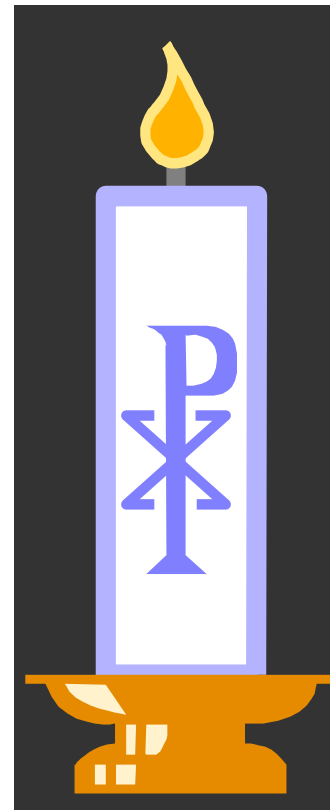


"THE CANDLE"

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
360 Chestnut St. E. Annandale, MN 55302


JANUARY 2012



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January 2012 Candle

~ Pastor's Letter ~

"But they urged Him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.'" Luke 24:29

It was September 4, 1847. Henry Francis Lyte, whose health had been undermined, preached a farewell sermon to his congregation at Brixham, South Devonshire, England. After holding other pastorates, this man had devoted himself for a quarter of a century to the pastoral care of uncultured but warmhearted seamen and had gained their love and confidence in a high degree. He visited the fishermen and sailors, both on their ships and in their huts. He provided every outgoing ship with a Bible. In one of his Sunday schools on shore, sailors of every age were welcome, and, we are told, "it was a sight to see the old weather-tanned seamen in company with a young sailor and frolicsome cabin boy curbing their wild nature while they listened to the impressive admonition of their pastor or learned themselves to read the Holy Scriptures."

Toward evening on the day when he preached his farewell sermon, he went down the garden path to view the setting of the sun over Brixham harbor. While this lovely scene of nature was before his eyes, the pastor in a long, fervent prayer, as he later himself told his family, asked his God for ability to write a hymn that might comfort his survivors. No sooner had the sun gone down than he returned to his study, as his children thought, to rest. But an hour later the door was opened, and the pastor came forth with the manuscript of a hymn. It is a hymn that is most loved in the Church which begins:

(2)

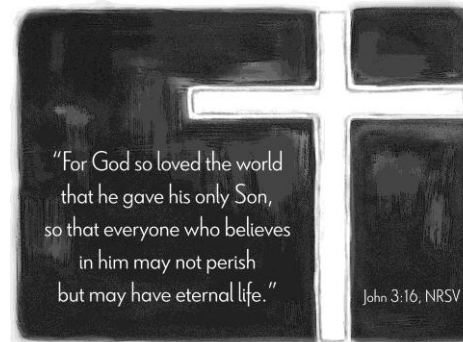
Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

The final stanza is the prayer which I love so much.

Hold Thou Thy Cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

As the disciples of Jesus, listening to His words, desired to hear more from the Savior's lips, their prayer should be our prayer as we enter this new year, Abide with me!. Abide with me, Jesus, as I face all the dynamics of my family. Abide with me as I carry out the vocation you have placed me into. Abide with me as I am confronted with the challenges of day to day living in a sinful world that does not love You. The best part is that I can be comforted with the fact that Jesus is with me every moment of my life. But do I abide in Him? That is the question for us all as we begin this new year, this new month, this new day. You can as you let God abide with you in worship, prayer, the sacraments and His Word daily.

PASTOR ZUECK



(3)

Installation of Officers

Installation of New Officers for 2012 will be on Sunday, January 1st at 9:00 AM Service.



JANUARY QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING **SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, at 10:00 AM**

Don't miss this important meeting! It will be between our worship services with the presentation of the Annual Reports and other important business items!

So mark this important date on your calendar now!



All Boards and Committees are requested to turn in their reports for publication in the Annual Report by Wednesday, January 11. Thanks!



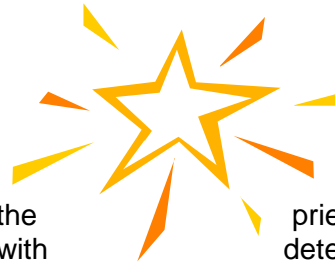
LWML and Annandale Share Your Christmas would like to thank everyone who bought gifts for Annandale Share Your Christmas. This year 128 families were helped through this program with gifts and Food gift cards. Through your generosity

you helped make someone's Christmas a lot brighter!

