## **ZSJ HISTORY 2006-2015**

In 2006, Pastor Mechler continues to serve as ZSJ pastor, but Deb Bachman is hired as DYFM to replace Chad Williams. The opportunity to give electronically is established through the Simply Giving program and the congregation began support of the Stradtlanders as missionaries in Senegal. Pastor Mechler resigned in 2007 to take a call as chaplain at Good Shepherd Care Center in Mason City. Pastor John Gannett assumed the duties of interim pastor. A call committee chaired by John Latham was created in 2008 and in the fall Pastor G Kim Wills was extended a call to begin in April 2009. During



this time, the controversial churchwide study on Human Sexuality was recommended for approval at the CW assembly. A large group of young people and chaperones attended the 2009 & 2012 Youth Gathering in New Orleans and again in 2015 in Detroit. Deb Bachman resigned as DYFM and Bryanne Hensley was hired in 2009. Following Bryanne's resignation in 2012,

Alison Northrup was hired as DYFM until 2015. Since the church had been approved as an emergency shelter by the Red Cross, we helped nearly 200 stranded motorists when a blizzard closed 1-35 west of town in 2009. The community worked together to make sure all were fed and had a warm place to stay until they could return to their journeys. Updates to the sound system included the addition of a mixer and the church website is also updated and the addition of numerous instruments and audio equipment for the newly established ZSJ Praise team also happened in 2009. Other updates to an aging church building, totaling over \$200,000, included a new roof, elevator, signing on the front of the building, automatic door openers, updates to parsonage and church bathrooms, cleaning and repair of handbells, new boiler and the replacement of various HVAC systems. ZSJ also partnered with the community to raise funds in support of Madisyn Harper and her eventual heart transplant. In 2013, Pastor Kim and Diane also served as guides for a group of 15 travelers going to Israel.

## Other notable historical events were:

**2006-**Hamas wins Palestinian legislative elections; winter Olympics are held in Turin IT; Iraq enters into civil war; Pluto is declassified as a planet; Google purchases YouTube for \$1.65 million; Jackson Pollock Painting #5, 1948 sells for \$140 million, the highest ever price; Saddam Hussein is executed for war crimes; PS3 & Nintendo Wii are released.

**2007**-Steve Jobs unveils Apple's 1<sup>st</sup> I-phone; Nancy Pelosi becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> female Speaker of the House; 32 Va Tech students are murdered by a 23 year old Chinese

student; an EF5 tornado destroys Greensboro, KY; Bob Barker retires after hosting the Price is Right for 35 years; Queen Elizabeth becomes the oldest reigning British monarch; Iowan Shawn Johnson wins the all around @ World Gymnastics competition; Sheffield-Chapin and Meservey-Thornton schools merge.

**2008**-sub-prime mortgage crisis hits the US; 7.9 earthquake devastates Sichuan, China; Microsoft introduces Windows 7, after a failed effort with Windows Vista; Barack Obama is elected as the 1<sup>st</sup> African American president; Bernie Madoff is arrested for securities fraud in the largest Ponzi scheme in US history; catastrophic flooding impacts Eastern Iowa, including Cedar Rapids and Iowa City; Shawn Johnson wins an Olympic Gold medal.

**2009-** US Airways Flight 1549 crash lands on the Hudson River and all 155 passengers and crew survive, calling it the Miracle on the Hudson; Michael Jackson dies from acute propofol intoxication; Bitcoin is 1<sup>st</sup> introduced; Minecraft, the best selling video game ever, is released; Analog TV ends in the US; Barack Obama receives the Nobel Peace Prize; SCMT and Rockwell-Swaledale school merge to form West Fork School District.

**2010-7**.0 earthquake devastates Haiti and 8.8 quake in Chili triggers the largest recorded tsunami; 1st I-pad is released; Volcanic ash from Iceland disrupts air traffice for days; Chicago Blackhawks win the Stanley Cup, the first since 1961; H1N1(swine flu) virus is declared a pandemic; Instagram is launched; Lake Delhi dam in southern Iowa fails during torrential rains; Sukup Manufacuturing creates the Saf-T Homes using small grain bins.

**2011-** US declares the end of the Iraqi war; Occupy Wallstreet movement begins; Libyan dictator, Muammar Goddafi is killed; Tohoku earthquake and tsunami kill over 20,000 in Japan; Operation Neptune Spear results in the death of Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden; Prince William marries Catherine Middleton; NASA space shuttle program ends; Snapchat is launched.

**2012-** Sandy Hook school shooting results in 27 dead; Higgs Boson elementary particle (the God Particle) is discovered in CERN, revolutionizing quantum physics; Iowan Gabby Douglas becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> African American to win the Olympic Gold Medal in gymnastics all-around.

**2013-**Boston Marathon Bombing results in 3 deaths and many injured, the 1<sup>st</sup> terrorist attack on US soil since 9-11; Pope Francis is elected after Benedict XVI resigns for health reasons; Emergency Alert System on 5 different US stations are hacked and air a false "Zombie apocolypse;" former CIA agent Edward Snowden leaks US mass government surveillance and then flees to Russia; Supreme Court rules that same sex marriages are legal.

**2014-**Malaysian flight #370 disappears and presumed crashed in the Indian Ocean and has never been found; ISIS becomes a force that creates many atrocities in Iraq, resulting in US intervention; the number of people using mobile devices out number desktop computers; shooting of African American Michael Brown in a St Louis suburb triggers riots; Joni Ernst is elected as the 1st female Iowa senator.

**2015-** rubella is eradicated from the Americas; numerous jihadist groups continue to murder thousands across the Middle East; Volkswagon is accused of rigging emission tests; Open AI, 1<sup>st</sup> artificial intelligence research company is founded; SpaceX launches and returns an uncrewed rocket.