

# MARCH 2012 NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE PASTOR

*When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.*

Luke 9:51

This last week the two of us in the office have gotten a little head start on spring cleaning. It feels like that time of year again, even if it is the end of February. As the weather becomes more pleasant (as if we had a period of time this winter when it wasn't) we begin to itch to get all of our springtime activities started. I've even heard a few farmers mention being ready to get back in the fields.

But maybe it's not all that awkward to be thinking about spring so early. We have just entered the season of spring in our church year. That is what Lent means after all...spring. And while our services reflect a time of penitence we are very much in the springtime of the church year.

We spend the season of Lent preparing ourselves for the cross. We put away the typical celebrations that remind us of Easter and enter into a time of reflection and confession. A sort-of spring cleaning of our souls. We focus on our sinfulness and human nature and ask God specifically for the cross – the only way of souls become truly clean.

We put away the "Alleluias." We hold off on singing the "Hymn of Praise." We replace the cross on the altar with a crucifix. The Gospel readings focus on the death of Christ. It seems like a time of sorrow, but really it's a time for spring cleaning. We temper our celebrations so that we might look deep into our souls and beg for God's forgiveness and yearn for the empty cross of Easter.

I encourage you to take some time this Lenten season and do some spring cleaning. Empty out the storage units, go through the closets, throw away broken and unused items, do some deep cleaning. But also take time this Lenten season to reflect upon yourself. Clean out your soul. Repent and ask for forgiveness. And be prepared to change. The point of confession is so that we might turn and be different. So that we might show sorrow for our ways and try to do better. So that when Easter comes we might celebrate with a clean heart.

Happy Cleaning,

Pr. Andrew

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**LENTEN SERVICES  
PLANNED**

Wednesday night Services during Lent will be held at 7:00p.m.

Easter Sunday is April 08. Worship at 7:00am and 10:00am with breakfast served from 8:00am—9:45am.

Please email the office if you would be able to help with worship any time during Holy Week.

Thanks.

**From the Office:**

**DEADLINE FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER:** Friday, March 16th.

We welcome two new families this month: Chance and Hannah Smith from Denton.

Jonathon and Megan Lenner and their children, Wyatt and Audrey.

Welcome to Zion!!!



Remember to keep checking out the church website. Great information on there!

**2012 Council**

**Pres: Scott Stratton**

**VP: Tom Schwarten**

**Secy: Karen Brhel**

**Treas: Diane Andelt**

**Co-Fin: Ann Lawton & Mel Deinert**

**Deacon: Randy Strauss**

**Confirmation**



No class during Lent but attendance at Wednesday night services is required.

During Lent a total of 8 sermon notes is required.

Must be turned in by Easter Sunday.

**DONATIONS FOR THE LINCOLN METRO PARISH FOOD PANTRY**

Needs for the Lincoln Metro Parish Food Pantry are :

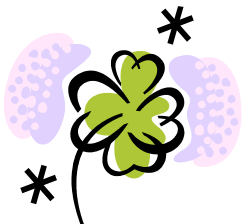
- Jelly,
- Mac N Cheese,
- Juice,
- Canned Beans
- and Pasta.



During Lent we are going to reach out to others who might not be as fortunate. Others who really truly know what hunger means.

Please bring your items for the food pantry to worship and place them in the boxes marked as such.

Thanks ahead of time for sharing and caring.



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# One time And one time only!

UNL's Lutheran Student Center

Will be here on Sunday, March 4th

To lead worship!

*Worship begins at 9:00a.m.*

*Communion will be served.*



*This is the one time they will be with us this  
year, so please be sure to tell your friends  
and join us!*

Special offering will be taken for LSC.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Some of you have already received the forms and signed up for electronic giving. It's very easy to do.

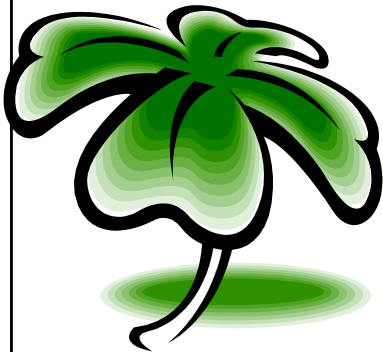
If you are interested in doing this, please contact Pastor or Jeanne for a form.