Thank you to everyone who joined in the Christmas Potluck Dinner on December 18, following the children's Christmas Service. We filled Zion's Fellowship Hall, and enjoyed all that delicious food. Thanks for making it a huge success!

LWML's next meeting is March 21!

Overjoyed by the Star



In Matthew 2, we read about the Visit of the Magi. Following the star, inquiring at the king's palace, informed by the priests where to find the Child, they trudged with determination to Bethlehem, bringing with them the gifts they planned to present as they worshiped Him. *"When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh"* (Matthew 2:10-11).

What did the Wise Men from the East know about this Baby or His family? Not much. Yet they came in faith, bringing gifts with them to honor Him. How far did they travel? How long was their trip? We can surmise, but what's important to know is that, for them, the trip with all its drudgery was worth it. "They were overjoyed."

How long a trip are we prepared to make this Christmas to worship the Christ Child? Are we willing to put up with inconvenience and sacrifice in order that we might come before Him with our gifts, offering them in faith, as the Wise Men did?

What causes our joy this Christmas season? Is it seeing the eyes of little children light up when they open their presents? That's good. Is it finding exactly the right gift for someone special? That's good, too. But are we "overjoyed" when we see the star? Contrary to the messages we hear in the commercials and even the seasonal songs, the only thing Christmas is about is the birth of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

Along with doing all the wonderful things that are good to do at this time of the year, including the visiting of sick and the shut-in, the baking of goodies for food banks, the sharing of financial resources with those in need, and all the shopping and caroling and everything else, let's find our joy in seeing the star. That star points us to Jesus and leads us to the Cross. Let us "open our treasures" and worship Him with our best and most precious gifts as the Wise Men did.



SNOWBIRDS WINTER ADDRESSES

Several of Zion’s members have left or will leave soon for warmer weather till spring. If you would like to keep in touch or just drop them a note below is a list of names and addresses:

Anna Burandt
3501 N. Bentsen Palm Drive
Mission, TX 78574

Cheryl Antl
Fun N Sun RV Resort
San Benito, TX 78586

Carolyn McChesney
PO Box 226
Desert Center, CA 92239

Victor & Darlene Buller
233 Rio Terra
Venus, FL 34285

Joyce Nuernberg
8600 E. Broadway Rd. # 111
Mesa, AZ 85208

Judy & Dub Ferrell
5734 Leonora St. E.
Mesa, AZ 85215

Barb Peterson
General Delivery
Borrego Springs, CA 92004

Ellis & Linda Knute
451 Meridan Rd. # 142
Apache Junction, AZ 85120

Lloyd & Roni Walburn
Citrus Gardens
4065 E. University Dr. #213
Mesa, AZ 85202

Norma Meek
16816 N. 29th St. Apt. 106
Phoenix, AZ 85032



Zion Youth would like to thank everyone for their generous donations of cookies, etc. for the Cookie Fundraiser on December 4. Through your generosity proceeds totaled \$279.00, which will be used for future Youth Group Activities! Thanks so much!



greeters

Greeters are needed for the next few months. If you can help please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. All that is required is for you to come to worship about 20 minutes early and greet everyone as they enter the Sanctuary.



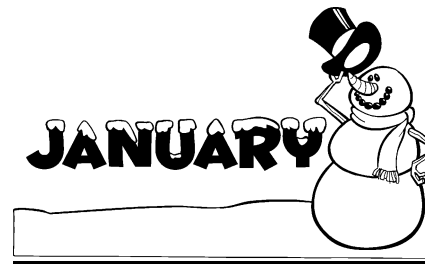
Subject: Ecumenical Christmas
A woman goes to the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards. She says to the clerk, “May I have 50 Christmas stamps?” The Clerk says, “What denomination?” The woman says, “God help us. Has it come to this? Give me 6 Catholic, 12 Presbyterian, 10 Lutheran and 22 Baptists!”

Bible Puzzle

There are thirty books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister of scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right there in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

God Bless you and happy hunting!

[Answer sheet is available on the counter in the church office!]



THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

9:00 AM

ELDERS

- 1 Arden Krinke
- 8 Dale Fieldseth
- 15 Ed Vinkemeier
- 22 Jerry Knop
- 29 Todd Knudsvig

ACOLYTES

- 1 Kyler McCoy
- 8 Owen Grieger
- 15 Elizabeth Knudsvig
- 22 Kaitlyn Truenow
- 29 Brody Gehrke

USHERS

- 1 Ken Truenow
Gene Stueven
Doug Neuenschwander
Clayton Neuenschwander
- 8 Mike Hemminger
John Williams
Steve Weis
Geoffrey Bryant
- 15 Todd Haag
Randy Berndt
Eric Iverson
Tanner Iverson

- 22 John Ironsdie
Adam Berndt
Larry Reitmeier
Chad Reitmeier

- 29 Harold Stelton
Gene Stueven
Jon Ferrell
Dale Fischer

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Mary Hemminger
Myra Steere

GREETERS

- 1 Duane & Annette Bryant
- 8 Lee Frederickson
- 15 Doug & Shirley Triplett
- 23 Donna Fox & Family
- 29 Melanie Klein

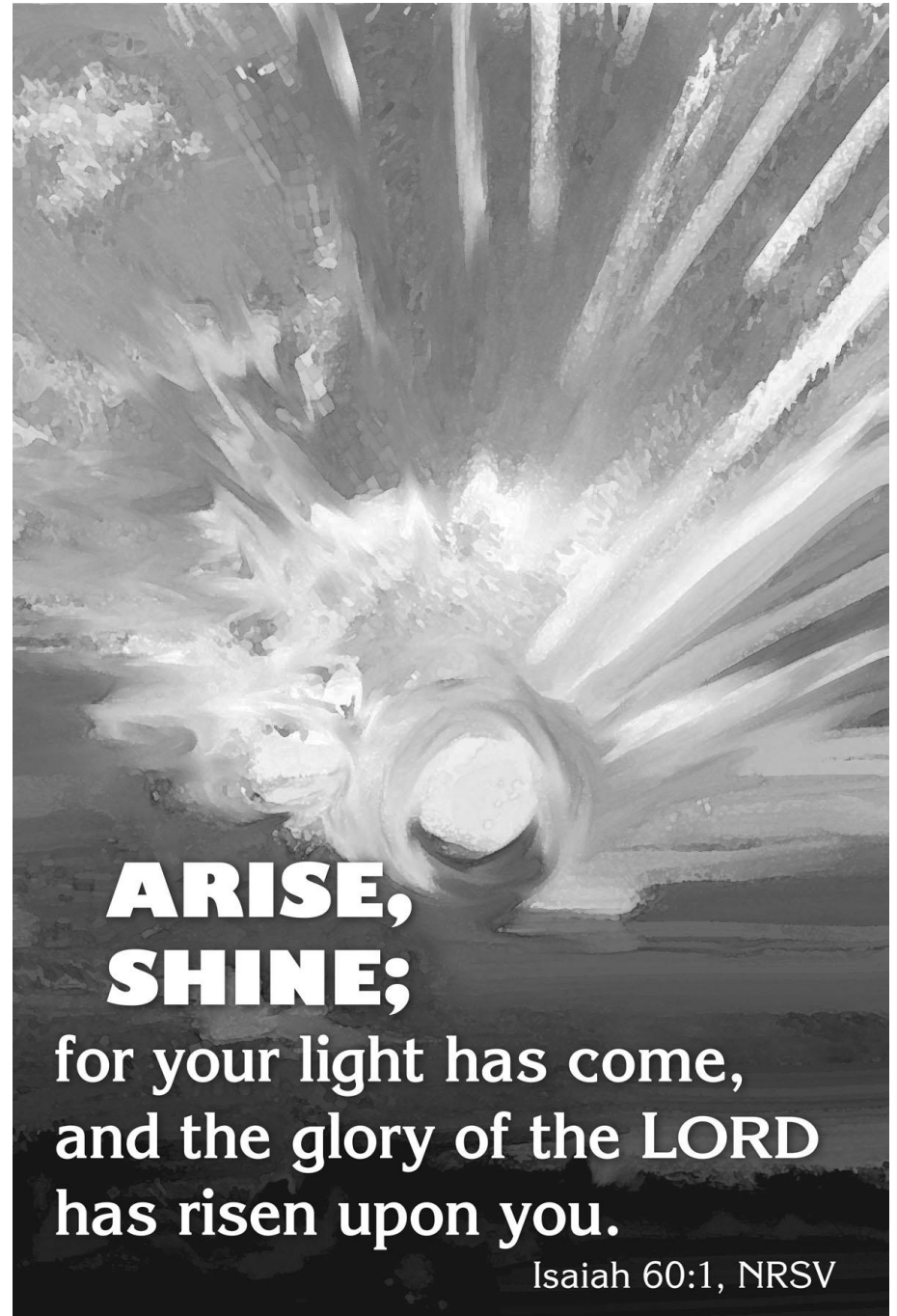
*Birthdays &
Anniversaries*



- 22 Shirley Engelman
- 22 Richard Ransom
- 23 Terri Haag
- 23 Jeffrey Nelson
- 25 Camryn Weis
- 26 Sue Bonnick
- 26 Dale Fieldseth
- 26 Breanna Hanan
- 26 Abigail Truenow
- 27 Joyce & Marc Boon
- 28 Owen Grieger
- 29 Mike Mengelkoch
- 29 Dean & Glenda Thurk
- 30 Donald Kloss
- 31 Mae Schmidt

