,969.57</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$21,157.83</b>

**TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE \$ 3,049.06**



## ~ AWANA NEWS ~

**Grand Prix** was our big event for the month of April, which was held on Friday, the 11<sup>th</sup>. After all of the cars were checked in - Sparks Hot Wheels as well as Grand Prix cars - Pastor Garry started our evening off with an appropriate "racing day" devotion . . . ready, set, **GO!!!!!!** Next came the Sparkies with their Hot Wheel cars. Here are their results: 1<sup>st</sup> - Kimberleigh Cawley; 2<sup>nd</sup> - MarLee Neu and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Jade Walker. Then we had the annual Commander vs. Sparks Director with their Hot Wheels and for at least the second time in a row (that we've kept track of☺) the Commander reigns!! Congratulations to the following for placing in the Girls Division for Speed: 1<sup>st</sup> - Sydni Schledewitz; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Hana Nagasawa and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Mikayla Kreider. In Girls Design, the winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> - Alexandra Stricker; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Lindsey Schanaman and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Mikayla Kreider. Boy's Speed Winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> - Adam Harris; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Timothy Herman and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Chad Nagasawa. Boy's Design Winners: 1<sup>st</sup> - Josiah Ashford; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Shane Smith and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Timothy Herman. Lastly, the Adult Division for Speed: 1<sup>st</sup> - Janae Griess; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Margaret Hancock and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Kayla Cawley. Design winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> - Randy Stricker; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Kayla Cawley and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Dick Ashford. A BIG THANK YOU to Heidi Robertus and Kim & Jerry Doremus for being the design judges, to Dick Ashford for taking care of the pop for our Pit Stop concession stand and to the AWANA staff (current & past) and my family that helped with the preparations and clean up. You are ALL THE BEST!!!

As of this writing, we have one more regular club night and then our **Jamboree** on May 4<sup>th</sup>. As I say every year . . . where did this past nine months go??? So, I am definitely wondering now how can we already be celebrating 25 years of AWANA here at Zion Church??? I have been in AWANA since "Day 1" here at Zion and just thought of something interesting (to me, anyway): I have been involved in AWANA longer than I lived in my parents home, longer than I have been married and so - obviously - longer than I have had children, too. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Lord in this capacity for these past 25 years and I have been so very blessed to serve with so many awesome brothers and sisters in Christ, over the years, in this program. God has been so good and so faithful and my prayer is that if it is His Will, He will bless Zion with 25 more years!!!

TO ALL CURRENT CLUBBERS & STAFF AND

ALUMNI: We are tentatively planning a 25 year celebration for Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. I will make the announcement at Jamboree as to what the BIG SURPRISE is that we have been working on. To those of you that are family members of Alumni that do not get our church newsletter, would you please pass this information on to them. Also, please watch for further details in Sunday bulletins and June's newsletter.

Please pray for our clubbers, as well as our staff, this summer that God's Hand of protection will be upon them. Also pray for us as we finish 25 years and begin another.

Thanking God that He Is In Control of  
"the next 25 years!!! "

Cheryl Rose, Commander ☺☺☺

\* \* \* \* \*

**CIRCLE OF PRAISE:**

The Circle of Praise met on the 28th of March in the Oasis with 25 people attending.

Dave Erdman again showed his culinary skills by serving a delicious BBQ Roast Beef accompanied by many side dishes brought by guests. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this delicious meal and we give thanks to everyone who participated in it.

After a short business meeting, the evening was turned over to Teri and Dave who presented the program entitled "Name that Tune". Tunes from as far back as the 40's were played and we were to guess the name of the tune. A lot of tunes were immediately recognized, but remembering the name of the tune, was a different story.

A very enjoyable evening closed with the Lord's Prayer with a reminder that our next gathering will take place on April 25th. Come join us for dinner and a movie hosted by Joyce and Harold Kautz.

Peg & Jerry Ross

**LADIES GUILD:**

Eighteen ladies met on April 7, 2008 for fellowship and fun. Elaine Kling and Cheryl Rupp were hostesses for the evening. The theme was "Showers of Blessings". The ladies enjoyed spring decorations, a fun game and dirt cake for dessert.

Next month's meeting will be the Mother/Daughter Tea to be held on May 5th at 6:30 p.m. in the Ministry Center. A motion was made by Donna Brehm and seconded by Peg Ross to ask the ladies attending to bring salads and sandwiches. The motion carried.

Devotions were led by Elaine as were the prayer requests. The ladies sang Happy Birthday to Lorraine Hein who was celebrating her birthday this month.

The kitchen could still use donations of dish soap, napkins and 8 oz. Styrofoam cups.