Consider automating your regular donations. By using an electronic giving program Zion can do this for you.

Zion relies on the financial support of the congregation (whether you are here or on vacation) and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis.

It would be very similar to the method you may already use for monthly bill paying services.



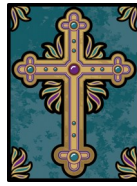
**LOYAL in March**

Please join LOYAL on March 4 at 7:00p.m. to hear Dwaine Fosler presenting a program on the Industrial Home of Milford, one of the most well kept secrets of the community. This was a home for unwed mothers. It opened on May 1, 1889 and closed May 1, 1953 and was the birthplace of over 4,000 babies during that time. Mr. Fosler was one of those babies. Contact Burdette Piening with ?s.

**MEETINGS**

CHOIR	Wednesdays 6:15pm—6:45pm	Julia Johanson
CHURCH COUNCIL	Tuesday, March 13th @ 7:00p.m.	Scott Stratton
EDUCATION	TBA	Deb Lewis
EVANGELISM	March 4th following worship	Brian Brhel
HEALTH CABINET	TBA	Dorothy Rippe
L. O. Y. A. L.	March 4th, 7:00p.m.	Burdette Piening
PROPERTY	TBA	Dave Wacker
STEWARDSHIP	TBA	Mark Porath
THRIVENT COORD.	TBA	Burdette Piening
WORSHIP COMM	Monday, April 9th, 7:00p.m.	Pete Petersen
YOUNG ADULT	TBA	Karen Brhel

# Ardith Decker



Ardith Floyd (Martin) Decker, 87, of Lincoln passed away Feb. 21, 2012. He was born Feb. 6, 1925 in Kellerton, Iowa to Floyd E. Martin & Opal I. McGauhey. U.S. Marine and WWII Veteran. Retired from Georgia Pacific. Ardith was a great man who will be missed dearly.

Membership – Zion Lutheran Church of Lincoln

Survivors include his loving wife of 65 yrs Vera (Wacker) Decker; daughters and son-in-law, SueAnn E. Boyce, Cathleen M. Bullock, Ardith Ellen & Mark Sheldon; son, Nolan E. Decker; grandchildren, Lori Boyce, Micheal Boyce, Lisa Kapke, Shari Andrews, Joseph Pitches, Nicole Pitches, Daniel Decker, Jedidiah Sheldon, Krista Decker; 21 great grandchildren, 1 great great grandchild; sisters, Betty Anderson, Sharon Hosaw; sister-in-law, Sandra Martin; brothers and spouses, Gerald & Dee Decker, Eldon & Janice Decker; sister, Hazel Henry; sister-in-law, Ruth Decker; Aunts, Mary McGauhey & Lola McGauhey; numerous other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by parents; stepfather, Walter B. Decker; brothers, Cecil Martin & John Decker; sisters, Evelyn Decker & Carla Decker; Aunt Pearl Mills.

Celebration of Life ~ 11:30 AM on Saturday (2/25/12) at Lincoln Memorial Funeral Home, 6800 S. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Visitation 1 hr. prior to the service. Pastor Andrew Kitzing will officiate the service. Interment at Lincoln Memorial Park. Memorials care of the family for future designation. Condolences may be left online at [lincolnfh.com](http://lincolnfh.com).



*Our condolences to Vera Decker and the Decker family. May God bless and keep you in his care.*

## A Prayer for Leaving a Godly Legacy

Father, may the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart overflow through the works of my hands, the causes that I support, and the spiritual encouragement that I give to others. As I meditate upon Scripture and apply it to my life, it gives me a firm foundation upon which I remain steady when the surges of doubt and fear soar upon me and it is from this firm foundation that I draw wisdom and biblical experience to share with others and challenge them in their faith walk to follow you wholeheartedly. I have been given so much because of Your benevolent kindness, therefore I have much to give in turn to those who observe my life. I want to leave plenty of evidence that You have done a great work in me. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.