**JANUARY BIRTHDAY &
ANNIVERSARY LISTING**

- 1 Art & Ruby Geisinger
- 1 Art & Shelley Josephson
- 2 Sandra Miller
- 4 John Ironside
- 5 Henry Neuenfeldt
- 5 Austin Truenow
- 5 Ken & Linda Truenow
- 6 Glenda Thurk
- 8 Kylie Carlson
- 8 Joshua Tester
- 9 Ailie Tersko
- 9 Holly Truenow
- 10 Russell Cantin
- 11 Patty Leinonen
- 12 Harvey & Shirley Engelman
- 12 Peter Minear
- 13 Sharon Holm
- 13 Taber Stueven
- 14 Jon & Misty Ferrell
- 14 Jonah Olson
- 14 Anna Weis
- 15 Stella Cyriacks
- 17 Larry Wadman
- 19 Sandra Couette
- 20 Steve & Jody Brose
- 20 Hayden Bryant
- 20 Deb Reitmeier
- 21 Susie Fieldseth
- 22 Randall Berns



**ARISE,
SHINE;**
for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD
has risen upon you.














Isaiah 60:1, NRSV



A caring disciple

In Acts 9, Peter tells of a woman who lived in Joppa. She performed good works and helped the poor. Solve the puzzle below to reveal this disciple's two names.

Instructions: Cross out the letters that spell each object and write the remaining letter on the blank.

___ adcltne			
___ rohmtae			
___ srgbape			
___ rbieda			
___ pehtshred			
___ rdhaenlca			
___ fadoo			
Her name in Greek			
___ pdeesh			
___ dchilnero			
___ drove			
___ acehtr			
___ sarcos			
___ nusoatim			

Answers: Tabitha, Dorcas

CHECK THESE WEBSIGHTS

Lutheran Hour Ministries—www.lhm.org

Here you will find a wealth of information and many resources for all members of your family. These are daily devotions, Bible Studies, special pages for men, women and children.

Jcplayzone.com is a special website for your younger children. It has games, crafts, music, Bible Stories and devotions aimed at preschool and elementary children.

Higherthings.org is a Lutheran website aimed at college and high school ages. You will find many good articles and daily devotions aimed at questions and situations faced by our young adults. There are also Blogs by which to ask questions and enter discussions.

cph.org is our Synod's publishing house where you may look to order gifts, books, etc. If you look for the CPH podcasts you will find a discussion of this week's Sunday School lesson!

lcms.org is our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod website. Here you find a wealth of information on doctrinal issues. You may also find information regarding any congregation in the LCMS and much more.

(Note: You may also access these websites through Zion's website: www.zionlutheranchurchannandalemn.com under Links!)



How did you do with your resolutions for the year 2011? About the same as for other years? Can you even remember what those resolutions were? Why do we struggle so much with resolutions? Is it because they are not realistic? Is it because we try to do it completely on our own without any outside help (even from God)? Failure is one of the biggest disappointments in life. Is it possible to start over successfully?

As we enter into this New Year we have another opportunity to start over. Having the privilege of starting over is one of the things in life that gives us hope and courage as we look to the future. As we take down our 2011 calendars and replace them with 2012 calendars we really can start over.

In Romans 12:12 (NIV) the Holy Spirit gives us some great ingredients for a really good New Year's resolution. The encouragement is to ***“be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer.”*** Life would be so sweet if everyone could adopt and live out those three pieces as a New Year's resolution.

“Be joyful in hope” should be pretty easy for Christians because our hope is in Christ and ***“that hope will never disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us.”*** (Romans 5::5 NIV)

“Be patient in affliction” can be considerably more difficult because we do not like affliction. Who of us likes to be mistreated by people who are rude, inconsiderate and downright nasty? Where can we get the strength to be patient in affliction? It takes a giant transformation to behave so nicely when afflicted? Our comfort is that the power to do that does not come from within us, but from outside of us. When we were baptized ***“we were buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”*** (Romans 6:4 NIV) No one in the history of mankind had to deal with as much affliction as Jesus, our Savior! And He did it out of love for us so that we do not have to fear eternal affliction!

