

**VICAR NEIL SAYS GOODBYE**

*Farewell Lunch for Vicar Neil  
Sunday, August 8 at noon*

The end of Vicar Neil's internship year is fast approaching; his last Sunday at Zion is August 8. He will preach that day, and begin his move back to Ohio that week.

Help send him back to the seminary with a pot-luck meal in his honor, at noon in the Family Life Center. Bring a dish to share, along with your remembrances of his year with us.

**Fall Craft Show**

**Saturday, November 6**

Register NOW for discount booth rental and choice of space. Contact Travis Baker [tbaker@zionhelotes.org].

**THANK YOU FROM  
THE RWANDA MISSION TEAM**

We are thankful to those of you in and out of the congregation who helped with the silent auction. Proceeds from the auction were \$3,961. The outpouring of love through action has been a sweet vision to the Rwanda team. Individuals/companies who contributed will be displayed on the mission board across from the church office. Thanks to all.

*Jo Ann Meinert*  
Rwanda Team

*More Mission Reports Page 3*

**THE LITURGY AND YOU**

*By Pastor Jennifer Gold*

*Cross My Heart*

Tracing the sign of the cross on oneself and others has been a common Christian custom since at least the second century. This act developed in part from an Old Testament practice of marking a *tau* cross (the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet) on the foreheads of those whom God would save (Ezekiel 9:4-6). The cross is also a tangible and visible reminder that in Baptism one is joined to the cross of Christ (Rom. 6:5), and is traditionally regarded as God's seal of adoption and ownership of the baptized. For the first several centuries the sign of the cross was simply traced upon one's forehead, using the thumb or index finger. In time the practice developed of tracing the cross from forehead to breast, then from shoulder to shoulder.

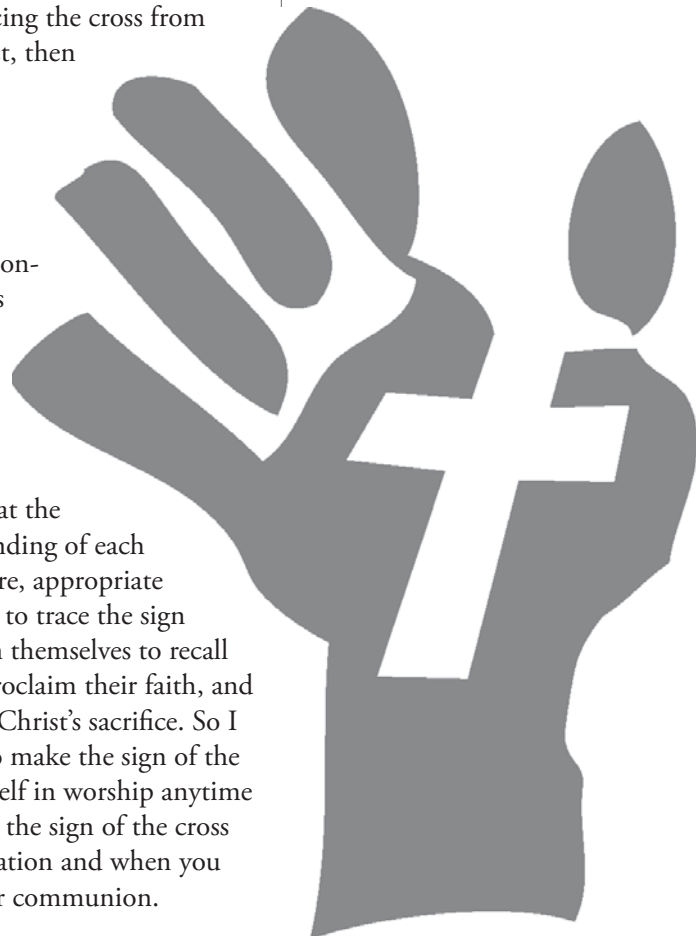
During the Reformation, Luther strongly encouraged the continued use of this ancient gesture and included directions in the Small Catechism for tracing the sign of the cross at the beginning and ending of each day. It is, therefore, appropriate for all Christians to trace the sign of the cross upon themselves to recall their Baptism, proclaim their faith, and make witness to Christ's sacrifice. So I encourage you to make the sign of the cross upon yourself in worship anytime the pastors make the sign of the cross over the congregation and when you come forward for communion.

