

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ZION!

Each Sunday	9:30 am 10:40 am	Sunday School Worship Service
Each Wednesday	7:00 pm	Family Ministries

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February 3	6:15 pm	Family Jam
February 9	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Deacons Meeting Leadership Team Meeting
February 16	9:00 am	Sewing Circle
February 20	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast
February 26	6—8 pm	Bowling at Green Acres Bowling Alley

Please remember to contact the Church Office by the 20th of each month about any dates or articles that you would like included in the next newsletter. It is appreciated.

# Zion

Living the Legacy

Zion Brethren in Christ Church ~ 997 Hwy 18, Abilene, KS 67410  
785-598-2450 ~ [zionoffice@tctelco.net](mailto:zionoffice@tctelco.net) ~ [www.zionbic.org](http://www.zionbic.org)

February 2010 Newsletter

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## Join us at the Alley



**Friday, February 26 from 6-8 pm  
Green Acres Bowling Alley**

**\$2.50 per person per game  
No shoe rental fee**

**Sign up in the foyer**

**Bring a Friend!**

From Pastor Bob:

“To pray is to change. This is a great grace. How good of God to provide a path whereby our lives can be taken over by love and joy and peace and patience and kindness and goodness and faithfulness and gentleness and self-control.

The movement inward comes first because without interior transformation the movement up into God’s glory would overwhelm us and the movement out into ministry would destroy us.

A disciple once came to Abba Joseph, saying, ‘Father, according as I am able, I keep my little rule, my little fast, and my little prayer. And according as I am able, I strive to cleanse my mind of all evil thoughts and my heart of all evil intents. Now, what more should I do?’ Abba Joseph rose up and stretched out his hands to heaven, and his fingers become like ten lamps of fire. He answered, ‘Why not be totally changed into fire?’”\*

“Why not be totally changed into fire?” What a good question. Why not? Isn’t that the desire of Christ for us, as he is in us? Didn’t he pray that God would be in us as God was in him, on that night of such intense prayer as he anticipated the culmination of his earthly existence? And we know that when God is in us there is power and brilliance, righteousness and holiness, peace and hope. All of these aspects of God are given to us as his children.

So, why not be totally changed into fire? Sometimes it is because we are scared to allow God to have total occupation of our lives. What would it even look like to be on fire? Do I really want that? Yes I want that, but that kind of life is extremely costly, it is inconvenient and completely other focused. Is it not enough to be rather warm, than on fire? Is it not simply permissible to kind of blend in with the others that distinguish themselves as Christians and just be a good person, saved from my sin?

It seems God has indeed called us to be set on fire. I don’t totally know what that means or entails. But, I know that I have witnessed it, I have seen glimpses in others. It is indeed the life that I desire, though I don’t know how to get there. I hear the call and acknowledge the goal, but I’m not always sure of the path.

# Kids' Zone

If you remember, last month, we introduced you to the purpose statement for the children’s department:

To make Christ real to every child, and to see every child live fully for Christ:

Reaching the next generation one at a time

Helping them experience the love of Christ

Growing kids in knowledge, character, and conduct

During the past year, we have had the daunting task of choosing new curriculum for all of our children’s ministries. It was important to us during this process to make sure that our children are not simply repeating the same information and structure during each of their times together, but that our children are truly being challenged and educated in each of the three growth areas listed above.

So, the first material that we had to evaluate and choose was the Wednesday evening curriculum. Since Sunday mornings usually focus more on Bible knowledge, we felt that there was a need for the children to apply Scriptural truths to their everyday lives in the areas of character and conduct. That is why we have chosen to use 252Basics (based on Luke 2:52) with our children Wednesday nights.

Many of you have experienced first-hand this fast-paced, fun, and engaging approach to teaching children (and families) a monthly virtue like cooperation, compassion, or wisdom. Each is based on a monthly verse which even our preschoolers can quote by the end of the month! Then, the virtue is described to children through modern-day skits and Biblical examples. Finally, it’s always connected to the choices we make every day: how we treat our friends and family, making wise and godly decisions, how we do our work, and more! I have been amazed at how my children remember for months afterward their lessons on virtue and the Scripture that corresponds.

There are fifteen to twenty adults who are part of making this experience possible for our children. They commit to a year-long walk with our kids in order to bring them consistency and a relationship in which they establish a trusting influence on their young lives! These individuals invest so much time and energy into seeing young lives transformed. Please pray for these leaders as they interact with many of our church kids and many who do not have a local church, focusing on training them up to know Jesus and be more like Him!