The evening was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Thanks!  
Cheryl Rupp

\* \* \* \* \*

**JEREMIAH HOUSE:**

On the last night for our Church to serve this school year, the kids enjoyed sausage gravy over biscuits, fruit, green beans and Girl Scout Cookies. Everyone liked the sausage and gravy. Many kids ate seconds. I had never made the sausage gravy before so I was taking a chance. Things always turn out with God on our side.

We will not go back until the third week in September. There will be a new Pastor as Pastor Jim will be leaving in May. They are looking forward to us coming back. Thank you to Cindy & Armond Orndoff, Helen Maier and Barb Steffensen for all the help to make the nights run smoothly. Without all the donations of food each month, we could not provide good meals. We appreciate everyone that gave.

Serving our Lord,  
Terry Martin

**MISSIONS:**

Presently, Pastor Garry and I are lining up a missionary to speak to our congregation on our Mission Sunday this Fall. We hope to get Francisco DeSouza from Fellowship International Mission, originating in Allentown, PA. We hope to hear from him soon.

Andrea Trook is enjoying her work in Chad, Africa. Unfortunately, Andrea became ill with malaria. Andrea had a light case since she was vaccinated before she left the States. Andrea was in bed for two weeks as she was very weak. She is doing better and getting back her strength. Andrea has been very brave to adventure so far. Andrea has had a special calling to do God's work. Please pray for her continued work and her improving health. Andrea is grateful for any prayer and financial support she receives.

Spreading God's Word in many ways,  
Terry Martin

\* \* \* \* \*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

Sunday School is getting ready for Bible School. Our theme is "God's Big Backyard." We will be focusing on "serving others." Mark your calendars for June 9-13th. If you are interested in helping, please let us know. We are in the process of trying to plan a Sunday School/Church Picnic in July or August. A Sunday School teacher's meeting was held on April 13th.

God Bless,  
Sharon, Robin and Amy

\* \* \* \* \*

**REMEMBER TO REMEMBER**

One Memorial Day, some children were asked what the holiday meant to them.

"That's the day the swimming pool opens!" answered one eager boy. What he didn't realize or appreciate was that he can freely go to the pool because more than one million people have put their lives on the line to preserve America's democracy. Many of them have died so citizens of other countries might also enjoy the privileges of political, social and economic freedom.



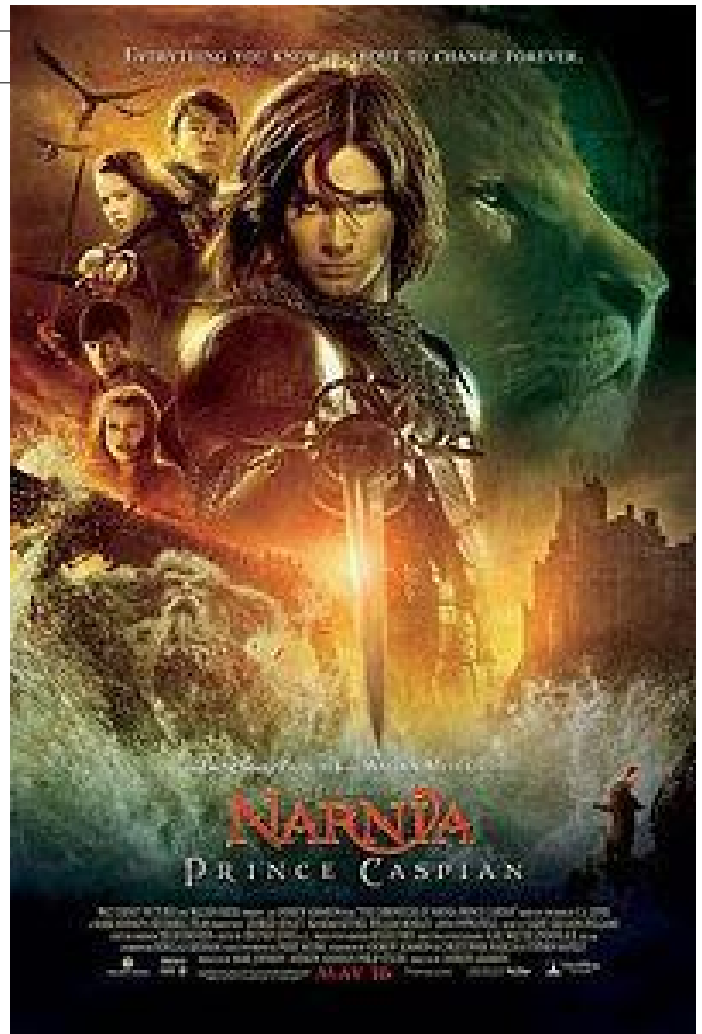
Memorial Day is our opportunity to pause and remember the sacrifices of many of America's best citizens. They made the supreme sacrifice on our behalf, so please remember to honor these heroes on May 26.