**ZION BARBEQUE**

*Sunday, October 3*

Zion's annual BBQ event is scheduled for the first Sunday in October. Everyone's participation is needed in many ways: purchase a meal ticket, serve food, work at a booth, join in the games, bake cakes, cookies and pies, set up and take down tables, bid in the silent auction, and especially invite your friends and family to this event.

Sign up on the kiosk in the narthex or contact Shirley Jonas, BBQ Coordinator, 680-6867 [sajonas@sbcglobal.net]. Tickets will go on sale soon.



## WOMEN OF ZION

- August 19: Women's Bible Study series, *Spiritual Gifts*. This group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 10:30am. Come to Family Life Center Room 101.
- RUTH CIRCLE meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in Fellowship Hall at 7:30pm.
- DORCAS CIRCLE is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in FLC Room 101 at 9:45am.
- MARY CIRCLE meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month, at 1:30pm. This group takes turns meeting in members homes.

Barbara Galland [rgalland@satx.rr.com]  
LaVonne Pederson [NPeder5942@aol.com]

## YOUTH STUFF

Travis Baker, Youth Director 688-3090  
x206 [tbaker@zionhelotes.org]

### Confirmation Guides & Jr Guides

Adults and confirmed youth are a big part of Zion's successful Confirmation program serving as guides for the students. You can find out what it takes to become a Confirmation guide or junior guide from Travis Baker (above). Deadline for selecting guides will be August 15; training is scheduled for August 29 at noon in the Family Life Center.

### 2011 Mission Trip Planning Meeting Sunday August 15 10:00am

Yes, that IS 2011. We're going to pick next year's mission trip location, so come to the meeting and exercise your vote. Meet in FLC Room 101 at 10:00am on August 15.

### Fall Starts Sunday, September 12

- Sunday School begins at 9:30am
- Confirmation Retreat begins at 9:30, and goes all day until 6:00pm

### September 19

- Open Gym begins at 5:00pm
- Confirmation Class begins at 6:00pm (Grades 8 & 9)
- Sunday Night Live begins at 6:00pm (Grades 6 & 7 and High School)

## ZION ZIPPERS

Monday, August 9 at 6:30pm

The Zippers keep on going! Adults age 50+ are invited for fellowship and sharing a potluck supper on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, in the Fellowship Hall. Events begin at 6:30pm.



On August 9 the Honigs are in charge of whipping up the drinks; the rest of the meal is up to everyone else! Bring your dish to share for the potluck, and school supplies for the less fortunate children in our area. We are blessed in order to be a blessing!

The annual church BBQ is on October 3, and the Zippers will again host the soda cooler under the gazebo. Bring your contributions of popular soft drinks to the August 9 or September 13 Zipper meetings.

## MEMBER MILESTONES

delete this after imposing  
*For Your Prayers*

### Our Christian Sympathy to...

- ✘ Celeste Mussey upon the loss of her father, Ron Hicks
- ✘ George Steubing and family upon the loss of Cheryl Steubing
- ✘ Sophia O'Hara upon the loss of her grandmother

### Baptized This Month

July 11 Wyatt Lee Ziebell  
July 18 Thomas Edward McBryde Jr.  
July 18 Madison Rose Luinstra

### Hospitalized Members

- Paul Albert
- Jeff Gerhard
- Bob Jackson
- Roy Krumbholz
- Shirley Michalczak
- Stuart Williams

### New Arrivals

Congratulations to Melanie & Matt Murray upon the birth of Kaleb Nicholas on June 9.

## CARDS, LETTERS AND E-MAILS

We want to thank Zion members for all the prayers & cards for Damon. It's been a month since he been out of the hospital. He is doing great and we appreciate the well wishes.

Again, thanks for your prayers.

*Minerva Peterson*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing to express thanks to you for the financial gift I received from you when I visited you. Thank you!

I am also thanking you for gifts of warm hearts and good relationships I experienced at your church and at Pastor Jennifer's home. Those gifts make a good home and good church.

Blessings to you all!

