

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ZION!

Each Sunday	9:45—10:15 am 10:40 am	Informal Worship Service Worship Service
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July 5		Office closed for 4th of July Holiday
July 6	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Deacons meeting Leadership Team meeting
July 7-25		Bob and Heather are away for General Conference and vacation
July 9-12		General Conference
July 12		Office Closed
July 17	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast
July 18-23		Youth Camp (Rocky is out of the office)
July 28	6:00 pm	Park Night

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
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July 2010 Newsletter

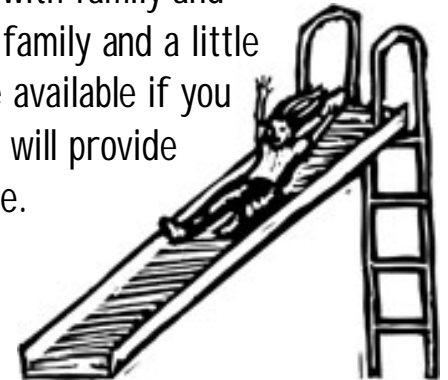
Park Night!



Wednesday, July 28
6:00 pm
Eisenhower Park

Come for a fun night at the park with family and friends. Please bring food for your family and a little extra to share. Charcoal grills are available if you would like to grill. The church will provide drinks and tableware.

Looking forward to a great night together!



From Pastor Bob:

What was the last challenge that you chose to take on? When was the last time that you made a conscious effort to test yourself to learn something new, to try something that you had never tried before, or stepped out of a comfort zone in order to grow? My guess is that as you ask those questions you have responded with one of two different emotions. For some the idea of risk and challenge is what gets your heart pumping. You feel alive when attempting something that stretches you and will cause you to learn, train and try with no assurance of success. And for some of you the thought of great challenge and risk is to be avoided at all costs. You want status quo and safety.

It's interesting because for all of us we have a natural inclination to one of the two responses over and above the other. We're all different and look at challenge differently, that's not a good or bad, it just is. But, if you don't like challenge it can be difficult to understand those that do, and vice versa.

Whatever your natural inclination, challenge is an important part of life if we are to grow. I've been reminded of this as I've read through the Old Testament and I've taken note of the different personalities and their response to challenge and risk. What we find in scripture is there are many on both sides of challenge enjoyment scale. I can think of people like Gideon who didn't naturally embrace the challenge God called him to meet, but through his faith in God's provision a small army was able to defeat the much larger army of the Midianites. Or think about Moses who gave God 500 excuses of why he wasn't the man to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. While it took some time for him to embrace the challenge he did, and a nation of people were freed because of it.

And then there are people like David who saw the challenge facing Israel in the form of a giant and he responded to the challenge immediately and freed Israel to become greater than they thought they could be. Another risk taker was Nehemiah, who asked the king for time off, money and men in order to rebuild a wall. Even when others wanted to distract him from the job he held firm and met the challenge.

General Conference 2010

July 9-12

Can't make it in person? Check out the GC 2010 website, www.bic-church.org/gc2010 where we will be blogging, posting photos, and even streaming the following portions of GC 2010 live!

Evening services

July 9-12, 7:30-9:30 p.m. (EST)

Join with the BIC family from across North America during these nightly worship services, featuring music and messages from distinguished speakers on the 2010 theme "Called to Transformation."

Bible Quizzing Finals

July 11, 6:30-7:15 p.m. (EST)

Cheer on the two quiz teams that made it to the 2010 Bible Quizzing Finals!

Business sessions

July 10, 9 a.m.-noon & 1:30-3:30 p.m. (EST)

July 12, 9 a.m.-noon & 3:15-5:00 p.m. (EST)

Watch as church leaders interact with the "Transformation 2010" vision plan and vital issues facing the BIC Church today.

Please visit www.bic-church.org/gc2010 for more information.

The Edge

Wow! I just want to begin by saying thank you! This past month has been awesome. I can honestly say that no other church family has ever given me such a warm welcome. Val and I are both super excited to see what God is going to do through Zion's youth program. I think that it goes without saying that there is a lot of potential for growth and excitement here. The more that I get to know the students, the more fascinated I am with their talents and personalities.