**Youth:**

April was another busy and productive month for both our junior and senior high youth groups. On Monday nights, we have continued to see a big group of sixth through eighth grade students many of whom do not have any connection with any church beyond coming to our youth group. We have the opportunity to share the gospel and show them what difference Jesus can make in their lives. These students have begun to take the lessons more seriously lately and seem genuinely more interested the more they learn. Please continue to pray for this outreach to these students. Our senior high Bible study on Wednesday nights is now through for the school year. We finished a series on sharing the gospel at the end of April and are turning our attention to a plan for a Bible study to run throughout the summer for these students. Also in April, I have been teaching a combined junior and senior high Sunday school class covering the S.A.L.T. material lessons concerning a biblical view of marriage. I have enjoyed the chance to talk to these students about issues that they need to think through as they look toward their future marriages.

In addition to our regular weekly activities, our students participated in several other activities in April. We took a group of 16 to Evan's Plunge in Hot Springs, SD as a way of winding down after a year of hard work during confirmation class. The trip went very well and the students were a joy to spend time with for the day. Another group of students plan to attend the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) banquet on April 30, at the Gering Civic Center. This is always a good night where the students hear from students their own age and a good speaker who shares how your faith should impact your participation in sports. Also, in April, several of our students took part in both the Scottsbluff and Gering High School musical productions and did a great job. Now that we are moving toward May, we are looking forward to finishing our few remaining weekly activities and getting summer plans ironed out. I appreciate all the support and prayers the members of Zion provide as we continue the ministry God has called us to do.

Andy



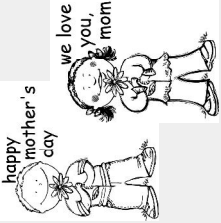







The Chronicles of Narnia:  
Prince Caspian. . .  
. . .In theaters May 16!

Get ready as the next of C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia adventures comes to life in theaters May 16<sup>th</sup>. Disney did a fabulous job in bringing the first installment to us a year ago last Christmas with "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe", and promises to do it again for us this spring with "Prince Caspian." The Chronicles of Narnia are Lewis' timeless masterpiece stories allegorizing Christian faith into fantasy. In my own life, reading these stories as a child helped me personalize my faith in Christ and grow to see him as a caring, present and active Savior. I was in fifth grade and the parallel between Lewis' allegory and Scripture was clear. They were also fantastic stories, the first books I took a real interest in reading. Let's again send a message of appreciation to movie makers for giving us a movie that is friendly and supportive to our faith and values and for doing it with excellence.

Pastor Garry

May, 2008

Zion Evangelical Church Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 happy mother's day  we love you, mom</p> <p>8:30 Worship &amp; Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee &amp; Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion &amp; Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team III/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 KCMH Broadcast 11:30 Communion/Chapel 4:30 Awana Clubs/Jamboree</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>6:30 Mother/Daughter Tea </p>	<p>The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. ~ Psalm 28:7 ~</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p> <p>7:00 Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>9:00 Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Choir 7:00 Bible Study/Brothers 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>National Day Of Prayer</p>		
<p>4</p> <p>8:30 Worship &amp; Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee &amp; Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion &amp; Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team III/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 KCMH Broadcast 11:30 Communion/Chapel 4:30 Awana Clubs/Jamboree</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>7:00 Junior High Youth</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p> <p>7:00 Slide Show of Israel presented by Dewey</p>	<p>9:00 Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Choir 7:00 Bible Study/Brothers 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Heather Burton Graduation Reception </p>	
<p>11</p> <p>Graduation Sunday  8:30 Worship &amp; Praise/Communion 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee &amp; Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion &amp; Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team IV/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship &amp; Praise/Communion 4:45 Vespers/Residency</p> <p> Pentecost</p> <p> Mother's Day</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>7:00 Junior High Youth</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p> <p>5:00 Jeremiah House</p>	<p>9:00 Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Choir 7:00 Bible Study/Brothers 8:00 Worship Team</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Church office closed.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Stacey Hessler Baby Shower </p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:30 Worship &amp; Praise 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee &amp; Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion &amp; Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team V/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship &amp; Praise 2:00 Vespers/ Beverly 4:45 Vespers/Residency</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>7:00 Junior High Youth</p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p> <p>6:30 MOPS @ Night</p>		<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Church office closed.</p>	<p>31</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:30 Worship /Memorial Service 8:30 S.S./Heritage 9:15 Coffee &amp; Fellowship 9:30 S.S./Zion &amp; Emerald Ct. 9:30 Prayer Team I/Chapel 9:55 Take Twenty 10:30 Worship /Memorial Service</p>	<p>Church office closed.</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study/Village</p> <p>Memorial Day </p>	<p>10:00 Bible Study/Wel-Life</p>		<p>28</p>		