

FEBRUARY

Floodlight 2024



Dear Zion,

The apostle Paul focuses a lot of times on “Healthy Doctrines/Teachings”. A healthy doctrine/teaching is always connected and grounded in Jesus Christ. Paul teaches us in his letters that all generations and all ages must listen to the teachings of Jesus. It is teachings that bring steadfast faith, stability, love, and perseverance.

Following “Healthy Doctrines/Teachings” of Jesus will lead to a lifestyle of consistency and integrity. These teachings of Jesus bring life to all of us. 2024 is a year of Renewal/Revival and Rejoice of our faith. Renewal of faith can only happen if you follow the teachings of Jesus that is found in the Bible. If you follow His teachings, there will be REVIVAL in your life, and you will find yourself REJOICING in the Lord.

With love,
Pastor Petri



**Wed.,
Feb. 7 @
6:30pm**

**HOSTS ARE NEEDED FOR
FAMILY MINISTRY**

FAMILY MINISTRY ReNew, ReVive and ReJoice

Topic:

Never become intellectually lazy when your faith is at stake. Learn. Read. Think. Reflect. Ask questions. Remain curious. Allow God to renew your mind.

Bible Reading:

Matthew 11:28-30

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Catechism Question

Question 21: What is true faith?

Answer: True faith is not only a knowledge and conviction that everything God reveals in his Word is true; it is also a deep-rooted assurance, created in me by the Holy Spirit through the gospel, that, out of sheer grace earned for us by Christ, not only other, but I too, have had my sins forgiven, have been made forever right with God, and have been granted salvation





Women of Zion:

The month of February we think of Valentine's Day and how we celebrate with those we love. May we all be reminded of the greatest of loves that comes from the Father to us through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The love that God has for us will never ever fail. Earthly loves may disappoint us from time to time, but the love that God has for us will never change and will last forever.

I would encourage you to read the entire chapter of 1 Corinthians 13 to remind yourself of the priority of love in God's eyes. Paul the Apostle writes that love is the greatest attribute of God that we can pursue. We can have faith to move mountains, give all our possessions to the poor, understand all mysteries, and have all knowledge, but if we don't have love, it means nothing.

Have a great February embracing God's love. World Day of Prayer will be held March 2 at Zion. For planning purposes, the program committee is *Ann Lupkes, Audrey VanHorn, Megan Oehlert, Judy Crom. The lunch committee is *Sonna McMahon, Megan Mollenbeck, Cheryl Schnoes, Janell Blau.

Thank you to the flower committee (Rose, Tonya, Heather, Sarah) for purchasing the beautiful Christmas decorations and organizing the decorating of the church. Thanks also to all who helped with the decorating. Make sure you remember your Prayer Pal with a Valentine. If you don't have a Prayer Pal, send one to someone you love. 1 Corinthians 13:8 – My love will never fail you.

Yours in Christ,
Judy Crom, WOZ President



Women of Zion: There is a note requesting an annual donation to WOZ in your church mailbox. Please write your name and donation amount on the note and put the note with your donation in the provided envelope in Diane Hughes' mailbox. Contact Diane with any questions.



Spiritual Nourishment

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die," Jesus said in John 11: 25

I am mad. Confused. Wondering why God allowed what He did on that first day back to school, Thursday, January 4th, in Perry, Iowa.

Jeff and I have been trying to navigate an emotional fog since that morning of January 4, which in no way even comes close in comparison to what our friend, Elizabeth Marburger, is navigating.

It was January 4, when Jeff heard on the radio news that morning that there was an "incident", a "situation", at the Perry high school. Turning on the television, we saw "Breaking News" footage that showed police cars in front of the school and terrified parents. Right away, I texted Elizabeth Marburger, she and her husband have been friends of ours since our Central College years together. She is a teacher there at the Perry school, and her husband, Dan Marburger, is the Perry High School principal. I wanted to let her know I was frantically praying for whatever "situation" was happening right then in that school and checking to make sure she and Dan were okay. She replied back immediately saying, "Dan was shot. In surgery now." Our hearts hit bottom. When you hear and see of an incident at a school in which there are reports of a lock-down, police force gathered, and interviews of panicked parents — you think the worst. And Elizabeth's confirmed it. There was a shooting.