I was recently reading an article on teen activity which said that "teenagers up to age 18 are exposed to 11 hours of media in a typical day." On top of that, "teenagers often use more than one form of media at a time." I've seen it. I'm sure you've seen it. Walk through the mall on any given Saturday and you're bound to find more students texting and listening to MP3 Players than you can shake a Sansa at. If you want a good view of where video game technology is going, YouTube "E3 2009: Project Natal" (it will blow your mind!) Anyone who has ever come within 50 yards of a teenager can tell you that the youth of today are more tech-savvy than previous generations.

It is almost painfully obvious that the youth of today are on the cutting edge of technology. This was what was going through my mind when I came up with the idea of calling the youth program The Edge. But it doesn't end with technology. Here is a list of things that youth are on the edge with – maturity, growth, education, peer pressure, life decisions, music, movies, and emotions.

And that doesn't even begin to scrape the tip of the iceberg that is youth culture. Sometimes, teens are just "on edge" from all of life's pressures and expectations. That's where the church comes in! Our job is to pull those students away from the edge of destructive things, and to give them a little (and sometimes not so little) nudge toward the edge of good things. And the best way to do this is to partner with families. Sure, I'm the youth minister. But, I am not these teens' parents (as awesome as that must be). I don't have the same kind of influence that parents do. That's why I want to come along side parents in an attempt to grow and disciple youth who will be on the cutting edge of the Christian movement. I am an advocate, not a surrogate. I believe that together we can help the youth push the boundaries of what they are capable of, and what God has called them to.

~Rocky Muñoz

So, here's my summer challenge to you...pick a challenge and meet it head on! Make the decision that you will push yourself to go beyond your status quo: learn to do something new, begin a new hobby, read something that will stretch your mind, engage in a new relationship, write a book, invent something, volunteer your time at a worthy place, start an exercise program, learn to ski, read the Bible through, take an online class or learn to juggle.

If we are unwilling to take risks, if we are unwilling to challenge ourselves, our future will look just like our present. I don't know about you, but I don't want to be just like I am today, 5 years, 1 year or one week from now. My desire is to grow, expand, learn and morph into all that God has created me to be. Every challenge brings with it an opportunity to grow, mature, learn and become more than what we are right now. And growth is what life is about!

So, what will it be? What challenge are you calling out and meeting head on? You will be better because of it and so will those around you!

Church Directory!

The church directories are completed and a copy is in your mailbox. If you don't have a mailbox, there are extras in the foyer.

Financial Report

May 2010

May Income	May Expenses	YTD Income	YTD Expenses
\$25,190.02	\$19,897.69	\$91,444.26	\$92,646.25

Kids Zone

Partnering with families
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 & conduct

GROWING kids in knowledge, character & conduct... Traditionally, we have called this "discipleship," a transformation from who we are without Christ to becoming more and more like Jesus as we walk with him and know him more. As we consider the discipleship of our children, the task often seems overwhelming - especially when we're living in a culture that pushes against Biblical values in many forums. So, how do we maximize our influence and leverage the tools available to us in this culture?

First of all, we must remember that we are influencing our children, and the children around us, constantly. The challenge is to influence them consistently. My question is always, "Did my kids learn to be more like Jesus, to think more like Jesus, to respond more like Jesus, to love Jesus more, because of what they saw in me today?" Am I learning to love Jesus more and learning what it means to act more like Him myself, so that I can show them what that looks like? Are we making use of those daily times that we have together to grow our relationships with each other and to "spur each other on in love and good deeds?"

When do I have the maximum influence? No matter what age my child is, it happens in the daily "rhythms of life." The morning when I greet them, dinnertime when we sit down together, car rides when we're going from activity to activity, bedtime when we pray and read God's Word together. Over the next few months, we will be looking at how to use each of those times in order to *GROW our kids (and ourselves) in knowledge and character and conduct.*

~Heather Beaty

Church Office

Summer has begun and during the summer, the staff will be out at different times. Below is information on when the office will be closed and when different staff will be out of the office and who will be covering the phone, etc.

Monday, July 5th—Office closed for 4th of July holiday

July 7 through 13—General Conference
Bob, Heather and Karen will be out for General Conference
Rocky will be in the office

Monday, July 12th—Office closed
Rocky's day off
Bob, Heather and Karen are at General Conference

July 14—25—Bob & Heather's Vacation
Karen will be back in the office

July 18—23—Youth Camp
Rocky will be out of the office

If there is an emergency and you can't get a hold of anyone in the office, please call one of the deacons below.

Bill Christner: 263-2179
Twila Engle: 598-2455
Brian Lady: 598-2375
Shelly Sexton: 598-2365