“Faithful in prayer” keeps us in touch with God--Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus spent entire nights in prayer with His Father in heaven so that He would have the strength to carry out His mission of dying for sinners so that they might have the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Prayer is an excellent way to stay in touch with God and His love and power.

How does this threefold resolution make a difference in our lives and the lives of those around us? It does because the Holy Spirit is at work within us to make us more and more the children of God. As children of God we seek to do the same things that give Him such delight. John 3:16 tells us that God delights in **loving** and **giving**. God has entrusted us with all of life and life's resources and desires that we manage them wisely according to His purposes. **Loving** and **giving** are at the heart of Christian stewardship.

May God bless us all as His stewards in this New Year of 2012!

[From Stewardship Resources—LCMS District & Congregational Services]



+ Christian Symbols +

“Ecce Agnus Dei”

Latin for “Behold, the Lamb of God,” this is the phrase John the Baptist used twice to point out Jesus to others (John 1:29, 36). It marks Jesus' Epiphany (manifestation, revelation) as the Anointed One (Christ, Messiah).



Summary Of The December 12, 2011 Church Council Meeting

with 16 members present. In November we had 9 worship services with an average attendance of 189.75 and at our Thanksgiving Service we had 179 in attendance. There were 3 Care Center services, 0 weddings; 0 funerals, 7 Bible Classes, 4 confirmation classes, 1 baptism [Olivia Lynn Trattles on 11/27]; 272 communions, 19 Care Center Communions, 8 private communions, 8 Zion meetings and 3 Circuit/District meetings. Approved receiving into communicant membership by Adult Instruction: Wayne & Kathy Murphy (from ELCA) and Elizabeth Sorensen (From RC). Children's Christmas service on 12-18 at 10:00 AM with Congregational Potluck to follow, December 24—Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m Beginning December 25 only one service on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. No Sunday School on December 25 & January 1. Garage repairs are complete. Heat tape installed and snowplowing contractor hired. Phase 1 for the new Sound System will be \$14,000. Currently sound System Fund has \$7,000. Remainder of Phase 1 will be decided at next Voters Meeting if \$7,000 should be used from General Fund Savings or wait until the Sound System Fund has enough money to pay for Phase 1. Phase 2 & 3 will be concluded as funds are available. This can be a 2-5 year project. The street Assessment is \$48,697 financed over 20 years at 5% interest. Parsonage renters requested they build a separation divider in basement for rec room. Board agreed as long as they pay for building permits and everything is done to building codes at their expense.

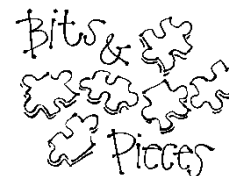
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November 2011 Financial Report



Checkbook balance 10/31/11	\$55.08
Total Income for November.....	\$20,110.61
Total Expenses for November.....	\$20,414.70
Transfers:	
From General Fund Savings.....	\$1,000.00
(shortfall)	
To Keyboard Fund(donations).....	\$160.00
To Social Ministry Fund(Bazaar donation)...	\$300.00
To TV/Sound System(donations).....	\$290.00

Checkbook balance 11/30/11.....\$99



ZION PRAYER PARTNERS

FOR PRAYER REQUESTS CALL:

GLEND—274-8599 OR PAT—963-5389

DIAL-A-DEVOTION—274-3800



Remember to use "Dial-A-Devotion where Pastor Queck records a spiritual message. Take time out of your busy schedule and hear a message from God's Word any time of the day or night.

Call Kathy in the church office if you would like to have flowers placed on the altar in honor of your special birthday or anniversary or in memory or honor of a special loved one, or just because! Cost is \$35.00



Altar Flowers

ASSISTED HEARING devices are available at the back of the Sanctuary by the guest register. For assistance please speak to an usher or Elder.

For Our Parents: Every worship service can be viewed on the TV monitor in the Narthex. If you need to leave the Sanctuary during the service or to quiet your child this allows you to continue to view the service.

Food Shelf



The Annandale Community Food Shelf is located at 99 Cherry Ave. (Midtown 55 Building). Donations are always needed. You can also bring your non-perishable items to the grocery cart in Zion's Narthex and donations are transported to the Food shelf location. Cash donations are also accepted either at the Food shelf or here at Zion.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
360 E. CHESTNUT ST.
ANNANDALE, MN 55302

Rev. Thomas Queck, Pastor
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Dial-A-Devotion: (320)274-3800
E-mail Address: zionandl@lakedalelink.net
Website: www.zionlutheranchurchannandalemn.com
Church office hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 8:30-3:30; Fri.: 8-12
Secretary: Kathy Vinkemeier