Knowing Dan, a big guy (he was an offensive lineman football player for Central College), who had an even bigger heart, we knew that, of course, he would be involved somehow in subduing the gunman. There was no doubt that Dan would definitely put himself in the line of extreme danger in order to protect others, that's the way he is — that's his character.

As we awaited more news, Jeff and I consoled each other with the thought that the legendary Coach Ron Schipper's football training no doubt would've come into play — Dan most likely tackled the shooter and, sure, he did get shot, but he's such a big, strong guy, whatever injury he must've received, he would surely get through it. Plus he is a mentor to so many students, God won't take him Home yet. There's still so much for Dan to do as a grandpa, father, husband and Principal.

Then good news! We found out that yes, he was in critical condition, but the good news was that the doctors had him stabilized, and the thought was that he would likely pull through this terrible experience and recover. We knew he would be a hero and have an even more positive impact on his community when he got out of the hospital. Right, God??

Then on January 14, we received news that Dan went home to be with the Lord. Dan was a good man and he knew his Lord, so we know he's in a much better place, but for those of us friends and, especially, his family, we feel so "punched in the gut" and robbed of a decent, moral, good human being, taken from us way too soon.

I felt myself succumbing to being very angry. I did some research on how to deal with times of such loss. This is what the Lord brought to me:

- A quote from Billy Graham, of what he said about himself: "Someday you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don't you believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone into the presence of God." Our loved ones who have died in Christ are where there is no pain, crying, suffering or death (Revelations 21: 4), and we'll see them again. Their address has changed, but we have not lost them. We know where they are.

Reading and rereading this quote reminds me that Dan is more alive at this time than he ever was, being with Jesus now. I imagine Dan looking down, loving on his family, helping to prepare a place and waiting for them in Heaven. I envision the image of a glorious, smiling Dan Marburger, healed and strengthened and full of the love and grace of God, while the beautiful song, "I Can Only Imagine", is playing in the background.

- Jesus will comfort us and renew our strength if we turn to Him. He promised in John 14:18, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." Psalms 34:18 tells us, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

- To us left to mourn, God has a special message of comfort and hope: He'll uplift us (Psalms 146:9), and He'll establish and protect our boundaries (Proverbs 15:25).

- If a loved one is with the Lord, we need to shift our mourning from the natural to the spiritual.

Take refuge in Jesus—our rock, fortress and stronghold and celebrate the life of our loved ones and the fact that they're now in a better place. That's the power of the cross. Remember, "weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." (Psalms 30:5).

Believers, let's hold on.

Shelly Buseman, Spiritual Life

Capitol Maintenance Offering

The first capitol maintenance offering will take place on Feb. 28. Please prayerfully consider giving to this offering. Thank you.



Consistory Highlights

The consistory met on Thursday, January 25.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, Feb. 8.

CONSISTORY 2024: (Installation was held on Sunday, Jan. 21, for the new elder and deacons) Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month @ 6pm Elders/Deacons; 7pm Consistory

Elders:

Jon Suntken, VP

Ann Lupkes, Clerk

Mark DeVries, Education

Dave Harms, Pulpit Supply

Deacons:

Kelly Bennett, General Treasurer

Eric Barkema, Benevolent Treasurer, Music

Michael Halsne, Building

Ryan Koenen, Grounds



Ted Hughes, Arlene Maifeld, Marge Jurgens, Sue Smit, Brian Lupkes, Angie DeVries

Dayton Drake, brother to McKayla

Congratulations to Carter and Lexis on the arrival of Weston!
Pray for his continued lung development.