*Pastor John Rutzindintwarame*  
Kigali, Rwanda, E. Africa

I want to express my sincere thanks for all the cards, well-wishes and prayers during my recovery from my accident. I am better now. My new address is 9203 Cinnamon Hill, Apt B1 SATX 78240

*Lucille Pinson*

## DINNER OUT

Dinner Out is adults who enjoy dining out at local restaurants. Try a place you've never been before, new food, new culture. Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. Restaurant suggestions appreciated!

On Saturday, August 21, the Dinner Out group meets at Mela Indian Bar & Grill, 4987 NW Loop 410 (between Evers and Callaghan). RSVP to Tracy or Doug Jones 679-9759 [tracywjones@live.com]

## COMPANION SYNOD – COSTA RICA

In the Southwest Texas Synod, we have a companion synod, the **Lutheran Church in Costa Rica** (Iglesia Luterana Costarricense - ILCO\*), a member of the Lutheran World Federation and the Communion of Central American Lutheran Churches (CILCA). Relations within our synod have been established and groups from the synod have traveled to Costa Rica for several years.

This summer, the staff from Camp Chrysalis is taking a group of senior high youth on a week-long trip to Costa Rica to meet with members of ILCO. One of our own youth, Reyna Guerra, will be going along on this trip. On August 8, she will go to Camp Chrysalis for 2 days of pre-trip training and fly to Costa Rica, August 10 for six days.

Please keep Reyna and the team in your prayers as they work to continue the relationship in Costa Rica on the synodical level, and we begin a relationship with Costa Rica on a church level, here at Zion.

*\* ILCO centers its mission on the most vulnerable sectors of Costa Rican society: indigenous reserves, the urban poor, peasant farmers, Nicaraguan immigrants and people living with HIV or AIDS. Today, ILCO is present in nearly 30 communities in six different regions. Its holistic approach to ministry emphasizes the empowerment of lay leaders; community-based programs of education, legal aid, organic agriculture, natural medicine and artisan groups; disaster prevention and response; and advocacy efforts for economic and environmental justice. (from the ELCA website)*

## HONDURAS – LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

It has been just over a year since the team from Zion went to the orphanage Talitha Cumi in Honduras. What an incredible and life changing experience that trip was! The ministry of Pam Demott continues with 26 girls. Pam has a blogspot [www.myhonduranhome.blogspot.com] that you can check out to learn more about the girls and the ministry. You can also become a fan on Facebook at Facebook/Project Talitha Cumi.

Over the last year Pam shared stories of some of the girls. One particularly touching story was about Norma, one of the girls we met, falling when a tree she was climbing collapsed. Thankfully, Norma was okay but did have a mild concussion that left her in the hospital overnight. Pam also shares inspiring stories of daily life and faith regularly on her blog.

The girls continue to grow, harvest and prepare their unique coffee, which may be available for sale in the future. Pam says the secret to the coffee is roasting it with a little bit of sugar. Yum!

We hope that you will continue to pray for this mission and ministry and look for more information to come as Zion works to continue this relationship.

## TRIP TO EL CENIZO

On May 21, 2010, a team of 11 Zion members, including Pastor David Schulte drove to Laredo to spend the weekend with our sister congregation in El Cenizo and the missionary pastors who serve there. It was an amazing weekend, a time of learning and growing in an ongoing relationship with the church and its pastors.

Thanks to the generous donations from Zion members of nearly \$200, 40 Bibles were given to Pastors Moises and Marianna Mendez to use in their mission; which includes four congregations in the United States and five in Mexico. The pastors were also given children's clothing that was collected from Zion to share with

the needy in these communities.

On this trip, the team spent an evening with the pastors learning about their mission and passion. We learned that both grew up in Central America. Pastor Moises is from El Salvador and Pastor Marianna from Guatemala. They are both life long Lutherans born out of the labors of Lutheran missionaries who had come to their countries. They have been in the Laredo area for a few years and have worked very hard to raise up leaders in the congregations that they serve. They also work to educate and empower their congregants. Currently, they have laid a foundation for a tortilleria and food co-op that when completed would provide jobs and resources for the people in the community of El Cenizo.

The garden boxes that the previous team from Zion had built had multiplied from four to six and were planted and growing with tomatoes, peppers, squash, parsley and a recent addition of potatoes. What an amazing thing to see the "fruits of our labor!" We heard plans of how the community itself has several other families working on a gardening co-op that could be aided by the completion of the food co-op on the church property.

