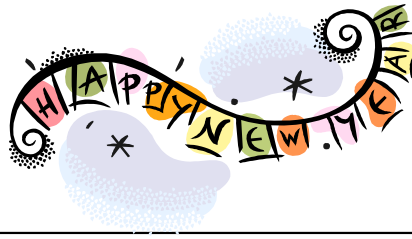


Zion UB Church

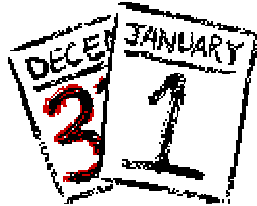
Sharing



Our Faith

Volume 09 Issue I

January 2009



His 2009 Goals for your life!

By Pat Graw

Happy New Year!

2008 is behind us, but 2009 is looming ahead of us. Have you made goals for the New Year? I'm not asking if you have made resolutions that will soon fade away—I'm asking if you have set personal goals for this year based on direction from Him through your prayer life.

In Jeremiah 29:12 it says, *"Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you."* What a wonderful promise. Anytime I want to pray to Him—He has promised that He will listen. I'm guessing that He listens closely to what I tell Him in prayer. Unlike me, who often "listens" while multi-tasking.

Knowing His promise, I spent a lot of time thinking and praying about what I should do in 2009. This is a big year of transition for me. I was looking for constructive goals so that I wouldn't "waste" my time.

I have good news to share—the Lord is answering my prayers for direction! In preparation for retirement, I cleaned out my desk at Inteva. In my pencil drawer was a slip of paper I was given over 25 years ago by a friend. This message from a fortune cookie said "God helps those who don't try to do his job."

Throughout the years, I kept this message laying in the pencil tray where I would see it regularly and be reminded of those gentle words. There were many times I needed a reminder that I only need to work on the things within my control. And of course, that I need to let go and let God handle the things within His control—in His time.

And yes, now He led me to consider those words as I looked toward 2009. He reminded me that I need to let Him lead. That He will let me know what He wants me to do—in His time. I just need to pray and LISTEN.

Yes, I pray—but not always as soon or as often as I should. Yes, I turn problems over to Him—but sometimes I try to take them back. Why do I want to take charge of my life instead of letting God show me His way?

Luckily, God is patient. When I get busy trying to handle both my job and His, He waits for me to realize that many problems are too big for me to handle without His help.

But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." 2nd Corinthians 12:8 Then in verse 9 it is restated, *"For when I am weak, then I am strong."*

When I can't survive without God's strength and comfort, then God is perfected in

me. When I finally give up my will and let Jesus carry my burdens, then I am made strong through God's power.

I have made personal goals for 2009 with His input. As a result, I have peace as I step into this new year and new phase of my life. I believe the Lord is asking me to take a leap of faith and try something new and challenging. I also know that He will be with me, helping me handle those challenges.

Although I am now "retired" from my "regular job", as long as I am blessed with life on earth—there will be work for me to do. I pray that I will always remember those words from that little slip of paper— "God helps those who don't try to do his job".

I believe God wants me to work hard and do my part. If I seek His help in prayer, I know that my heart will be rewarded by the blessings that follow "our" accomplishments .

I invite you to let God help you set your goals and help you handle your problems. Through your weakness, let His strength and comfort be perfected in you. Let Him make you strong as you approach this new year. Let Him help you set and reach goals throughout 2009.

January

Anniversary

8 Bob & Karen Billington

Birthdays

- 5 Troy Coopshaw
- 7 Charline Adrian
- 13 Josh VanCamp
- 15 Wanda Sheldon
- 21 Karen Krueger
- 25 Janna Yntema
- 26 Jennifer Mirelez
- 26 Ashley Wyse
- 28 Gary Hinkle



Zion UB

Mission Statement

*We exist to
Worship, Win,
Edify, Equip and
Fellowship in
order to Enhance
and Enlarge the
Kingdom of God.*

Three Wise Men & a Baby Played to full house on Dec. 14th



Zion was truly blessed with the musical, *Three Wise Men & a Baby* presented by our Sunday School. The performance at ZAC was followed by a wonderful Birthday Party for Jesus. The true **Christmas Spirit** was present throughout the evening.

