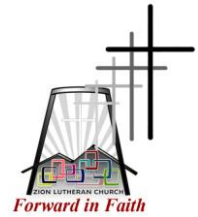


February 13, 2009



Dear Members and Friends of Zion Lutheran Church:

The spring of 2009 will be a time to remember, as together we undertake an intensive spiritual growth journey in our church. Together, through our **Forward in Faith** stewardship campaign, we will study God's Word, pray, visit with one another, and grow in our ability to share our faith with each other. As a church, we want to better know God's plan for our life as a Christian community, and to do His will.

That is why I am asking you to join me in a pledge to increase your time studying God's Word over the months ahead. Whether on an independent basis and/or as part of one of our Bible Studies or ministry groups at church, I ask that you consider a level of Bible Study that represents an increase for you. It's only time, but I believe these will be the most important "appointments" of the week for you—the time you spend with God's Word. Be looking for information about new Bible Study opportunities that will be offered as part of our campaign this spring.

In particular, I invite you to be a part of an All-Church Bible Study on Sunday morning, February 22nd, during the Education Hour between services. On that day, Marc Rieke, will be leading us in a Bible Study entitled *The Joy of Generosity*. Marc and his family were members at Zion from 1986 – 2006. Marc, who currently heads The Enrichment Group, is working with Zion, helping us organize and lead our **Forward In Faith** campaign. I know you'll enjoy hearing Marc's perspectives on Christian stewardship, and engaging in thoughtful consideration of what it means to grow in faith, discipleship and giving.

I also invite you to attend one of several small-group Enrichment Gatherings which will be hosted throughout the month of March. These meetings are a very important part of our **Forward in Faith** campaign. The purpose of these meetings is to communicate to everyone in our church family the ministry plans for Zion Lutheran as expressed in a vision for enhancing and expanding our church facilities. The events are informational with time for your questions. No financial commitments will be asked for or received. You will have a good time meeting with others in our church family, and will learn more about our campaign.

Your attendance at one of these meetings is important. Please see the enclosed list of gathering times and place. Be listening for announcements about the dates and times of these meetings, and look for a sign-up sheet at church. Please plan to attend one of these Enrichment Gatherings meetings as an expression of your support and as an encouragement to others. For more information, or to sign up for a date to attend, please contact Jerry or Ruth Ogburn at 253-630-0413 (jeogburn@msn.com).

Thank you in advance for your commitment to increased Bible Study, and to attending one of the Enrichment Gathering sessions. Thank you also for your faithful dedication to the mission and ministry of Zion Lutheran!

Thanks for your faithfulness!

John Strand
Pastor

Enclosure