This particular trip, the team, enjoyed spending Saturday morning with over 30 children from the community in a Bible school program and then painting the main room and kitchen in their fellowship hall. The room was finished off with baseboards. On Sunday, we were able to worship on the day of Pentecost and see several baptisms and first communions.

Pray for Pastors Moises and Marianna and their continuing ministry. In the dinner we shared with them, they reminded us how important this ongoing relationship is to them, personally. They told us that our trips to visit them and the congregation in El Cenizo encourage them and demonstrate our care for them.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Karen Stein, Education Director  
688-3090 x205  
[kstein@zionhelotes.org]

## SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

- **INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
July 11-August 1  
Travel to Egypt and experience Joseph's journey from a prison to the palace. Come one or all the Sundays; each week is a stand-alone lesson in itself. Adults and children will learn side by side as families build pyramids, jostle through the marketplace, make mud bricks and join Joseph on the adventure of his life.

## RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 12

Sunday school for the Fall will begin that day with the theme of "Journeying Through the Bible." This is part of the churches' commitment to encourage everyone, children and adults alike, to dig deeper into our book of faith, the Bible. Our children will be using the "Spark-Activate Faith" curriculum. Each week, children will open their Bibles and engage the Scriptures, encountering God's Word through activities and Bible stories. Sunday school is for children age three (by September 1) through adults.

As part of this initiative, Bibles will be presented to third graders and three-year-olds. Story Bibles will be given to the new three-year-olds in their classroom on September 12. The Story Bible will be used during Sunday School class time, and is meant to be read at home as well. This Bible is written like a story book with pictures and easy to read language.

Bibles will also be presented to third graders on September 12 during the 11:00am worship service. More information will be sent to directly to parents of third graders.

NURSERY COORDINATOR NEEDED  
*Staff Position Open in September*

The nursery is looking for a new coordinator to serve beginning in September. This is a paid staff position and their responsibilities include caring for children on Sunday mornings, scheduling volunteers, contacting volunteers with the schedule, purchasing supplies and making sure the nursery equipment is safe and in good shape. If you want more information contact Karen Stein at 688-3090 ext 205 or kstein@zionhelotes.org

ACE: *Adult Christian Education*

- **Discover God's Vision for Your Life:**  
**You and Your Spiritual Gifts**  
*Sundays at 9:30, beginning August 22 in the Fellowship Hall*

Every Christian has at least one unique spiritual gift waiting to be discovered. Join Kathee Forrest in this eight-week series beginning August 22. *You and Your Spiritual Gifts* is designed to help you find your gifts and fully understand God's call. By learning about your spiritual gifts, you can recognize your deepest passions and wield the strongest capabilities given to you by the Holy Spirit.

The church is Christ's body. Just as a human body performs most effectively when all its "members" are healthy and functional, so the church needs each Christian member to know and use our gifts. For our congregation to be effective, our members need to discover and affirm their spiritual gifts, and then share them. Questions contact Kathee Forrest, 867-2779

- **The Thoughtful Christian**  
*Sundays at 9:30, beginning August 22 in Family Life Center Room 202*

The Thoughtful Christian series resumes on August 22. The pastors, our new intern and other presenters take turns on various topics. Check the weekly bulletin for more details. Meets in FLC Room 202 upstairs. Elevator is available.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS  
*Orientation Class August 16*

The 2010-2011 Christian Education year begins on September 12. To have a successful year we need volunteers to serve as teachers and leaders. Our program works well when we have teams of teachers working together.

A teacher information meeting is scheduled for August 16 in the Room 101 of the Family Life Center at 7:00pm. This meeting is for returning teachers and anyone else who might be interested in teaching on Sunday mornings. We will be looking at the Spark curriculum and how we will be using it. Basic information and materials will be distributed at the meeting. If you have questions or want more information please call Karen Stein at 688-3090 ext 205 or e-mail at kstein@zionhelotes.org

Glad you came aboard for **THE VBS HIGH SEAS EXPEDITION!**

What fun we had! Thanks to all 145 volunteers who made it possible to run both a morning and evening session of Vacation Bible School. It was great fun and work too but worth every minute of it. We had 260 children register. What a week we had of sharing God's love. If you ever doubt you made a difference read this e-mail a parent sent to me:

"My son LOVED going to VBS! Thank you, your staff, and volunteers for giving my son this wonderful experience. We will definitely sign up for it again next year. As a matter of fact, even though my son was baptized in another church last summer, he has asked me if we can attend church at Zion Lutheran. So, I do intend on bringing him to one of your services. What is most important to me is that he learns about God and has Him in his heart."

