

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ZION!

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

March 3	6:15 pm	Family Jam
March 8	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Deacons Meeting Leadership Team Meeting
March 14		Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 17		No Family Ministries—Spring Break
March 20		Midwest Conference
March 20	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast
March 21	12:00 pm	Lenten Lunch
March 21—24		Bob & Heather at Pastor & Spouse Retreat
March 24	9:00 am	Sewing Circle
March 28	12:00 pm	Lenten Lunch
March 31		No Family Ministries—Easter week

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 ~ www.zionbic.org

March 2010 Newsletter



Have you been looking for a way to bless others?

OR

Would you like to go on romantic dates like you did before you had children, and not have to worry about finding a babysitter?

We want to support strong, healthy marriages. One way we can do that is to provide free childcare so couples can have a night out.

Once a month, we will have an evening where volunteers will come to the church to provide childcare for several hours while parents have a night out.

The number of childcare providers we need on the date nights depends on how many children will be there, and their ages. We may need 4, or we may need 8.

So, if you are interested in helping to provide childcare, or would like to have a night out, please let Karen know in the church office.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Carol Landis at 598-2247, or clandis@tctelco.net.

From Pastor Bob:

Just a Thought

Conservative or liberal? Republican or Democrat? Calvinist or Wesleyan? Just war or pacifist? Presbyterian, Methodist or Brethren in Christ? Traditional or Emergent?

Just like the game you would play as a kid where there would be a drawing of 6 or 8 of almost identical objects, and you had to pick out which one was different, it seems that everywhere I turn the growing sentiment is to determine who doesn't fit. And once we find who doesn't fit, that person or group then becomes the enemy. Because they don't believe as I believe they're wrong and should be shunned. It seems we live in a caustic culture; it's easy to see this in the political realm and unfortunately within the church as well.

Now I understand that when it comes to the church there are certain truths of orthodoxy which we believe and hold to that give our faith the feet and substance it needs to be faithful to God and his revelation to us. Truths like the Trinity, God in three persons of one substance, the virgin birth, the atonement and Christ's death and resurrection, these are all examples of orthodoxy which have been worked out over the centuries and protected as foundational truths we believe if we are to be honest before God.

And in this article my purpose is not to set forth all the absolutes which we must believe; my focus is on the animosity, frustration and disunity in which we live. It seems that most of us have so entrenched our feet in the concrete of what we believe about politics or of secondary theological concerns that we have lost the ability to love and respect and seek unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ. As I read articles or blogs in the larger church circles I am so often frustrated and confused by the name-calling and accusations against one another. And I ask myself, I wonder if they would speak of each other like that if they really knew the one about whom they speak. I wonder if they would sit down and have dinner together and really listen to what the other believed if they would continue to trash the other.

There is no problem in disagreeing about the non-fundamentals of the faith. For hundreds of years there have been different theological views on specific realms of Christianity (i.e. Calvinism and Wesleyanism). Many devoted, passionate and intelligent believers have hashed over these aspects of the faith and there will always be disagreements on what is "right." So, each of us probably resonate with one understanding or another but recognize that there are many who

Kids Zone

**Striving 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

What are our children experiencing in Sunday School that will lead them into growth and transformation? Presently, all of our elementary-age children participate in DiscipleLand classes. We understand that God calls all of us to be disciples and to make disciples, no matter if we are eighty years old or forty years old or six years old.

So, in Sunday School, our children are learning how God works in people's lives through the Bible, through the example and witness of other believers, and through them. There is a strong emphasis on learning Scripture and on integrating discipleship ideas throughout the week. They have even provided many online activities for our kids and families to explore and interact with during the week!

At the end of each school year, we will be asking our children and parents to evaluate their child's life in respect to those three attributes in the mission statement: knowledge, character and conduct. If we are doing what we should be to disciple, then our children should be growing in the knowledge and grace of Jesus Christ!

Please continue to pray with us for the teachers and students in these classes. Pray that hearts would be open and receptive, and that our teachers would be encouraged and strengthened as they share Christ with our kids.

-Heather Beaty

Get to know the Bilyeu Family

Mark grew up in Missouri and his family currently resides on the family land outside of Branson. Mark's family is made up of his parents (Ron and Debbie), sister and her husband (Julie and Jesper in Chicago), and brother and his wife (Brian and Kennette in Kansas City), not to mention the numerous grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Mark graduated from K-State with a major in History. He is currently working on a Master's in International Relations. Mark is employed by the US Army. He is counting down the days to retirement in about 6 years.

I grew up in Arkansas and my family is scattered to the winds. My parents recently moved from the family farm in Arkansas to the tribal nation in Wyandotte, OK. My mother, sister and I and my nieces and nephews are all Wyandotte Indians. I have two siblings. Cindy (deceased) and Morgan who live in Virden, Illinois with their 5 children and future son-in-law. Their oldest Kaylee plans to wed in July this year. Which is mind boggling that my flower girl is old enough to get married! Amy and Brad live in Arkansas still with their two children. I currently stay home as a mom with our miracle, Ethan. Before Ethan, I finished school at K-State the same time as Mark with a major also in History. I also went on to receive certified training of Ministry Assistant. I have enjoyed a very fulfilling career working in ministry since I was 18. It has definitely been different being a stay at home mom but it has opened a lot of new possibilities for ministry outside of an organized job.