Again, this year the hand movements performed by the youth were largely sign language for the hearing impaired. Jennifer Mirelez developed and taught this wonderful element of the performance.

Our show was accentuated with adult performers. Without the help from adult support, the show would not have been possible. Praise the Lord for the talent shared by our really young, our young, our teens & our older performers!

Soloists: Bethany Filipek, Jessica Filipek, Joy Hodges, Victoria Krueger, & Morgan Miller,

Youth Choir: Emma Dennison, Ross Dennison, Bethany Filipek, Jessica Filipek, Victoria Krueger, Morgan Miller, Payton Miller, Haley Stace, & Victoria Stace.

Angel Choir: Lydia Makula, Anna Waigle, Alexandria Waigle, Anna Winkleman, & Ashley Winkleman

Speaking Cast: Joy Hodges, Patrick Miller, BJ Whitt, Levi Makula, Bethany Filipek, Jessica Filipek, Victoria Krueger, Sarah Pifer, Josiah Makula, Morgan Miller, Payton Miller, Haley Stace, Victoria Stace, & Katy Uttynhove & **Townpeople:** Tom Eisenmann, George Grau, Mark Krueger, & Rudy Mirelez

Adult Choir: Kathy Eisenmann, Rochelle Jensen, Dawn Makula, Vonda Milosh, & Deb Porter.

Crew: Kathy Eisenmann, Costumes & Sets; Dawn Makula, Youth Choir Dir.; Deb Porter, Adult Choir Dir.; Colleen Rymanociwz, Angel Choir Dir.; Jennifer Mirelez Choreographer; Jim Bryan & Kory Krueger, Sound & Lighting; Kali Makula, Back Stage; Penny Whitt, Birthday Party Coordinator; & Pat Grau, Director .

If you would like to be involved in the 2009 Christmas Musical, please see Pat or Jennifer. It is never too early to volunteer to help and contribute to the planning.

ZionUB.org

Zion now has a web site! We have been blessed by the talents of Mandy Goldfuss (Ted & Rochelle's daughter). Last year Mandy sent out web site ideas to some of those at Zion asking for comments, suggestions and feedback on our experience using the site.

Having participated in that process, I know that Mandy spent a lot of time making sure that she

launched the best site possible for us. Unfortunately, with the speed of change in this modern world updates are needed regularly.

Currently, Mandy is our "webmaster" and will make updates as needed. She is asking that we forward needed changes to her Mom Rochelle—who will organize them and send them on to Mandy.

Please visit www.ZionUB.org and browse the available information. If you

have suggestions or corrections, please give your information to Rochelle. Speak up if you have comments—positive reviews are always welcome as well as suggestions for improvements.

Our Web site is a great way for new people to learn about us. We can be proud that Zion is now more accessible!



ROSE

Please watch the ROSE bulletin board for meeting information. Executive Board updates will be posted. Currently, Treasured Times & Memory Makers are reviewing meeting options & needs. The Quilting/Sewing Circle completed numerous lap quilts as a Christmas gift to residents at an Adrian nursing home. The Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of the month—the January READ is The Red Tent. Pick up one of the copies of the 2009 reading plan from the bulletin board.

Men's Group, Jim Bryan

The Men's Ministry would like to THANK all who supported our food basket collection. You generously donated a pick up truck load of food for this Christmas project.

We helped the Knights of Columbus sort, box, & deliver the food and gift packages to local families. What a turn out of inspired help we had!!!

If you didn't have a chance to

help this year, make plans for next year. We definitely want to support this needed and rewarding local ministry.

This project was a huge operation and well organized by Rudy Mirelez, Sr. He did a super job and needs to be complimented!! His Christian leadership is an awesome blessing for the Blissfield community of believers.