Darlene Meints / Shirley Ludens



Janette van Rooyen*, Beth Bretz, Megan Oehlert, Kaitlyn Vogel



Congratulations to Carter and Lexis Barkema on the arrival of Weston.



Youth Leaders: Clayton & Mariah Miller

WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00pm

Grade 8 -12th



	<u>AUDIO</u>	<u>VIDEO</u>
FEB 04	Nick	Tonya
FEB 11	Jerry	Kolton
FEB 18	Duane	Molly
FEB 25	Dave	Carma



JOURNEY CIRCLE – FEB. 1 @ 7PM (LESSON 1&2)

JOY CIRCLE – FEB. 11 @ TBA

Devotions/Lesson/Host: Teresa S.

VESPER CIRCLE – FEB. 12 @ 1:30pm (Fellowship Hall)

Devotions/Lesson: Esther; Host: Linda

Faith Circle – Feb. 29 @ 7pm (Lesson 3)

Have You Ever Met Anyone Famous?



Sunday, February 11

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, Feb. 18

Children's Time during church service

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Feb. 4	Wendy B.
Feb. 11	Molly A.
Feb. 18	Ann L.
Feb. 25	Kelly B.

DAYCARE PROVIDERS

After Children's Time !

* If your Sunday does not work, please find a replacement. Your efforts are very much appreciated.*

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEADER / HELPER</u>
Feb. 4	Steph C/Mari
Feb. 11	Sammy/Edrich
Feb. 18	Tonya/Gavin
Feb. 25	Shelly/Barrett

FELLOWSHIP

Feb. 4	Ryan & Jen
Feb. 11	Russell & Molly/Ted & Diane
Feb. 18	Markwardt Family
Feb. 25	Jim & Jan/Frank & Cheryl

REMINDER: There is a Fellowship sign up sheet on the small bulletin board outside the kitchen. ALL are welcome to sign up to take a turn. The goodies can be store bought or homemade. Your time in serving at Zion is very much appreciated

Happy Valentine's Day

God's
love
endures
FOREVER.

Psalms 136:1

HEART

strings

Make this heartfelt craft
as a decoration or gift.

What you need:

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Parchment paper
- Baking sheet
- Heart-shaped cookie cutters
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- Adult help



What you do:




1. Cut yarn into 12-inch pieces.
2. Place cookie cutters atop a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
3. Combine cornstarch and water in a saucepan. Heat mixture over medium heat, stirring until thick and smooth. Remove from heat and cool to form a "glue."
4. Dip each piece of yarn into the mixture to coat completely. Squeeze off any excess.
5. Place yarn in the cookie cutters, allowing pieces to cross and loop within the heart. Add more until the cookie cutter is filled and the yarn looks like a heart.
6. Remove cookie cutters and bake the sheet for two hours at 150°F, or until hearts are dry and hard.

Zion Reformed Church

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 Pastor Petri van Rooyen; 641-231-2361



Floodlight 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>*REMINDER* Office Hours: M,W,TH: 8-Noon *Bad Weather: KL MJ*</p>	<p>* Every Sunday * 09:15am Worship 10:30am Sunday School / Kids' Choir</p>			<p>1 7pm Journey Circle</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 *Food Pantry* 9:15am Worship 10:30am SS</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 6:30pm Family Ministry</p>	<p>8 6:00 pm Elders/ Deacons 7:00pm Consistory</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 9:15am Worship 10:30am SS</p> <p>Transfiguration of the LORD </p> <p>7pm Joy Circle</p>	<p>12 1:30pm Vesper Circle</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14  7pm RCYF</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 1st Sunday in Lent 9:15am Worship 10:30am SS</p>	<p>19 </p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 7:00pm RCYF</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 9:15am Worship Children's Choir Sing 10:30am SS *Capitol Maint. Offering*</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7pm RCYF</p>	<p>29 LEAP YEAR! 7pm Faith Circle</p>		