Ethan, our miracle, was brought into our lives in January 2008. Mark and I had been trying for a child since we were married in 1993 and after multiple fertility treatments and 5 failed adoption attempts God opened the door for Ethan to be a part of our family. Ethan was born on January 11, 2008 at 24 weeks gestation, 1 lbs 9 ounces, and 12 inches long. He has struggled since the beginning but without a doubt God has purpose for Ethan to serve for Him. There are so many reasons Ethan should not have made it but he did and we give God the glory for that. Ethan still has struggles that God is taking us all through. Ethan was diagnosed as legally blind in March of 2009 and legally deaf in June 2009. We are currently waiting on a surgery which will allow Ethan to have near perfect hearing in his left ear (his worst ear). We are excited and nervous as we prepare for the surgery-date yet to be set. Ethan continues to play the "catch-up" game as all preemies go through. His specialists and workers are very excited at where he is on this process and aside from the sight and hearing will be the same as any other child in the next couple of years. Until then we are just enjoying the extended time he gets to be "younger" since we waited so long to experience it. Ethan is a VERY happy little guy who loves playing. He is one of the best babies ever to take care of which I say is the cherry on top of the sundae of getting him! We have been so blessed!

Mark, Kim and Ethan Bilyeu

believe differently and they still pursue relationship with Christ. So we seek to know and understand the best we can while recognizing we must live in grace toward those who believe differently than we do. We desire unity in the fundamentals and grace in the non-essentials. Yet it does not seem that most believers' greatest hope is the unity of the body.

We are much better at finding that which we oppose, that which doesn't fit with our experience or upbringing and cry heresy. I wonder what it would look like if we were truly able to listen and converse with those whom we disagree because we care about them as people. That if we would really work as hard at unity as we believe Jesus did and pursue that which he prayed at the end of his earthly life:

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me." John 17:20, 21

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 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.



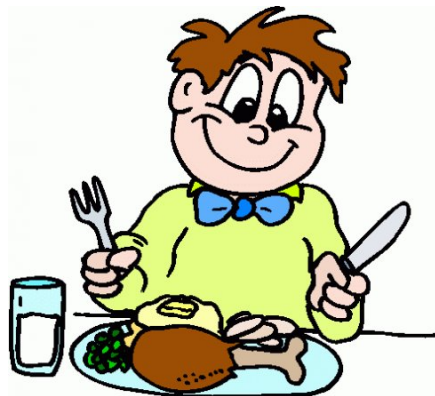
Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

Are you ready for a fun way to get to know others within our church family who you may not know very well?

This month, you will have an opportunity to sign up to either host a meal for a group of people or to have dinner in someone's home. Or, if you want, sign up for the "either" option and depending on the numbers signed up we'll either ask you to provide a meal or you'll go to someone's house, that will give some flexibility as we put this event together.

Here is how it will work. In March, there will be a sign up sheet for you to participate in either of these ways. On April 11, following the service, we will have everyone who is participating with the event gather in the fellowship hall after the service to draw names out of the hat to see where you're going for dinner or who you will be hosting. So when you sign up, it is a mystery and you will find out on the 11th who's coming to dinner!

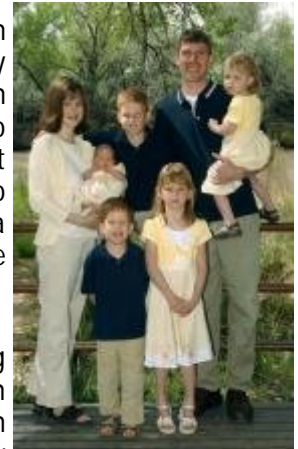
After the 11th, the host will be in contact with everyone who will be eating in her home and set a date. These meals will take place by the end of May.



BIC World Missionaries

Brian and Rochelle Myers, New Mexico

Brian and Rochelle both grew up in Pennsylvania. Brian grew up on the family farm and Rochelle's parents served in pastoral ministry. They both were raised to follow Christ and made decisions for Him at early ages. Brian made a recommitment to Christ his senior year and Rochelle had a similar experience at Roxbury Camp the summer of her 8th grade year.



Brian and Rochelle met at bible quizzing which was offered at Brian's home church but not Rochelle's. They were married on December 17, 1994 and served in a variety of capacities at their local church (Antrim BIC) including areas such as youth group, drama, worship team, choir, SS teachers, nursery, and small group leaders.

Brian and Rochelle both sensed a possible call early on in their marriage to full-time ministry but did not actively pursue it right away. The Lord seemed to be speaking to them consistently about orphans. While on a short-term trip to New Mexico both sensed the Lord affirming a call in some unexpected ways to serve in New Mexico.

Brian and Rochelle are currently serving in full time ministry with the Navajos. They both feel called to live in and among the Navajo to demonstrate the power of Christ through an intact family. Church planting is the focus with a desire to make disciples among the Navajos.

Brian and Rochelle have five children and Rochelle is home schooling the older ones. Their children are Noah, 10; Lydia, 8; Elijah, 6; Mercy, 4; and Sara is almost 2. Individually, Brian enjoys volleyball, Rochelle enjoys vocal music and time with family, Noah enjoys playing sports with Dad, Lydia likes to dress up and spend time with the family, Elijah loves to entertain the rest of the family and enjoys doing boy stuff, and Mercy likes to eat, play with her siblings and loves to see her Daddy come home. Together they all enjoy being together.