All men are welcome to attend our Breakfasts the 2nd Saturday of each month @ 8:00 am. Our breakfasts are held in the ZAC building. Hope to see you Saturday January 10th for devotions,

great fellowship, & and plenty of food!

Annual Chili Cook Off

Sunday January 18th
After Worship @ ZAC

To compete—just bring a crock pot of your secret recipe Chili. The Men's Group will provide fixin's to round out the meal. Please see JimB if you can bring a dessert.

This is a great time of fellowship when our church family gathers to sample and vote for their favorite chili!



**ZION UB CHURCH
WWW.ZIONUB.COM**

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Newsletter Coordinator, Pat Grau
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Your Newsletter was issued from sunny Florida. Please submit your Newsletter items via email or a call.

Pastor Aden Porter
Pastor's Cell Phone
517.605.7228

Attendance Information

During 2008, Pastor Aden reminded us several times that he will SHAVE his head if we reach an attendance of 200 people. So how did we do on reaching that target? Weekly worship attendance averaged 105 people in 2007 and 107 people in 2008. Our highest Sunday was 153 on 3/3/08 when we dedicated infants.

In 2009, if you've missed seeing someone at worship—call them & let them know. Also, please consider inviting your friends &/or neighbors to attend. Chili Cook Off?

Quotes of the Month:

“The word of God hidden in the heart is a stubborn voice to suppress.”

Billy Graham

“God has wisely kept us in the dark concerning future events and reserved for himself the knowledge of them, that he may train us up in a dependence upon himself and a continued readiness for every event.”

Matthew Henry

Matthew Henry (1662-1714) was a Welsh-born, English nonconformist minister and Bible commentator. He is remembered for his practical and devotional multi-volume Exposition of the Old and New Testaments which is still published.

“As we trust God to give us wisdom for today's decisions, He will lead us a step at a time into what He wants us to be doing in the future.”

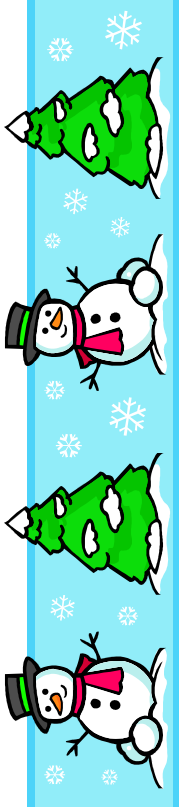
Theodore Epp

Theodore Epp established the Back to the Bible Radio Broadcast, and aired the first program on May 1, 1939, from Lincoln, Nebraska.

Joy Journal

Our nation is in a time of great changes. Our housing & financial markets are in severe decline. Our job opportunities have diminished. And, we have changes pending with a newly elected administration. All these factors ADD to our stress and anxiety level.

A recent study shows that by keeping a JOY JOURNAL you can reduce your feelings of anxiety. All you need to do is regularly list your joys! They can be small or large. This activity will help you count your blessings and not just focus on the problems you are facing. Since it won't cost you any money, why not try a 2009 JOY JOURNAL!



January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:30 Worship Services 10:30	5 Men's Bowling, 7pm	6	7 Youth Group 7pm Bible Study 7pm	8	9	10 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8 am
11 Sunday School 9:30 Worship Services 10:30	12 Men's Bowling, 7pm	13 Treasured Times, TBD see Elaine Ball	14 Youth Group 7pm Bible Study 7pm	15	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:30 Worship Services 10:30 Chili Cook Off, after worship @ ZAC	19 Men's Bowling, 7pm Ladies Breakfast 9:30 am @ Becky's	20	21 Youth Group 7pm Bible Study 7pm	22	23	24
25 Sunday School 9:30 Worship Services 10:30	26 Men's Bowling, 7pm Email Newsletter Items to Pat	27 Book Club, 7 pm Kathy Eisenmann's home	28 Youth Group 7pm Bible Study 7pm	29	30	31