-Heather Beaty

# Get to know the Minter Family

**Mark grew up in a family of two sisters and one brother. He went to Zion as a newborn. Glenna grew up in a family of one brother and two sisters and went to church at Bethel, upon its closing attended Zion.**

**We both graduated from Chapman High School. Married in 1962 at Zion.**



**We lived 2 years in Denver, CO, where our first daughter, Charlotte was born. Moved to Grantham, PA for the next four years while Mark went to College. During that time Sherry and Seth were born. Mark got his teaching degree from Messiah College.**

**We returned to KS in 1968. Our fourth child Silynda was born at Abilene, KS in 1970, completing our family.**

**Mark taught math in the Chapman School District for 22 years along with farming. After teaching he went to work at Land Pride in Abilene where he is still employed.**

**I just retired from being a Cosmetologist. Owning my shop for 25 years, which was beside our home. An adventure I really enjoyed and met so many nice patrons. I am enjoying my time at home and am not bored.**

**Our daughter Charlotte (and Terry) live N.W. rural Abilene and she has two sons, Dallas and Dylon.**

**Sherry (and Gary) live in Abilene and have two children, Samantha and Slade.**

**Seth (and Debra) live in Pilot Point, TX and have two children Zoe and Ethan.**

**Silynda (and Shane) live in Abilene and have two children Jaron and Reonna.**

**We like to travel, help out where we can with the grandchildren and enjoy our family.**

**~Mark and Glenna Minter**

Lord, as we travel the path toward you. As we meet you in the quiet of our prayer time. As we call out to you, please meet us. And when you meet us, change us and set us on fire. For this world needs those who have been set ablaze by the fire that is God. Purify us by the holiness of yourself. That we would end this life, not as those who just knew about you or had been identified by your name but lacked familial authority, but as those who were consumed by the fire of God. Amen.

\* From Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home by Richard Foster

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## Membership Class

Are you interested in becoming a member of Zion BIC Church? If you are not ready to become a member, but would like to know more about what we believe and the mission the mission of our church we encourage you to come!

Class will be held on March 13 from 9 am -12 pm

The focus of the class will deal with what we believe and what makes us unique as a church as well as what is expected from all of us who put our faith in Christ.



Because we're doing  
life together

## Building Committee Report

Have you ever wondered about where Zion will be in 20 years; in 5 years, or even next year?

A committee has been appointed to study these very questions as well as many other issues related to the growth and the future of the Zion congregation. Members of that committee are Bob Beaty, Brian Lady, Matt Engle, Jen Christner, However & Melissa Engle, Bonnie Frey, Tom Warta, Glen Shank, and Ron Frey as chairman.

The committee has already met two times and we will continue to meet on a monthly basis and will be looking at many issues and ideas such as: How does the community see us? How do visitors to our church see us and what is their experience when they attend? Do we need to reorganize our existing spaces? Do we need to expand our building? Should we go to two services? Do we need to plant churches? How can we be fiscally responsible and be good stewards of our resources?

The easy path to take would be to do nothing and remain just as we are, but as Christians and members of this church, we are commanded to grow the Kingdom. If we are obedient to that command, we need to be prepared to accommodate more people and expand our programs.

So then the goal of this committee will be to explore all of these and many other issues; to enhance and expand our worship experience; to be more inviting and appealing to visitors and new members, and to be able to administer to all attendees of the Zion Church.

~Ron Frey, Chairman

The building committee is open to any of your ideas as they process all of these dynamics.

# BIC World Missionaries

## Ben and Eunice Stoner, New Mexico



Ben and Eunice have been in New Mexico, working with the Navajo since August 17, 1970. When they answered the call to work among the Navajo, they promised to stay two years. Now coming up on 40 years later, they now think the two years they promised are the last two years of their lives!

The Stoners keep a very busy schedule and have church many times a week as their ministry is church planting. The Navajos have church in their homes and Ben and Eunice travel to each home. They meet weekly with 4 families and bi-weekly with 2 or 3 other families.

They start with unbelievers in each of these home churches and in every case they have used the chronological Bible study approach. God is truly at work because in every case, someone in every home becomes believers before they finish the 50 lessons! The most recent family became believers in August and declared their faith when the story of Zachariah and Elizabeth and the birth of John the Baptist was taught. The father and son-in-law had watched THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST that week and understood enough to want to declare their faith. The mother was already a believer and daughter Miranda declared her faith with her husband and in December they finished the last of the 50 lessons!

Periodically, the Stoners have a large group meeting of Freedom of Nations, their incorporated name in the state of New Mexico. The families they connect with live as far as 75 miles from each other, so they have never had everyone able to come to the large group meetings.

Unemployment is high in New Mexico and transportation is very costly making it difficult for people to attend. The Stoner's drive 1,300 miles a month just for ministry!

It does not take long to be around Ben and Eunice to see and experience the love and passion they have for the Lord and for the Navajo people. Their lives are great testimony for the Lord!