Again, thanks for all your time and talents. Do it again next year? It is rumored we are going to the Orient next year to meet a Panda Bear.

**FRIENDS 'N FAITH**

There's much more to Zion than Sunday mornings. Friends 'N Faith groups provide a set of ready-to-meet friends with interests similar to yours.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** Meets on the 1st Monday afternoon at 1:00pm in the Baby Nursery. Dorothy Rode 681-5997 [dorothyrode@sbcglobal.net]

**Date Night with a Book** 1st Saturday for dinner at a restaurant and then to a host's home for a study based on the book *For Couples Only: Eye Opening Insights about How the Opposite Sex Thinks* by Shaunti & Jeff Feldhahn. The next gathering is August 17. The restaurant has not been decided, but find out more from Jana or Rick Marthis 999-5653 [jmarthis001@satx.rr.com]

**Ladies Dessert & Movie** 4th Monday at 6:30pm August 30 is Dessert and a Movie; start at Marie Callandars for pie or other dessert, and then to Huebner Oaks theater. Get details from Jo Ann Meinert 688-6282 [jomeinert@earthlink.net]

**Young Married Couples** Get together on the 3rd Friday of each month for Bible study, food and fellowship. Couples take turns hosting evenings in their homes. Trisch Moy 364-5425 [trischmoy@yahoo.com] or Beth Blaylock 595-1328 [bethblaylock@hotmail.com]

**Amiable Assemblers** Put together bulletins every Friday at 1:00pm, and newsletters once a month. Meet in the church office. Sonja Shimkus 277-0413 [shimkuss1956@satx.rr.com]

**Mah Jongg** Learn and play this Asian tile game. Meets in members' homes. Pat Bangart 695-6100

**Game Groups** Card & domino games, 1st Monday afternoon at 1:00, 4th Monday evening with early supper at 3:30pm at the Golden Corral. Games are in FLC Room 101 or the Fellowship Hall. Algine Perry 695-4422.

**Campers** Head to the woods several times a year, usually over school holidays. Brett Kraemer 496-6806 [Kraemerb@kci1.com] Ted Moody 481-3530 [ted.moody@hcahealthcare.com]

**ZPOP: Zion Parents withOUT Partners** Events planned with the kids and for adults. Katja Jerome 771-7866 [katja\_amani@yahoo.com]

**INVESTMENT REPORT**

• **General Fund**

Giving Goal for Jun .....	\$67,957
Actual Contrib Jun .....	\$59,586
Giving Goal Jan-Jun .....	\$453,713
Actual Contrib Jan-Jun .....	\$414,854
YTD Difference .....	-\$38,859
<i>2009 Jun Actual Contrib. \$60,305</i>	

• **Building Fund**

Jun 10 Income .....	\$15,314
BF cash on hand .....	\$53,314
FLC Loan Bal. 6/30/10 .....	\$409,653

**ATTENDANCE REPORT**

Year to date average 2010 .....	575
YTD avg 2009 .....	590

**PUBLICATION DEADLINES**

Please include author/contact information on all submissions to Julie Rode-Hickey [jrodehickey@zionhelotes.org]

Sunday bulletin deadline is NOON the preceding Wednesday.

September 2010 CONNECTIONS deadline is NOON on Friday, August 20.

**CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. David Schulte	Senior Pastor
Rev. Jennifer Gold	Pastor
Vicar Neil Cadle	Pastoral Intern
Suzie Wyatt	Administrator
Julie Rode-Hickey	Publications
Dean Hearn	Secretary
Linda Spears	Office Assistant
Karen Stein	Christian Education Ministry
Travis Baker	Youth Ministry
Rob Mikulski	Music Ministry
Jennifer Bauer	Lutheran Campus Ministry
David Thamm	Handbells, Men's Choir, Brass
Kim Olsen	Accompanist
Brent Leaming	Facilities
Sara Hickey	Housekeeping
Trisch Moy	Nursery Coordinator
Katie Cotcher	Nursery Attendant
Sophia O'Hara	Nursery Attendant
Chris Jones	Volunteer Coordinator

**2010 CHURCH COUNCIL**

Suzi Lockamy	President
Susan Johns	Vice-President
Carolyn Pfeiffer	Secretary
Michelle Farley	Treasurer
Bonnie Harrell	
Chris Jones	
Jerry Nelson	

*Council meetings are 3rd Tuesday of each month. Minutes are posted on kiosk in narthex.*

**COORDINATORS**

Geri Dalum & Marilyn Toepperwein	Memorials
LaVonne Pederson & Barbara Galland	Women of Zion
Barbara Klein	Bereavement
Dale Stein	Sound Team
Mary Ann Schmitt	8:00 Ushers
Barnie Gavin	9:30 Ushers
Sarah Nichols & Dennis Kneifel	11:00 Ushers
Susan Johns	Altar Guild
Kathee Forrest	Floral Guild
Gena Sanchez	Acolytes
Pat Bangart	Welcome Center
John Evans	Adult Education
Bev Rosel	Zion Zippers (50+)
Algine Perry	Game Group
Jimmy Weimer	Cemetery Board
<i>Position Open</i>	Zion Action Pack (ZAP)
Pastor Jennifer Gold	Stephen Ministry
Mission Teams	Bill Farley
Local Mission	Jo Ann Meinert
Regional Mission	Carol Carmichael
Global Mission	Marlena Guerra



Lutheran Campus Ministry of San Antonio  
Jennifer Bauer, Director  
830-377-0205



Kids of the Kingdom Dayschool  
Gail Anderson, Director  
210-688-9171

# AUGUST QUICK CALENDAR

View complete calendar at [www.zionhelotes.org](http://www.zionhelotes.org)

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1  | <b>Intergenerational Sunday School (last)</b><br><b>Stockholder Lunch</b>  | 14 | Bulky Trash Day   |
| 2  | Game Group<br>Prayer Shawl Ministry  | 15 | <b>Adult Baptism Workshop (9:30)</b>  |
| 3  |  | 16 | Ruth Circle<br>S.S. Teacher Orientation   |
| 4  | Church office closed for maintenance<br>Crafty Bunch*  | 17 | Church Council  |
| 5  | Church office closed for maintenance<br>Mary Circle<br>Baptism Workshop<br>Praise Team*  | 18 |   |
| 6  |  | 19 | Women's Spiritual Gifts Bible Study   |
| 7  | Prayer Team*<br>Couple's Date Night with a Book  | 20 | Newsletter Deadline<br>Young Married Couples  |
| 8  | <b>Vicar Neil's Last Sunday and Farewell Pot-Luck Lunch</b><br><b>Blood Pressure Check</b><br><b>Adult Baptism Workshop (11am)</b> | 21 | Dinner Out  |
| 9  | Zion Zippers   | 22 | <b>A.C.E. (Adult) Classes begin</b><br><b>Adult Baptism Sunday</b>                            |
| 10 | Dorcas Circle  | 23 | Supper & Game Group   |
| 11 |  | 24 |   |
| 12 |  | 25 |   |
| 13 |  | 26 |   |
|    |  | 27 |   |
|    |  | 28 |   |
|    |  | 29 | <b>Bishop Tiemann preaches</b><br><b>Confirmation Guide &amp; Jr Guide</b><br><b>Training</b> |
|    |  | 30 | Ladies' Dessert & Movie<br>Game Group   |
|    |  | 31 |   |

\* Every Week

## Zion Lutheran Church *of Helotes*

9944 Leslie Rd  
at Braun and Loop 1604  
San Antonio, Texas  
210-688-3090  
E-Mail [zion@zionhelotes.org](mailto:zion@zionhelotes.org)  
Website [www.zionhelotes.org](http://www.zionhelotes.org)

Zion's Mission:  
Energized by grace,  
God's unconditional love,  
we freely give our lives

*Bringing to Christ*  
*Growing in Christ*  
*Serving for Christ*

Zion Lutheran Church of Helotes  
9944 Leslie Road  
San Antonio TX 78254

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**AUGUST**  
**2010**

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